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Cheap and Delicious Indian in the Annex

Posted by [Jessica McLaughlin](#) in [restaurant reviews](#), [indian](#) on June 24, 2007 at 7:39 am

Nataraj

394 Bloor Street West
 416-928-2925
 Dinner for two with all taxes,
 tip: \$35

On Saturday night I was in the mood for two things: a stroll along Bloor and Indian food. My boyfriend and I figured we'd encounter an Indian restaurant somewhere in our travels, so off we went, and along the way we found Nataraj. We've enjoyed a few meals here in the past and thought this was a great place to curb my craving.

Nataraj is located near Bloor and Brunswick and is easy to walk past if you're not paying attention. Luckily, it's usually quite busy, so there's often a line-up out the door. The place isn't big on décor; fairly plain walls with turquoise green table clothes, not overtly Indian in feeling, but clean and bright. But I'm never one to get overly touchy about design when the food is good.

And the food is quite good. We sat at a small two-seater table near the front window. It was barely big enough for the amount of plates that end up occupying it, but we managed. I usually like to order at least one veggie dish, but my boyfriend is an all meat guy, so we got Gosht Masala (Lamb - \$9.95), Butter Chicken (\$10.50), Tandoori Naan (\$1.95), and rice, of course.

This was the first time I'd had the Lamb Gosht Masala at Nataraj and it was excellent. The lamb was really tender and the sauce was so good, the dish was wiped clean with the naan before it was all said and done. As for the Butter Chicken, I'm not sure I'm a fan of it. It was definitely tasty and perfectly cooked, but it's really tomato-y. I prefer a creamier Butter Chicken. We still cleaned our plates though!



Nataraj's menu isn't lacking. For vegetarians, there's a substantial selection of dishes (\$7.95-\$8.95), including one of my faves - Saag Paneer (\$7.95). The same can be said for their selection of chicken (\$8.95-\$11.95), beef and lamb (\$9.95-\$11.50) and fish dishes (\$11.95-\$13.95). [The menu](#) is listed on their

website, but the prices are out of date.

The naan here is the best. There's nothing I hate worse than getting a piece of bread where half of it has a huge crusty bubble. I've never had naan at Nataraj that wasn't perfectly cooked. And who doesn't love a great piece of bread to sop up all the delicious flavours on their plate?

As for the service at Nataraj - top notch. Anyone who doesn't have much of a tolerance for spicy food will certainly appreciate their swiftness in refilling the water glasses. The customer is certainly not left wanting for much.

It's cheap. It's delicious. The service is great. There's really not much to complain about here. I've been there before and I'll go back again. For anyone looking for Indian in the Annex, Nataraj is a safe bet.

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