
REVIEW—El Cid Hollywood Flamenco Dinner / Show

From: "help@goldstarevents.com" <help@goldstarevents.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 2, 2007 6:38:36 PM
Subject: Re: Feedback on Almardiente Flamenco [gse00314869]

That was a really beautiful review of the evening. I'm sure El Cid will really appreciate it. Thank you for taking the time to write in and let us know how much you enjoyed it.

*Sincerely,
A--*

Roleta Vasquez wrote:

"This is a delicious and romantic way to experience one of the oldest and most elegant of the Hispanic arts as well as try out the saucy, culinary flavors of the Iberian Peninsula.

Your flamenco adventure begins with an almost perilous passage down three flights of jungle-lined stairs (leave those stilettos at home, ladies) leading to a Saltillo-tile patio and bar on the right and the maitre d' on the left. The restaurant seats about 100 people comfortably. If you arrive at least one-half hour before your reservation time, you may be able to score balcony seating.

The menu is abundant and delightful, featuring eight hearty meat, fowl, and seafood dishes as well as tantalizing tapas for those who like to eat light or sample a bit of everything. I highly recommend first-timers try Spain's national dish--paella--a mélange of traditional meats, exotic seafood, and rice in an exquisite saffron-laced sauce. Although the broccoli soup proves a bit pedestrian, the homemade hot bread loaf and wild lettuce salad with berry vinaigrette dressing are the perfect match. Desserts offered are crème brûlée, flan, and chocolate cake. Food presentation is elegant and the wait staff more than courteous and efficient.

Most wines start at \$25 per bottle and are predominantly Spanish. The adventurous can enjoy margaritas, mojitos, cuba libres and a host of exotic drinks from two bars.

Your evening isn't complete until your romantic spirit has been roused by the sounds of live Spanish guitar, hand clapping, castanets, and heart-pounding heel-and-toe tapping. Each performer (a guitarist and 3 dancers) lends a particular expertise to the floor show (athletic leaps and slides, foot work, arm work) and are equally qualified as soloists or as a quartet. Brilliantly colored costumes complete the voluptuous spectacle. Thankfully, the sound system enhances rather than overwhelms the primal rhythms and soulful songs.

~~Writer & Food/Flamenco Lover~~
