

# // Bridges // Restaurant

■ Situated in the heart of Ubud, Bridges Restaurant is casual dining restaurant offering a range of Asian and Western dishes. The name is derived from its location on the western side the Campuhan River and just at the end of the bridge. The dining areas are set on several galleries overlooking the river so that wherever one sits the lush gully and river are right at hand.

I arrived to be welcomed by the ubiquitous friend-warmth of Balinese hosts and escorted down a winding staircase to the dining area. It was one of those lovely dry season days with clear blue sky, shining sun and zephyrs of cool air. I was seated with an open view of Campuhan Bridge and the river's sparkling water below. Lush tropical vegetation cloaked the gully sides down to the flow of the river. The scene before me was stimulating to the point of provoking an enormous appetite for lunch.

Because I was curious as to the restaurants approach when serving local dishes for visitors to Bali I ordered the Tapas. Some restaurants can be a bit overcautious when preparing Indonesian food for tourists and tend to lose some of the essential flavours for fear of over spicing the meal. The Tapas is served in three dishes set on a long oblong plate. I found that the hot spices were not over done but the kitchen had made an excellent job of maintaining the essential essence of the meal's authentic taste. I can recommend this restaurant's Gadon Daging, and Bronkos along with the Yellow fish curry. I should make special mention for their Sate Kelapa where the beef tenderloin works well with the added spices and peanut sauce. This dish is perhaps one of the best sates I have ever tasted

I sat with a good glass of wine for a while after eating, unable to let go of this perfect Ubud day. Well perhaps I stayed for the wine also; after all, the Bridges Restaurant has the best wine cellar in Ubud. I couldn't help thinking what a marvellous setting this all is for a romantic dinner on a clear Ubud evening.



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