



Confucius say, eat Chinese now, be hungry later

Have you ever wondered if you could exist on a diet of nothing but beer?

After all, it does have grain and hops to give you life-sustaining nutrients and water to keep you hydrated. You could have a couple for breakfast, three or four for lunch and maybe a sixer for dinner. You could have a nice buzz all day long and still be getting your RDA of vitamins and minerals, or at least some of them anyway.

The only drawback I can see is if you got sick of beer. Hey, I know it sounds impossible, but what if it happened? What would there be to live for? Therefore, I guess it may be best to include in your beer diet at least occasional meals, and Oriental and Indian restaurants are as good as any.

The Asia Cafe serves a wide selection of oriental foods at a reasonable price, roughly \$3 to \$5 dollars for lunch or dinner. They are open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. every day of the week and

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always have service with a smile.

Dragon's Garden, located at 407 W. Franklin St. next to McDonald's, has lunch seven days a week from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., and dinner from 5 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., and 5 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. They offer a widely varied menu, featuring Szechuan, Hunan, Cantonese and Beijing cuisine, all at reasonable prices.

Passage to India, located at 1301 E. Franklin St. (halfway down the hill), offers an enticing menu of North Indian dishes, including generous vegetarian offerings. Shrimp masala, lamb curry, vegetarian platter and breads pandoori and paratha will reward venturesome diners. Mango drinks, rosewater drinks, pistachio ice cream and cheese dumplings in heavy cream will satisfy the most exotic sweet tooth. Their prices are a bit higher than a fast food place

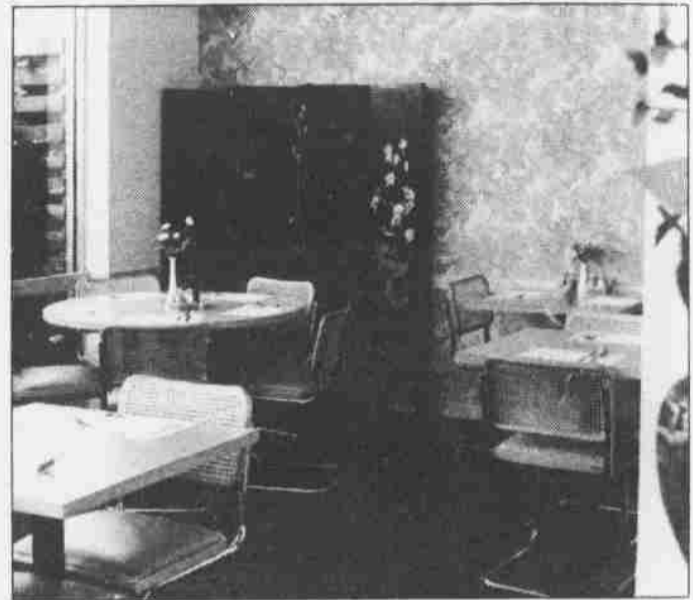
(expect at least \$10 a piece at dinner if you want meat), but the food is well worth it. **Passage to India** is open for lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., 5 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. for dinner. The decor is an added plus, with traditional art of Indian gods and goddesses in blues, scarlets and golds adorning the walls and Indian music on the intercom.

The **East Wind Chinese Restaurant** offers moderate prices for good food, with a good selection. They are located at the Carr Mill Mall in Carrboro, right at the train tracks, and are open seven days a week, from 11:30 to 2:30 for lunch, and 4:30 to 1 a.m. for dinner.

Golden China offers very reasonably-priced food available from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. for lunch and 5 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. for dinner, and 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Friday through Sunday. Their food is always tasty, and the lady I talked to on the phone recommends the crispy chicken with orange peel. They are located at 104 Carrboro Plaza.

The **Golden Dragon** is one of the cheapest options at \$4 to \$5 per entree. The atmosphere is nice and the employees are very friendly. They are open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily, and are located downtown on Franklin Street. Mmmmm, I sure love the Golden Dragon.

Hunan Chinese is located at 790 Airport Road and offers a particularly distinctive menu, even offering a diet and a salt-free menu upon request. Lunch is served from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. during the week and noon to 2:30 p.m. on weekends, and dinner is 4:30



No, there are no naked women behind the screen at the Dragon's Garden

p.m. to 9:30 p.m. during the week and until 10:30 on weekends.

Imperial Chinese is open from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for lunch and 5 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. for dinner, until 10:30 p.m. weekends. Expect to pay \$5 to \$6 for a meal there and the experience is priceless.

The **Oriental Garden Gourmet Restaurant** offers both Chinese and Thai cuisine in a beautiful greenhouse

atmosphere. They specialize in tofu and vegetarian dishes—and isn't that what we all really want? They are open from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. for lunch, and 5 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. for dinner during the week and until 10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. *The News & Observer* said that the Oriental Garden "brought us under its spell," and while that could be taken in a number of different ways, I bet they meant it was terrific.

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