



## Victor Newgren

Executive Chef  
Chicago

A premiere classic American steakhouse menu is featured at Smith & Wollensky Chicago, with Executive Chef Victor Newgren at the helm. A native of Chicago's south suburbs, Newgren earned his Culinary Arts degree at the nationally renowned Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park. Fresh from culinary school, Newgren headed to New York City where he landed a job as a banquet cook at the prominent Waldorf Astoria.

He returned to the Windy City to learn a wide range of cuisines by working in a variety of culinary settings. He helped Bill Dugan open Fish Guy Market and served as Grill Master at Brio, where he familiarized himself with the restaurant's Spanish food.

Newgren entered the world of fine dining when he joined the staff of Lakeview Supper Club as Executive Chef. Soon he was given the opportunity, first as Sous Chef and then Executive Chef, to collaborate with Michael Kornick developing MK North's seasonality driven menu. He honed his kitchen management, organizational and training skills, serving as Executive Chef of Calihan Catering.

In 2005, as Co-chef and Co-owner, Newgren designed and developed his own New American restaurant, Copperblue in Streeterville. His efforts helped land a three star rating from the Chicago Tribune's Food Critic Phil Vettel.

Newgren became Executive Chef of the famous Chicago dining landmark, Lawry's The Prime Rib, in 2008, and later led the culinary effort at SideDoor, front and center in the gastropub's display kitchen.

Newgren brings enthusiasm and confidence based on solid professional experience to his role at Smith & Wollensky. This beef loving Chicago native uses his experience and creativity, based on a thorough understanding of his Scandinavian background and the Midwestern upbringing, to provide his guests the finest steak and seafood preparations in a truly unique riverfront setting.

When Newgren's not in the kitchen, the South Loop resident enjoys being active with his two sons, Ethan and Aaron.

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