

## *Ashiana's patron's Testimonials*

“In a world where restaurants try to be hip and trendy, changing menus to try and anticipate the latest fads, it is always a relief to go to the Ashiana where great food, based on knowledge and respect for tradition, is still the priority. If there was any restaurant that could entice us into becoming vegetarians it is the Ashiana.”

“We’ve eaten Indian food in many cities and many countries and the Ashiana can hold its head high and be proud as a restaurant that serves the very best in Indian cuisine in Vancouver or anywhere.”

**Gary Cristall & Valdine Ciwko, Vancouver.**

“My family has been coming to the Ashiana for over 20 years now, and we have enjoyed dropping by and ordering in from you hundred of times over the years. I know my friend James Barber agrees that the dishes are amongst the finest in Vancouver, and the service is always cheery and bright.”

**Duncan Fraser, Vancouver.**

“My wife and I have been coming to Ashiana for 12 years. Ashiana is our favorite restaurant in all the world. I have eaten in countless restaurants on this continent and in Asia including South Central and North India and many of them have been fine and even excellent restaurants but none can compare with your consistently high quality food meticulously prepared. There is no finer food served anywhere”

**Bryan & Julie Zapf, salt spring island.**

“The Ashiana has been a part of our lives for many years since you opened in the small place on Victoria Drive. From our first meal, we were treated splendid food, warm welcomes and a feeling of being at home. We began to bring our friends for dinner, to share our little secret and without fail, they raved, as we had done, about the experience. Each dish has its unique flavour, you often suggest combinations of dishes which are always perfect complements to each other. And your personal greetings and welcomes make us feel that we are not just customers, but really “part of the family”.”

**Don and Sharon Straathof, Vancouver.**

“My wife Madeline, daughter Katherine and I have been coming to Ashiana ever since our daughter was born in 1985. We have always found the food to be excellent, the service gracious and the prices reasonable. When Katherine was very little, she was delighted when Rick would let her come to the sweet counter and choose a treat on the house. We remark on the warm, and comfortable nature of dining at the Ashiana when we recommend it to our friends and visitors from out of town. We often take advantage of your delivery service too. Ashiana has been a favorite restaurant of our family’s-- always delicious and enjoyable.”

**Doug Wood, Madeline Paris and Katherine Wood, Mae Flanders, Vancouver.**

“Ashiana is a delight for anyone who enjoys fine food. It is unequivocally one of our most favorite restaurants, filled with fantastic food and very friendly staff, it is the perfect location for any memorable meal. We have enjoyed Ashiana Restaurant over the past 12 years many times. Most often we have come as a little family, but we also celebrated there with larger groups of friends. Both the service and the food has been wonderful.”

**David Cadman, Darcy Cadman and Marisa Orth-Pallavicini.**

“Whenever we have guests from near or far and the question of dinner out and our favorite restaurant in Vancouver comes up, we invariably and without hesitation suggest Ashiana.”Why?” they sometimes ask. Because it is the most authentic and tastefully appointed restaurant anywhere and offers space, privacy and a comfortable atmosphere, and because the hosts, the cook and the servers make us feel like we’re at home with friends and above all the food is a culinary adventure, always surprise a new with its exotic tastes and delicious mix of tandoori meats and curries.”

**Bruno and Elizabeth Huber, Grantham’s Landings, B.C.**

“Over the past years, Youth With a Mission Vancouver has brought hundreds of young people to your Restaurant to experience the wonderful food and hospitality. For most of these teenagers, their delicious meal at your establishment is the very first time they have ever enjoyed East Indian cuisine and might be the first time that they have ever met anyone of East Indian heritage. All our participants leave with a wonderful cross- cultural experience when they walk out of restaurant.”

**P. Wade Pallister, YWAM Vancouver.**

“We have been ordering take-out from Ashiana for over a year now. The food arrives hot and within 30-40 minutes. The quality and taste of the dishes we order is always consistent and never disappointing. The Butter Chicken is the best I have tasted in town-and always full of meaty pieces. All the dishes taste wonderfully unique in their special combination of spices. Did I mention the size of the naan? I would recommend Ashiana to anyone interested in experiencing a unique menu full of pleasing food and consistent service like no other.”

