

**a)** High-end cola flavors from Stubborn Soda; **b)** Grubby's specializes in craft-your-own poke bowls.



**c)** Bowls can be made with proteins such as octopus; **d)** co-owners Justin Jachura and Nhan Lam

## Get Hooked on Poke

Written by Lisa Pawlak | Photos by Taylor Mohr

Gather your crew to explore the uncharted seas of Grubby's Poke & Fish House. This new restaurant is making waves by elevating the trending build-your-own poke bowl craze.

"We've created this place because it's exactly the way we like to eat," says co-owner Nhan Lam. He and business partner Justin Jachura, who met at Buena Vista Elementary, also own local favorites Señor Grubby's and Los Tacos.

Patrons first choose their base (white or brown rice, salad or cucumber noodles), then add two (\$11) or four (\$14) scoops of protein. Options include fresh ahi, spicy tuna, albacore, octopus (torched in a tasty caramelized eel sauce), house-smoked shrimp, sustainable farm-raised salmon, silky tofu, soft-boiled cage-free egg and "local catch" specials.

But don't drop anchor yet. "We've also taken our popular Diabla sauce from Señor Grubby's and re-created it here as a spicy infused oil to top the rice," Jachura says. Pour on Grubby's sauce, spicy mayo, cucumber miso or ginger ponzu; then pile on custom toppings such as avocado, green onion, wasabi, masago, furikake, ginger and edamame.

"We care a lot about keeping things locally focused; affordable to locals, but also using locally sourced ingredients when it makes sense," says Jachura. The disposable forks and straws are plant-based and compostable. Purified, alkaline water is used for food prep and to drink, even fueling the soda taps, which are stocked with a variety of flavors from Stubborn Soda.

Enjoy the oceanic décor while dining in, and then grab some market fish, sold by the pound, for later.

### GRUBBY'S POKE & FISH HOUSE

The Shoppes at Carlsbad  
2525 El Camino Real, Suite 218

760.828.9074  
grubbyspoke.com

**Hours:** 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday;  
11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday

**Price Range:** \$\$