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03.03.2022

International Palette
Casa Le Femme

If someone wants to try new foods at an authentic ethnic restaurant of predominantly one of the ethnic tastes they should visit an Egyptian restaurant. Casa La Femme is an international Egyptian ethnic restaurant. Casa La Femme have been hailed as one of the most romantic venues in New York City. It is located at 140 Charles St, New York, NY 10014. Casa La Femme is now open every day for an amazing outdoor dining and bellydancer show. Casa la Femme welcomes people to sample a culturally diverse food that may accommodate any diet. Fresh ingredients are cooked using old techniques passed down through the years to produce the aromas and flavors of Egypt right in the heart of the West Village. They have pre-set menus, dinners, and a children's menu that will tantalize one's taste buds regardless of what their order. Plush decor & entertainment from a belly dancer complement the exotic menu & specialty cocktails. Casa La Femme is Rated one of the best places to impress by Zagat, dinner with them will leave their patrons feeling like royalty in an oasis of comfort and hospitality. Casa La Femme is a must see, hands down one of the best places to dine and is always open late.

a. How were you addressed when you entered the restaurant? Did you need to make reservations? How long was the wait before you were seated? How was this experience different due to COVID? Did you have to show your vaccination card?

Since Casa La Femme is a busy place reservation is required in advance in order not to face seating delays. If the table is reserved a week ahead one won't face any delaying issues and as soon as one enters the restaurant they would be welcomed and seated right away. In this restaurant one might or might not experience any seating and food delays. But ordering drinks may be a pain as they take quite long with those. They take about 30 minutes just to prepare the drinks, but after waiting half an hour just for a drink they will serve the food much faster right after the drinks. Due to the covid-19 and high "no shows" they usually confirm two days before the reservation date to make sure that their customers will show up. And in order to dine in the

private room guests should be vaccinated and they have to show it along with the ID card when entering the restaurant.

b. What are the cultural differences you notice? (Use class notes and cite in APA 8th ed) Using your five senses of taste, touch, sight, smell, & sound describe some of the cultural differences that you are not accustomed to in comparison to All-American restaurants or restaurant chains. For example, one can describe but not limited to the sights in the restaurant décor, odors from unusual foods, and sounds from music. One should use all five-senses in this cultural experience. Be sure to write in third person...one will or would see, smell, etc....

Casa La Femme is a beautifully decorated restaurant with a romantic ambiance. One will be amazed with the beautiful floral and unique designs of the restaurant. Before visiting this place one wouldn't know that Egyptians are that creative to design such amazing oasis gardens as well as the private rooms. But after visiting this place one would notice that they have witnessed the original whimsical design of Egyptian culture. In the privacy of their own tent. They will enjoy an ancient rich kitchen. The sensations are amazed with captivating exotic music and dance. One would smell the lamb and beef kebabs cooked on a barbecue grill. These Beef kebabs are mouth-watering. The marinade, by itself, smells tantalizingly tender beef kebabs. When eating those kebabs one would taste the ingredients such as Worcestershire sauce, soy sauce, olive oil, mustard, garlic, lemon juice, basil, parsley and pepper that are used to make the marinade which makes sure that the meat is flavorful through and through. The marinade makes sure that when biting into the juicy kebab meat, one doesn't get charred bits of meat but they would get smoky bits of meat oozing in flavor. While enjoying those meals one would hear the sound of the variety of instruments such as dumbek-goblet shaped drum, tar, kanoun, rabba and saz that is being used to create belly dance music. Those instruments give its distinctive rhythms to middle eastern and bellydance music (*Middle eastern instruments and belly dance music*, 2022, January 24). At the same time one will see the beautiful girl dancing which makes one feel the joyfulness of watching the bellydance which makes them wanna get up and dance. While enjoying all those, one would also see the lights and the Egyptian plants as well as the beautiful flowers that they used to decorate the oasis garden and placed on each of the tables next to clients to smell the freshness of it while enjoying their meals. In the meantime one would also touch and feel the softness of the fur pillows that they put behind their back to sit comfortably. Overall with those five senses one would feel the warmth of Egyptian hospitality.

c. Look at the menu. What are the types of foods they offer? What are some unusual items? Do they describe the ingredients in the food? List various food items from the menu. What menu items did you order? Is there more than one language used to describe the foods on the menu? How does this relate to cultural geography? Be sure to use and cite lecture notes appropriately in APA 8th ed.

