

# Tour de Forks: Mulligan's Bar & Grille

by Andrea Wade, et al.  
staff writer

Tour de Forks is a restaurant reviewing trio, consisting of Trish "I Feel Out of Place Here" Moran, Shawn "I Feel Like I'm at a Family Reunion Here" Gaines, and Andrea "I Feel Like I've Been Here Before, and Didn't Like It Then Either" Wade. This week's visit was to Mulligan's Bar & Grille, 20880. Roylton Rd. in Strongsville, at the Prospect Rd. intersection, open 5:30 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday and 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. Sunday. Prices range from five to ten dollars a plate.

**TRISH:** Sometimes when I'm about to give a bad review, I feel guilty. I have a hard time writing the article. I think about the poor restaurant owners who are trying so hard to make ends meet, and I wonder if maybe it was just bad when we were there, maybe everyone else likes it, maybe I'm crazy. Maybe I should just give it three and a half stars to make it feel better about itself.

Today, this is not the case. I only feel slightly bad and am going to attempt to be as brutally honest as possible, as well as concise, because someone once told me that if you do things just like you rip off a band-aid (quickly) they won't be as painful.

So, concisely and brutally, Mulligan's is crowded with slightly creepy, leery men alone at the bar, bathrooms found only by walking

through a crowd of these specimen, and is smelly in a surprising combination of weak smoke and

Mulligan's. But I also feel Mulligan's should apologize to me. I was deceived. When something advertises

right off the plate – in fact, one of them kicked Andrea in the face – I ate him forthwith). They were surprisingly edible. And my ham & cheese sandwich (astorishingly, they did include the "& cheese") was good, especially for bar food, which is (a little known fact) always made completely of dried wood.

However, the environment is so bland it makes Parma look like Atlantis. There are approximately five actual tables to sit at and, on average, zero of them are clean. Yet we sat at the bar, which shockingly was only semi-infested by smoke, and the bartenders were fairly delightful.

Sadly, then I looked around and saw the boring TV screens, the boring people making out in the corner, and the boring lonely guy poking at his hamburger across the bar.

Maybe the broccoli was just trying to escape.

My rating: one and a half stars.

**ANDREA:** It's already in the name. Mulligan's, rhymes with Bulligan's. And if you take away "igan's," then

you're left with "bull." Another word for "bull" is "crap." Therefore, Mulligan's is crap.

For instance, the food – french fries, various types of poppers, fried shrimp, fried mozzarella – is all fried but it's all very dry as well. And if I'm going to stuff my hungry mouth full of unhealthy food, then it better be downright tasty and juicy. All those empty calories have to serve some purpose.

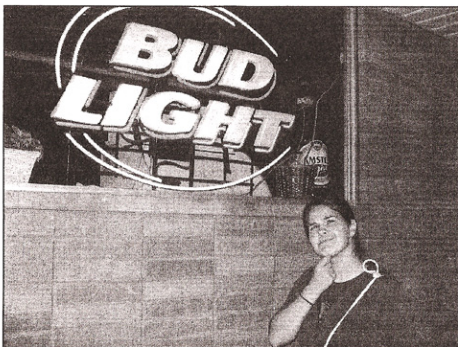
Even worse than the fried entrees were the entrees with ambiguous names like "combo platter" and "bread & butter," both of which gave us no description of what the name meant and left us with gigantic question marks hovering over our heads. But we received no answers to these questions because Mulligan's is a bar, so we had a bartender and it took about twenty minutes to flag her down, by which time she flounced her stringy over-processed hair across her over-exposed chest, leaned on the wet counter, and demanded in a raspy voice, "You ready yet?"

What remained of my appetite was spoiled when I noticed a scruffy, dark-haired man leering at Shawn while sipping down some type of drink. I think he was surprised to see people actually eating food at a bar.

So to sum up my experience: don't go, not worth your time, better off eating from a dumpster.

My rating: one star.

Overall rating: one and a half stars, out of a possible four.



*If only Mulligan's would suggest a good beverage, Andrea wouldn't have to think so hard.*

photo by Shawn Gaines

strong grease.

The food tasted similar to the Union (no offense, Union, I like you), making me wonder why we didn't just eat there and get ice cream instead. It also left me feeling slightly queasy and wondering how much gas we used to get to Strongsville.

My rating: one and a half stars.

**SHAWN:** I feel I should apologize to Trish and Andrea for suggesting

itself as Bar & Grille, I want to at least see some remnants of "Bar & Grille."

But, with that in mind, one has to consider Mulligan's with a grain of salt (or, more accurately, a heaping bag of salt). It is definitely more bar than restaurant, but the menu is at least fairly respectable. Plus, it doesn't really advertise itself as gourmet dining.

We had these broccoli poppers (named so because they bounce