

CHOM CHOM

Following a collaboration between the owners of the Charlie Choy's franchise and the people who brought you the Samsara restaurant in Sutton (restaurants which have been featured in previous issues of Spice Times), Chom Chom is a stylish new establishment in Canterbury, Kent. Taking its inspiration from the regal foods of Asia and the fresh, healthy food of Mediterranean Europe, the restaurant follows the increasingly popular "pan Asian buffetworks" dining concept, which has been utilised to great effect in the two Charlie restaurants currently open.

For those still to experience the Pan Asian buffet concept, here is how it works. Customers have a variety of Indian, Chinese, Thai and European dishes to choose from and simply visit the open plan kitchen area where the food is served and select whatever it is they would like to eat. The dishes are all produced in house and the owners find it important to let their customers know that only the finest ingredients available are used in their food. There is no limit on the amount of times a customer can visit the area to refill their plate so you could go around the world in one eating session if you so wish!

The fact that there is such a wide variety of food on offer also means the concept is ideal for parties of people which include fussy eaters; there is bound to be something that even the pickiest person can enjoy. For example, from the European menu there is pasta (with the choice of Bolognese Tomato or Al Formaggi sauce), baked fish, chicken in mustard sauce and freshly made pizza (which is created in front of the customer by the chefs) amongst other dishes and accompaniments.

The Chinese menu offers stir fry with the customer's choice of ingredients which, like the pizzas, are created live in front of the customer in the open cook theatre. Also on offer are Chinese staples such as beef and black bean sauce, tiger prawns with garlic sauce and chicken with cashew nuts and water chestnuts. Traditional Thai food on offer includes Green Chicken Curry, Thai Fish Cakes and Prawn Penang Curry amongst other things.

The substantial Indian menu should more than cater for any customer looking for a curry fix. As well as curries such as chicken tikka masala,





lamb rogan josh and vegetable jalfrezi, a number of Indian specialities are available from the charrill. With seekh kebabs, garlic chicken tikka and chicken malai tikka, tandoori roti and lachcha paratha such a taster of the grills on offer, those people looking for a taste of the subcontinent in Kent really are spoilt for choice.

A full range of deserts are also on offer at Chom Chom, so those with really big appetites and a sweet tooth can round their night off perfectly. The variety on offer means that the eating experience is entirely what you make it: maybe you feel like sticking to one cuisine and having a civilised three course meal. perhaps you feel like mixing and matching dishes to create your own perfect dinner or maybe you feel like filling your plate time after time with whatever you can get your hands on, it really is up to you!

Like Charlie Choy's in Woking and the Samsara, Chom Chom also functions as a trendy and stylish pre-club bar and serves a full variety of alcoholic beverages and cocktails in two sleek bar areas. Soak up the exhilarating atmosphere in the Penthouse bar. Or hold a special event in the Chom Chom Den which is housed within the restaurant's basement and is sumptuously decorated for the most lavish of occasions. The basement 'den' is available for hire, accommodating private and corporate bookings of up to 60.



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