

BEST-SELLER SIGNATURE TOSTADAS RETURN TO EL POLLO LOCO

Grab Your Favorite Signature Tostadas While They're Back for a Limited Time Only

COSTA MESA, Calif., March 12, 2018 -- El Pollo Loco, Inc. ("El Pollo Loco" or the "Company") (Nasdaq:LOCO), the nation's leading fire-grilled chicken chain, today announced the return of four best-selling Signature Tostadas, available for a limited time at participating restaurants. The flagship Tostada bowl lineup features four fan favorite bowls packed with layers of fresh and flavorful ingredients.

Guests are invited to enjoy crunchy Tostada shells filled with our citrus-marinated fire-grilled chicken, spanish rice and pinto beans, crisp beds of lettuce, and layers of mouthwatering ingredients like pico de gallo, creamy avocado slices and crumbled cotija. Each Tostada is then drizzled with our homemade creamy cilantro dressing to compliment the delicious flavors and high-quality ingredients that make up this El Pollo Loco favorite.

"Our Signature Tostadas have long been adored by El Pollo Loco fans, and we're very excited to bring back the four bowls our customers love the most," said Heather Gardea, Vice President of Research and Development at El Pollo Loco. "Our crunchy Tostada shells coupled with different ingredients of varying textures offer a burst of bold and savory flavors in every bite, and make these handcrafted bowls the ultimate meal that will leave guests craving more."

The returning line of Signature Tostada offerings include the following:

- Chicken & Shrimp
 - Chicken, shrimp, avocado, beans, sour cream, rice, cheese, pico de gallo
- Double Chicken
 - Double chicken, avocado, beans, sour cream, rice, cheese, pico de gallo
- Avocado Bacon
 - Chicken, avocado, bacon, beans, sour cream, rice, cheese, pico de gallo
- Avocado Mango Chicken
 - Chicken, avocado, mango salsa, beans, rice, cotija, cilantro

El Pollo Loco is passionate about creating Mexican entrees that are made with fresh ingredients and provide a healthier alternative to typical fast food. The brand's menu features its signature citrus-marinated, fire-grilled chicken and authentic, handcrafted items inspired by the culinary and cultural traditions of its hometown Los Angeles.

About El Pollo Loco:

<u>El Pollo Loco</u> (Nasdaq:LOCO) is the nation's leading fire-grilled chicken restaurant chain renowned for its masterfully citrus-marinated, fire-grilled chicken and handcrafted entrees using fresh ingredients inspired by Mexican recipes. With more than 475 company-owned and franchised restaurants in Arizona, California, Nevada, Texas and Utah, El Pollo Loco is expanding its presence in key markets through a combination of company and existing and new franchisee development. Visit us on our website at www.elpolloloco.com.

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