Krachai, a Cozy & Elegant Thai Restaurant in Chueca

Krachai is yet another seemingly upscale establishment that was first introduced to me by my Dad's friend, Rafael. This fantastic Thai restaurant, situated near metro Alonso Martinez, offers a satisfying 13€ menu del dia. My friend Diana and I have eaten here on a handful of special occasions; somehow each time it slips my mind to reserve a table. This is strongly advised due to the location's popularity, otherwise diners are condemned to wait in line. The wait was worth it today. This spot is cozy, dimly lit, and has two floors. The ambiance is calming and the servers are highly attentive and efficient.



Diana and I were well aware of what we would be ordering off

of their menu del dia by the time we were seated. We both got the mixed appetizers which consists of the chicken and peanut sauce skewer, a spring roll, and a crispy shrimp dumpling. Diana followed this up with the spicy red curry with chicken strips, vegetables and jasmine rice. My main course was a yellow curry with prawns and vegetables. I am a huge fan of shrimp in all of their various forms.







I voiced that all of my life decisions were validated due to their preceding the moment where this **indulgent feast** was in front of me. By the time the rice expanded in our stomachs, our desserts arrived. I had a scoop of strawberry ice cream, and Diana a small flan, in order to end our experience on a sweet note. I strongly recommend this location and its *menu del dia* when you have a craving for Thai cuisine.

<u>Facebook</u> Website

Address: C/ Fernando VI, 11

Metro: Alonso Martinez Contact: 91 833 65 56

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- Sumo This Japanese restaurant's name says it all
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The Little Big Café: My little big pick-me-up

I think it was first on Instagram when I saw something from Cup of Couple. It was a fantastic breakfast setup with an exquisite-looking cup of coffee. Then Lovely Pepa posted another. Ever-curious, I clicked on top of the pin and found the address. What luck! It was only five minutes from my apartment. So one Sunday afternoon, I entered The Little Big Café for the first time. It's now one of my favorite spots to write, read Times, or to just clear my head. In fact, it was here where I wrote my Helena Rohner article.

Opened last year by Max and Cris (both with experience living and working abroad), the area of **Chamberí** between Moncloa and Argüelles now has a perfect oasis.





Now, you've already heard about <u>Little Big</u> as a place for <u>the best brunch on a budget in Madrid</u>, and let me tell you, it is absolutely heavenly (my go-to is the *tosta de huevos a la plancha al estilo árabe* on whole-wheat bread). But this cozy café great for more than brunch. Open from 9 am to 8 pm during the week, you can go to **Little Big** at almost any hour.

And with that there are several <code>menú</code> options (and let's face it, a <code>menú</code> <code>del</code> <code>día</code> is one of Spain's greatest little pleasures). In the morning until 1 pm, you can enjoy the breakfast menu (<code>menú</code> <code>de</code> <code>desayuno</code>). This includes one breakfast plate (I love the <code>bocatín</code> <code>de</code> <code>jamón</code> on whole-wheat…) and a coffee or tea. To round out my special breakfast, I always get one of the make-your-own smoothies. While you can put in yogurt or milk, I prefer to get mine with water so it's more like a juice.

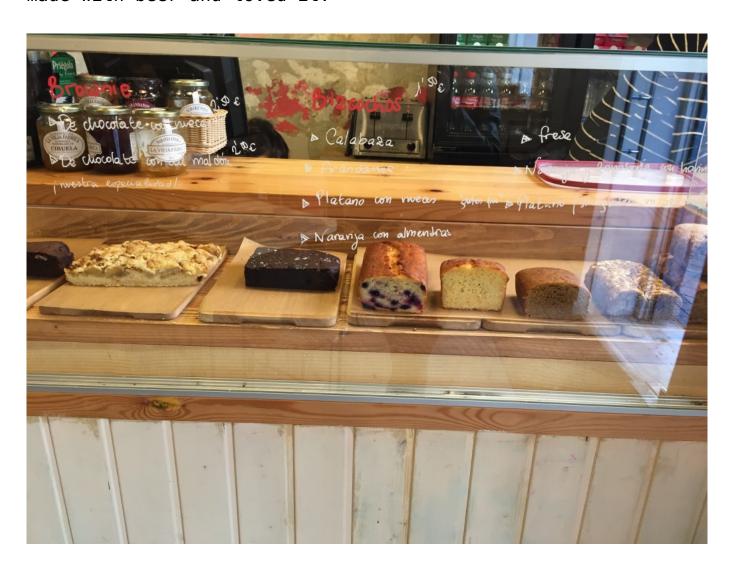




There are two lunch-time menus, the TLBC (which has a sandwich, salad, and drink for €11), or the *menú del día* (with two <u>courses</u>, a side dish, drink, and dessert for €10.50). And then on the weekends, the brunch menu is also an amazing meal (you're way full afterwards).

If you're just craving something sweet for your afternoon snack, then the baked goods at the counter and window are calling your name. The banana bizcocho is gluten and sugarfree, but everything else, in spite of the fact that I can't eat them, looks fabulous. One of my roommates had the cake

made with beer and loved it.



Then, of course, let's not forget what first my caught my eye
in the first place on Instagram: the coffee. With a plethora
of variations...



you'll see why their slogan is: "a little café with a big heart." With to-go cups and a VIP program where you can put

your Polaroid on the wall, this is also a place that coffee lovers can love. With the VIP program, you can make The Little Big Café part of your heart the way the owners have seemed to have conceptualize it.



As evidenced by my presence on the wall, the little café with a big heart has become an extension of my home and my little

big pick-me-up.



Info:

Where: Calle Fernández de los Ríos, 61

Metro: Moncloa (also easily accessible from Argüelles)

<u>Twitter</u>
<u>Facebook</u>
<u>Instagram</u>
<u>Website</u>

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