

Food

Deluxe's caesar salad is one tasty piece of art

In Search Of:

A remarkable caesar salad



Jasmine Bradley

In Search Of

Location Found: Deluxe, 15475 Marine Drive, White Rock

As soon as I walk into Deluxe restaurant on Marine Drive, I instantly feel transported to a trendy downtown establishment. House music flows from speakers while the chic modern decor feels upscale yet still inviting.

Sitting at the sleek bar with owner/chef Jeremy Duke, it's not hard to see why this place would be pumping on a Friday night.

"Beach - Miami - Water. That's the design and culinary vision behind Deluxe," says Duke.

Duke is from White Rock and first started working in the food industry at the age of 12. He hasn't looked back since.

After a full renovation that included turning an upstairs apartment into a rooftop dining area, Duke and his business partner Victor Dawydiak opened their waterfront restaurant in January.

"I have always thought that East Beach needed something new, something more than just fish and chips," Duke said.

"The location seemed like a great opportunity for us to position ourselves as pioneers in making this side of the beach more of a dining destination."

Duke describes the menu as global, one that provides patrons with dishes that are familiar but have been updated in new and interesting ways.

An example of how Deluxe takes a restaurant staple and gives it a culinary makeover can be seen with its caesar salad.

Instead of the typical torn romaine leaves with croutons and bacon bits, Deluxe offers up its version in the form of a lettuce wedge adorned with an oven-roasted tomato, slice of crispy pancetta, thyme crisp, roasted garlic and parmesan cheese.

Drizzled over top is a homemade

dressing and balsamic glaze. The salad plates up beautifully, looking like a piece of art - an incredibly tasty piece of art!

Barely six months after opening the restaurant, Duke and his team are already looking towards the future.

With plans for its own blend of wine and a cookbook, Deluxe has recently opened its patio for the season and now offers valet parking. Deluxe will also be providing room service for guests of the Ocean Promenade Hotel.

With so much on the go it would be easy to get ahead of themselves, but Duke is quick to bring it back to the basics.

"We take it one plate at a time, and I believe at the end of the day this approach will make our business a success".

What I'm searching for next:

Over the next few weeks I will be in search of outstanding summer cocktails, chicken wings, gelato, and perogies. Know somewhere that serves up a fantastic version of these items? Email your suggestions to info@cookthatbook.com



Jasmine Bradley Photo

Jeremy Duke shows off Deluxe's artsy caesar salad.



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