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Italian Restaurant

Mangia Bene

It's all very clever, very comfortable and very tasty. Mangia Bene brings Italia to El Cajon.

221 E. Main St.
El Cajon, Ca. 92020
Phone: (619) 444-0303

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Restaurant Profile

Folks seeking to get away from the same old, same old need look no further than Mangia Bene. It may look like another storefront eatery from outside, but once you step inside, just a little imagination will whisk you to a picturesque Italian village. Walls are painted to look like street scenes and are made three-dimensional with the addition of faux balconies.

It's all very clever, very comfortable and very tasty.

At lunch, there's a terrific buffet that offers several pasta dishes (including excellent, plump cheese ravioli), very good pizza with varied toppings, fluffy focaccia, veggies, a salad bar, a fresh fruit salad, and more. It's a bargain at \$7.95. Other lunch items start at \$5.25 and include eggplant parmigiana, stuffed shells and traditional Italian sandwiches. A soup-salad combo is \$6.95.

At dinner time, veal and shrimp dishes are added to the menu, along with several more lavish pasta creations, such as the Rigatoni Fra Diavolo with sausage, black olives, spicy marinara and cream. Prices range from \$7.25 to about \$15, with soup or salad included. The bruschetta, made with golden toasts, extra-virgin olive oil and lots of garlicky chopped tomatoes, is

Restaurant Info

AVERAGE MEAL PRICE

\$\$\$\$ (\$21 to \$30)
based on a three-course meal excluding tax and tip

MEAL TYPE

lunch
dinner

HOURS

Mon-Thu 11 am-9 pm
Fri 11 am-10 pm
Sat 2:30-10pm
Sun 2:30-9pm

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delicious. Ditto the well-seasoned Caprese salad.

Service is friendly and low-key.
Leslie James, Union-Tribune

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(Note: Restaurants are reviewed in order to provide our readers with the most honest, accurate information possible at a given time. It is the policy of SignOnSanDiego that reviewers visit restaurants up to three times to provide a fair assessment. These visits are anonymous and paid for by the Union-Tribune. Restaurants with mixed or negative reviews may be revisited after 60 days or upon positive, relevant information on restaurant improvement.)



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