

Rebecca Lynne Tan
Food Correspondent
recommends



SOFT-SERVE TO BEAT THE HEAT
Long queues intrigue me. I am, after all, a Singaporean.

Last Friday, I noticed herds of people standing outside a small shop in Baghdad Street. The five-foot-way was impassable and people had spilled onto the road.

I had to see what the fuss was about. It turns out they were waiting for soft-serve ice cream from Muslim-owned shop Overrun.

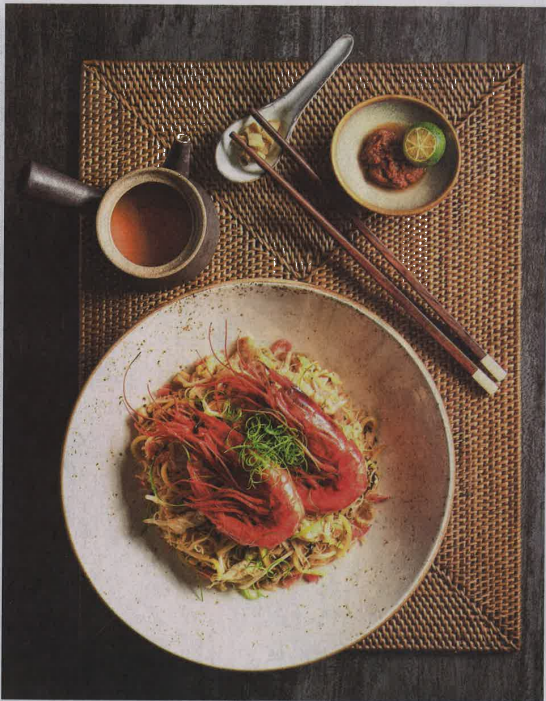
You order at the counter and wait outside until your number is called. I waited about 15 minutes.

Its signature offering is chendol soft-serve topped with pandan jelly, desiccated coconut and a good drizzle of gula melaka (\$6). A durian version, with a dollop of durian pulp, is priced at \$7.

I had the Thai Milk Tea soft-serve, Overrun's Flavour Of The Day (\$6, above), and it was velvety, creamy and sneakily sweet, but oh so welcomed – just the sugary ending I needed after a heavy meal on a hot day.

The speckled ice cream had a lovely tea flavour too.

There are plenty of toppings to choose from, from nuts to tiny marshmallows, but I'm a purist and would prefer the classic.



PHOTOS: EATZI GOURMET, NVASH JOYVIN, PO, REBECCA LYNNE TAN

CARABINERO HOKKIEN MEE

Po, the new Asian restaurant at month-old The Warehouse Hotel in Havelock Road, serves, arguably, the most upscale fried Hokkien mee in town – which comes with sweet, robust-flavoured red Spanish carabenero prawns (left).

It costs \$32 and is called Carabenero Prawn Konbu Mee.

The softened noodles, which have been braised in a heady umami broth, are tossed with pork belly and lardon and sprinkled with sakura ebi. I love this luxe take on Singapore's humble street food dish.

Another good dish here is the Paper Spring Chicken (\$49). The breast is juicy and the glutinous rice stuffing hearty and appetising.

The restaurant has a beautiful interior and the locally inspired food has plenty of promise.

WHERE: Po, The Warehouse Hotel, 320 Havelock Road **MRT:** Clarke Quay
OPEN: 7 to 10.30am, 11.30am to 2.30pm, 6 to 10pm daily
TEL: 6828-0007
INFO: www.po.com.sg

AIRY SALTED EGG YOLK FISH SKIN

Salted egg yolk-flavoured snacks are about as ubiquitous as salted caramel – once a fad, now a culinary staple.

This Chinese New Year, Western restaurant chain Jack's Place is selling packs of airy Golden Egg Fish Skin (\$12, below), crispy fish skin tossed in salted egg, chilli and fragrant curry leaves.

The fish skin is thin, airy, savoury and, simply put, just plain addictive. It makes for a delicious gift too.

WHERE: Jack's Place and Eatzi Gourmet outlets islandwide, while stocks last. Outlets include Jack's Place at Parkway Parade, Great World City and West Coast Recreation Centre, and Eatzi Gourmet at ITE Ang Mo Kio and Safra Yishun

WHEN: Till Feb 12 **INFO:** Order online at eatzi.com.sg/cny2017. Go to jacksplace.com.sg for the full list of restaurants

SEA SALT CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES

I don't want to over-sell Fluff Bakery's sea salt chocolate chip cookies (left), but I'm going to come clean – I ate about half a bottle in one sitting.

