

Thai Chef

2262 Molalla Ave.
Oregon City, Ore. 97045
503-656-3020

Folks, I've found it. A little piece of authentic Thailand right here in Oregon City. It's on Molalla Avenue, right before the South Gaffney intersection. For those of us who don't use street signs, it's across the street from Burgerville on one side, and the Wichita Bar & Grill on the other.

Walking through those doors, you almost feel like you really did just walk into Thailand. The room is small, but the soft reds and yellows make it so comfortable you almost don't even realize it. The service is wonderful; they are ready and waiting to take care of you the minute you walk in.

The menu is extensive. They've got spring rolls, noodle plates, soups and specialties. And you can eat at least some of the curry without crying for a pitcher of water.

Their prices are good, you definitely get what you pay for. They range from the everyday \$5 spring roll appetizers, to a special \$15 seafood plate. The majority of the large menu is in the \$10 to \$13 range.

In my opinion, the prices are worth it. I know, why would you go pay \$10 in a little restaurant when you might not even be sure what you're getting? I'll tell you. First, because you can feed two people with that one \$10 plate. Those huge portions are so filling. Second, because the food is fresh, warm, home-cooked, and the flavors are overwhelming in the best way.

Some of the food is a little different than what we're used to compared to American food. But hey, this is Thailand, not Panda Express.

Hannah Duckworth

Gustav's Bier Stube

12605 SE 97th Ave.
Clackamas, Ore. 97015
503-653-1391
www.gustavs.net

Guten Tag! Willkommen in Deutschland! Well, more like "Welcome to Clackamas!"

I recently went out to dinner at Gustav's Bier Stube in Clackamas, located right off of I-205. It is a wonderful German restaurant that serves a very authentic German cuisine.

Gustav's menu is full of delicious German food, all the way from Schnitzel to Spätzle. They also offer American food for those not so daring. The atmosphere in Gustav's makes you feel as though you are in a restaurant right in the middle of Germany. Many of the entrees are served with vegetables that are currently in season.

Gustav's offers seven different menus: the sharing menu, beer menu, children's menu, happy hour, dessert and cocktails. The prices range from approximately \$10 to \$20 for an entree. A great time to go to Gustav's is during happy hour which is everyday from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., and then from 9 p.m. to closing. That way you can save some money and still enjoy a delicious meal. A helpful tip is to make reservations two hours in advance if you are planning on going there for dinner after 6 p.m.

When I went there for dinner I chose a very German entree, the Jägerschnitzel. This entree is available with either chicken or veal. I went with the chicken which was breaded and then covered in a very delicious paprika sauce with sautéed mushrooms. It also comes with a choice of either mashed potatoes or Spätzle. I chose the creamy Spätzle which was so mouth-watering and delicious.

If you are ever in the mood for a perfectly proportionate and traditional German food, then Gustav's is the place to go. You won't be let down with the true Germany feeling you get when you walk in the door and under the huge cowbells.

Emily Rask



Gustav's. Photo by Emily Rask



Namaste. Photo by Chris Morrow



Thai Chef. Photo by Brad Heineke

Pine Garden

19360 Molalla Ave.
Oregon City, Ore. 97045
503-650-2178
www.pinegarden.net

Are you in the mood for Chinese food? Pine Garden gives their guests the opportunity to carry out or dine in comfortably. There is a calm authentic feeling and the atmosphere is peaceful. The aroma of fresh cooking chicken and steamed rice leaves your mouth watering while reviewing the variety of dinner choices they provide.

The restaurant is well mannered with an etiquette table set up, black folded napkins and small cups for tea. Water and tea are served with no charge before the meal.

The service is of exceptional quality and when asked questions about the menu, the waitress was very knowledgeable and able to give helpful information about their family-style (large, sharable portions) menu. Pine Garden is an excellent choice for sharing a meal with your family, and with their generous portions, you may even have enough leftovers for the next day.

I then moved on to try some of the other plates on the table; it's definitely a place to share bits of everyone's order across the table than have one plate of the same thing to eat for yourself. The appetizers are delicious I especially enjoyed the Chicken Lettuce Wraps.

I ordered Sesame Chicken, sautéed sliced chicken with caramel sweet and spicy sauce over white rice noodles. The chicken complemented the white rice noodles very well, and combined together in one bite made the feast really pleasing. There was a twinge of spice to the dish which added to the unique flavor.

Paying for your meal will be of the average pricing range for a sit down restaurant. Since they provide very large portions their prices are pretty exceptional.

Dinners range from \$9 to \$11, and lunches range from \$5 to \$7. When you fill up from your meal and still have left overs for the next day, the price becomes well worth it. Come dine in at Pine Garden for a pleasant, tasteful and authentic experience at a reasonable price.

Taylor Oster

Namaste

8303 NE Sandy Blvd.
Portland, Ore. 97220
503-257-5059
www.namasteindiancuisine.com

Take your taste buds on an adventure they won't soon forget! If you're new to Indian cuisine, Namaste, a uniquely atmospheric, affordable Indian buffet offering up plenty of palatable goodies, is certainly a good introduction. Namaste gives you the opportunity to try a bunch of different foods and really get to experience the flavors of India.

Personal favorites are the palak paneer, a delicious medley of pureed spinach, mildly spicy curry with chunks of paneer (fresh homemade cheese set with an acid, such as lemon or lime). Chicken pakora, strips of chicken deep fried in chickpea batter with green chilies, chilli powder, yogurt and lime juice. Fish pakora, same as the aforementioned fritter but with chunks of flaky halibut replacing the chicken. Lamb jalfrezi, cubes of lamb steak in a curry and tomato sauce with bell peppers, sautéed mushrooms and onions. Navaratan Khorma, vegetable and nut stew in a smooth cream typically consisting of tomato sauce and / or coconut milk. For dessert, the kheer, rice pudding in heavy cream with almonds, cashews and pistachios, and halwa; a mildly sweet confection made of whole wheat flour, cashews and almonds. Additionally, no trip would be complete without trying a cone of their homemade mango ice cream.

The absolute best part of a trip to Namaste is the naan, a delicious leavened flatbread that's perfect for soaking up the remainder of sauces from a dish. It is almost always fresh and is the perfect complement to any meal.

The wait staff are prompt and courteous, making sure that none of the selections in the buffet linger for too long, and are eager to meet the requests of patrons. They also offer a wide selection of beer and liquors available on request. There is also a spacious lounge and a banquet hall that can be rented for large events.

Overall, Namaste is a great place to get a filling lunch or dinner of wholesome Indian fare. Whether by yourself or with a huge group, Namaste can accommodate your needs.

Chris Morrow

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