



RESTAURANT OF THE WEEK

16 September 2008

The Source 都江苑

Sichuanese cuisine in a beautifully restored hutong house – the former home of a Qing dynasty general, known as “The Great Wall of China,” who was promoted to the rank of prince for his victory in the Tai Ping Rebellion. The place, named by famous writer, Jin Yong, has the pervasive ambience of dining in a privileged nobleman’s home.

WORTH NOTING: a calligraphy screen and mural, dating back to the Tang Dynasty.

For once, this hutong is not hard to find – it’s well signposted and on a large road.

The Source is a small intimate place with a mosaic tiled floor, carved traditional furniture, and a charming courtyard planted with century-old pomegranate and date trees for summer dining.

Upstairs is an exquisite loft dining room of timeless, classical ambience, frequently resonating with the sound of Beijing opera.

It offers a choice of set menus – with a range of appetizers and hot dishes. Lunch is excellent value with a choice of Beef or Chicken @ 128 RMB

OR 230RMB with Fish. Typical dishes are: *Prawns fried with Oolong Tea*; *Stewed Beancurd & Mushrooms*; *Fried Tofu with Tomato Sauce*; and superb *Spicy Noodles*.

This is sensational food - laden with red & green chillies. Choose your degree of heat – medium strength will have you reaching for the rice and side dishes of peanuts and soy green beans.

A word of warning for single diners –there is a small selection of French and Italian wines available, but nothing by the glass. Maybe this is a place to order tea!

Open Lunch 11.00 am – 2pm, Dinner 5pm – 10pm
No.14 Banchang Hutong, next to Lusongyuan Hotel
South Luogu Xiang, Nanluoguxiang, Kunjie
Dongcheng

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