That's about 10 decent-sized cookies at a go.

chocolate chips throughout the cookie to keep chocolate lovers happy.

These cookies are available from the Muslim-owned bakery in limited quantities each day (about 30 to 40 bottles). Each bottle is priced at \$12 and purchase is limited to two bottles



Nettles, Banding and Bananas Sautéed Carmel.
WHERE: Overrun, 18 Baghdad Street
MRT: Bugis OPEN: Noon to 8.30pm
Tuesdays to Thursdays
2 to 9.30pm (Fridays) noon to 9.30pm (weekends), or until it sells out
INFO: bit.ly/2K9YE5I

FOOD

RESTAURANTS

Surf 'N Turf At Plaza Brasserie

Executive chef Ken Ang and his team at Plaza Brasserie, Parkway on Beach Road, will be presenting Surf 'N Turf dishes including Duroc Spanish pork collar, wagyu MBS-4 C-rump, wok-fried barbecue pork ribs and steamed lobster in hua tiao sauce.
WHERE: Level 1 Parkway on Beach Road, 7500 Beach Road
MRT: Nicoll Highway
WHEN: Feb 18 - 18pm 26 (except Mon - Tue), 6-10pm PRICE: \$68++ an adult, \$41++ a child; add \$18++ for free-flow house wine, beer & soft drinks
TEL: 6505-5710 **INFO:** E-mail dining.prsin@parkroyalhotels.com

Sunday Roast At Pxyemoss

Every second Sunday of the month, Pxyemoss will be presenting owner and head chef Tim Ross-Watson's Sunday roast. The rotating menu will feature dishes such as beetroot gazpacho with paner (\$12+); in-house dry-aged slow-roasted beef (\$30+); roasted pork belly and crispy crackling paired with horseradish sauce (\$30+); tender roast cauliflower paired with hollandaise (\$25+); and a classic Entom Mess (\$13++) for dessert.

WHERE: 43 North Canal Road
MRT: Clarke Quay **WHEN:** Feb 12, 12, 12, April 9, May 14, noon - 3pm
PRICE: Selected items \$12++ \$30++
TEL: 6532-2170 **INFO:** E-mail reservations@pxyemoss.com

CHINESE NEW YEAR

Reunion Celebrations At Ah Ho's Kitchen

Feast on the auspicious Wealthy and Harmony festive set menus (both \$388++ for six people) or the Prosperity (\$688++ for 10 people) and Longevity (\$888++ for 10 people) versions at Ah Ho's Kitchen in Hotel Jen Tanglin. Dish includes smoked salmon or abalone yusheng with crispy fish skin, honey chicken, golden fried rice, and double-boiled abalone soup with mushrooms, fish maw and dried scallops.

WHERE: 1A Cuscaden Road

MRT: Orchard **WHEN:** Till Feb 11, noon-2.30pm, 6.30-10pm **PRICE:** \$388++ \$888++ **TEL:** 6831-4373 **INFO:** E-mail ahohskitchen@hoteljen.com

VALENTINE'S DAY

Cheek-To-Cheek At Cheek By Jowl

Cheek by Jowl's Valentine's Day Menu is a three-course meal with dishes such as pickled kingfish paired with creamy charred avocado and sherry dressing, barnyard with charred lettuce, white onions and prawn; roasted lamb saddle with burnt ricotta, sautéed cauliflower and a mixture of pulled bulgar wheat, quinoa and barley. For dessert, there is cocunut sorbet with fermented cherries and coconut ash mousse, garnished with a Szechuan and black pepper crumble, as well as a selection of petit fours.

WHERE: 21 Boon Tat Street
MRT: Telok Ayer **WHEN:** Feb 14, 6-10.30pm **PRICE:** \$98++ a person
TEL: 6221-9111 **INFO:** E-mail info@cheekbyjowl.com.sg

Dining Choices At Mandarin Oriental

Indulge in a special Italian dinner by the pool at Dolce Vita, featuring Tuscan, zuppa, smoked lobster, soup, and Brasato, slow-braised Australian beef cheese; among other items. Enjoy a dinner buffet with barbecue delights in an alfresco garden setting at Melt Cafe. Or tuck into Cantonese cuisine highlights including sautéed lobster with mushrooms in truffle oil sauce - at Cherry Garden.