**J Faubert, C Elwood West 18th Vancouver.**

“When so many restaurants come and go its relatively rare these days that one would survive so long. The reason of course is easy to understand as good restaurants need “ingredients, which go beyond that put into each dish, they need the “ingredients” of atmosphere, cleanliness, courteous and knowledgeable service and owners that care about their customers, while providing excellence from the kitchen. Ashiana has it all- Congratulations.”

**Maurice Mourton, Tsawwassen, B.C.**

“My family has been eating at Ashiana regularly for more then ten years. We love the Ashiana!!! The meals are always excellent. We have our favorite items but whenever we try something new we are never disappointed. We especially appreciate the attention that is paid to accommodating dietary restrictions of family members. Whenever we bring friends, they are always impressed with the quality and variety of the food. The meals are truly a culinary delight. As the service, it is exemplary. The service is prompts and we are always treated with utmost courtesy. We are always greeted like old friends and made to feel welcome.”

**Don, Roberta and Sean Scott, Vancouver.**

“We” are my wife (sue) and three daughters (Steffi, Alexis and Sara) my son and his family have often celebrated birthdays at Ashiana. Our family has been customers for all of twenty one years of course the food has always been the main attraction, but your kind tolerance of the children when they were young has been also a factor. Now that they are (much) older they have become simple customers in their own. In case, my wife and I have memories of many many birthdays celebrated at Ashiana, memories that intersect and meld together to yield a very warm feeling, for which we thank you.”

**Dr. Howard Jackson and family.**

"I am not sure that it can be said that "one can have relationship" with a restaurant, but that is how I feel about Ashiana. This relationship happened over the years, from one modest location near Victoria and 33rd to newer larger location as the years progressed. Ashiana is first and foremost about great food, certainly loving prepared. It is also about people, Rick, his wife and the staff. Ashiana is place to take friends and family. I enjoy introducing friends to Ashiana. The welcome and the food always win them over. Many of these friends are doing the same with their friends. Ashiana is too good to a secret to keep for long."

**Patrick Black, Gabriola Island.**

"Very first days twenty years ago, not only has the food continued to be the best on our city but it's always a pleasure to meet you at the door once again and to have a few words with you."

**Ron Walkey, Vancouver.**

"Ashiana is, by far, our favorite restaurant for Indian food and one of our top five restaurant for any type of food, anywhere. Over the past 20 years, the food has been consistently delicious, the service excellent and the atmosphere friendly and welcoming."

**Dorothy Elias and Diana Smith, Vancouver.**

"We are recent new clients to the Ashiana Tandoori Restaurant; however, right from the first visit, the management and the staff demonstrated a genuine interest in the clientele they served. The personal touch and the excellent selection and preparation of their distinct dishes have guaranteed our continued respect and future patronage to Ashiana Restaurant."

**Elaine Dreaver and Peter Hamel, Burnaby.**

"We have been coming to Ashiana for nearly 20 years, we have thoroughly enjoyed every meal we have had and are very impressed with the quality and flavor of the food you serve. We have tried other restaurants serving Indian food but always comeback to Ashiana. The staff are professional, friendly and willing to take time to explain about various dishes. We intend to continue coming here for many years."

**Jackie and Gary Jeannotte, Burnaby B.C.**

"Being new to Vancouver, we feel thankful to God. We found Ashiana where we love the food and we know we can rely on excellent service and thoughtful management. We have referred Ashiana to many of our friends and neighbors."

**Gareth and Kayli Hall Elwood, Vancouver.**

"Over the years, now almost two decades for me I have found the highest quality to vary and whenever I have had the opportunity to invite a special friend for dinner, my first choice has always been the Ashiana. And my friends have always had the delight of eating one of the finest meals, the taste of which they always remember."

**Laurence Svircher, Vancouver.**

"Let me say how much I enjoy dinning at the Ashiana. I have enjoyed the food since the Victoria drive day. My special favorite is chili chicken, chicken tikka and butter chicken. The dishes at the Ashiana are always fresh and flavorful. The service is always gracious and prompt. The management provided by Rick and Sonia is of the highest standard. If anyone visiting me asks for a good food "Indian restaurant" I unhesitatingly recommend the Ashiana."

