

Carol's culinary favourites

Wickham Wine Bar And Restaurant

Autumn 2009. eat

The Square
Wickham
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Clive Clare-Barker's restaurant Overlooking Wickham's handsome square is one of those places you just wish you could find in towns up and down the land. The 15th century two-tiered restaurant's brick and beamed interior is one of thoughtful, careful preservation, those original vaulted oak beams vying for attention alongside some spectacular medieval wall paintings.



The lunchtime menu has many dishes that supper diners encounter too, starting with salmon fishcakes with aioli and wild rocket; mozzarella and roasted tomato tartlet; a meze plate of roasted red pepper feta, chorizo, hummus and olive bread; char-grilled tiger prawns with coconut rice and a sweet chilli sauce.

The blackboard may also suggest Thai fish curry with steamed basmati rice; rump of lamb with a mint pesto; stir-fried beef with ginger, spring onion and egg noodles; three cheese lasagne; pork belly with oregano mash and black pudding and char-grilled free range chicken breast with hot smoked paprika, lemon couscous and roasted Mediterranean vegetables.

Excellent wine list and charming service.

Article written by Carol Godsmark, Food Critic of The Portsmouth News August 2009