

Our Suggestions for Island Dining

With over 150 restaurants on Grand Cayman, ranging from simple jerk chicken stands, pizza and hamburger outlets (no McDonalds franchise, though), to dining rooms featuring five-star *haute cuisine*, there's a spot for virtually every budget, and every culinary whim. Gourmets won't be disappointed. Needless to say, the following is in no way an attempt to list all restaurants on Grand Cayman that are worthy of mention, nor a listing of paid advertisements. The few, selected restaurants below are simply those that have become our favourites over the years and that we feel offer consistent satisfaction and good value -- considering their pretensions, price, service, quality of ingredients and preparation. A couple are listed simply because they're convenient for guests. There's no particular order to the list below, and no attempt here to rank one against the other. For a more comprehensive list of Cayman restaurants, you might want to check out www.caymangoodtaste.com.



Tel: (345) 923-1986

Tel: (345) 924-2030

E-mail: n/a

Website: czechinngrill.com

Price: \$

Jiri and Dahema (or George and Denise) have just opened the Czech Inn Grill in Bodden Town, where Chester's jerk stand used to be. This new spot promises to be a real dining attraction for Inn guests. Close by, offering take-out as well as BYOB terrace dining, the menu is surprisingly varied and the food excellent and affordable. Chef Jiri, who hails from the Czech Republic, is former head chef at Morgan's Harbour and Grand Old House, and aside from many jerk dishes, and interesting burgers (including a jerk burger), fresh, local fish, steak (the most expensive dish at CI\$18), on offer are chicken schnitzel and other Eastern European specialties.



Tel: (345) 623-2782

Fax: (345) 946-7112

E-mail: cimboco@cimboco.com

Website: cimboco.com

Price: \$\$

This delightful and affordable restaurant just opened a very welcome second location in our area, directly across the street from Countryside Village and open seven days a week. Good caesar salad and bruschetta among starters, excellent pizza and chicken wings and some imaginative sandwiches including a delicious (and filling) Caribbean roti, or rolled sandwich, with jerk chicken and curried veggies in a fire-roasted flat bread. Dine inside or on the outdoor terrace — or order "to go".



Tel: (345) 623-2290

Fax: none

E-mail: none

Website: chicken2.com

Price: \$

This delightful and affordable restaurant just opened a very welcome second location in our area, directly across the street from Countryside Village and open seven days a week. They are known for their very good and affordable chicken, roasted fresh in a tropical wood rotisserie, right in the front window. It also offers a large selection of vegetables and salads as side dishes. Apparently, much better for your health than southern-fried chicken, with substantially less fat. Eat in or take out, you can buy just the chicken (quarter, half or whole), or a full meal, with corn bread and choice of two sides. A tempting, fast-food option -- healthier than most!



Tel: (345) 947-2047

Fax: (345) 947-2324

E-mail: info@lighthouse.ky

Website: lighthouse.ky

Price: \$\$\$\$



Just added pizza to the menu, from their new brick oven. It's an affordable alternative, and the pizza is one of the best on the island! Situated in Breakers, just a couple of minutes east of Turtle Nest Inn & Condos, this oceanfront landmark is open for lunch and dinner, and boasts a very professional serving staff, and a first-class wine selection. The Lighthouse offers a creative menu of local seafood, continental and Italian dishes, a screened patio, a bar area, and dining on their dock, right over the water! See the front office for a discount card.



Tel: (345) 947-2700

Fax: (345) 947-2701

E-mail: contact@tukka.ky

Website: tukka.ky

Price: \$\$\$\$

In place of Portofino, in Gun Bay (just past East End, about 13 miles east of Turtle Nest Inn), this new restaurant offers a few Australian dishes, but many more familiar Caribbean meat and seafood appetizers and full course meals. Chef and owner Ron Hargrave and his capable staff assure you of intriguing dishes, and fresh fish from village fishermen. The setting is on the water and secluded, and the service informal yet generally efficient. Lunch and dinner are served, as well as breakfast on Saturday and Sunday, and a Sunday brunch. Ever eat a hamburger with fried egg and a slice of beet? What about kangaroo or crocodile?



