

Carol & Joe Davis

FINE DINING DETECTIVES

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Aalu Tiki Chat



Everest Salad



Mixed Tandoori



Manager Manu Pun Subedi

EPICUREAN EPISODES

Everest Indian Restaurant: Tastes of India, Nepal & Tibet

There is always excitement in the air when a new restaurant opens in Petaluma! We love South Asian Food and were happy to hear that Everest Indian Restaurant had just opened in the former Cucina Paradiso location in The Golden Eagle Shopping Center. Everest is unique in that there are menu items from India, Nepal and Tibet. Manager Manu Pun Subedi and Chef Gopal Gauchan are both originally from Nepal and have worked in a number of other Indian restaurants in the area before realizing their dream of owning their own place.

While perusing the menu, we ordered a few of their specialty drinks to start - including the Mango Lassi, a refreshing fruit drink, and the Ginger Mint Tea, light and pleasingly cold. A Taj Mahal Indian Lager Beer and some wines by the glass were soon at our table as well, and we were ready to start our dining experience.

The Starters that we especially enjoyed included pan-grilled Aalu Tikki Chat - made with freshly mashed spiced potatoes and peas - and the Mixed Platter - a combination of tasty Samosa, Vegetable Pokora and Chicken Pokora. We loved the sweetness of the accompanying Tamarind sauce.

Next we had soup and salad. Mulugutawny Rasam is a delicious mixed lentil soup with herbs and tender chicken pieces. The Everest Salad (Chef's Special) with organic cherry tomatoes, English cucumber, avocado, wonderfully fresh mozzarella cheese, and a smooth house dressing is an absolute must. Naan is a staple of Indian restaurants and we enjoyed all three types we tasted: Garlic Basil Naan

topped with garlic, spices and basil; Aloo Naan stuffed with spiced crushed potatoes; and Onion Kulha Naan stuffed with spiced onion and cilantro. We really recommend you try these and more.

There are so many excellent entrée choices, we had trouble deciding. We ordered most of our dishes medium-spicy, just hot enough for us but you may also choose mild or very spicy versions if you wish. Our favorite was the Mixed Tandoori, a lovely presentation served steaming hot. The mixture of lamb, chicken, fish and prawns with broccoli, red peppers, and onions was fresh, tasty and perfectly prepared. The fish was nicely flaky, the prawns were juicy, and nothing was overcooked as can often be true.

Everest's Chicken Tikka Masala is tandoori roasted chicken pieces cooked in creamy fenugreek sauce. It was excellent. In fact, we deem it the best we have ever tasted! Lamb fans will enjoy Everest Lamb Curry (Chef's Special) - sweet pieces of lamb cooked with mild sauce of coconut, apricot and spices.

Nepalese Aloo Bhanta is a luscious fresh eggplant dish mixed with potatoes, tomatoes, pan fried Nepalese herbs and spices. It's a great dish for vegetarians. We ordered it extra spicy and were glad we did!

Tibetan Chicken Curry is another delicious entrée - chicken cubes simmered in Tibetan spiced potato sauce and perfect over Basmati Rice. All of the entrées except for the Mix Tandoori were served in copper serving dishes.

The wines we enjoyed with dinner included a crisp Cahill Russian River Sauvignon Blanc and a subtle dry Loredona Riesling.

As ever, we couldn't resist

trying the desserts. Our favorites were the rich, creamy Mango Ice Cream with pistachio and the Kheer - a tasty and chunky rice pudding.

Everest Indian Restaurant is a welcome addition to the ever-changing Petaluma dining scene. It features a unique mix of Indian, Nepalese and Tibetan dishes in a friendly, relaxed atmosphere. We really enjoyed our dinner, especially the tender Tandoori and the excellent eggplant. We could not finish everything and are glad we took the rest home for a delicious lunch the following day. Our Dining Assistants have dined at many Sonoma County Indian restaurants and confirmed our thoughts that the cuisine was excellent - fresh, tasty, and reasonably priced - and Everest is a great value. We all look forward to returning soon for lunch or dinner.

POST NOTES

Everest Indian Restaurant
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Shopping Center)
Petaluma, CA 94952
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Lunch
Mon-Sat 11:30-2:30
Dinner
Mon-Thurs 5-9
Fri-Sat 5-10
Sun noon-8 PM

Easy Parking
Reservations Accepted
Take Out / Catering



Chef Gopal Gauchan