

# What diners are saying about Mesob...

From OpenTable.com



Jul 3, 2010

The food was delicious--we had the vegetarian sampler for two. The prices are very reasonable and it's a BYO. All the dishes we selected were delicious. The decor was very nice and the staff was helpful and attentive; the hostess even ...

Jun 27, 2010

Great restaurant! Authentically Ethiopian which is terrific. Friendly atmosphere, great food and good location. Staff is friendly and the place is beautifully decorated and clean.

June 24, 2010

"I am never disappointed when I go to Mesob. Excellent service, pleasant environment and superb food. And, it's a BYOB."

Jul 12, 2010

"Excellent as always! We have been dining here for past 4 years and the food has always been consistently excellent. :-)"

Jul 5, 2010

"The food was delicious--we had the vegetarian sampler for two. The prices are very reasonable and it's a BYO. All the dishes we selected were delicious. The decor was very nice and the staff was helpful and attentive; the hostess even noticed me struggling with the menu in the dim light and adjusted the lighting for my middle-aged eyes. We will definitely return."

June 29, 2010

"Great restaurant! Authentically Ethiopian which is terrific. Friendly atmosphere, great food and good location. Staff is friendly and the place is beautifully decorated and clean."

June 15, 2010

"Had a great time! Food is beyond tasty!" Special Features: fit for foodies, romantic

June 8, 2010

"Great food and a lot of fun. Our waitress was wonderful she spent a lot of time with us helping us figure out what we should order, as some in our party had not eaten Ethiopian before. The owner came over to our table after dinner to talk with us as well, which was also really great. I would highly recommend this restaurant and we will definitely be going back"

June 1, 2010

"This is the second time we have visited this restaurant and have had very agreeable experiences both times. The cuisine is Ethiopian and therefore something different, which is an advantage. Everything was well-prepared, very tasty, with good variety and unusual presentation. The service was outstanding, very solicitous and helpful. We would certainly return."

June 1, 2010

"This restaurant never disappoints me. The warmth of the staff and surroundings add to the experience of cuisine that is always so savory and fresh. The Ethiopian blending of spices is so skillful that each dish becomes a distinct work of art."

May 26, 2010

"One of our favorite places! Food and service are wonderful."

May 18, 2010

"This is our second visit to Mesob and is among the gems of Montclair. The food and service are excellent and the "hands on" eating makes it a true dining experience. We love the control you have over what appears on your plate which is good news for vegetarians that may be in your group. Be prepared if you don't like the idea of eating with your hands because forks are nowhere to be found here."

May 12, 2010

"I had never eaten Ethiopian food before so I had the sampler plate - it was all great. The menu was clearly labelled what level of spiciness to expect which is good. Very tasty food. Service was very good too and the setting was beautiful. If you are in the area, you should definitely check it out."

May 11, 2010

"Found this restaurant a few years ago when my professor took our class to sample some of the food he grew up on in Ethiopia...have been coming back ever since. The food is great, the staff is friendly and helpful and the overall ambiance makes for a fun night out for dinner."

May 4, 2010

"Our first time trying Ethiopian.. we LOVED it. Staff was super fantastic at describing menu items, helping us choose, explaining how to eat it! We'll definitely go again."

May 4, 2010

"My sister chose Mesob for my Birthday dinner...even though my Birthday was April 6th :) We were a bit late on celebrating, hehe I have been to an Ethiopian Restaurant many many years ago in New York City, and it did not make a very good impression on me. I was a bit hesitant to give Mesob a try, but my sister's co-worker spoke VERY VERY highly of this place.

It's bring your own, which is great I think! My sister brought a bottle of wine.

The food is OUTSTANDING!!!! The waitress was SUPER nice and shared her favorites with us, to help us decide. We were told by my sister's co-worker to try the "TASTE OF MESOB", which is a sampler. It was amazing! You choose from a mild/medium/spicy flavor, which I think is great. I would come here again!!"

Apr 27, 2010

"A rare dining experience with a unique cuisine, informed and attentive service, and charming ambience with tables well placed for discrete personal space."

