

The North Star

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I HAD always liked the look of the North Star from passing by – and I was not disappointed. The vast open space in the converted Victorian pub is decorated in a gorgeous boutique style but is not over the top. The important part – the food – was a complete surprise. Italian pub food does not normally scream quality (I'm sorry!) but the North Star has managed to nail this particular cuisine. To start my guest and I shared the North Star antipasto (£8.60) – a generous helping of parma ham, salami, marinated olives, buffalo mozzarella, roasted peppers and artichokes – and wherever they get their mozzarella from, I hope they keep on buying it! It was creamy and tasty, something rarely experienced with this cheese. For mains we shared a lasagne for two (£8.10 each). It was the nicest lasagne I have ever tasted in a restaurant – and believe me, I have tasted a lot. The rich, slightly sweet tomato-based sauce was mixed with a combination of pork and beef mince. It was delicious and I can't compliment it enough. The only problem is, if I go there again I won't want to taste any other item on the generous menu!



**Our judges' verdicts
on the best places
to eat and drink
in South Wales**