Tel: (345) 324-5860

Fax: none

E-mail: info@grapetreecafe.ky

Website: grapetreecafe.ky

Price: \$

If you're staying at the Inn -- or just passing through Bodden Town -- this spot is a must! Fresh fish and the trimmings, expertly fried before your eyes, just 200' down the beach from the Inn. Only open on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, and on public Holidays. You can bring your own wine and beer and enjoy the delicious food at a table under one of the thatched gazebos on the beach. Located just behind Lorna's Texaco station, the convenience store, and small liquor outlet. The choice of fish typically includes snapper, mahi, wahoo, and grouper, or whatever the local fishermen catch, at very reasonable prices!



Tel: (345) 947-9568

Fax: (345) 947-9514

E-mail: overtheedgecafe@yahoo.com

Website: none

Price: \$\$

Located on the waterfront in North Side, this lively and informal beachfront restaurant and bar serves good and reasonably priced Caribbean and Cayman fare. Known for delicious fresh fish dishes, Over the Edge is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner, offers take-out meals and a seaside terrace. The menu and staff are the same as The Edge, which regrettably closed its doors in Bodden Town at the end of September 2003. Service is very informal -- and quite slow at times -- but this is a fun spot for when you're not in a rush. A good "pit-stop" on your way to or from Rum Point and Cayman Kai.



Tel: (345) 945-1815
Fax: (345) 945-2081
E-mail: info@brasseriecayman.com
Website: brasseriecayman.com

Price: \$\$\$

The Brasserie restaurant, hidden in Cricket Square (George Town), is a sleeper. In spite of the French name, the menu is eclectic, and includes affordable snack dishes, weekly "theme nights", and full, classic dishes. However difficult to categorize, the cuisine at The Brasserie is imaginative, and a sure bet for a pleasant surprise, for lunch or dinner, is the daily fish/seafood specials -- and Monday evening's three-course meal for two with a bottle of wine, at CI\$99 per couple, is a great deal. No culinary sampling of the island is complete without at least one visit. The tasteful "plantation" decor is a pleasant visual surprise, as well. Closed on weekends.



Tel: (345) 949-2482
Fax: none
E-mail: info@agua.ky
Website: agua.ky

Price: \$\$\$\$

Previously located in Galleria Plaza but now located at Camana Bay, this spacious restaurant includes a bar, lounge, dining room, a very pleasant outdoor terrace, and plenty of available parking out front. It's open from 11:30am to 1:00am daily, with food served all day long. Very good selection of wine, and a menu which includes ceviche, fish, pasta and meat, with a number of Peruvian dishes and daily specials. Excellent service and a very flexible response to any particular request for modifying a dish. Excellent salads and a herb-crusted rack of lamb. But fish is the specialty here.



Tel: (345) 333-1944
Fax: none
E-mail:
ourhousecaymanltd@gmail.com
Website:
ourhousecayman.com/saltys

Price: \$\$

Located at the rear of the Grand Harbour Shopping Centre, near the Hurley's supermarket. Smokers can indulge at outdoor terrace of the sports bar. The menu has a little of everything that you would expect at a bar -- nachos, wings, quesadillas, burgers, and even wood fire pizza, which is pretty good. Breakfast specials are available on Saturday and Sunday only. Conveniently located from Bodden Town -- well before George Town and most traffic.



Tel: (345) 945-5200
Fax: none
E-mail:
ourhousecaymanltd@gmail.com
Website: harbourgrille.com

Price: \$\$

Also located in the Shoppes at Grand Harbour and right next to Salty's, this recent addition to the location has a unique offering of local and comfort foods. They have a variety of pastas and pizzas to surf or turf main dishes. Indoor and outdoor seating is available. Open seven days a week for dinner. Open for breakfast on Saturdays and Sundays only.



Tel: (345) 945-1915
Fax: (345) 945-1916
E-mail: icoa@candw.ky
Website: icoa.ky
Price: \$\$\$

This gem located in Seven Mile Shops, along West Bay Road, is primarily a deli and bakery for snacks and take-out, with the best bread and croissants on the island. But, it also boasts a dining room and a couple of outdoor tables for delicious breakfasts and lunches, including the very best Eggs Benedict we've ever tasted. Excellent pastries, chocolates and good salads, as well as homemade juices and a number of healthy dishes.