Apr 20, 2010

"The food was delicious and presented in a wide variety for both meat and non-meat eaters. The space was accommodating and our waiter showed us how to eat the food as it was our first Ethiopian dining experience. Portions were generous and there was enough food to take home and enjoy!"

Apr 18, 2010

"An eating adventure. Great novelty for something different but so delicious it will be great to return to. BYO-FYI"

Apr 12, 2010

Our dining experience was excellent!! Ethiopian food was something new and exotic to the 3 of us and it exceeded our expectations. The staff was friendly and well informed, they were able to make suggestions on what the most delicious plates were. The overall experience was great and i would recomend it to anyone looking to try something new & exciting..."



From UrbanSpoon.com

By Leah - Jun 13, 2010

Amazing! I used to go to school at Montclair, and anytime my family would visit we would eat here. The food was always great, and everyone was always friendly. Make sure you go in ready to eat .

By Diallo Hall - Jun 11, 2010

The food is both authentic and prepared with attention to quality and the sensibilities of it's patrons. For example, the chefs go to great lengths to strike the fine balance between flavor and authenticity. In Ethiopia, people believe that excessive amounts of oil make a dish "special.". (So if you have ever had oily Ethiopian food, you now know why - it was "special"). However Mesob has adapted the ancient cooking traditions of Ethiopia to give a unique dining experience in a warm environment.

by Debi - January 24, 2010

I love Mesob - the staff and owners always take special time to welcome you. The food is the best Ethiopian I have eaten (and I've eaten it in NJ and NY) - perfect blending of those great spices. And, always thinking of their diners, they've added desserts to the menu - all freshly made. That's another thing I love about this restaurant - ALL the food is freshly made, no canned food, no frozen foods, no preservatives.

by Zizi

July 10, 2009 - Likes it

Amazing food!!! The best ethiopian restaurant!!! Can't be better than that!! The restaurant is super cozy and clean! Love it!!

by Robert Buchanan

June 21, 2009 - Really likes it

Complex Spices, tender meats, flavorful vegetables and injera bread makes dining the experience it should be.

The friendly staff and warm decor makes Mesob the perfect place to relax with family, friends and you favorite BYOB wine, while eating just about the greatest "finger foods" in the Montclair.

From Yelp.com



**June 18 2010**

**Andrew D**

I've been eyeballing this restaurant for a few months, since it opened, and finally got a chance to tuck inside for dinner with my wife a few weeks ago. I loved it. I'm already kind of a fan of injera food, because I like to eat with my hands and make a mess, and this was quite a treat.

The atmosphere of the place is really calm, warm, and inviting. The tables are small and nicely spaced, and even when the dining room is crowded you feel like you're in your own little booth. The staff is friendly and welcoming, and are happy to explain anything on the menu.

The food itself is delicious, prepared with the love and care of native Ethiopian cooks. The owner of the restaurant told us about her cookbook and described how the particular chilis that they use are prepared specially in Ethiopia by drying and soaking and roasting for weeks on end.

The bread they serve is beautifully soft and has its own kind of fermented zing. It is always uniformly bubbly and doesn't have any of those hard, dried, crusty bits around the edges. It reminds me of the suppleness of a calf's skin, or some large, fluffy creature's stomach lining. Yeah, I know that doesn't sound so great, but trust me on that one--stomach lining is pretty soft.

An important note: Mesob is BYOB, so if you want a glass of wine with your meal, bring it yourself. There is no corkage fee.

And for a good selection of wine and beer and spirits, try Amanti Vino, on Church St, about a block and a half away.

**Apr 7, 2010**

**Donna W**

Living in NYC, I have enjoyed Ethiopian food since 1986 when I was in college and we went to Zulu on upper Amsterdam near Columbia University. Zulu is sadly gone, but now I live in NJ and am thrilled to have found Mesob. The food is delicious, the prices are good (not as dirt cheap as Zulu was, but I'm not a student anymore either). I usually stick to the vegetarian options . .Shiro, spicy lentils, etc, but have also tried some of the meat options, and they are excellent as well. The vegetarian sampler option is a good way to go, but I have also ordered the various vegetarian entrees and each of those comes with 2 sides. So if there is a vegetarian option you just want to try, you can do it with a side. I found that worked out really well for me. Also when I ordered the individual entrees I was sure to get enough of the yummy shiro!!

