

Dining Guide

Choose from the wide range of eateries from take-away to silver service.

Classical Thai Cravings Mittagong

By: Noelle Walker.

International chef Jason Bailey took a leap of faith when he introduced authentic Thai cuisine to an appreciative audience in the Southern Highlands.

The passionate chef spent several years learning his craft at the Blue Elephant Royal Thai Cooking school in Bangkok, and working as corporate chef at the "S & P" chain of restaurants in south east Asia.

He takes prides on serving traditional Thai food that is full of flavour at his newly-opened Mittagong restaurant, Classical Thai Cravings.

"The usual Thai fare has been altered, diluted and in some instances hackneyed, due to the Thais estimation of the Australian palette," Jason said.

"It's unfortunate, because the robust and exotic flavours of Thai cuisine, when delicately blended correctly, can certainly be appreciated by a diverse multi cultural country, as Australia."

Unlike most south-east Asian eateries, Classical Thai uses only hand-made cooking pastes and sauces.

Jason, who believes Thai cooking is not about following recipes but learning the true art of cooking, which revolves around the senses, mastered his craft under the direction of Thai celebrity chef Khun Chumpol.

"I learnt from Chumpol that it is not recipes that are passed down from generation to generation but a honing of the nose, eyes and palette.

"Combined with memorization of what Thais call "The correct flavour balance"



Since opening in October last year, Classical Thai has earned a reputation for being an experiential eatery in the Southern Highlands.

"The restaurant has been very busy since we opened, which is great, but it is also very satisfying to see so many of our clients commenting on the flavour of the food.

"The people of the Highlands have gladly accepted authentic Thai cuisine."

The restaurant comfortably seats up to 60 patrons and is open from 5pm, Tuesday to Sunday. ■

Classical Thai Cravings Mittagong, Shop 3, Mittagong Shopping Village, Pioneer Street, Mittagong NSW 2575 (next to Dan Murphys) 4872 3007



The Essence of Thai Food

4872 3007

Shop 3 Mittagong Shopping Village, Pioneer St, Mittagong (Next to Dan Murphy's)

Classical Thai Cravings Thai Restaurant

- Open Tuesday to Sunday 5pm - 10pm
- BYO, Take Away & Home Delivery
- Catering Specialist

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