

Malta & Gozo Eat Your Heart Out

Malta Independent - 9 September 2007

Malta and Gozo eat your heart out!

All you food lovers who love to eat out now have your chance to eat your heart out and have your say on your restaurant experiences by rating the restaurants you have visited in the last year and commenting in this year's Malta and Gozo Restaurant Survey.

Your ratings and comments will ultimately help to create the most authoritative and objective restaurant guide in Malta and Gozo, *The Definitive(ly) Good Guide to Restaurants in Malta and Gozo* sponsored by Marsovin Ltd and HSBC, which will in turn help to improve Malta's restaurant infrastructure by guiding locals and tourists to the good restaurants and therefore helping to improve their business. Your input and comments in the survey determines which restaurants get included in the guide.

Out of an incredible 1000 restaurants on the islands your top survey rated 150 restaurants will be included in the guide. The Minister for Tourism presents the top rated 40 restaurants with awards at the annual gala dinner in December.

Regular diners can also

participate in the annual survey online at www.restaurantsmalta.com.

The online survey allows you to return to the survey, at any time before the deadline, to continue voting for your favourite restaurants, or even amend your rating.

As in previous years you can win some fantastic prizes including a weekend break for two on a bed and breakfast basis in a Zenith Suite sea view room at the Radisson SAS Golden Sands Resort & SPA; a weekend break for two on bed and breakfast basis at the InterContinental Malta; a Red October Ltd hamper consisting of fine wines and confectionery worth Lm35 and four bottles of Marsovin Ltd's new locally grown varietal Caravaggio wine.

The Definitive(ly) Good Guide Restaurant Survey is distributed annually and asks eaters-out to rate all the restaurants you have frequented in the last 12 months on a scale of 1-10 for food, service and ambience. It invites you to answer additional questions including what you think is the best Maltese restaurant; best restaurant for business entertainment; best value

for money restaurant; most romantic restaurant; most children friendly restaurant and the best restaurant restroom as well as your favourite wine lists. It also invites you to comment on the restaurants.

The survey should be very much in the national interest due to the obvious importance of tourism and the importance of good restaurants to tourists – particularly the more affluent ones. The availability of an authoritative, unbiased and comprehensive guide helps visitors to enjoy their stay more by having good rather than bad restaurant experiences. Inclusion in the guide depends upon restaurants receiving consistently favourable ratings/reviews from many diners on many occasions.

Thus there will be a beneficial influence on the quality of the restaurant product as restaurants attempt to improve their standards in order to be in the guide with high ratings and reviews.

Anyone wishing to receive the survey can request one by sending their name and address to info@restaurantsmalta.com or calling on 2180 2383.



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Malta Restaurants Awards Ceremony

Malta Independent - 7 December 2007

Malta Restaurants Award Ceremony

Winners of The Definitive(ly) Good Guide to Restaurants 2007 Survey supported by HSBC Ltd and Marsovin Ltd were presented with fantastic prizes including the first prize of a weekend break at Golden Sands Resort won by Michael King, the second prize of a weekend break at the InterContinental was won by Stephen and Sonja Mangion Kragl. A hamper of wines and confectionery was presented to the third winner, Dr Victoria Farrugia by Red October Ltd, while Paul Chetcuti who placed fourth was presented with a hamper of Marsovin's varietal wines.

Prizes were given to those reviewers who returned their surveys with ratings and included the funniest, relevant and most informative comments. The winners' entries were among an excellent response of 800 plus surveys received rating on average of 20 restaurants each, an equivalent of



Ms Andrea Critien (Definitive(ly) Good Guide), Mr Alex Incorvaja (Marketing InterContinental), Ms Sonja Mangion Kragl and Mr Stephen Mangion (winners)

80,000 dining experiences.

The eighth edition of the *Guide* incorporating results of the 2007 Restaurant Survey including the top-rated 150 restaurants out of over 1,100 restaurants in Malta and Gozo will be launched during the annual Restaurant Gala Dinner Award Ceremony at Hilton Malta

on Monday 17 December when the 40 top survey rated restaurants and the 12 top fine dining restaurants will be presented with commemorative plates (supplied by Villeroy & Boch, local agent Continental Purchasing) by the Minister for Tourism and Culture, Dr Zammit Dimech.

