

ShortList

NOVEMBER 2016

FEAST REVIEWS

ROSS WENDELL
NATURALLY



BREAKFAST AT ALTITUDE

AT.MOSPHERE LOUNGE

Take the elevator to the 123rd floor for brekkie with a view

We always encourage visitors to check out the Burj Khalifa while on holiday in Dubai. The far-reaching views of the tower from one side and the glittering Arabian Gulf on the other are unlike any other landscape in the world. So when an email pinged into our inbox to inform us that At.mosphere had rolled out a new breakfast menu for AFD375 we were there faster than they could boil an egg.

Let's get one thing straight: yes, it might sound like a lot of money for breakfast, but this is one of the fanciest starts to the morning that you'll ever have (probably). And considering a desk-time ticket up the Burj can be AED700 without so much as a cup of coffee, it's pretty good value.

Get a table at the window if possible, and make sure you're hungry. We were served a continental breakfast: stand of pastries and cheeses, washed down with freshly squeezed juices with tea and coffee. The selection of mains is wonderfully over the top. Waffles, french toast, crêpes and omelettes are part of the package, or you can opt for the likes of beef fillet and

truff or scrambled eggs for an additional AED200. But to ring eggs benedict connoisseurs, we decided to continue our berry quest around Dubai. Served with salmon on muffin halves, the eggs were cooked exactly as we asked – medium, so that they're gooey but not watery. The food at At.mosphere is among Dubai's finest whatever you eat.

The floor-to-ceiling windows mean that the lounge is flooded with morning sunshine so, if you can brave the alarm call, try to get there as early as possible. Make sure you don't leave without asking one of the extremely charming waiters for a tour. Our brilliant server crew which spots us for the best photo opportunities and seemed well-versed in the art of a good Instagram. After a full breakfast in the highest restaurant in the world and don't Instagram it... do it even happen!

Where: Burj Khalifa
When: Daily, 7am-10pm
Contact: +971 888 3828



BREAKFAST AT STREET LEVEL

MARKETTE

A new breakfast menu at the Box Park restaurant and crêperie

There can't be too many restaurants in Dubai where you can park right outside its front door at 11.5am, so close in fact that you have an unobstructed view of your car as you tuck into a late breakfast. Perhaps we were unusually lucky on the Saturday morning we took Market in Box Park, but at least a third of the tables were occupied when we arrived and the table was well over half when we left. It was, we discovered, the first of many pleasant surprises in the next 90 minutes or so.

Markette, which opened here in 2015, is a restaurant and crêperie that was launched by the same team behind Social House and it does have the same colourfully informal ambience. A new breakfast menu has just been unveiled to cater for the increasingly busy sound activity on this stretch of Al Wasl Road.

The first thing that strikes you as you peruse the dishes is 'spice' – heat is everywhere on the menu, from the chicken tikka benedict to the chilli pepper sausage in the



Arabic-style shakshuka. And that certainly isn't a bad thing: the chilli-fried potatoes were the highlight of the appealing Market Style Breakfast (AED60), that also comes with baked beans, garlic bread, beef bacon, chicken sausage and your choice of eggs – as well as a coffee and fruit juice. It was like an English breakfast taken on a quick tour of Deira.

The 'healthy' breakfast (AED54) was a no-winner. An egg-white omelette with peppers and spinach came with herb-baked bread, hummus, sun-dried tomatoes, avocado, falafel and an endive salad. What could have been flavour free sludge was, in fact, lively and surprisingly filling, as was the Tropical Smoothie Bowl (AED52), which paired bananas, kiwi fruit, papaya and berries with granola, yogurt and a kiwi, spinach and banana smoothie. The best bit, though, was the pile of fruity bubbles that exploded the mouth.

Still hungry? Try a galette, a crêpe or a flatbread.

Where: Box Park, Al Wasl Road
When: Daily, 8am-10pm
Contact: +971 4 347 3547



PHOTOS: SARAH ANDERSON (FROM TOP)

HIGH NOTES

AT.MOSPHERE



We don't really need to mention the view from At.mosphere, do we? Add the undeniable glamour of the Burj Khalifa and your night at the opera will have a special feel from the outset. As a ticket holder, you can enjoy a two- or three-course set meal, whose highlights include the foie gras with sea salt brioche and cherry liqueur for starters, and the Wagyu beef cheek served with shallot tatin, sweet potato and bordelaise for mains. There are also decent vegetarian options, too. In the lounge, ticket holders get 20 per cent off food and beverages – just don't forget to ask for a table by the window when you book.

Where: Burj Khalifa
Price: AED325-AED375 from 6pm on show nights
Contact: +971 4 888 3828