Tel: (345) 949-0168
Fax: (345) 949-1168
E-mail: woknroll@woknroll.ky
Website: woknroll.ky
Price: \$

This is a very small take-out spot located along Seven Mile Beach, with a table or two outdoors. What's neat is that they'll deliver to virtually anywhere on the island – for a price of course (CI\$25 to Bodden Town; minimum order, CI\$20). On offer is an extensive and varied menu of dishes from several Asian countries including Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Mongolia, Vietnam and from the Chinese province of Szechuan. Included are many familiar dishes like hot and sour soup, spring rolls, lo mein, pad thai, tofu dishes, etc., along with many others for the more adventurous.



Tel: (345) 947-2525
Fax: (345) 946-2525
E-mail: millie.calder@yahoo.com
Website: alfrescobythesea.com
Price: \$\$

Whether for lunch or dinner, at least one visit to this terrific and very affordable ocean front terrace in West Bay is a must! The very extensive menu offers something for everyone, from appetizers, sandwiches and pasta to full meat and seafood dishes. The pizza is one of the island's best, and there's a decent selection of wine and drinks. Very limited inside seating (in case of rain), but much less pleasant than a table overlooking the Caribbean. Great food at bargain prices and attentive service by Millie and her staff. Well worth the trip, weather permitting!



Tel: (345) 640-0004
Fax: none
E-mail: info@craftcayman.com
Website: craftcayman.com
Price: \$\$

This "sports bar" offers indoor and outdoor dining along West Bay Road, opposite Seven Mile Beach. Limited but adequate wine list, but extensive beer selection, including several craft beers. What sets this dining spot apart from similar establishments is the menu, which features many imaginative and delicious appetizers, sandwiches and main dishes. Among them is a plate of roasted Brussel sprouts and chorizo, and various versions of poutine, a dish which hails from Québec, with hand-cut fries covered in BBQ gravy and melting cheese curds. Recent variations include a jerk chicken poutine. Menu is regularly updated, but always includes several salads, as well as daily specials.



Tel: (345) 947-2517

Fax: (345) 947-6435

E-mail: manager@southcoastbar.com

Website:

southcoastbar.com/home.htm

Price: \$\$\$

Located in Breakers and just a few of minutes east of Turtle Nest Inn & Condos, this oceanfront restaurant offers a relaxing atmosphere and very good local cuisine at affordable prices. It's in fact just a couple of hundred feet before the Lighthouse restaurant. This is one of few restaurants with tables right on the beach, literally at the water's edge, illuminated by a gas torch permanently installed in the water!. There's also an indoor dining room and bar. They have a delicious seared tuna with wakame salad among their appetizers; tasty lobster tail, juicy pork chops, as well as a couple of very good pasta dishes among their entrees, along with a decent selection of wine and beer.



Tel: (345) 949-3948

Fax: (345) 946-6053

E-mail:

dine@calypsogrillcayman.com

Website: calypsogrillcayman.com

Price: \$\$\$

Located in Morgan's Harbor, this restaurant has consistently good food, a varied and fresh menu, locally caught fish, lively ambiance and a scenic location. Some favorites are their Beef Carpaccio and Lobster Bisque appetizers, as well as their Seafood Pasta in wine sauce entree. They arguably have the best sticky toffee pudding dessert on the island.



Tel: (345) 949-4343

Fax: none

E-mail: casa43@casa43.ky

Website: casa43.ky

Price: \$\$\$

This "Mexican Kitchen & Tequila Bar" is located along Seven Mile Beach, just off West Bay Road and across from the Strand, where "Gateway of India" used to be. They claim to specialize in regional Mexican dishes and the freshest of ingredients. Very good food – perhaps a little more "TexMex" than Agave Grill – and very reasonable prices. Best bet for a main course is their wide choice of small "signature tacos", less than C\$6 each. Any two plus perhaps a selection from their delicious appetizers, ceviches, soups or salads will fill you up – or just three tacos. The Mexican green salad was original and excellent. Other favourites were the baby back ribs appetizer and, among the tacos on offer, the Carne Asada and Pollo Asado. Very pleasant service and ambience.



