

# Food for thought and more

All of us have experienced great occasions gone awry due to a poor choice of venue. Do our food bloggers know something we don't? AMALINA KAMAL seeks the opinions of a few online pundits on the matter.

**I**F Kuala Lumpur is dubbed the City That Never Stops Eating, you can well understand why. It is a metropolitan pot of so many tantalising cuisines that has gotten both locals and tourists on a perpetual look-out for the best edibles.

So in true foodie spirit, we are celebrating the month of October with good eats by rounding up the opinions of three of the city's top gastronomists to determine the ideal restaurants that fit the best of situations.

## THINKING OF POPPING THE BIG QUESTION?

It's nuptials season! For couples that value fine dining as part of their dating activities, these two fancy restaurants offer the best dining experience (and best marriage proposal spot). They are perfect for that special moment for lovebirds.

### La Vie En Rose

This intimate dining spot is a private bungalow situated along the hills of Jalan Raja Chulan overlooking the glimmering lights of the city at night. Opened in November 2011 and named after the legendary French cabaret singer Edith Piaf's greatest love song, *La Vie En Rose*, many customers have sung its praises for its wonderful service and friendly staff. The restaurant's exquisite five-course dinner and its fine selection of wines will transport diners to "Gay Paree" the minute they have a taste of what is offered.

### What our foodie says:

**Sean Yoong of Eat Drink KL:** "The French know love and romance better than anyone else which makes La Vie En Rose the ideal spot for a marriage proposal. The charm of this restaurant is seen through its well thought out dining environment where strains of Piaf's signature song waft across a setting that includes a candelabra-lit dining hall and alfresco terrace."

**Recommended Dishes:** Duck Confit with coco beans, Beef Bourguignon, Foie Gras Crème Brulée and Profiterole with vanilla ice cream and chocolate sauce.



Baked French turbot with caramelized onion, Seared Lamb Loin crusted with herbs and Mussel and Orange Soup with saffron.

### FAMILY-FRIENDLY EATERIES

Cosy, fuss-free family-oriented restaurants seem like a dime a dozen but the really good ones are not as easy to find. Well, here's one terrific for family outings, which has been selected for your reference thanks to our food experts!

### Simply Mel's

Simply Mel's, which specialises in Malacca-Portuguese cuisine, is located at The Sphere, Bangsar South. This 100%

family-owned outfit offers an extensive menu of authentic traditional dishes that would leave diners wanting seconds. It's a great place for kids too as the waiting area has toys and a low table for them to draw.

### What our foodie says:

**Sean Yoong of Eat Drink KL:** "Family-run restaurants are often the nicest places for families to feast; Simply Mel's at Bangsar South is a strong bet, thanks to the talents and hard work of 'Auntie' Melba Nunis and her daughters, who dish out lots of love in their *Ayam Buah Keluak* and other Malaccan Portuguese specialties."

**Recommended Dishes:** Assam prawns, *Ayam Buah Keluak*, Papa Vincent's fish cutlets, *Chicken Pongteh*.



### Maison Francaise

The French really rate tops when it comes to appreciating love because also recommended is another restaurant that embraces French cuisine. At Maison Francaise, diners have the opportunity to experience true haute dishes where traditional favourites are given an inventive twist to make the menu more interesting.

### What our foodie says:

**Kelly Siew of Kelly Siew Cooks:** "KL's Little Paris. With romantic ambience and exquisite French fare, it would be hard for the girl to say 'No'."

**Recommended Dishes:** Monk Fish Mousse with tomato coulis, Amuse Bouche: Mushroom Soup,

