



The Desert Sun

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2010 • SERVING THE COACHELLA VALLEY SINCE 1927 • BREAKING NEWS AT MYDESERT.COM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2010 SECTION D

Food & Drink

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CHEAP EATS

Good food or location? It's a Thai

BY BARBARA LOWELL

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The e-mail was urgent:

"Please write about my favorite restaurant very soon so that people know it's there and so the restaurant won't close!"

There's little fear of Chada Thai Cuisine closing any time soon — the day we visited, a healthy number of diners filled the Palm Springs restaurant, located in an easy-to-find parking area. Besides, the food is delicious.

The restaurant boasts a big menu of Thai specials, including Tom Kah and Tom Yum soups; pad Thai; several curry dishes, salads

Chada Thai Cuisine

1418 N. Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs, (760) 322-3992

Monday through Friday, is a deal at \$6.95, as it includes entree, soup or salad, egg roll and steamed rice.

and interesting appetizers, including lettuce wraps and fried tofu.

The lunch special, served from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

I ordered the Stir-Fried Ginger with chicken, and was presented with a large portion of sliced chicken breast pieces bathed in a light, spicy sauce, tossed with red and green pepper, sliced scallion, straw mushrooms and very thin shreds of fresh ginger to pull it all together. It was a delightful melange, accompanied by a scoop of rice and decorated with a tiny, fried eggroll — about the size of my pinkie finger. The soup was perfect for a cool and rainy day, too: very hot and fresh, swimming with tidy chunks of tofu and straw mushrooms and holding just the right amount of peppery heat.

The \$6.95 price includes chicken, beef, pork or tofu in your entree; add \$2 for shrimp and combination.

Other choices include Ka-Pow (Sweet Thai Basil) which stir-fries your choice of protein with Thai chili, basil, onions and pepper; Spicy Eggplant, and Panang Curry, which brings in mild red curry sauce.

The restaurant has an exotic feel, with lanterns and carved wood room dividers, and an oversized fish tank with huge goldfish in residence. Tables boast linen cloths.

So why don't readers know about this great little restaurant? Now they do.

Have a suggestion for Cheap Eats? Contact Barbara Lowell at (760) 778-4544 or barbara.lowell@thedesertsun.com.