

Zen's Café

Doing it Right, or Not at All

By Lori Romano



Zen's own signature breading and served with cheese sauce. Or try an order of Brian's Steak Fingers made from slices of tender rib eye steak which has been lightly breaded, fried to a golden brown, and served with a honey BBQ sauce. For your main course, try Marty's Cuban Sandwich made with thin-sliced roast pork, ham, bacon, Swiss cheese, pickles and spicy mustard served on a fresh Italian roll. Or treat yourself to an order of Ashlee's Seafood Mediterranean with shrimp, scallops, fish, fresh roma tomatoes, garlic, olive oil, and marinara tossed with parmesan and feta cheeses and served over linguini. If you've managed to save any room for dessert, Zen's has a long list of scrumptious homemade pies, cakes, shakes, sundaes, and daily dessert specials to satisfy your sweet tooth.

Most great restaurants are known for something—usually a signature menu item that delights customers and entices them to tell their friends and keep coming back for more. Few restaurants, however, can boast an entire menu filled with such items. At Zen's Café in Surprise, everything on the menu is so exquisitely delicious that you'll find yourself planning your next visit before you've even finished your meal.

With more than 30 years of experience in the restaurant business, Zen's Café chef and owner Adrian Yap has perfected his craft. Since opening in December 2009, Zen's Café has made a name for itself and attracted a loyal and enthusiastic following. Regulars like West Valley resident Mike Smith visit Zen's every day.

"I'll tell you something," Smith says. "This guy cooks so well that if he wasn't already married, I'd propose to him right now. He takes such pride in his food. There is never a problem, but if there was, Adrian would replace it and make it right."



Open every day at 7 a.m., Zen's will satisfy your cravings for breakfast, lunch, dinner, and anything in between. Each item on Zen's menu is named for a regular customer, and guaranteed to please. Start your day right with a plate of Chicken Fried Steak and Eggs made with a 10-ounce cut of rib eye steak that has been hand-breaded, fried, covered with homemade country gravy, and served with two eggs, hash browns, and your choice of toast or a biscuit. Or, if you're in the mood for something a little out of the ordinary, try Crystal's Tug Boat, which is a mixture of real crab meat, scrambled eggs, bell peppers, onions, and tomatoes topped with a red pepper cheese sauce.

Head to Zen's for lunch or dinner and you'll find even more mouthwatering items to choose from. Begin with an order of Neyalis' Fried Zucchini, hand breaded in

"The product has to be phenomenal or it doesn't come out of that kitchen," Yap explains. "I don't have customers. They are guests in my house. That's how I treat everyone. It only takes one visit and people are hooked."

With specials like Kids Eat Free Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays, Happy Hour everyday that lasts from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Friday Seafood Fest with All You Can Eat Fish for \$9.99 and All You Can Eat Shrimp or Scallops for \$16.99, Zen's truly has something for everyone.

Zen's Cafe
14051 W. Grand Ave., Surprise
623.214.9006
zenscafe.us