Casa la Femme invites you to experience a menu rich with culture that is fit for any diet; vegan, vegetarian, halal, health conscious or altogether uninhibited. They have prefixed options, catering and kids menus that will delight the taste buds no matter what you choose. Casa La Femme's menu highlights authentic Egyptian food, including traditional dishes and irresistible new tastes. Menu is provided only in English but simple and easy to understand. They described the ingredients in the food. Their food is fresh and delicious. From their menu kebabs, veal chops are the best meals along with the peasant salata. The Veal chop is done perfectly. Kanafe and Basbusa, presented with ice cream like little iced cupcakes, are absolutely delicious. Something unusual that they have is the pita bread. They have the best yummi pita bread that one would never forget the taste of this once tasted. Pita bread is Middle east and Mediterranean cuisine. Most countries like Egypt, Iran, Palestine and Turkey have the best pita breads. Adomaitis, A. D. (2022, 02. 24) International Culturelect, (Lecture 5). Since Casa La Femme is an Egyptian place most of their meals are Middle East related cuisines. And their clients are mostly from the Middle east since they have the same taste in food.

d. Is a traditional salad offered? If not, describe what is offered. What types of breads are offered (flat, pita, tortilla chips)? What type of desserts (cheesecake, fortune cookie, coffee)? What are they like? Describe the ingredients as well.

Casa Le Femme have multi traditional salads. Salata tametem is the highest ranked salad out of all. Salata tametem is made out of *Sweet grape tomatoes with mashed gibnah domiaty (Egyptian specialty soft cheese) chopped mint and extra virgin olive oil*. They also have great mezzas, which are small dishes in Middle Eastern cuisine. Casa LE Femme mostly offers pita bread as well as the egyptian traditional bread. The best desserts that they offer are the Kanafe and Basbusa, presented with ice cream like little iced cupcakes, and are absolutely delicious.

e. What types of beverages are offered? Do they have an alcohol menu? What is not typically offered in an American chain restaurant? Be sure to address what is different in the menu.

Casa Le Femme provides multi fancy drincs as well as the alcoholic drinks. Their alcohollists are great, they offer different champagnes, sparklings, and multi wines. One of their champagne is

called Simonnet-Febvre-Cremant de Bourgogne Brut. They have the best cocktails, teas and pitchers. One would enjoy their fantastic drinks. To finish off with a Champagne toast and Turkish Coffee. The best place for a romantic meal in West Village is Casa le Femme.

g. Describe the dress? (Dress is inclusive of all five senses – you smell perfume, hear jewelry, see make-up, etc....) What are the employees, such as hostesses or wait staff wearing? Please use Eicher-Roacher-Higgins (1992) article to define dress and answer appropriately. Be sure to use all five senses in each description.

The most serious limitation of the term apparel is that it does not include body modifications. In this regard it is similar to the word clothing. Reach-Figgios. .Mary Ellen, and Joanne.B. Ficher. (* Dress and Identity." Clothing and Textiles Research Journal, vol. 10, no. 4, 1992, pp. 1-8). The Waiter dressed up casually. They were wearing simple suits and looking nice. The server was wearing a light perfume that transformed his scent.

h. Rate your experience as a food critic (as in the LA Times or Houston Chronicle). Ratings should be dependent on taste, service, décor, cleanliness, authenticity, quality and price and should range from A-F (“A” being the best). Explain why you chose this rating. Be thorough and detailed in your explanations. i. What did you learn from this experience that you could contribute to a multicultural experience in a class discussion?

Casa La Femme is a beautifully decorated restaurant with a romantic ambiance. The food was flavorful and portions were quite nice. The tents around tables make you feel that you are the only ones there and yet there is so much going on around you to serve and excite. The belly dancer and the music make you get up and dance. The service is attentive and speedy. The restaurant offers a cool dining experience. The interior is very nicely done and the belly dancer provided good entertainment. The food is very mediocre

and overpriced. The desserts were great though. Love everything about this spot, the decor was amazing and the layout was cozy. The staff was super friendly, the food and drinks were amazing. Even the bathroom decoration highlighted the Middle Eastern vibe. There were tons of vegan options, the fish was delicious and the best couscous I have had in a long time.

References:

Middle eastern instruments and belly dance music. worldbellydance.com. (2022, January 24). Retrieved March 3, 2022, from <https://www.worldbellydance.com/middle-eastern-instruments/>

Reach-Figgios. .Mary Ellen, and Joanne.B. Ficher. (* Dress and Identity." Clothing and Textiles Research Journal, vol. 10, no. 4, 1992, pp. 1-8).