

ISTMO

3231 N CLARK ST,
CHICAGO, IL 60657

ISTMOCHICAGO.COM

2025

OAXACAN CUISINE



MEDIA KIT

ISTMO: Where Oaxacan Heritage Meets Culinary Art

At ISTMO, we bring to life the vibrant flavors and rich heritage of Oaxaca through every carefully crafted dish. Our culinary philosophy merges tradition with innovation, presenting a menu that honors time-honored recipes while adding a modern, elevated touch. Chef Carlos Lopez Muñoz draws inspiration from his Oaxacan roots, using the finest ingredients and impeccable techniques to tell a story with each plate. Every element at ISTMO—from our thoughtfully designed interiors to our elegant presentation—reflects the deep passion and attention to detail that define our unique dining experience.





Meet Chef: Carlos Lopez Muñoz

Chef Carlos Lopez Muñoz hails from Oaxaca, Mexico, where his passion for cooking was sparked by the traditions of his grandmothers. Drawing from the rich culinary heritage of El Istmo, Carlos combines authentic Oaxacan flavors with modern techniques. After studying culinary arts in Oaxaca, he continued his journey in Chicago, where he worked with Michelin-starred Chef Carlos Gaytan and renowned Chef Rick Bayless. Under the mentorship of Chef Andres Padilla, Carlos developed a style that honors tradition while embracing innovation, sharing the vibrant flavors of his hometown through every dish he creates.



Cultural Harmony

Our restaurant is a celebration of Oaxaca's vibrant flavors and rich heritage. Every detail, from the artwork to the plates, has been carefully imported from Mexico to transport you straight to Oaxaca. We strive to share the beauty of this culture with Chicago, creating an inclusive space where tradition and flavor come together in every bite.

Culinary Excellence

Chef Carlos Lopez Muñoz honors traditional family recipes with refined, creative twists, keeping the essence intact while adding his unique touch. From fine ingredients to carefully crafted dishes, we aim to create a memorable dining experience.

Authentic Hospitality

We believe in the power of genuine hospitality, a cornerstone of Mexican culture, where welcoming others with warmth and kindness is second nature. With sincerity and deep respect for our guests, we offer an inclusive and inviting atmosphere where every visitor is valued just as family would be.





DIGITAL ASSETS



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