WHERE: Mandarin Oriental, 5 Raffles Avenue **MRT:** Promenade
WHEN: Feb 14 **PRICE:** Dolce Vita (6.30-10.30pm): \$158++ \$188++ a person; Melt Cafe (6.30-9.30pm): \$108++ a person (\$148++ includes free-flow champagne, wine, beer & cocktails); Cherry Garden (6.30-10.30pm): \$296++ (seven-course set menu for two)
TEL: 6885-3500 **INFO:** E-mail mosin-dining@mohg.com

Say Ti Amo At Zafferano

The evening at Zafferano commences with a selection of canapes at the Terrace Lounge. In the main dining room, guests are served an appetizer

Sicilian red prawns and buffalo ricotta perfumed with lemon zest, followed by Hokkaido scallop tartare with Russian caviar, pomegranate jelly and gold flakes. Housemade fettuccine with duck breast ragu comes before the mains, which is a choice of Norwegian trout or sous-vide US prime beef tenderloin. The highlight is the dessert bar, featuring a chocolate fountain, macarons and many traditional Italian desserts.
WHERE: Level 43 Ocean Financial Centre, 10 Collyer Quay **MRT:** Raffles Place **WHEN:** Feb 14, 5.30-11.45pm
PRICE: \$218++ \$198++ for first 20 seats) a person (add \$48++ for wine-pairing) **TEL:** 6509-1488
INFO: E-mail info@zafferano.sg

Couple's Combo At Morganfield's

Find your perfect match at Morganfield's with the Couple's Combo. Mix and match a half slab of signature Sticky Bones in any flavour (Russian BBQ, Smoked Peppercorn, Garlic BBQ, Spicy Asian BBQ or limited-time Honey Rum) with a protein of your choice (Blackened Salmon, Tequila Spiced Chicken or Herb Roasted Chicken) and three Southern-style sides.

WHERE: (MRT) 01-645 Tower 4, Suntec City, 3 Temasek Boulevard (Promenade); 02-23 The Star Vista, 1 Vista Exchange Green (Buona Vista), 01-S1A VivoCity, 1 Harbourfront Walk (Harbourfront) **WHEN:** Till March 5, 11am-10pm daily **PRICE:** \$49.90++ (add \$10++ to upgrade to char-grilled 250g ribeye steak) **TEL:** 6736-1136

(Suntec), 6694-3635 (Star Vista), 6225-0501 (VivoCity) **INFO:** morganfields.com.sg

Aphrodisiac Delicacies At La Ventura

La Ventura's Valentine's Day Dinner is a seven-course menu that includes turron foie gras, lobster paella, tuna tartare and Salmorino, a traditional tomato soup from southern Spain, as well as a surprise Valentine's Day dessert.
WHERE: 16A Dempsey Road
MRT: Botanic Gardens
WHEN: Feb 14, from 7pm
PRICE: \$128++ a person (minimum two, add \$58++ for wine-pairing) **TEL:** 6479-0100 **INFO:** E-mail reservation.laventurana@gmail.com

Anti-Valentine's Day Party At Lucha Loco

Lucha Loco is organising its annual signature Hearts Go Loco, an anti-Valentine's Day party for single adults. This year's fifth edition promises to be a night of fun with games encouraging guest interaction, music and a loco fiesta

to unfold to unique. Activities include a kissing booth, pinata bash, with an ex-partner's photo, a sexist senorita and senor (Spanish for woman and man) contest and Love Letters, where guests can have their Polaroid photos taken, write messages on them and pin them on the wall or slip them into someone's pocket.
WHERE: 15 Duxton Hill
MRT: Tanjong Pagar/Outram Park **WHEN:** Feb 14, from 8pm

PRICE: \$128++ (minimum two, add \$58++ for wine-pairing) **TEL:** 6887-3310 **INFO:** E-mail contact@cafef.com.sg

Plaza Brasserie is offering Surf 'N Turf dishes including steamed lobster in hua tiao sauce. PHOTO: PARROTTAL ON BEACH ROAD

Humanitarian group World Vision is organising a Valentine's Day event with food, wine and entertainment.
FOOD: such as sautéed spaghetti with laksa paste, stuffed chicken rice balls and French pastries will be served

PRICE: Payment by coupons (\$10 & \$15) for beverages & tacos from the Taco Stand **TEL:** 6228-3938
INFO: E-mail info@luchaloco.com

Soulmate Candlelight Dinner Hotel Rel @ Pearl's Hill

Executive chef William Ang has created a Soulmate Candlelight dinner with two main courses - oven-roasted barramundi and rack of lamb. Other items on the menu are scallop mushroom duxelle with mazzarella, flame sautéed trout with lemongrass soy vinaigrette, chicken provencal with vineyard cherry tomato basil, and lobster bisque and baby abalone infused with saffron soup. Dessert is rosa paloina with lychee cream, cempedak creme brûlée and a trio of berries.