Additional awards including awards for the following categories will also be presented: Top Rated Maltese Food Restaurant sponsored by the Ministry for Tourism; Top Rated Best Value for Money Restaurant sponsored by Atlas Insurance; Top Rated Best Business Entertainment Restaurant sponsored by Michael Attard Ltd; Most Romantic Restaurant sponsored by Aplan; Best Vegetarian Option Restaurant sponsored by Good Earth Ltd; Children Friendly Restaurant sponsored by Malta Baby & Kids Directory and the Best Restaurant Restroom/Cloakroom sponsored by Satariano Ltd. Wine awards sponsored by Marsovin Ltd will also be presented.

Tickets for this annual event can be purchased by calling on 2180 2383 or email a request at info@restaurantsmalta.com Deadline for tickets is 10 December.



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Definitive(ly) Good Guide winners

Sunday Times - 9 December 2007

90 FOOD AND DRINK

THE SUNDAY TIMES, DECEMBER 9, 2007



Michael King being presented with the prize by Raphael Cauchi, general manager of the Radisson Golden Sands. Andrea Critien from the Defenitive(ly) Good Guide looks on.

Definitive(ly) Good Guide winners

Winners of the The Definitive(ly) Good Guide to Restaurants 2007 Survey were recently presented with their prizes. Michael King was the winner of the first prize – a weekend break at Golden Sands Resort. The second prize – a weekend break at the InterContinental Hotel – was won by Stephen Mangion and Sonja Mangion Kragl.

A hamper of wines and confectionery was presented by Red October Ltd to the third winner, Victoria Farrugia, while Paul Chetcuti who placed fourth was presented with a hamper of Marsovin's varietal wines. Prizes were given to those reviewers who returned their surveys with ratings and included the funniest, relevant and most informative comments. The winners' entries were among

an excellent response of 800 plus surveys received rating on average of 20 restaurants each, an equivalent of 80,000 dining experiences.

The eighth edition of the guide incorporating results of the 2007 Restaurant Survey including the top rated 150 restaurants out of over 1,100 restaurants in Malta will be launched during the annual Restaurant Gala Dinner Award Ceremony at the Hilton Malta on December 17 when the 40 top survey rated restaurants and the 12 top fine dining restaurants will be presented with commemorative plates.

Tickets for this annual event can be obtained by calling 2180 2383 or email a request at info@restaurantmalta.com. The deadline for tickets is tomorrow.



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Two Restaurants voted joint winners

Business Weekly - 20 December 2007



Two restaurants voted joint winners

Two restaurants have been rated "top overall" for Malta on the basis of food, service and ambience this year in the annual survey conducted by the *Definitive(y) Good Guide to Restaurants* supported by HSBC and Marsovin.

More than 800 regular diners took part in the survey, voting for their favourite restaurants on the islands. As respondents eat out at least twice a week on average, this is the equivalent of more than 80,000 individual dining experiences.

The Blue Elephant at Hilton Malta and Essence at Radisson SAS Golden Sands scored highest in the overall category, Essence at the Radisson SAS Golden Sands Resort & Spa scored highest in the Food category and the Hilton's Blue Elephant scored highest for Service and Ambience.

The results were revealed this week by Dr Francis Zammit Dimech, Minister for Tourism and Culture, presented awards produced by Villeroy & Boch at the Guide's Gala Dinner – which has established itself over the last eight years as the most prestigious food event in Malta – at the Hilton Malta.

The Guide lists the 150 most highly rated of Malta's 1,000-plus dining venues based on food, service and ambience, the number of satisfied customers responding, and their comments. For the 2008 edition, launched last night, the new Guide sees 23 new restaurants entering the Guide.

Commemorative plates supplied by Villeroy & Boch were presented to the highest rated among the 150 that were listed.

The It-Tmun Victoria wine list was rated for a total of three awards including "The People's

Choice" wine list rated from the survey, best "Overall" wine list and best "Presentation and Accessibility". Ta'Frenc wine list was voted best for fine wines and The Arches had the best list of Maltese wines. The wine awards were supported by Marsovin, who, with HSBC, support the Guide.

The restaurants that received awards based on food, service, ambience and overall ratings in the Fine Dining Category were: Blue Elephant; Essence; Gazebo; Ta' Frenc; Rebekah's; Zest; Bottega del Vino; de Mondion; Quadro; Fumia; Phoenix; Hibiki.

The restaurants that received Malta & Gozo Restaurant Awards included: Giannini Ristorante; Corinthia Room; Oceana; Tarragon; It-Tmun Victoria; The Medina; The Arches; Le Bistro; Maji; Rickshaw; Barracuda; Fusion 4; Zeri's; Kon Tiki; The Lord Nelson; Lulu; Pegasus Brasserie; The Playwright at the Dubliner; Can Thai; The Carriage; Fra Martino; Eastern Breeze; Flavours; Bacchus; Taste; Shiva's; China House; Rogantino's.

