



NATIONAL KITCHEN



by

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SINGAPORE



As a child I looked forward with excited anticipation to the delectable feasts cooked by my Peranakan aunts and grandaunts. At 16, in 1965, I begged them to teach me how to cook the dishes of my Peranakan heritage and that is how my culinary journey in the kitchen began. My obsession with the national past-time of eating out began much earlier when my father would take me out all over Singapore for breakfast, lunch, tea, dinner and supper.

Later on, as a food critic, I met some of Singapore's Culinary Treasures, from local chefs, to hawkers to home cooks, who welcomed me into their kitchens. My culinary heart has always belonged to Singapore and I share this love with you.

*Welcome to the National Kitchen, where every day is a celebration
and where food is all about love, sharing, family and friends.*

Violet Bar

PICKLES

PINEAPPLE PATCHEREE . 4

PINEAPPLES, RAISINS, CHILLIES AND YOGHURT IN A SWEET SOUR SPICED GRAVY OF TURMERIC, GINGER, GARLIC AND SHALLOTS INFUSED WITH THE PERFUME OF CURRY LEAVES

SALT FISH SAMBAL . 6.50

SALT FISH PICKLED IN A RICH SPICY GRAVY OF TURMERIC, CHILLIES, AND SPICES FROM THE SPICE ROUTE

SOUP

KIAM CHYE ARK THNG . 10

TRADITIONAL HEARTY FAMILY SOUP OF DUCK AND SALTED MUSTARD GREENS WITH A HINT OF SPICY CHILLIES

PONG TAUHU SOUP . 11

PRAWN, CHICKEN AND BEAN CURD DUMPLINGS IN A NYONYA HOME MADE PRAWN BISQUE WITH JULIENED BAMBOO SHOOT

SALADS

ROJAK . 7

GUAVA, SOUR MANGOES, ROSE APPLES, PINEAPPLE, CUCUMBERS, JULIENNE OF PINK GINGER FLOWERS, JELLYFISH AND CRISPY CRULLERS TOSSED IN A SWEET, SOUR AND MILDLY SPICY SAUCE

TAU HU GORENG ^(V) . 9

FRIED BEAN CURD ON A BED OF JULIENED CUCUMBER AND FRESH BEANSPOUTS TOPPED WITH VIOLET'S SIGNATURE SWEET AND TANGY PEANUT SAUCE

SAMBAL KIMCHIAM UDANG . 15

LILY BUDS TOSSED IN A SWEET AND SPICY DRESSING TOPPED WITH PRAWNS AND STARFRUIT

GADO GADO . 18

TEMPEH, FRIED BEAN CURD, HARD-BOILED EGGS, POTATOES, LONG BEANS, CABBAGE, CUCUMBER AND LONTONG RICE TOPPED WITH A MILDLY SPICY CREAMY PEANUT SAUCE AND PRAWN CRACKERS

(V) — VEGETARIAN (*) — VEGETARIAN OPTION AVAILABLE

Makan Kechil, the Small Eats of the Singapore kitchen always formed the backdrop of my family's mahjong and cheki sessions on lazy afternoons where the women would gather to gossip and snack on these tasty morsels while still engrossed in the game.

STARTERS

NGOH HIANG . 15

DEEP FRIED PRAWN, CRAB AND CHICKEN WITH WATER CHESTNUT SEASONED WITH FIVE SPICE POWDER WRAPPED IN BEAN CURD SKIN

KUAY PIE TEE . 17

JULIENNE BAMBOO SHOOT AND TURNIP POACHED IN A PRAWN BISQUE SERVED IN A DEEP FRIED "TOP HAT" CUP TOPPED WITH PRAWN, CHILLI SAUCE AND A SWEET FRUIT SAUCE

SATAY . 12

GRILLED CHICKEN MARINATED IN SPICES AND SERVED WITH A SPICY PEANUT SAUCE TOPPED WITH GRATED PINEAPPLE, STEAMED RICE CAKE, CUCUMBER AND RED ONION

