

# WOM GUIDE 2010

*for foodies*

BEN BROWN  
FINE ARTS

HONG KONG

**WOM**  
worddomo 1010



PEDDER BUILDING

# B

## Bo Innovation 廚魔

International  
2/F J Residence, 60 Johnston Road, Wanchai  
M-F 12:00-15:00, M-Sa 19:00-00:00

\$\$\$\$  
2850-8371  
MAP B4

chef's menu

7 00 6 7 500

It's hard not to have strong feelings after a visit to Hong Kong's home to molecular gastronomy. While most laud its "innovative" and "creative" cuisine, others denounce its "underwhelming" flavours and "mechanical" service. Try the "pricey" tasting menu for an experience that's sure to be at times "gimmicky" and "sublime".

## Boathouse, The

International  
88 Stanley Main Street, Stanley  
M-F 11:30-22:30, Sa-Su 11:00-22:30

\$\$\$  
2813-4467

seafood platter

bucket of black mussels

5 00 5 6 150

Best known for its "unique" blue exterior, this Stanley landmark earns mixed reviews with some giving a big "thumbs up" to the food and others describing it as only "average" and "overpriced". Critics blame the "increasing competition" in tourist-filled Stanley for the "easily confused", "deteriorating" service and "cramped" seating.

## Boca Tapas & Wine Bar

Spanish  
65 Peel Street, Soho  
12:00-02:00

\$\$\$  
2548-1717  
MAP B3

6 00 6 200

Fans of this Soho hot spot "have always liked the relaxed atmosphere and decent food". The Spanish bar keeps it "a bit more interesting" with some unconventional tapas. Another bonus: the open frontage means it's "dog-friendly".

# A B C

\$\$\$  
3196-8830  
MAP C1

250

ular" lunch  
erts.  
ntary snacks

500 \$\$\$\$>600  
ordinary to perfection

Al Fresco Post-11pm last order Reservations accepted Valet parking | Signature dishes  
 Delivery/Take-out No credit card Corkage fee | MAP INDEX

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### Ovologue 祇月

Chinese (Multi.)  
66 Johnston Road, Wanchai  
11:00-15:00, 18:00-23:30

\$\$\$  
2527-6088  
MAP W81 B4

6 7 8

R

200

Ovologue's "beautiful mix of traditional Chinese and quirky Hong Kong style" earns high marks, as does its "magnificent lunchtime atmosphere". But while most find the Shanghainese food "pleasing to the stomach", some say it "doesn't quite hit the right chord at these prices".

### Oyster and

Seafood

18/F Sheraton Hotel

20 Nathan Road

M-Th 18:30-01:00

Su 12:00-15:00, 18:00-01:00

Ⓞ duo of crab and oysters

Ⓞ broiled red snapper

Ⓞ french duckling

8

The Sheraton's seafood menu is a bit

but "what's not to like?"

"nice harbour view".

### Oyster C

Seafood

102 Hing Fat Street

18:30-02:00

Ⓞ oysters

Ⓞ sea urchins

Ⓞ potato skin with oysters

8

Oyster C "may look like a

ocean" and its "laid-back

say the "expensive" menu

toward the ingredients".

### Oyster Express

Seafood

6 Hillwood Road

17:00-01:00

Ⓞ braised boston oysters

Ⓞ oysters

6

You can't go wrong with

rest of the menu and the

bill may deter repeat

visits.

Other Branches

Redana Centre, 250

Des Voeux Road East

12:00-01:00

7

Seafood

18 Yik Yam Street

12:00-14:30, 18:00-01:00

Regulars are still regulars

choices for oysters".





### Pawn, The

British  
62 Johnston Road, Wanchai  
12:00-15:00, 18:00-00:00

- ☉ *sunday roast*
- ☉ *roasted bone marrow*

\$\$\$\$

2866-3444

MAP **W** B4



The British gastropub "ironically" located within an "old Chinese-style" building seems to have picked up its service game, while its "huge" portions and "perfectly cooked" dishes ensure the place is "always packed". Fans rave about the "wacky" yet "relaxing" vintage décor and "large" wine selection, noting, "you get what you pay for here, and that's a good thing".

### Peak Caf

International  
9-13 Shelley  
M-F 11:00-02:00  
☉ *salt and p*  
☉ *roasted d*  
☉ *chargrille*



Reviewers ca  
along the es  
the "extensiv

# P

## Phoenix, The

British

29 Shelley Street, Soho

M-Th 16:00-23:00, F 11:00-23:00, Sa-Su 09:00-22:30

\$\$\$

2546-2110

MAP A4



Known for its high-quality gastropub fare, this "perfect weekend place" features "great" food, service, and happy-hour drinks. The Shelley Street locale is also "far from the maddening crowds of Soho and Central".

