

Pollo Campero, First Watch among four new retailers at St. Cloud Commons

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More than two years after announcing plans to return to the Orlando market, beloved Guatemalan chicken chain Pollo Campero has signed a lease for its first brick-and-mortar store.

Pollo Campero is among the four latest retailers to sign leases for outparcels at St. Cloud Commons, near the U.S. 192 - Florida's Turnpike interchange. The company currently operates a digital kitchen near downtown Orlando and has two locations in Miami. A former executive with the company previously told GrowthSpotter the chain planned to open 20 new restaurants in Central Florida by 2025.

As the name suggests, the menu focuses on traditional Central American fried chicken and citrus grilled chicken, with an array of regional sides, including empanadas, yucca fries and signature pinto beans. The Dallas-based company previously operated a store at Downton Disney, but it closed when the building was demolished to make way for the Disney Springs expansion.

Pollo Campero and First Watch will join Outback and Zaxby's as new dining offerings at St. Cloud Commons. Mattress Firm and DECA Dental also signed leases for space in the shopping center. (Katz & Associates)

St. Cloud Commons is a 33-acre shopping center anchored by Hobby Lobby. It was developed by Pan American Companies in 2018 on the site of the former Osceola Flea Market.

Earlier this year Katz & Associates' Vanesa Rodriguez, who represents the ownership of St. Cloud Commons for inline leasing and outparcel sales, sold the outparcels to developer MHW. SRS's Blake Hunter represented MHW to lease the outparcels to First Watch, Pollo Campero, Mattress Firm, and DECA Dental; and CBRE's James Mitchell represented Zaxby's. Three inline spaces at the center remain available for leasing plus one outparcel are available for ground lease by Rodriguez.

"These great restaurant options and additional retail is going to bring such a nice synergy to St. Cloud Commons," Rodriguez said. "We anticipate residents spending more time now enjoying the center as a real eating and shopping experience."

Florida-based First Watch, a restaurant chain that serves breakfast, brunch and lunch, currently operates 17 locations across Central Florida and has two in development in Apopka and at O-Town West.

Have a tip about Central Florida development? Contact me at lkinsler@GrowthSpotter.com or (407) 420-6261, or tweet me at [@byLauraKinsler](https://twitter.com/byLauraKinsler). Follow GrowthSpotter on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.