WHERE: 175A Chin Swee Road
MRT: Outram Park **WHEN:** Feb 11, 7-9pm **PRICE:** \$168 nett for two, includes free-flow house wine or Moscato **TEL:** 6827-6268 (or SMS 911-7137) **INFO:** E-mail remember@hoterice.com.sg

Foie Gras And Rose Petals At Caffe B

The risotto progression in Caffe B's five-course Valentine's Day set menu is topped off with pan-seared foie gras and embellished with rose petals. The salmon tartare with avocado and mango is drizzled with a tangy mix of extra virgin olive oil and lime and served with black sea salt. The pan-seared tuna is coated with pistachios, bread crumbs and aromatised with spices, while the seared wagyu beef striploin is served alongside buttered snuff gratin, wild mushroom fricassée, green pea puree and mirin-infused veal jus.

WHERE: 81-15/01-S3 The Shoppes at Marina Bay Sands, 2 Bayfront Avenue **MRT:** Bayfront **WHEN:** Till Feb 14, noon - 3pm, 6-10pm **PRICE:** \$250++ (\$200++ from Tue - Feb 10) a couple, includes wine-pairing **TEL:** 6887-3310 **INFO:** E-mail contact@caffeb.com.sg

World Vision's Mission

Humanitarian group World Vision is organising a Valentine's Day event with food, wine and entertainment.
FOOD: such as sautéed spaghetti with laksa paste, stuffed chicken rice balls and French pastries will be served

and each guest will receive a box with three vials of wine, one of which is the 2008 Sommet Sable Bordeaux red, accompanied with tasting notes.
WHERE: Beast & Butterflies, 9 M Social Singapore, 90 Robertson Quay
MRT: Clarke Quay **WHEN:** Feb 14, 7pm-10pm **PRICE:** \$100 a person (register at bit.ly/lovebuff4) **INFO:** E-mail faith.chua@worldvision.org.sg

Valentine Vendetta For Singles At Valentine Vendetta, a singles' party

In its sixth year, guests can win up to \$100,000 worth of prizes. There will be ice-breaking activities, there will be games targeted at singles, such as The Best Proposal.
WHERE: Skyline, Level 45 Singapore Land Tower, 50 Raffles Place
WHEN: Feb 14, from 6pm **PRICE:** \$35 (book online at valentinevendetta2017.eventbrite.sg) or \$45 (at the door), includes two drinks **INFO:** www.vday.sg

Hidden Door Concepts' Offerings For Couples, Singles Or Friends

From five-course menu to pizzas and party platters, Hidden Door Concepts has it covered for couples, singles or friends. Star Steakhouse is serving a five-course set menu (\$85++ a person), Angle's Oyster Bar has a Couple Valentine's Day Platter (\$65++ a person) and Empire is offering an XXXO Truffle Platter (\$75++ for two, with Karat Sparkling 24 @ \$26++). Other options include Kitchentel's Triple Whiffy Stack & Brunch (\$30++ for share table), Lower East Side Taueria's Los Amigos Platter (\$66++ for sharing) and Nickeldime Drahtfuss's A Piz-z-a My Heart (\$18++).

WHERE: (MRT) Sear, Angle's Oyster Bar, Empire, Level 45 Singapore Land Tower, 50 Raffles Place (Raffles Place); Nickeldime, 01-06 Novena Gardens, 273 Thomson Road (Novena); Kitchentel, 01-11 1 Goolishian Plaza (Novena); Lower East Side Taueria, 10 East Coast Road (Dakota) **WHEN:** Feb 11-14 **PRICE:** \$18++-\$85++
TEL/INFO: 6221-9555, hello@50r.com.sg (Sear, Angle's); 6333-1443, empire@hiddendoor.com.sg (Empire); enquiries@hiddendoor.com.sg