



RESTAURANT REVIEW

- HOME
- SUBSCRIBE
- RESTAURANTS & DINING
- ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT
- VISITORS GUIDE
- TRAVEL & RECREATION
- HEALTH & MEDICINE
- SCHOOLS & COMMUNITY
- SHOPPING & SERVICES
- CAREERS & MONEY
- REAL ESTATE
- CLASSIFIEDS & PERSONALS

Oriental East Chinese



*Best
Bargain*

Silver Spring

1290 East-West Hwy.

Silver Spring, MD

301-608-0030

Open daily for lunch and dinner. Dinner until 11 pm Friday and Saturday.

Probably the best Chinese restaurant between Wheaton and Chinatown, this excellent Hong Kong-style eatery attracts a large Chinese-American clientele, especially for its weekend dim sum. A line awaits the opening at 11 AM; those who arrive later can wait up to half an hour for a table. While the dim sum is great, the dinner menu has its own attractions.

Amidst the standard Chinese-American clichés, there are a score or so of Chef's Recommendations. Unless nostalgia draws you elsewhere, this is the list to focus on. Among the fine dishes on the list are fried clams with black-bean sauce; Peking pork chops in a rich brown sauce; sizzling steak with black-pepper sauce; steamed chicken with ginger and garlic; baby eggplant with black-bean sauce; and sliced conch with shredded yellow leeks. Fish is good--the whole steamed fish is a real winner.

A few dishes might give diners pause but are worth trying. One is the preserved cabbage with pork--the pork, taken from the belly, is the same fatty cut as bacon. Another is sea cucumber, a large, gelatinous slug that is something of a delicacy in China but disquieting for even the most seasoned non-Chinese.

— David Dorsen

June 2002