Great for a special dinner

BOMRAS (BURMEESE)

There’s no better word to describe a dinner at this atmospheric restaurant than ‘unusual’, in the best sense of the word. Low lighting and intriguing cane chairs set the tone for what promises to be a meal that will introduce you to flavour combinations that you wouldn’t have thought of.

Right from the house’s signature Tamarind Margarita (₹ 400) to the stunning Pickled Tea-leaf Salad (₹ 350), all the way to a delicate Tender Coconut Panacotta, which comes with a passionfruit coulis (₹ 270), we had a meal that set our taste buds tingling without overloading them with excessive spice or seasoning. The menu throws up plenty of surprises – imagine going to a Burmese restaurant without the standard, khao suey – though if all the offerings are as good as what we tried, you won’t miss it!

MAKE IT HAPPEN: 00-91-9822106236; bomras.com; 247, Fort Aguada Rd; Candolim; 6.30pm onwards

You’ll find a selection of Thai, Vietnamese and Burmese food here – we particularly like the yummy Pot Stickers (from ₹ 225) and the Northern Thai take on that Burmese favourite, khao suey (vegetarian khao suey: ₹ 350).

MAKE IT HAPPEN: 00-91-832-3988188; lemontreehotels.com; Vadi, Candolim; 11.30am – 3pm, 7pm – 10.45pm

Great for a lazy lunch

MICHÈLE’S GARDEN CAFÉ (FRENCH)

Tucked away in a cozy corner not too far from the Anjuna flea market, Michèle’s Garden Café invites you to settle down for a leisurely meal. While it’s open all day, we suggest heading here for lunch, and then sticking around for a while so you can dig into the delightfully-named and sublime Fish Mich, which combines the tartness of capers with a pastis-cream base to provide a flavour explosion (₹ 420). There is a range of sweet and savoury crépes to pick from (from ₹ 90), quiches to nibble on (₹ 250), and fresh juices to sip idly at, too (green grape juice: ₹ 90).

MAKE IT HAPPEN: 00-91-9822388283; michelesgardencafe.wordpress.com; House No 995, Pequen, Peddem, Anjuna; 9am – 10pm Mon – Sat

Great for a taste of the Orient

REPUBLIC OF NOODLES (SOUTHEAST ASIAN)

A hankering for more familiar Asian flavours will probably be best sated at the Republic of Noodles, the restaurant housed in the Lemon Tree Amarante Beach Resort.

Lonely Planet is one of the world’s most successful travel guide book with 1, 80,000 circulation.