



CAFE DE LUCA
Forest Park, Illinois

Italian Courtyard Café

The Italian courtyard café became the theme for this Forest Park bistro nestled between two existing buildings on the main commercial strip in town. Inspired by trips to Italy, and flooded with skylights, TKA worked with the owners of this popular new restaurant to re-create the feeling of an Italian courtyard.

New Structure Blends with Old

First stripping the existing building away to expose its rustic structural skeleton, key design elements were added back to complete the concept. Furniture and furnishings were purchased by the owners on European travels, and incorporated into the final design. A rooftop deck shares a see-thru fireplace with the adjacent bar. Overhead wooden joists filter light from above in exterior as well as interior spaces. A dramatic interior stair connects the two floors of dining space. A new commercial kitchen provides clean and efficient cooking service.