

We tried out the newly opened Samwedges this week. Their advertising slogan is, 'Construct a Sandwich' and this construction theme extends to the décor. Yellow hard hats line the windowsills, yellow and black warning tape is stuck to the walls, we spot a miniature digger and there's even a scaffolding tower inside. Little boys will love this place!

There's a spacious outdoor seating area and four or five tables inside. We grab a menu and browse through the range of sandwiches on offer: turkey, beef, seafood, chicken, vegetarian and Italian, in addition to shawarma and fries. You also have the option of designing your own sandwich. Simply choose your bread, dressing, type of cheese and salad, and then tick the boxes on the, 'Construct your samwedge' form. The range of choice is excellent, the spreads, sauces and dressing section alone features 32 choices. We order mozzarella, caramelised red onions, lettuce and peppers on wheat French bread with spicy mayonnaise.

The food is served quickly, and we're most impressed by the steak-cut fries; they're chunky, crispy and are just like the chips available in our home country – as opposed to the skinny French fries so popular here. "We have five-star hotel chips at low prices," the manager tells us, and we have to agree; AED 7 for delious steak-cut fries that taste every bit as good as the chips available in those expensive restaurants.

The sandwich is soft, fresh, oozes mozzarella, and the spicy mayonnaise adds a nice zing. While we eat we notice the cook sliding loaves into the oven, bread is homemade on the premises and the aroma wafts through the air. We've enjoyed our trip to Samwedges and increase our popularity status by bringing take-out back for our colleagues in the office.

Catriona Doherty

DETAILS

What? Samwedges

Where? Defence Road next to the Gava Hotel

Cost: Sandwiches from AED 23, fries from AED 6

We say: No frills or fuss – just great food

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