CORONATION CHICKEN IN WANTAN LEAF CUP . 9

A DISH TO CELEBRATE OUR COLONIAL HERITAGE. DICED CHICKEN IN A CREAMY CURRY SAUCE WITH GOLDEN RAISIN CHUTNEY SERVED IN WANTAN LEAF CUP

TURMERIC CHICKEN WINGS . 13

DEEP FRIED TURMERIC AND LEMONGRASS CHICKEN WINGS SERVED WITH A SPICY CHINCHALOK SAMBAL

IDLY SERVED WITH COCONUT & TOMATO CHUTNEY ^(V) . 7

SOUTHERN INDIAN FERMENTED STEAMED RICE CAKE SERVED WITH FRESH COCONUT AND TOMATO CHUTNEY

(V) — VEGETARIAN (*) — VEGETARIAN OPTION AVAILABLE

..... **MEAT**

BUAH KELUAK AYAM . 23

CLASSIC NYONYA SPICY AND TANGY CHICKEN STEW AND BUAH KELUAK NUT INFUSED WITH FRESH ROOT SPICES OF LENGKUAS AND TURMERIC

CHICKEN LEMAK . 17

BONELESS CHICKEN STEWED IN A MELANGE OF FRAGRANT SPICES WITH COCONUT CREAM AND KAFFIR LIME LEAVES

CHICKEN AND PRAWN

BOSTADOR . 15

A DISH FROM OUR EURASIAN HERITAGE. MINCED CHICKEN AND PRAWNS IN A FRAGRANT SPICY SAUCE WITH GREEN CHILLI PADI TOPPED WITH GREEN CHILLI

BEEF RENDANG . 22

TENDER BEEF SHIN BRAISED IN A MELANGE OF SPICES FLAVOURED WITH KAFFIR AND BAY LEAVES IN A CREAMY COCONUT SAUCE

DAGING CHABEK

BEEF CHEEK . 35

AUNTY NANNY'S SLOW BRAISED BEEF CHEEK IN A RICH SPICY TAMARIND GULA MELAKA GRAVY AND COCONUT

..... **SEAFOOD**

BUTTER PRAWN . 32

FRIED ANGKA PRAWNS TOSSED IN BUTTER FLOSS AND CRISPY CURRY LEAVES

UDANG GORENG CHILLI . 32

ANGKA PRAWNS TOSSED IN A SPICY FRAGRANT CHILLI PADI GARLIC REMPAH

FISH HEAD CURRY . 42

RED SNAPPER FISH HEAD STEWED IN AN AROMATIC CURRY OF CUMIN, FENNEL, CHILIES, TURMERIC AND ONIONS WITH TOMATOES, BABY EGGPLANTS AND OKRA

COD IN CREAMY

LAKSA SAUCE . 34

BAKED COD IN A DELECTABLE CREAMY LAKSA SAUCE DRIZZLED WITH CORIANDER PESTO

IKAN GORENG CHILLI . 19

FRIED RED SNAPPER TOPPED WITH A SPICY FRAGRANT CHILLI PADI GARLIC REMPAH

FISH TEMPRA WITH SEA BASS . 20

FRIED FILLET OF BABY SEA BASS TOPPED WITH A SWEET, SOUR AND MILDLY HOT SAUCE OF CHILLIES, ONIONS, SWEET SOYA SAUCE AND LIMAU KESTURI

SOTONG MASAK HITAM . 24

SQUID STEWED IN MILDLY SPICY AND TANGY SQUID INK SAUCE GARNISHED WITH GREEN CHILLI PADI

... **VEGETABLES** ...

