



High prices but worth every peso

Finding a Mexican Restaurant in Mississauga is as rare as Aztec gold. What a treasure it was to find Cantina Mexicana. I was convinced I was south of the border until I looked at the snow beating against the front window. I turned my chair around and ordered a Margarita. You have been warned: They are served in glasses the size of fishbowls.

All the food is homemade and prepared fresh to order, this is the real Enchilada. Keep this in mind as it will take a little longer for service.

I started with the thin, warm, fresh tortillas chips. They were delicate and crispy, excellent for scooping up the wonderful homemade salsa. Next was the guacamole dip, hands down the best I've tasted in any restaurant. It was uniquely served in a large stone mortar and pestle.



The Owner's Special, perogies stuffed with spicy chorizo sausage served with a red and green salsa, was a nice alteration.

The empanadas filled with either chicken or beef were equally delicious. I tried both fillings of savoury meats, wrapped in a flaky pastry.

The nachos were, well...nachos.

The taco shells are made in-house, slightly different from the grocery store kind. These are warm, thick and almost doughy. Fabulous, especially if they are filled with grilled marinated pork, pineapple and infused with rich, fragrant cinnamon.

The children's menu offers build-your-own tacos, fun for the kids to garnish the way they like to eat them.

For dessert, the deep-fried ice cream was uncommonly good, but the best was the Mexican version of creme caramel, almost cheesecake-like drenched in a thick rich caramel sauce.

The prices were somewhat higher based on authenticity and freshness, worth every peso. The mood was very 'mi casa es su casa', a warm, friendly 'my house is your house' attitude. The rustic decor will have you convinced you are on vacation...unless you look out the front window. My advice, order their Margarita.