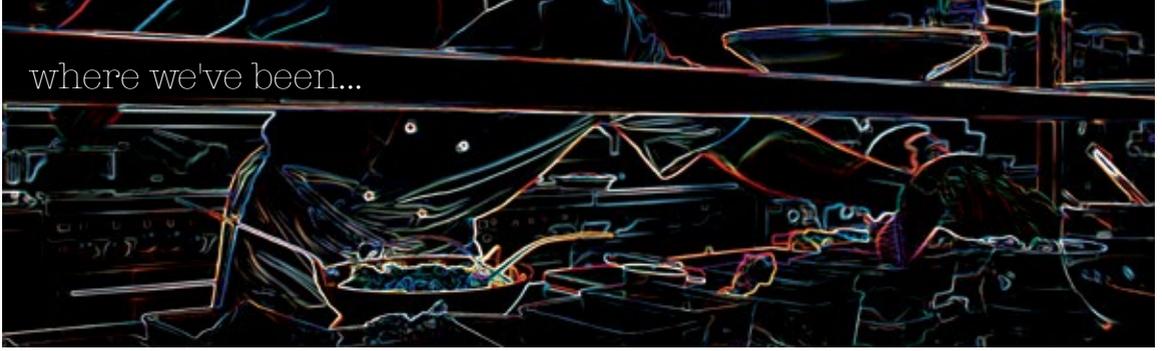


where we've been...



GOLDEN TRIANGLE Gledswood Hills

The first thing I would like to say is that Golden Triangle is *not* a Thai restaurant. The name Golden Triangle is the giveaway if you were looking for a hint. At the northern border of Thailand lies Laos and Myanmar. This geographical and cultural region is the inspiration for our district's newest Asian restaurant.

That's not to suggest that there aren't typically Thai dishes on the Golden Triangle menu, there are. But there is way more excitement and adventure too.

We were met in the foyer of Golden Triangle by Bernard, our host for the night. Foyer? Yes, Golden Triangle is a restaurant of grand scale, but also relaxed and comfortable.

Bernard is an industry professional. It was no surprise when he told us that he was good friends with Thierry and Paolo of Camden's famous Enzo Restaurant in John Street. Thierry is the district's finest Floor Manager and Bernard is cut from the same cloth.

I was dining with my brother Greg and his wife Michelle. We were shown to our table and Bernard talked us through the menu. We made some decisions but were persuaded to drop one to accommodate a signature dish. "Mud Crab has been impossible to get lately, so our signature Lao Curry was not on the menu," Bernard explained. "We have some today," he smiled confidently.

First up is an entree dish, Golden Triangle

King Prawns. Massive prawns fried in a special batter and served with a wasabi mayo. Our Jim Barry Riesling was a great accompaniment to everything we ordered.

The dishes continued to roll out. This style of cooking is fast. A good South East Asian kitchen will never have you waiting long for food. Crunchy Whiting Fillets in Chilli, Ginger, Garlic Sauce were superb and our Lao Papaya Salad sat perfectly with it.

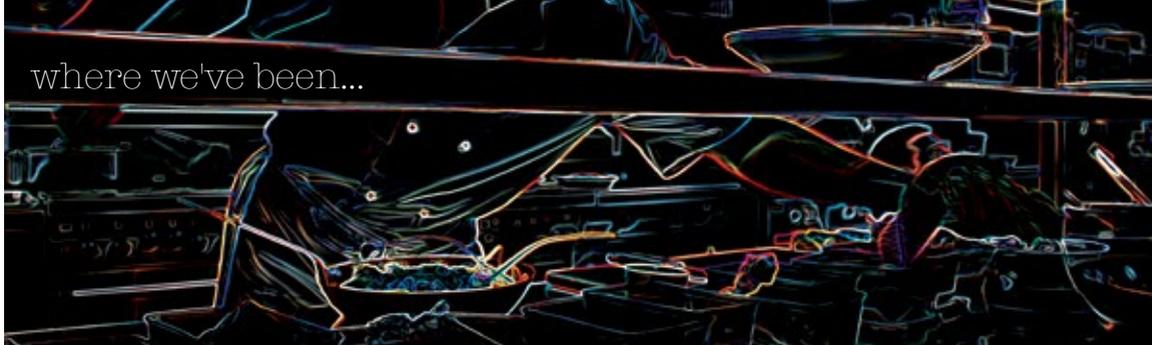
Next came out the highly anticipated signature dish, Lao Curry Mud Crab. The curry is tasty and full of texture too. The crab meat is fresh and fluffy white. This dish is also very messy. You cannot eat it any other way but with your hands. As I said earlier though, Golden Triangle is a very relaxed restaurant and hands are fine.

It was a wonderful feast of unusual flavours and a variety of textures. Bernard arrived with a dessert menu and we accepted the challenge. "You simply must order the Golden Triangle Fried Ice Cream," Bernard implored us. "It's not like any other you have ever tried." How could we say no to that!

He was right. Wow! It's one of those three part dishes that you combine on your spoon. Superb, you must order it. Our other choice was Coconut Sticky Rice with Mango, a Laos classic. It was little too filling after all that food, I guess we should have known that.

We sat chatting to Bernard as the restaurant was quietening. He then introduced us to the owners and to the Chef, who was about to

where we've been...



head into the city for his birthday. "I'm going home to bed," I said happily.

Golden triangle is highly recommended. Greg and Michelle have a group of friends that dine out often. They will be heading to the beautiful Gregory Hills restaurant facing Holburn Circuit very soon. We were all super impressed.