CHAP CHYE . 15

CLASSIC NYONYA FESTIVE DISH OF BRAISED
MIXED VEGETABLES AND BEAN CURD SKIN
IN A RICH PRAWN BISQUE

JU HEE CHAR . 13

JULIENNE OF JICAMA, CARROTS, CABBAGE
AND MUSHROOMS STEWED IN CUTTLEFISH
BROTH TOPPED WITH DEEP FRIED CUTTLEFISH

SAMBAL EGGPLANT ^(*) . 12

WEDGES OF FRIED EGGPLANT TOPPED WITH
A SPICY AND SOUR SAMBAL SAUCE

SAYUR LODEH ^(V) . 12

MIXED VEGETABLES AND TEMPEH IN A MILDLY
FRAGRANT SPICED COCONUT GRAVY

SAMBAL BENDI. 10

LADY'S FINGERS IN A SPICY AND TANGY DRIED
PRAWN FLOSS PASTE

MEATLESS MEATBALLS

RENDANG ^(V) . 15

WALNUT AND CHEESE DUMPLINGS BRAISED IN
SPICES FLAVOURED WITH KAFFIR AND BAY
LEAVES IN A CREAMY COCONUT CREAM SAUCE

... **NOODLES & RICE** ...

DRY LAKSA . 22

FRESH RICE NOODLES TOSSED IN VIOLET'S
LAKSA GRAVY TOPPED WITH PRAWNS, TAU POK
AND BEAN SPROUTS

DRY MEE SIAM . 21

FRESH RICE NOODLES FRIED WITH MEE SIAM
CHILLI SAMBAL TOPPED WITH PRAWNS,
JULIENED BEAN CURD AND CHINESE CHIVES

HAINANESE CHICKEN RICE . 17

THE SINGAPORE CLASSIC MADE WITH CHICKEN,
FRAGRANT RICE INFUSED WITH RICH CHICKEN
STOCK SERVED WITH CHILLI GARLIC SAUCE,
GINGER JAM AND THICK DARK SOYA SAUCE

HAKKA ABACUS BEADS . 16

TRADITIONAL HANDMADE TARO DUMPLINGS
TOSSED IN A MELANGE OF DRIED CUTTLE FISH,
GROUND CHICKEN, DRIED SHRIMP, CHINESE
MUSHROOMS, BEANCURD AND CHINESE CELERY

BUAH KELUAK NOODLE . 24

THE DELECTABLE BLACK DIAMOND OF THE
NYONYA KITCHEN INFUSED WITH SPICES,
MINCED PRAWNS, CHILLI PADI AND COCONUT
MILK TOSSED WITH SPAGHETTI NOODLE



JASMINE RICE . 1

NASI LEMAK RICE . 2

JASMINE RICE STEAMED WITH COCONUT MILK

CHICKEN RICE RICE . 3

MANTOU . 5

TRADITIONAL FRIED BUNS

*One of my happiest teenage memories is that of learning to make exquisite
Nyonya kuehs from my Grand Aunt Nanny.*

*She insisted that I had to get them all perfectly formed of the same shape and size.
I would burn the midnight oil to earn her praise for these
tiny morsels of Cuci Mulut – sweet endings to a delicious meal.*

DESSERTS

ROTI JALA WITH GULA MELAKA AND BANANA SAUCE . 10

TRADITIONAL NYONYA LACED PANCAKE SERVED WITH A GULA MELAKA AND
BANANA COCONUT SAUCE

KUEH BENG KAH . 9

GRATED TAPIOCA CAKE TOPPED WITH GULA MELAKA SYRUP AND COCONUT MILK

KUEH DAH DAH . 9

GRATED COCONUT COOKED WITH GULA MELAKA WRAPPED IN PANDAN INFUSED CREPE

PULOT HITAM WITH COCONUT ICE CREAM . 12

BLACK GLUTINOUS RICE STEWED WITH GULA MELAKA AND COCONUT MILK TOPPED WITH COCONUT
ICE CREAM

PINEAPPLE UPSIDE DOWN CAKE . 12

LIGHT BUTTER SPONGE TOPPED WITH PINEAPPLE AND A BUTTERSCOTCH SAUCE

