

It's High Noon in the Old West...

And I Know Where to Find the Best Chinese Food in Durango

Dear Mr. Peterson,

We've all been there. The golden posts...the fancy dragon heads...the cute little trickling fountain in the fashionably sparse foyer...

The American ideal of a Chinese restaurant includes décor, but all too often these fancy eating places fall bitterly short of our expectations. What good is the fashionable fountain when it's coupled with abrupt service; the dragon heads that watch over semi-tasty or even cold dishes?

We've all been there. Why not try something new, something different? Why not try *good* Chinese food?

I won't lie, it's a little out of the way, and traffic in the busy, historic downtown of an Old West town can be a little hectic. However, I truly believe that once you taste the incredible food at the MAY PALACE you'll agree that it is more than worthwhile.

Just stop anybody on the streets of this bustling mountain community – make sure they're local – and ask where the best Chinese food in Durango is. Their answer will be instant and affirmative. The MAY PALACE is the place to go.



Chuck Wagon Time – Chinese & Southeast Asian Style

If you're like me you'll probably start off with an appetizer of egg drop soup. The lovely seating hostess/maître d/owner, will show you to your seats, eagerly welcoming you with her quaint accent and friendly, outgoing manner.

Picture yourself surrounded by the elegant, hole-in-the-wall décor, enjoying traditional art and comfortable chairs – while you begin a new excursion into the land of taste.

Never again be embarrassed to bring a special someone to a restaurant only hoping that the service will be professional, the tables clean, and the food hot...Simply come in to the MAY PALACE in Durango, CO, and enjoy a night out with that certain someone, or – let's face it – an important business dinner with the boss.

If you love good Chinese food and can never get it just right, try the MAY PALACE, where they'll be happy to tinker a dish to your tastes; whether you're a vegetarian, a gluten-free enthusiast, a fire-breather (*spicy*), or you'd rather play it safe.

- Satisfied Customers <u>Rave</u> "I love going to eat here. Best egg drop soup I have ever had. Their food is always amazing! And you always have leftovers for the next day! The staff is amazing as well." (Teresa)
- Wide Selection Range "A must when I visit Durango. The food is great, the service is great and the owners (servers and cook) are extremely friendly. The food can be altered if you are gluten free. Large selection to choose from." (Phillip)
- Get Full, Filling Portions "Enjoyed our meal very much. Huge portions by our UK standards and very good value. The service was friendly and efficient." (Online review note this particular review from a foreigner!)

Although the MAY PALACE prides itself on being an exemplary Chinese establishment, and mainly serves food extracted from that background, they also offer a wide range of dishes from all over Southeast Asia, counting among them: Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam.

My personal favorite is always "Shrimp in Lobster Sauce", but they also have the very best *Sweet'n'Sour* dishes; incorporating some *sour* and also a tiny bit of spice that saves it from the overpowering, almost sickly-sweet, aftertaste of most *Sweet'n'Sour*. Other dishes include:

- Lemon Chicken
- Peking Shrimp
- Cashew Chicken
- Thai Basil Tofu
- Moo Goo Gai Pan



Watch out for little jalapeño peppers on the menu, as anyone from the Southwest will tell you, that means *spicy*! Of course, the MAY PALACE serves some of the very best spicy food, and they will even let you control the temperature. From a one, which even I can eat, to a five, which is too hot for my Texan father.

Here are some of my father's recent favorites:

- General Tao's Chicken
- Szechuan Beef

And other spicy entrees include:

- Broccoli with Garlic Sauce
- Chinese Curry Chicken
- Szechuan Chicken
- Shrimp with Garlic Sauce



The MAY PALACE also serves a very fine dinner menu, and they have an elegant wine list.

- "Hands down the best place in Durango to get Chinese food! Everything on the lunch menu is delicious and worth a try. For \$6.95 you get your entree, soup, fried rice, eggroll, wonton and fortune cookie! Such a great deal! I have eaten at May Palace over 100 times and have tried all kinds of dishes and have never been disappointed." (Online reviewer)
- "The servers are fast and extremely friendly. If you like cocktails try the Flaming Volcano it's a sweet drink served in a big volcano that is lit on fire! It's really fun, extremely good, and very, very strong. You might want to share 1 flaming volcano with a friend." (raves Sam from Denver, CO)
- "Great food and great experience. We had my boyfriend's brother with us who is deathly allergic to nuts. They were very, very accommodating, and the food was super tasty. The Mongolian beef, mushu pork and shrimp in lobster sauce were all great." (Katie from Austin, TX)
- "Wow, was this a nice surprise. Right on Main street in old downtown Durango. Real high quality not oily or greasy great flavor fresh ingredients fast service friendly owners and staff.
 We are now huge fans of this place. Free parking anywhere in the city after 6 pm." (Denny from San Marino, CA)

Wide Acclaim... Well Deserved – You Can Enjoy it Too

They aren't the only satisfied customers who came a long way for decent Chinese food. When the hostess comes over to ask you how the food is ask her about one of her favorite clients...Texas football star Bob Lilly...who will go hundreds of miles out of his way to visit her quaint restaurant.

Or ask her about herself, and the summer job that she took during college. After graduating she had an impressive array of choices, including a promising position at the UN. It was that or come own a Chinese restaurant in Durango...!

If this choice works for them, it'll work for you! The next time you're driving through Durango make sure to take a hard turn off Main Street, and visit the MAY PALACE in historic downtown Durango.

Sincerely,

Suzanna Fitzgerald



P.S. Specially included with your letter is a coupon – two free drinks with any lunch. So bring a date to the MAY PALACE today! Come in on Friday and along with the drinks take an additional \$2.99 off any menu meal! (Offer ends October 17th)