Additional presentations were made to Ta'Marija – best Maltese Food Restaurant (sponsored by the Ministry for Tourism and Culture); Blue Elephant – top rated for Romantic Dining (sponsored by Aplan Ltd), best Restaurant Restroom and Cloakroom (sponsored by Satariano Ltd) and best for Business Entertaining (sponsored by Michael Attard Ltd); Mamma Mia – rated Best Value for Money Restaurant (sponsored by Atlas Insurance), Best Vegetarian Options sponsored by Good Earth and was also voted Most Children-Friendly Restaurant sponsored by Malta Baby & Kids Directory.



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Two Restaurants voted joint winners for best restaurants in Malta

Malta Independent - 21 December 2007

THE MALTA INDEPENDENT
Friday 21 December 2007



The Definitive(y) Good Guide to Restaurants Awards gala dinner

Two restaurants voted joint winners for best restaurants in Malta

Two restaurants have been rated "top overall" for Malta on the basis of food, service and ambience this year in the annual survey conducted by the *Definitive(y) Good Guide to Restaurants* supported by HSBC and Marsovin.

More than 800 regular diners took part in the survey, voting for their favourite restaurants on the islands. As respondents eat out at least twice a week on average, this is the equivalent of more than 80,000 individual dining experiences.

The Blue Elephant at Hilton Malta and Essence at Radisson SAS Golden Sands scored highest in the overall category. Essence at the Radisson SAS Golden Sands scored highest in the Food category and the Hilton's Blue Elephant scored highest for Service and Ambience.

The results were revealed on Monday when Tourism Minister Francis Zammit Dimech presented awards produced by Villeroy & Boch at the *Guide's* gala dinner at

tomers responding, and their comments. In the 2008 edition the new *Guide* has 23 new restaurants in the list.

Commemorative plates supplied by Villeroy & Boch were presented to the highest rated among the 150 that were listed.

The It-Tmun Victoria wine list was rated for a total of three awards, including "The People's Choice" wine list, rated from the survey, best "Overall" wine list and best "Presentation and Accessibility". Ta' Frenc wine list was voted best for fine wines and The Arches had the best list of Maltese wines.

The restaurants that received awards based on food, service, ambience and overall ratings in the Fine Dining Category were:

Blue Elephant; Essence; Gazebo; Ta' Frenc; Rebekah's; Zest; Bottega del Vino; de Mondion; Quadro; Fumia; Phoenix; Hibiki.

The restaurants that received Malta & Gozo Restaurant Awards included:

Kon Tiki; The Lord Nelson; Lulu; Pegasus Brasserie; The Playwright at the Dubliner; Can Thai; The Carriage; Fra Martino; Eastern Breeze; Flavours; Bacchus; Taste; Shiva's; China House; Rogantino's.

Additional restaurant awards

Additional presentations were made to Ta' Marija – best Maltese Food Restaurant (sponsored by the Ministry for Tourism and Culture); Blue Elephant – top rated for Romantic Dining (sponsored by Aplan Ltd); best Restaurant Restroom and Cloakroom (sponsored by Satariano Ltd) and best for Business Entertaining (sponsored by Michael Attard Ltd); Mamma Mia – rated Best Value for Money Restaurant (sponsored by Atlas Insurance); Best Vegetarian Options sponsored by Good Earth and also voted Most Children-Friendly Restaurant, sponsored by Malta Baby & Kids Directory. The results of the Restaurant Survey can be



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Top Rated Restaurants receive awards

Malta Times - December 2007

Top rated restaurants receive awards

Hilton Malta's Blue Elephant and Radisson SAS Golden Sand's Essence have scored highest overall in the annual survey conducted by the Definitive(ly) Good Guide To Restaurants.

Essence again scored highest in the food category and the Blue Elephant scored highest for service and ambience.

More than 800 regular diners took part in the survey, voting for their favourite local restaurants. As respondents eat out at least twice a week on average, this is the equivalent of more than 80,000 individual dining experiences.

The results were announced on December 17 when Francis Zammit Dimech, Minister for Tourism and Culture, presented awards at the Guide's gala dinner at the Hilton.

The guide lists the 150 most highly rated of Malta's 1,000-plus dining venues based on food, service and ambience, the number of satisfied customers responding and their comments.

During the same dinner, *It-Tmun Victoria's* wine list was rated for a total of three awards, including The People's Choice, the Best Overall and the Best Presentation And Accessibility. *Ta' Frenċ's* wine list was voted best for fine wines while The Arches had the best list of Maltese wines.

