



# FOOD & DINING

## DINING REVIEW Of Little Brown Hen

Special Freelance Review

I had the opportunity to visit the Little Brown Hen for breakfast after the last two weekends of lots of extra people in town. While it is wonderful for businesses in our little coastal community to have all those hungry folks around, it is difficult for the locals to get in for a relaxing meal. The wait was worth it, only half of the restaurant was full and eating breakfast in this comfortable environment was just great. Friendly staff, clean tables and the smells of bacon and hash browns wafting from the kitchen stimulated my appetite.

The menu covers all the breakfast possibilities with a variety of omelets, eggs any way you like them, biscuits and gravy, French toast, pancakes or for the not so hungry: the Egg Cheap Cheap or the Hen's Porridge. I decided to go for the gusto and ordered the Cock-A-Doodle-Do omelet as did one of my friends. It was full of bacon, ham, eggs, cream cheese, mushrooms, onions and green pepper. It was hot all the way through and the flavor and texture combination made my mouth and tummy very happy. The hash browns were not quite topnotch with a bit soggiess in the middle, but around the edges were the crispy

bits of potato that were very tasty. My toast was warm and crunchy and the perfect receptacle for the chunky marionberry jam. My other breakfast companion ordered The Egg Henedict with Hollandaise sauce. Topping choices are ham, spinach, ham & spinach or crab. She chose the ham & spinach and her comment was "they really know how to poach an egg!"

I lingered over my breakfast while visiting with my friends as we drank our coffee and talked about our plans for the day. We watched as other diners came and went, the prompt clearing and resetting of tables and the ease of the owner as she refilled coffee cups, delivered steaming plates of food and chatted with all of her guests.

I haven't had lunch recently at the Little Brown Hen, but the menu is as equally varied as the breakfast menu. Fresh house made soups, salads, a great selection of cold or hot sandwiches, burgers and chicken with lots of add ons and sides are all listed. Specials are often available for breakfast and lunch, so be sure to ask. Hot

beverages include a great selection of Tazo teas, coffee and hot chocolate and cold beverage offerings are milk, chocolate milk, fresh juices, lemonade and sodas.

The restaurant is divided in half by a short wall with booths on one side and tables & chairs on the other and a larger table in the front for bigger groups. Local artwork adorns the walls and beautiful stained glass windows of the Siuslaw Bridge and boats moored on the river catch the sunlight on the south wall of the dining room. The bathrooms are clean and tidy and the atmosphere is warm and welcoming and very family friendly.

I couldn't help but mention the fresh cinnamon rolls - a choice of frosted or the nutty, sticky version. I did manage to avoid them this trip only because my breakfast was so filling!

Little Brown Hen is open seven days a week for breakfast & lunch as is located at 435 Highway 101 in Florence.

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