

California Canteen - A Little Taste of France



When I long to be in Paris and can't get away, a trip to California Canteen restaurant in Los Angeles is just the fix I need. The French-speaking staff can seem surly at first, but when they smile, *mon Dieu*, they can brighten a person's day. Of course, a tasty side of their apple tartin for dessert doesn't hurt, either.

Although the restaurant doesn't focus solely on French Cuisine, everything-- and I mean everything--is delicious here. From their seafood pasta and salmon, to their Kobe burgers with mushrooms and Brie, whatever you choose, you cannot go wrong. And their tapas-sized mussels in a curry sauce are a little bit of culinary crack that you'd trade your firstborn for. With its heavenly food, exotic music and dim lighting, California Canteen will make you swear you've landed smack in the middle of some European oasis.

And time literally stands still here. All the clocks in the restaurant have been set to 7:50 to commemorate the arrival of the restaurant's first customer, almost 18 years ago.

California Canteen is a quaint and cozy joint so welcoming, you may find yourself coming back and making it your new *Cheers* spot. In fact, there are weekly regulars who have been frequenting this location for years, and don't plan on switching restaurants any time soon.

Enjoy the Parisian-styled patio located inside the restaurant, or better yet, plop yourself at the bar and let co-owner Jean-Yves entertain you for the night:

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