The Blue Elephant, Essence, *Gazebo*, *Ta' Frenċ*, Rebekah's, Zest, *Bottega del Vino*, *de Mondion*, *Quadro*, *Fumia*, Phoenix and *Hibiki* received awards based on food, service, ambience and overall ratings in the Fine Dining Category.

The restaurants that received Malta & Gozo Restaurant Awards included: *Giannini Ristorante*, *Corinthia Room*, *Oceana*, *Tarragon*, *It-Tmun Victoria*, *The Medina*, *The Arches*, *Le Bistro*, *Maji*, *Rickshaw*, *Barracuda*, *Fusion 4*, *Zeri's*, *Kon Tiki*, *The Lord Nelson*, *Lulu*, *Pegasus Brasserie*, *The Playwright at The Dubliner*, *Can Thai*, *The Carriage*, *Fra Martino*, *Eastern Breeze*, *Flavours*, *Bacchus*, *Taste*, *Shiva's*, *China House* and *Rogantino's*.

Additional presentations were made to *Ta' Marija* for best Maltese Food Restaurant, *The Blue Elephant* for top rated Romantic Dining, Best Restaurant Restroom and Cloakroom and Best for Business Entertaining, and *Mamma Mia*, which was rated Best Value for Money Restaurant, Best Vegetarian Options and also voted Most Children-Friendly Restaurant.

The results of the survey can be found in the latest edition of The Definitive(ly) Good Guide to Restaurants in Malta and Gozo, available in shops and online at www.restaurantsmalta.com.



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The Definitive(Iy) Good Restaurants Awards Gala Dinner

Malta Today - 30 December 2007



restaurants *Malta*.com

The Definitive(ly) Good Guide to Restaurants Awards

Malta Independent on Sunday - 30 December 2007

THE MALTA INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY
30 December 2007



Gallarija 27



'The Definitive(ly) Good Guide to Restaurants' Awards

Two restaurants have been rated "top overall" for Malta on the basis of food, service and ambience this year in the annual survey conducted by the *Definitive(ly) Good Guide to Restaurants* supported by HSBC and Marsovin.

More than 800 regular diners took part in the survey, voting for their favourite restaurants on the islands. As respondents eat out at least twice a week on average, this is the equivalent of more than 80,000 individual dining experiences.

The Blue Elephant at Hilton Malta and Essence at Radisson SAS Golden Sands scored highest in the overall category. Essence at the Radisson SAS Golden Sands Resort & Spa scored highest in the Food category and the Hilton's Blue Elephant scored highest for Service and Ambience.

The results were revealed on Monday 17 December when the Dr Francis Zammit Dimech, Minister for Tourism and Culture, presented awards produced by Villero & Boch at the *Guide's* Gala Dinner, which has established itself over the last eight years as the most prestigious food event in Malta, at the Hilton Malta.

The *Guide* lists the 150 most highly rated of Malta's 1,000-plus dining venues based on food, service and ambience, the number of satisfied customers responding, and their comments. For the 2008 edition, it sees 23 new restaurants entering the new *Guide*.

Il-Tmun, Victoria wine list was rated for a total of three awards including "The People's Choice" wine list rated from the survey, best "Overall" wine list and best "Presentation and Accessibility". *Ta' Frene* wine list was voted best for fine wines and *The Arches* had the best list of Maltese wines. The wine awards were supported by Marsovin.

The restaurants that received awards based on food, service, ambience and overall ratings in the Fine Dining Category were Blue Elephant; Essence, Gazebo, Ta' Frenc, Rebekah's, Zest, Bottega del Vino, de Mondion, Quadro, Fumia, Phoenix and Hibiki.

The restaurants that received Malta & Gozo Restaurant Awards

included Giannini Ristorante, Corinthia Room, Oceana, Tarragon, *Il-Tmun* Victoria, The Medina, The Arches, Le Bistrot, Maji, Rickshaw, Barrazada, Fusion 4, Zeri's, Kon Tiki, The Lord Nelson, Lulu, Pegasus Brasserie, The Playwright at the Dubliner, Can Thai, The Carriage, Fra Martino, Eastern Breeze, Flavours, Bacchus, Taste, Shiva's, China House and Rogantino's.

