

Bijoy's Restaurant

BY SUSAN GAMBLE

"I'd forgotten how good the food is here!" Those were my exact words when I recently had lunch at Bijoy's, a charming gem tucked away in a former labourer's cottage on a side street in Aurora.

Bijoy and his wife, Sujata, who hail from Kolkata, India run the restaurant. They are both chefs with 30 years of experience in five-star restaurants who share a passion for cooking for other people. They trained at the Culinary Institute of America in New York.

The couple have lived and worked in Europe, but finally settled in Canada 25 years ago. Bijoy's Restaurant has been in business for seven years. The house in which it is located was built in 1868 for George Russell, who worked at the nearby foundry, Fleury House. Bijoy and Sujata have renovated and turned the interior into an intimate restaurant.

The menu offers an eclectic combination of flavours derived from various cuisines, including, of course, Indian. Choose from seafood potpie in phyllo pastry, butter chicken, Moroccan seared salmon, beef stroganoff, ratatouille crepe, delectable onion tart and many other tempting items. Gluten free and vegetarian options are also available.

Their desserts and sourdough breads are all made in house and are delicious. I had to try a couple of desserts just to be sure! Mango crème brûlée, sticky toffee cranberry pudding and molten chocolate lava cake are just a few choices.

For me, the icing on the cake is their choice of teas—more than 50 if I counted correctly—including orange pekoe, Assam, chai, oolong, as well as decaffeinated and herbal varieties. Their many leaf teas are served in individual pots with an egg timer to indicate when your brew is ready to be poured. For avid tea grannies, like me, afternoon teas are available by reservation, on Wednesdays and Saturdays (\$16.50 per person). In addition, Bijoy's is open for breakfast six days a week.

Bijoy's also offers several items for sale, including loose-leaf teas, honey, sourdough breads, spice blends, chutneys and preserves.

If you haven't already visited this unusual venue, give it a try and prepare to add it to your list of local favourites!



BIJOY'S RESTAURANT

42 Temperance St, Aurora, ON

Tel: 905.862.3359

www.bijoysrestaurant.com

Hours of Business:

BREAKFAST	Mon-Sat / 9am - 11am
LUNCH	Mon-Sat / 11:30am - 2pm
AFTERNOON TEA	Wed & Sat / 3pm - 5pm <i>Reservation required</i>
DINNER	5:30pm onwards Thurs, Fri & Sat
CLOSED SUNDAY	