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The truth is out! Authentic Aussie-styled Fish & Chips is finally available in Singapore. Situated along the Timah road, Mad Jack Cafe has had multitudes of people visiting them to savour their famous Fish & Chips – some even claim it to be the best in Singapore! Besides fish & chips, burgers, steaks and a wide variety of cakes and beverages are available.

As we entered the café, we were greeted by the "MAD" Jack himself. Always grinning and jovial, owner Jack Chin welcomed us with a cheery "Welcome to Mad Jack!" It did not take long for us to realize how "MAD" he was with his jokes. The idea for the café took form after Jack realized that the combination of good food and ambience at an affordable price was lacking in Singapore. Hawker centres might serve decent food, but are often hot and humid while restaurants are usually too pricey. Jack's main goal was, and still is, to serve quality authentic Aussie food. At the top on the popularity list is undoubtedly its Fish & Chips, made with fresh chunky whole fish fillet and coated in traditional Aussie-style batter, a rarity among local eateries. "Many restaurants and cafes in Singapore use bread crumbs for the batter, which is what many of us locals are accustomed to eating. However bread crumbs absorb a lot of oil, leaving the fish "dry" within. The traditional batter used in fish & chips is smoother, and when fried, actually forms a seal to lock in the flavour and moisture of the fish," explained Jack.

Jack himself is an Australian Permanent Resident, and has sampled numerous restaurants in Australia before coming up with his own SECRET recipe that he felt was an optimal blend of the best recipes. He revealed that when the café first started, they served the Fish & Chips in traditional Aussie paper wrapping, but soon switched to plates for diners, customers based on diner feedback. Takeaway orders are still wrapped in large brown paper in true Aussie style. The dish is served with a side of broccoli and peach salad, as well as a generous serving of spicy chips.

Other favourites are the chicken and beef burgers which are sautéed from fresh homemade patties. At the first bite, we realized why Jack said only the freshest ingredients are used. In fact, for the health-conscious-minded like me, there are Dr Juice juices obtained from fresh fruits to enhance overall health and vitality. Creative names for the juices such as "Complexion Enhancer", "Cholesterol Buster", "Weight Watcher" make it an even more stimulating experience when drinking.

Mad Jack is casual, cozy and reasonably affordable. There is even a plasma screen screening cartoons and movies making Mad Jack the perfect place for children and adults alike. Jack explained that this was no fine dining restaurant, but a comfortable diner for those who truly appreciate great Aussie-styled fare.

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CUSTOMERS COMMENTS

"They serve authentic Aussie food" said a pastor from a nearby church. Elaine, another regular, added that Mad Jack Cafe serves great food with great service. Her friend May loves the ambience and affordable prices. "Our cakes are also freshly baked here" Jack proudly reveals. "Another hot favourite is the Chocolate Delight, which we served with a scoop of Moveneq ice cream" Television and radio personalities have also been said to frequent the café specifically because of the cakes. The Chocolate Delight is truly as its name suggests: 100% chocolate; not too sweet yet delicious and rich in flavour. Wonderful!

The café sees a clientele of mostly young families with children. The children's playroom, on the second level of the café, is where children can play and hone their artistic talents such as painting. Company functions and birthday dinners can also be held. To avoid disappointment, call in advance for reservations!

MAD JACK CAFE is open
From 11am to 11pm, seven days a week. They are located at
8 Duke Road, in between Corporation Plaza and the Bukit Timah/Adam Road Junction. Tel: 64624300



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