

Long Island Restaurants

DINING DETOURS

Great sandwich stops around the Island

BY JOAN REMINICK
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La Bottega, 147 Nassau Blvd., Garden City South, 516-486-0935. The list of panini is both extensive and well executed. Even though the "Savona" panino - grilled chicken breast with fresh mozzarella, tomatillo sauce and tomato - adds up to a good sandwich, it's eclipsed by the firecracker "Ascoli," slow-roasted chunks of suckling pig, fresh mozzarella, broccoli rabe and spicy red peppers on a rustic round bread.

3 LA BOTTEGA
147 Nassau Blvd.
Garden City South
516-486-0935
labottegagourmet.com

DISH "Ascoli" panino
PRICE \$7.75

The flagship café of Giuseppe and Marisa Ruta's mini Roman empire showcases the Italian art of sandwich making. Here, you can savor the "Ascoli" panino — slow-roasted chunks of suckling pig, fresh mozzarella, broccoli rabe and spicy red peppers served on rustic round bread. The juxtaposition of mellow pork and cheese with sprightly greens and fiery peppers points up just how noble a sandwich can be.



HOUSE-MADE DESSERTS

Joan Reminick *February 26, 2009*

La Bottega

FOOD (2 1/2 STARS)

147 Nassau Blvd.
Garden City South

516-486-0935
ilovepanini.com



At this authentically Italian spot, you'll have a hard time choosing between the moist chocolate cake layered with fresh strawberries and whipped cream, the creamy, wobbly flan and the luxurious tiramisu.