

Canaletto

ITALIAN RESTAURANT & PUBLIC HOUSE KINGSWOOD

Italian food is one of my favourite cuisines. I love its simple authenticity, and you can't get much more authentic than Canaletto, owned by James and Javier Varela

Located in the hamlet of Kingswood, between Aylesbury and Bicester, it took us just over 35 minutes to drive from Amersham. There is plenty of parking outside the restaurant, which was well-received on such a wet night. James and the team were extremely warm, welcoming and attentive, and it felt like a real five star experience right from the start.

The restaurant is spacious yet cosy with exposed beams and a rustic floor, but with modern table and chair sets, Italian artwork on the walls and glass ball candles on each table. Canaletto offers an extensive wine list as well as cocktails, including Bellini, Aperol Spritz, Martini and Campari. There is a set dinner menu available Tuesday to Thursday - two courses for £19.95, three courses for £23.95, but we chose from the A La Carte menu. It's relatively short but very concise and every option sounds delicious. I found it so much more enjoyable than being presented with a huge menu with so much choice you feel like you'll never decide!

The menu categories consist of Antipasti, Primi, Pasta, Secondi, Contorni and Dulci. For starters we chose the Crostini – homemade chicken liver páté, toasted ciabatta





bread, homemade fig and olive chutney, and the Panzanella – vine ripened tomatoes, buffalo mozzarella D.O.C (imported from Campania), red onion, fresh basil, extra virgin olive oil and red wine vinegar. Both were spectacular. Tomatoes and mozzarella is one of my favourite dishes and I have tried it in many different places – this one by Canaletto was a cut above the rest.

Mains were crab ravioli with cream, butter and saffron sauce, and chicken breast in a wild mushroom, marsala wine and cream sauce served with mashed potatoes. Again, the dishes were exceptionally tasty with a really authentic taste; we both said it was like dining in Italy.

Dessert was the real event – a traditional trolley is brought to your table with an array of delectable desserts, which are explained to you in detail. We chose the profiterole cake and the chocolate mousse. You can really tell that all the food has been freshly prepared or baked, and this makes for such a special evening.

If you're looking for a real taste of Italy right here in Bucks, make the journey out of Amersham and pay James and family a visit – you won't be disappointed.







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