## Pierre

French

25/F Mandarin Oriental Hong Kong,

5 Connaught Road, Central

M-F 12:00-14:30, 19:00-22:30, Sa 19:00-22:30

\$\$\$\$\$

2825-4001

MAP E3

☉ *les langoustines*

☉ *l'agneau*

☉ *chocolate soufflé*



Pierre Gagnaire's "creative molecular-esque food" features "high-quality ingredients" and some "interesting combinations". With an "amazing" view and "perfect, dark contemporary chic décor", the restaurant manages to be "grand yet intimate" -- even if "the one flimsy blue light above each table looks a bit out of place".

## Pizza Express

Italian

21 Lyndhurst Terrace, Central

S-Th 11:45-00:00, F-Sa & Ph 11:45-01:00

\$\$

2850-7898

MAP B3

☉ *peking duck pizza*

☉ *four seasons pizza*

☉ *trifolata pizza*



This popular chain maintains a "good standard as usual" even though the "quality drops with delivery". Regulars laud the "low lighting, attentive service, great pizza, and moderate pasta". "Brilliant for children" too.

Other Branches

35 Ashley Road, Tsim Sha Tsui

2317-7432

G/F Ko On Mansion, 9 Tai Yue Avenue, Taikoo Shing

3150-8800

G/F Star Street Precinct, 10 Wing Fung Street, Wanchai

3528-0541

90 Stanley Main Street, Stanley

2813-7363

J Residence, Ship Street, Wanchai

2861-0600

# P Q R

\$\$\$\$\$>600  
nary to perfection

Al Fresco Post-11pm last order Reservations accepted Valet parking | Signature dishes  
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265

# S

## SHAKE 'EM BUNS

American  
60 Johnston Road, Wanchai  
11:30-00:00

\$  
2866-2060  
MAP Wch B4-B5

- ☉ *cushin' for the pushin'*
- ☉ *mini burgers*
- ☉ *chilli cheese fries*



Where's the beef? Devotees of this local chain are "disappointed" by what appears to be "a drop in the quality and size of the burgers". Even "staff morale seems to have gone the same way". First-timers, however, will likely appreciate the "juicy" patties, "thick" milkshakes, and "several nice combinations".

**Other Branches**  
5 Hoi Ping Road, Causeway Bay 2572-6220  
76 Wellington Street, Central 2810-5533

## Shan Loon Tse Kee Fishball

### 山隆謝記魚蛋

Chinese (Noodles)  
80-82 Old Main Street, Aberdeen  
10:00-18:00

\$  
2552-3809



This tiny shop known for its "amazing" fishballs may be "jampacked from open til closing" but some wonder if it's really worth the hype. At the very least, regulars say, it's "worth a visit for the fish-skin dumplings" and deep-fried fishcake. Just don't delay, because "they close so early!"

## Shang Pal

Chinese (Gua  
Lower Level 1,  
64 Mody Road  
M-Sa 12:00-15:00  
☉ *fillet of lobster*  
☉ *sautéed scallops*



With the "nice d  
are impressed b  
a five-star hotel



## Yellow Door Kitchen 黃色門廚房

Chinese (Sichuan)  
6/F, 37 Cochrane Street, Central  
12:00-14:30, 18:30-23:00

\$\$\$  
2858-6555  
MAP B3

◎ *pork in sichuan style*

6 5 6 100

This longstanding Sichuan private kitchen lives up to its reputation, serving spicy fare "with a capital S". Like some, you may have to "dip every bite in a bowl of water" but it still tastes "actually very good". The "good value for money" only adds to its appeal.

## yè Shanghai 夜上海

Chinese (Shanghai)  
6/F Marco Polo Hongkong Hotel,  
Harbour City, Tsim Sha Tsui  
11:30-15:00, 18:00-00:00

\$\$\$  
2376-3322

◎ *steamed pork dumplings*

◎ *sea cucumber with mild chilli sauce*

◎ *baked stuffed crab shells*

MAP A4-B4

6 5 7 200

The "supposedly five-star restaurant" serves contemporary, if a bit "salty" at times, Shanghaiese cuisine in a modern setting. Regulars "prefer the less-crowded TST location". The service, meanwhile, can be hit-and-miss and the prices a "rip-off" -- beware being charged per glass for tea.

Other Branches

3/F Pacific Place, 88 Queensway, Admiralty

2918-9833

## Yin Yang Kitchen 鴛鴦飯店

Chinese (Guangdong)  
18 Ship Street, Wanchai  
12:30-15:00, 18:30-23:00

\$\$\$\$\$  
2866-0868  
MAP B5

7 7 7 100

The semi-private kitchen in a Wanchai heritage building opened with a splash but "seems to be less popular than before". Nevertheless, chef Margaret carries on her "brilliant" concept of "organic chicken, homegrown vegetables, and homemade sauces". Fans say the "expensive" bill is "worth it".

## Ying Kee Hot Pot Seafood Restaurant

英記火鍋海鮮酒家

Chinese (Hot Pot)  
1/F, 103 Des Voeux Road West, Sheung Wan  
11:00-02:00

2548-8897

- - - 30

"Just like before", this "market-like" dining hall is "a mess" -- "so rowdy and so much fun!" "Pile on the dishes for hot pot", but save room for the "fantastic" fresh seafood.