

to entertainment

Eating Out: Bukharah

Lorne Hotel, 923 Suachiehall Street, Glasgow. Tel: 330 1550

GLASGOW'S competitive curry scene has a new contender - the Bukharah at the Lorne Hotel.

Based in the former Kelvin Park Lorne Hotel in the west end, this new eatery is worth a peek and has pride of place in the stylish, multi-million revamp of the building.

The 102-room hotel also includes the gorgeous Bilberry cocktail bar and brasserie restaurant on the way.

But my fiancée and I were there for a good curry and we got it.

In terms of the interior the Bukharah falls into the contemporary style of Indian restaurant rather than the traditional.

Once seated we ordered a pint of Tennents (£3.20) and a Diet Coke (£2.50) before trawling through the menu, which included surprises such as fish and chips, paella and chicken supreme with haggis.

Don't worry, there were mouth-watering Indian dishes aplenty on offer. For our pre-starter we ordered popadoms with raita, spiced onions and mango chutney (£3.50).

While we chomped away on the popadoms I decided on the chilli



Stylish ... The huge restaurant is contemporary rather than traditional

chicken dosa (£4.90) for my real starter and my guest stuck to her usual vegetable pakora (£3.95).

The dosa dish was superb. The pancake surrounding the spicy chicken was as very light and

smothered in a delicious sauce. My partner's pakora was the best kind - small, crispy chunks of tangy pakora. There's nothing worse than tennis ball-sized pakora.

I like a hot curry. Not emergency room hot, but I like a kick even in my kormas. For this I had the South Indian garlic chilli lamb (£11.95).

Being the scaredy cat she is, my companion went with the mild chicken tikka chasni (£9.50). We both shared a

basmati rice (£2.95) and a peshwari nan filled with almonds and cashews (£2.95).

I could hear the sizzle of my dish coming from the kitchen and sure enough, our waiter was bringing over my smoking platter.

The lamb was perfect and the chilli and garlic added a nice kick.

The chasni was also getting big licks too as my fiancée loved it. The sweet, soft nan was excellent for mopping up both the sauces also.

Too stuffed for sweets, we ended up chatting with the hotel manager Martin and he gave us a tour of the soon-to-open Lorne Hotel.

The amazing food, fantastic service and trendy surroundings of the Bukharah will pull in hotel guests, that's for sure.

Peter Carroll



Merchant festival begins

THE Merchant City Festival gets underway today.

A diverse line-up is planned this year as well as a packed programme of music, theatre, comedy, film and dance.

The 2009 programme is packed with exciting shows and events including the highlight of this year's festival - The Memory Projector.

Introduced this year as part of

Homecoming Scotland, The Memory Projector has been set up by renowned theatre company, Wildworks.

Audiences of all ages can immerse themselves in the past, present and future.

The festival runs until Sunday. To find out more visit the website: www.merchantcityfestival.org or call 552 6027.



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