Additional presentations were made to *Ta' Marija* - Best Maltese Food Restaurant, Blue Elephant - top rated for Romantic Dining, best Restaurant Restroom & Cloakroom and best for Business Entertaining, Mamma Mia - rated Best Value for Money Restaurant



Mr Matthew de Georgio of Good Earth Ltd, sponsor of the Best Vegetarian Restaurant presents award to Mrs Marcon Formosa and Mr Gaetano Fenech of Mamma Mia



Minister for Tourism Dr Francis Zammit Dimech presents award for Best Restroom & Cloakroom award to Mrs Phyllis Vella and Mr Julian Calascione of the top-rated restaurant The Blue Elephant flanked by Mr Sandro Pecorella of Satariano Ltd, sponsor of the award

(sponsored by Atlas Insurance), Best Vegetarian Options sponsored by Good Earth and was also voted Most Children-Friendly Restaurant sponsored by Milla Baby & Kids Directory.

The results of the Restaurant Survey can be found in the 2008 edition of *The Definitive(ly) Good Guide to Restaurants in Malta and Gozo* now available in shops and online at www.restaurantsmalta.com



Minister for Tourism Dr Francis Zammit Dimech presents the Best Maltese Food Restaurant Award sponsored by the Ministry for Tourism and Culture to Mr Ben Muscat Jnr and Sar and Mr Maria Muscat of Ta' Marija Restaurant



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Essence, Blue Elephant scoop top restaurant awards

Sunday Times - 23 December 2007

THE SUNDAY TIMES, DECEMBER 23, 2007

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Essence, Blue Elephant scoop top restaurant awards

The Blue Elephant at Hilton Malta and Essence at Radisson SAS Golden Sands have been rated 'top overall' restaurants for Malta on the basis of food, service and ambience this year in the annual survey conducted by the *Definitively Good Guide to Restaurants*.

Essence at the Radisson SAS Golden Sands Resort and Spa scored highest in the food category, and the Hilton's Blue Elephant scored highest for service and ambience.

Over 800 regular diners took part in the survey. Since respondents eat out at least twice a week on average, this is the equivalent of more than 80,000 individual dining experiences.

The results were revealed on Monday when Tourism Minister Francis Zammit Dimech presented the awards produced by Villeroy and Boch during the *Guide's* gala dinner at the Hilton Malta.

The *Guide* lists the 150 most highly rated of Malta's 1,000-plus dining venues based on food, service and ambience, the number of satisfied customers responding, together with their comments.

The new *Guide*, also launched last Monday, features 23 new restaurants.

Commemorative plates were presented to the highest rated among the 150 listed restaurants.

The wine list at It-Tmun, Victoria, was rated for a total of three awards including 'The People's Choice' wine list rated from the survey, best 'Overall' wine list, and best 'Presentation and Accessibility'.

Ta' Frené's wine list was voted best for fine wines and The Arches had the best list of Maltese wines.

The wine awards were supported by Marsovin, who, with HSB, support the *Guide*.

Restaurants receiving awards based on food, service, ambience and overall ratings in the Fine Dining Category were Blue

Elephant, Essence, Gazebo, Ta' Frené, Rebekah's, Zest, Bottega del Vino, de Mondion, Quadro, Fumia, Phoenix, and Hibiki.

The restaurants receiving Malta and Gozo Restaurant Awards included Giannini Ristorante, Corinthia Room, Oceana, Tarragon, It-Tmun, The Medina, The Arches, Le Bistro, Maji, Rickshaw, Barracuda, Fusion 4, Zeri's, Kon Tiki, The Lord Nelson, Lulu, Pegasus Brasserie, The Playwright at the Dubliner, Can Thai, The Carriage, Fra Martino, Eastern Breeze, Flavours, Bacchus, Taste, Shiva's, China House and Rogantino's.

Ta' Marija restaurant received an award for Best Maltese Food, Blue Elephant was top rated for romantic dining, best restaurant restroom and cloakroom and best for Business Entertaining.

On the other hand, Mamma Mia was rated Best Value for Money Restaurant, Vegetarian Options.

The results can be found in the new edition of *The Definitively Good Guide to Restaurants in Malta and Gozo*, which is now available in shops and online at www.restaurantsmalta.com.



Tourism Minister Francis Zammit Dimech presented the Fine Dining Awards to Essence, Radisson SAS Golden Sands Resort, and The Blue Elephant at the Hilton Malta.



Dr Zammit Dimech presents the Best Maltese Food Restaurant Award to Ben Muscat Sar, Maria Muscat and Ben Muscat Jar of Ta' Marija. Right: Jackie Attard Montaldo of Atlas Insurance Ltd presenting the Best Value for Money Award to Marcon Formosa and Gaetano Fenech of Mamma Mia.



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