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A Perfect Date Night At Quarter Kitchen In San Diego

BY ALLIE MALTESE

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Quarter Kitchen Dining Room

Luckily, San Diego is chock full of amazing and interesting restaurants serving up a selection of locally grown and organic foods. If you're looking for a place that mixes amazing fresh food with romance and luxury, you must visit **Quarter Kitchen** for the perfect date night out on the town.

The Quarter Kitchen is located inside one of city's most luxe hotels, **Andaz San Diego**, in the famous **Gaslamp Quarter**. The restaurant

space is huge with a chic and modern decor that matches the eclectic contemporary design of the hotel's lobby. And I must make note of something: the hostess wore a black, floor length, backless dress that screamed '40s glamour – and I absolutely loved that this was the uniform.

Once seated, our waiter Jordan suggested we try a three-course meal with wine pairing of their best selections – and I was in the mood for a surprise. We started out with the line caught ahi and crab that's served with avocado and lemon aioli. Absolutely delicious and light as air. Next, was a baby spinach salad served with prosciutto, pickled onions, wild mushrooms in a red wine vinaigrette. This was paired with a crisp Soave wine that complemented the salad perfectly. My husband is quoted as saying, "This is the best salad I've ever tasted." And I couldn't agree more with him. The mushrooms and dressing literally melted in our mouths.



Ahi & Crab (Photo Credit: Allie Maltese)



Spinach Salad (Photo Credit: Allie Maltese)

Because many of the Quarter Kitchen **entrees** are too good to pass up, we were brought out a beautiful array of three different meats. First was the salmon trout served over black rice and a basil mint pesto, in the middle was a duck confit frisee salad, and lastly (and my personal favorite) slow braised short ribs served over potato gnocchi, wild mushrooms and spinach. I'm not a huge fan of red wine, but the Pinot Noir that was paired with the entree was the perfect compliment to the short ribs, and the flavors danced in my mouth.

Last, and probably the most important in my book, was **dessert**. We were brought the hot chocolate mousse cake served with bourbon vanilla bean ice cream. A.K.A., warm, heavenly goodness. This was paired with a port wine that infused nicely with the chocolatey decadence. The perfect end to a perfect

meal.

As someone who dines out quite a bit, I must say this is one of the best meals I've had since moving to San Diego. The ambiance, service and flavors were above par, and I plan on going back for another date night.

WHERE:

Quarter Kitchen

600 F Street

San Diego, CA 92101

Ph. 619-814-2000

HOURS OF OPERATION:

Breakfast from 6:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Brunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday

Lunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Sunday through Saturday

Dinner from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Sunday through Thursday, 6 p.m. to

11 p.m. Friday and Saturday

Bar from Sunday to Thursday from 4:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., Friday and Saturday 4:30 p.m.

to 11 p.m., Happier Hour from 5 to 8 p.m. Monday to Friday.



Entree Trio (Photo Credit: Allie Maltese)

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