

Well-packaged



Reviewed by: Charlie Kennedy

There's no shortage of Asian eateries around the capital, but an ultra chic set-up, superbly friendly and knowledgeable staff and a sumptuous menu really seal the deal for the Noodle Box.

Walking into the pleasantly warmer-toned Noodle Box, boasting track-side views from both inside and out on the terrace, you know you're in for some of The Yas Hotel's signature style.

The evening crowd is a little sparse which is a shame; with the slightly overly enthusiastic (perhaps just plain pleased to see and serve people) waiters, service is beyond friendly and the menu knowledge certainly fills any silence with some worthy recommendations.

A dim sum combo is filling enough to serve as a whole meal rather than as an appetiser but it's

certainly worth any weight gain. Choices on appetisers are plentiful but the winner – though a tough call – comes down to the pot sticker. Despite the not-so-attractive name, the pan-fried ginger dumpling with ginger soy sauce is just right. And the reason? On top of perfectly cooked, tender duck strips, the plum ginger sauce that accompanies has a marmalade consistency and is a delicious, compatible blend of flavours.

Sweet and sour chicken is paired with a simple mix of red, yellow and green capsicum and pineapple, and of course, a choice in rice. And the simple mix works for a main course, while a dish of Balinese lamb noodles, yaki soba, mint leaves, bok choy leaves and bean sprouts creates a heady mix of flavours – filling, yet utterly satisfying.

Desserts end equally well and coconut pie paired with a simple side of vanilla ice cream and pistachio is a likeable and light combination to complete the meal.

The feel of Noodle Box is inviting, comfy and warm. Patterned high-back sofas serve their full purpose; sit back, relax and enjoy – this venue really does serve up all the key ingredients to a really good meal.

**What?** Noodle Box

**Where?** The Yas Hotel

**Why?** Genuinely friendly staff and five star food

**Why not?** Not the cheapest of venues – but there's plenty on each plate to share

**We say:** Go early in the evening and pace yourself – it's worth a long night of food indulgence

**Cost:** AED 400 for two, excluding drinks

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