Tel: (345) 943-9674

Fax: n/a

E-mail: office@yoshi.ky

Website: eats.ky/yoshisushi.html

Price: \$\$

Located in the Cayman Falls Shopping Centre (opposite the Westin Hotel), along Seven Mile Beach, Yoshi offers some of the best sushi on the island at a reasonable price. Whether you're new to sushi or not, the staff is very helpful and informative, with useful suggestions.



Tel: (345) 949-4321

Fax: (345) 946-6491

E-mail: info@catch.ky

Website: catch.ky

Price: \$\$\$

Excellent restaurant in Morgan's Harbour in West Bay, with a beautiful seaside terrace. A bit of a drive, but well worth it. You can walk on the dock and look at the boats after dinner. Excellent and refined food, Mediterranean style, serving local fish. Beautiful setting and friendly service. Same owners and similar specialties as Agua Restaurant, both take pride in serving the freshest, best quality ingredients.



Tel: (345) 947-4892
Fax: none
E-mail: info@gyachtclub.com
Website: gyachtclub.com
Price: \$\$

Conveniently located about a two-minute drive from the airport, this restaurant is a perfect "last meal stop" for guests with afternoon or evening flights. Along with the mouthwatering warm fritters with butter you'll get as your complimentary appetizer, their lunch/dinner menu includes a tasty selection of pastas, sandwiches, and pizza just to name a few. Their Cracked Conch appetizer is addictive with the three different spicy dipping sauces that it comes with. The Oxtail Shepherd's Pie entree is a unique twist to this long-standing recipe. If a Mojito is your drink of choice, you'll be intrigued by their Mango-Ginger or Dirty Coconut flavor options. It doesn't hurt that this restaurant boasts a relaxing, marina/sea view or that they have an outdoor pool for the kids either.



Tel: (345) 749-8486
Fax: n/a
E-mail: info@vivo.ky
Website: vivo.ky
Price: \$\$

An eco-friendly, vegan, vegetarian, gluten-free, dairy free, and organic restaurant located in the West Bay area. Open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. A few notable selections are their coconut pancakes (made with coconut flour) and coconut bacon (actual coconut strips seasoned to taste just like bacon). They also have a selection of lionfish on the menu. A unique, ocean-side dining experience.



Tel: (345) 949-7633
Fax: (345) 949-4629
E-mail: casanova@candw.ky
Website: casanova.ky
Price: \$\$\$

Italian cuisine in a fun and lively ambiance. The menu offers a great variety of quality food at a reasonable price. Beautiful terrace with views of the George Town Port. The tables closest to the ocean are best. Warm and friendly staff.



Tel: (345) 946-7049
Fax: (345) 946-7059
E-mail: morgansharbour@gmail.com
Website: morganscayman.com
Price: \$\$\$

Formerly Morgans Harbour Restaurant in West Bay, this favourite of ours is now relocated to the Cayman Islands Yacht Club; a convenient location to grab a bite to eat if you happen to have a catamaran tour in this vicinity. Their varied menu features something for every appetite, from sandwiches and an excellent jerk burger with melted Brie cheese, to an original chicken schnitzel and the freshest of fish caught by local fishermen -- all excellently prepared and at very reasonable prices. Excluding drinks, it's easy to get away with a filling meal at around CI\$20, on the seaside terrace or indoors, both in an intimate and informal atmosphere. Open daily from 11:00am to 12:00am.

AGAVE

URBAN AGAVERIA

Tel: (345) 947.5555

Fax: none

E-mail: agavegrill@gmail.com

Website: agave.ky

Price: \$\$

This small and welcoming Mexican cantina is off the beaten track, but well worth a visit! Terrific and varied appetizers, sides, and numerous main courses including burritos, enchiladas, tacos, quesadillas, tomas and relleños, all at bargain prices! Open for lunch and dinner from Monday through Saturday, with a small number of tables (a couple outside) in a cozy and comfortable atmosphere, but no reservations. The beef enchiladas platter at CI\$9.75 is delicious, with real shredded beef (not ground meat), as is the chicken tacos platter (also CI\$9.75) and the side called ragout of sweet peppers and onions (CI\$3.50). The platters are a meal unto themselves, with refried beans, rice, salsa, etc. A favourite of ours!



