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Award-Winning Chef Spearheads Relaunch of Cheeseburger in Paradise in St. Croix

Renowned chef introduces a blend of Lowcountry and Caribbean cuisines to the beloved island eatery

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Cheeseburgers in Paradise on the east end of St. Croix

ST. CROIX — Cheeseburger in Paradise in St. Croix is set to reopen under new culinary leadership, the restaurant announced Thursday. With Executive Chef Matt Thole at the helm, the dining establishment said it is introducing a refreshed menu that blends southern cooking with "Lowcountry Fare," enhancing the gastronomic experience with a fusion of Crucian/Caribbean and Southern/Lowcountry cuisines.

The new menu features items such as burgers, barbecue pork ribs, and jumbo fried shrimp, offering a fresh dining option on the island.

Chef Thole, who has accrued over 25 years of culinary experience, brings his veteran expertise to the team, ready to lead the launch of its new menu and dining service this spring. Thole's professional background is adorned with stints at AAA four-diamond restaurants and significant experience managing laboratory operations.

The Charleston, South Carolina native expressed enthusiasm about joining the team, stating, "Both the family that owns the establishment and myself are from Charleston, South Carolina but we also have a deep love for St. Croix, so I'm excited to bring some of our tastes from home to the island."

At Cheeseburger in Paradise, Thole said his aim is to employ fresh ingredients and create all sauces and dressings from scratch.

The relaunch includes the addition of a special late-night menu and discounts on food and drink specials after 10 p.m. Thole's approach prioritizes hosting events such as pig roasts and spatchcock chicken prepared over hardwood charcoal, amplifying the culinary experience for guests.

The restaurant's owner, Theron Sandy II, voiced confidence in the new executive chef's ability to meet customer expectations, noting the community's anticipation for the refreshed menu and stating, "We're confident that our patrons will absolutely love Matt's new dishes featuring his signature Lowcountry spin as well as our classic offerings that so many customers remember quite fondly."

Cheeseburger in Paradise, a staple in the local dining scene since 1989, will continue to offer beloved classics alongside new creations under the operation of Sugar Mill Hospitality, LLC, reaffirming its status as a family-owned and operated business committed to the culinary culture of St. Croix. For additional information and updates, patrons are encouraged to visit the Cheeseburger in Paradise [website](#).