Park in the lot right behind Mesob since street parking can be hard to find.

**Feb 17, 2010**

**Itamar K**

We had been meaning to try Mesob out for a while - but never got around to it. So finally, on my wife's birthday - we went out - and have loved it ever since! We had never had Ethiopian food before - and were surprised to find how much we loved it!

The service was amazing, and the food had such a great distinct taste. We literally can't wait to go again!

Oh, and the owner contacted me on Facebook after I'd mentioned Mesob - and invited me back themselves - with a free coffee! If you give this restaurant credit - they will reciprocate!

**Feb 15, 2010**

**Elizabeth S**

I've been on an Ethiopian food mission for the past year and Mesob continues to come out on top. In comparison to recommended restaurants in Ferndale, MI, DC, New Brunswick, I still think Mesob comes out on top for the following reasons:

1) Atmosphere: Walking into this restaurant, you are hit with the wonderful smell of the spices. It is dimly lit, romantic, and well decorated.

2) Food: The food here has by far been the best seasoned Ethiopian I've tasted.

The wait staff is hit or miss, but the owners are great and friendly. I consider this a place you spend the night in, enjoying some wine and taking your time eating. If you are in a rush, I don't recommend eating here.

Mesob is still the best Ethiopian I've had and what's even better is that I can walk here!!

**Jan 18, 2010**

**Johnny A**

When I think about a good night out at a restaurant, I think about this place.

The staff is super friendly and the food is so delicious! We got a vegetarian sampler split between the three of us and it was plenty of food. The bread is SO GOOD and delicious.

This place should stick around for a LONG time!

BYOB, too!!!!

the pictures you'll see on the internet are not helpful at all. just go to this place and try it if you've never had ethiopian food. it's a lot like eating Indian food.

who needs silverware when you've got hands and fingers?

**Nov 11, 2009**

**Jay S**

I mentioned Mesob in my review of Zoma in NYC, so I figured I owe it to them to come and write a review for this place too...

I cannot believe it's true, but it is. Mesob is the best Ethiopian restaurant in the entire Greater New York City area. I know that's quite a claim, but I've tried them all now, and hands down Mesob wins.

The food here is fantastic. Great ingredients, plenty of fresh, fluffy injera, and wonderful spices in the stews.

The service is friendly, to the point where you actually feel like the place is run by a group of friends.

The atmosphere and decor is pretty typically ethnic Ethiopian, which I have to admit is a little nicer than the nouveau-wallpaper magazine Zoma.

Plus, it's in Montclair, which means:

- It's easy for NJ'ers to get to
- easy / free parking
- BYOB with friendly provision of corkscrew & glasses

If you live in the city, then you'll probably scoff at the idea of going to Montclair for a great meal.

But... if you live in NJ, Mesob is proof that you don't have to go into the city to have a fantastic meal.



**From Montclair Eats.com**

**Excellent Ethiopian Cuisine**

Family owned, nice ambience with traditional ethiopian style furniture, and authentic food - Our favorite is spongy freshly baked bread "INJERA".

Posted by A & Y on 01/20/2010

**Our New Favorite!**

My husband and I had never had Ethiopian food before, so we decided to try something new. The food at Mesob was absolutley phenomenal! My husband had some kind of lamb/beef sampler with 3 kinds of vegetables - lentils, chickpeas and string beans - which he loved. I had shrimp tibs (tomato and shrimp stew..but very light) with collard greens (never had these before..so good) and lentils. The injera bread that you eat with is also very good. The flavors were just wonderful! The sevice was also excellent. The owner made sure to come around and introduce herself. This is definitely one of our new favorite restaurants!

Posted by Sullivan on 10/04/2009