Tel: (345) 946-6239

Fax: none

E-mail: info@cafe.ky

Website: cafe.ky

Price: \$

Small and quaint restaurant in downtown George Town for those who want to enjoy deliciously modern and healthy food prepared responsibly (no animal products are used). Delicious breakfasts, excellent black bean tacos and Jerk tofu (island bowl), and a different soup every day. Terrific chocolate chip cookies and caramel brownies. They also make their own ice cream with coconut milk. Open for breakfast and lunch Monday to Friday (9am to 4 pm), and Saturday (from 10am to 3pm). A paradise for vegans, but an enjoyable and intriguing alternative for all.



Tel: (345) 949-1119

Fax: (345) 949-1114

E-mail: info@pappagallo.ky

Website: pappagallo.ky

Price: \$\$\$\$

Top-notch, Northern Italian cuisine with a Caribbean flair, and an extensive wine selection, expertly served in your choice of two large rooms (one with superb macaws and parrots, the other overlooking the lagoon) or on their screened, outdoor terrace. Pappagallo is situated in Barkers (West Bay), at the extreme northern tip of Grand Cayman, so count on about a 45-minute drive from Turtle Nest Inn. But the restaurant's location, in a bird sanctuary beside a natural lake, like its thatched roof, is what makes dining here an exotic experience.



Tel: (345) 947-8899

Fax: none

E-mail: none

Website: none

Price: \$

Formerly known as Kurt's Korner, this little local dining spot features only outdoor tables, but all under a canvass cover in case of rain. It's located on Frank Sound Road, just before the junction with North Side Road leading to Rum Point. The menu includes appetizers, sandwiches, burgers, pasta, Cayman specialties and locally caught fish and seafood, along with a vegetarian special and a kids' menu. Very limited choice of alcohol, so you might want to bring your own wine. Simple, but tasty and inexpensive fare served seven days a week from 11:00am to 10:00pm.

Rankin's Jerk Centre

Tel: (345) 947-3155

Fax: none

E-mail: none

Website: none

Price: \$

Probably the best dining value on Grand Cayman -- less than a mile west from Turtle Nest Inn & Condos, in Bodden Town. Very tasty jerk chicken or pork. A quarter chicken, complete with rice and beans, spicy sauce and "festival" (Jamaican corn bread), for only CI\$5.00! A large portion is CI\$7.00. A nice walk, if you eat at a picnic table on their lawn. Otherwise, take the car, carry it back to the Inn, pop open a bottle of wine and enjoy. Other local dishes may include oxtail stew, baked chicken, BBQ ribs, etc. If you're coming to Grand Cayman to "go native" -- or to keep costs down -- Rankin's Jerk Centre is a must! Closed on Sunday.



Tel: (345) 949-3287

Fax: (345) 945-5749

E-mail: eat@eats.ky

Website: eats.ky/eats.html

Price: \$\$\$



Tel: (345) 949-9333

Fax: (345) 949-0635

E-mail: info@grandoldhouse.com

Website: grandoldhouse.com

Price: \$\$\$\$



Tel: (345) 949-8210

Fax: none

E-mail:

info@italiankitchencycayman.com

Website: italiankitchencycayman.com

Price: \$\$\$



Tel: (345) 945-3484

Fax: (345) 945-3743

E-mail: ragazzi@ragazzi.ky

Website: ragazzi.ky

Price: \$\$\$



Tel: (345) 949-6141

Fax: (345) 945-7697

E-mail: none

Website: none

Price: \$\$\$

Eats, in the Cayman Falls Shopping Plaza (opposite the Westin Hotel), consists of a more family-oriented room and a "bar"-type room, and offers take-out, good and substantial American breakfast, lunch, as well as reasonably priced dinners. Very popular for snacks, sandwiches, burgers and a range of full meals. No coleslaw but, if you're into avoiding meat, try the tasty, oriental-style, vegetarian stir fry, served in small or large portions.

Good food and service at a superb, oceanfront location in South Sound. The Grand Old House seems to present itself as a spot for "special occasions", but it's not any more costly than other upscale dining spots -- and more worthy of its pretensions than many. It's a big operation, with dining areas inside and out, and some of its marketing may suggest a "tourist trap", but the food -- continental and Caribbean fare -- is consistently delicious, the service attentive and efficient, the choice of wine extensive, and the ambience most romantic.

