

## Ballyhoo Hospitality opens Gemini Grill near planned Chicago casino site



By [Wendell Hutson](#) – Staff Reporter, Chicago Business Journal  
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Chicago-based Ballyhoo Hospitality opened its fifth Chicago restaurant this week: Gemini Grill, located near Bally's Corp.'s planned \$1.7 billion downtown casino.

The 8,000-square-foot restaurant at 748 N. State St. is one mile away from the upcoming casino. It has 80 employees.

Gemini Grill consists of two floors with 4,500 square feet on the ground floor and 3,500 square feet upstairs.



Gemini Grill restaurant opened this week in Chicago's River North neighborhood.  
COURTESY OF BALLYHOO HOSPITALITY

Ballyhoo Founder and CEO Ryan O'Donnell said he is excited to expand to the River North neighborhood with a new Gemini restaurant.

He said the new opening comes as Ballyhoo celebrates the 15th anniversary for its Gemini restaurant in Lincoln Park, which was its first Chicago location.

The other three Chicago restaurants by Ballyhoo are Coda di Volpe in Lakeview, and Old Pueblo and DeNucci's in Lincoln Park.

Upon completion, the Bally's casino at 777 W. Chicago Ave. will be Illinois' largest and include 500 hotel rooms, 4,000 gaming positions, an outdoor music venue and a 3,000-seat entertainment center.

With the casino slated to open in 2026, [more economic development](#), such as Airbnbs, restaurants, hotels and housing, is expected to start popping up.