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U^{the}nofficial Guide[®] to San Francisco



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Richard Sterling, revised by Elgy Gillespie

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Calzone's ★★

ITALIAN

MODERATE

QUALITY ★★½

VALUE ★★★

430 Columbus Avenue, North Beach; ☎ 415-397-3600; calzonesf.com

Reservations Accepted. **When to go** Anytime. **Entree range** \$10–\$19. **Payment** D, DC, MC, V. **Service rating** ★★★. **Friendliness rating** ★★. **Parking** Street, nearby lots. **Bar** Full service. **Wine selection** Limited, with a \$12 corkage fee. **Dress** Informal. **Disabled access** Yes. **Customers** Locals, tourists. **Hours** Daily, 11 a.m.–1 a.m.

SETTING AND ATMOSPHERE Cool, old North Beach 1960s decor: black-tiled walls, lots of brightly colored glass bottles; Italian cheeses, salamis, garlic hanging everywhere; chandeliers. Seating indoors and out, at one of the cute mosaic tables. A bustling little place with a great location in the heart of North Beach supported by a friendly and attentive staff. Small wood-fired brick oven faces the main dining area.

HOUSE SPECIALTIES Naturally there is lasagna, gnocchetti, ravioli, also many pasta dishes, pizza, roasted chicken, seared lamb loin, and filet mignon.

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS Italian pot stickers filled with sausage, mushrooms, garlic, and ginger; excellent table bread and desserts.

SUMMARY AND COMMENTS You'll love the wide windows where you can watch the whole world parade by. The food is served on unusually shaped, long oblong platters, and that makes it a little difficult to balance everything on a small round table. Portions are more than ample, but the quality is uneven. Better to stick with the delicious appetizers and then splurge on the chocolate truffle mousse cake. And watch the action on Columbus.