Located in the Morritt's Center in the Gun Bay area (just past East End, about 13 miles east of Turtle Nest Inn & Condos) this Italian restaurant has authentic and affordable cuisine and atmosphere, with a couple of outdoor tables. Their woodstone oven pizzas are a delicious alternative to fast-food pizza and their garlic knots are a unique appetizer. This is the only Italian option to the east of the Inn, and definitely worth the trip. Open only for dinner and take-out, Tuesday through Sunday.

Ristorante Ragazzi Pizzeria is located in Buckingham Square Centre, along West Bay Road. Although the menu features a wide variety of fish, seafood and pasta -- and there's a selection of daily specials (presented on a portable blackboard) -- Ragazzi's claim to fame are the many varieties of gourmet pizza baked in a wood-burning brick oven, one of the best pizzas on the island. There's also an excellent wine list, including a number of choices sold by the glass. Just across the parking lot, the owners of Ragazzi have opened Azzurro, a cafe pasticceria offering homemade pastries, Italian coffee, sandwiches and salads.

The best Thai cuisine on Grand Cayman is located in Elizabethan Square, in downtown George Town. Superb dishes that compare favourably with the best Thai food we've eaten anywhere. A limited but decent wine selection. To start, there are very good chicken satay skewers, a small cucumber salad, egg rolls and cold spring rolls. Among main courses, try the spicy basil chicken, the crispy garlic beef, the ginger fish, as well as the vegetarian Pad Thai noodles. A combination of clear rice noodles, tofu, bean sprouts, cabbage, scallions and a dash of peanuts.



Tel: (345) 623-4550
Fax: (345) 945-3743
E-mail: dine@luca.ky
Website: luca.ky
Price: \$\$\$\$

Luca, recently opened by the owners of Ragazzi on the ground-floor of the Caribbean Club, an upscale condo complex along West Bay Road, offers an impressive selection of Italian/Continental dishes in a very sleek interior. There's a snazzy bar section and several outdoor tables overlooking a pool and Seven Mile Beach. Very good service and a superb wine list compliment the cuisine that already ranks among the island's best. Recently tried dishes were the prosciutto e melone appetizer, the spinach salad, and as main courses, beef stroganoff pappardelle and the yellowfin tuna -- all excellent.



Tel: (345) 946-2815
Fax: (345) 946-2816
E-mail: info@gatewayofindia.ky
Website: gatewayofindia.ky
Price: \$\$\$

Formerly located across from Seven Mile Beach (next to The Strand shopping centre), this first Indian Curry house is now located at the Cayman Business Park (in George Town) for pick up and deliveries only. The quality of the cuisine however, has not changed -- the food here compares well with Indian fare we've tried in several countries. There are delicious vegetable samosas and "aloo dosa" for appetizers, superb tandoori lamb chops (not to be missed) and chicken tikka kebab for main dishes, and very tasty vegetable sides like "aloo gobi" (sauteed cauliflower and potatoes), "masala dal fry" (lentil stew), and the mixed vegetable "korma". Main dishes are all served with safran rice, raita, pappadum and Indian "pickles", and are quite reasonably priced. Free delivery requires a minimum purchase of two or three entrees.



Tel: (345) 947-7333
Fax: (345) 949-7660
E-mail: none
Website: pizzahutcayman.com
Price: \$

If you're from the USA or Canada, no introduction to this fast-food outlet is needed. Decent pizza, wings, etc., delivered right to your apartment or condo door here at the Inn, typically in less than 45 minutes. Located in Savannah, pick-up on your way back from town is also convenient. If you're in the mood to stay put for an evening of watching a movie or TV, here's a cheap and easy dinner option, probably leaving you with leftovers for tomorrow's lunch. Delivery seven days a week.



Tel: (345) 947-1188
Fax: (345) 949-1911
E-mail: none
Website: dominoscayman.com
Price: \$

If you're from the USA or Canada, no introduction to this fast-food outlet is needed. Decent pizza, wings, etc., delivered right to your apartment or condo door here at the Inn, typically in less than 45 minutes. Located in Savannah, pick-up on your way back from town is also convenient. If you're in the mood to stay put for an evening of watching a movie or TV, here's a cheap and easy dinner option, probably leaving you with leftovers for tomorrow's lunch. Delivery seven days a week.