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The Pig on Beale  
167 Beale St.  
Memphis, TN 38104  
(901) 529-1544

Dear Management,

My father, my girlfriend and I were out visiting Nashville last week, for my sister's wedding and figured we couldn't leave Tennessee with out a trip to Memphis for some classic southern style, American BBQ. We are all food & beverage professionals out in California, I am a chef and my dad & girlfriend are working on their sommelier certification (wine expert). We had a bottle of 1991 Cabernet Sauvignon from Paso Robles, CA that my dad had been saving for this trip.

We went in to another, well known BBQ restaurant on Beale St. and asked both the door man and the waiter "How much is your corkage fee?" They looked at us like we each had 2 heads. We told them that it was a special occasion for us and that we had a special bottle of wine that we would like to drink with their "Famous BBQ." We told them we would pay whatever charge they wanted for bringing in our own bottle and even told them we would buy cocktails and another bottle of their wine, if we could only bring in our bottle as well. They couldn't seem to understand why we would want to bring in our own bottle, when they sell beer, liquor & wine in their restaurant. Well, after explaining to them why, they again refused and we reluctantly went in anyway.

We started looking at the menu when I remembered the sign we saw down the street that we took a picture of earlier. I told them to order a drink and that I was going to run down to "THE PIG ON BEALE" to find out if they would let us bring in our own bottle of wine. I went in and spoke with a very nice young lady behind the bar. I told her of our situation and that we would pay whatever "corkage fee" they asked and would even buy beers or cocktails before dinner. She looked at me a little funny for a second, than said "Don't worry about it, just come on in and we'll take care of you."

I ran back up to "the other restaurant" to find that my family hadn't even been able to order drinks yet. I told them "Let's go, we're going to THE PIG." We went inside and were greeted by two great employees. I told our server what the young lady had told me. He said, "No Problem." We than ordered a pitcher of PBR and looked at the great menu. My girlfriend and I ordered the Beal St. BBQ Lovers Feast for 2 and my dad ordered the 1/2 rack of ribs and pulled pork combo, with 2 sides. The server told us that he didn't have any wine glasses or a wine opener, but that he would run across the street to borrow a wine opener if we didn't mind drinking wine out of a pint glass. We told him "No Worries" and he than ran across the street to get us a wine opener.

Well, let me tell you that you have the best BBQ on Beale St. which would put you in the runnings for the World's Best BBQ. We fell in love with how tender the ribs & chicken were and the sauce was some of the best I've ever had. The food was fantastic and our "special wine" paired perfectly with your food. It was one of the best pairings of BBQ food & wine that we've ever had. You staff was fun, friendly, accommodating and professional. We've told all of our friends and family about the exceptional dining experience we had at "THE PIG ON BEAL" and as a Chef and wine student, I would recommend your restaurant, above all others, to everyone who comes with in three hours of Memphis. Thank you very much for such a great meal and such excellent service; We'll be back for sure.

Sincerely,  
Jeff Wiesinger