**F.G. Herring B.Sc. Ph.D, Vancouver.**

"The Ashiana is our regular Indian Restaurant. Everyone is always friendly and the food is delicious and it is very reasonably priced! Our favorite is the "butter chicken". It's the best in town."

**Jayne and Debra, Vancouver.**

"We always remember your first location, so many years ago...SIMPLY THE BEST Indian food we ever tasted!. No one has ever compared to your cooking...YOU ARE THE BEST!"

**Sharon and Stuart Quayle, Vancouver.**

"My wife and I, often together with our friends Bob and Joan Lemmers, have been coming to the Ashiana ever since it opened. Since then many other new Indian restaurants have opened, we have tried them all. But this experience, like so many others failed to match up the consistency and quality of the dining experience at the Ashiana. The Ashiana offers total dinning experience that begin with warm welcome and friendliness offered by the host Rick. This sets the tone for the rest of the staff. Invariably, the dinner is made to feel at home and appreciated as a guest. The authentic Indian décor, the statues and immaculately clean washrooms, reflect care, consideration and respect. These hallmarks of the Indian culture, compliment the exquisite flavors, the textures and aroma of the food."

**Michael and Jenny Evans, West Vancouver.**

"The Ashiana has long been the place for us and our friends to celebrate important milestones in our lives: birthdays, anniversaries, political victories and events graduations. But it's quite charm and delicious food beckon to us for informal dinners as well. Over incomparable butter chicken and lamb curry. From the warm, heartfelt greetings we receive at the door, to the friendly, helpful service, every visit to this restaurant we feel welcomed as into the home of friends. We love Ashiana the best!"

**Trudy Damery and Rhiannon Galanta**

"Ashiana has always represented the best Indian cuisine – great food and warm welcome from those that prepare and serve these delicacies. Congratulations for having served, many, many wonderful meals over the past 20 years."

**Suzi and Joel Shack, Vancouver.**

"I first discovered your wonderful restaurant in the spring of 1985. We savored the smell of chicken tikka as it steamed on the plate before us. We raved about the eggplant, lamb Nawabi (my personal favorite). That evening was one of the most memorable food experience I have ever had. It opened my eyes and my taste buds to the subtle and interesting flavors of Ashiana cuisine. Since that evening 18 years ago, I have brought every one of my friends to your restaurant. I would like to thank you for all these years of incredible food, excellent service and the warmth and comfort I have been privileged to experience at the Ashiana Tandoori".

**Lynn Giraud, Vancouver**

"20 years ago was our introduction to the Indian food at Ashiana. What a great adventure as you and your staff made suggestions and we learned to enjoy a whole different eating experience. We were delighted when you started doing home delivery, and can enjoy our favorite dishes delivered to our home."

**Beatty and Elizabeth Huntsman, Vancouver.**

"Twenty years ago I discovered the Ashiana Tandoori that served the best Indian food I'd ever had. When discussing where to go for dinner, as soon as someone mentioned the Ashiana the discussion was over. And that continue to this day."

**Simon Garbar, Vancouver.**

"We have been eating in Ashiana Tandoori more then 18 years since it opened on Victoria Street. We found the food qualities maintain its high level, and the services are very pleasant and friendly."

**Kam Wailee, North Vancouver.**

"We have enjoyed the best food in Vancouver and best quality, great sauces at Ashiana, always so welcoming to our children."

**Christal and Tom Phipps.**

"The food as always was delicious to eat! We have brought friends and family members who have been impressed. You have a wonderful ability to make us at home and always very welcome. Thank you for your wonderful work and giving us a special restaurant to treat ourselves and others too."

**Robin Scobie & Allan Dobie Vancouver**

"My husband and I first discovered your small original location in 1984 or 1985. We had read about you in an article written by James Barber and we were not disappointed. Since then we have introduced our family over time to your delicious food and they have enjoyed it as much as we. Now you have a very successful and attractive business and this is due in large part to your own welcoming, friendly, warmth and interest in guests as well as the delicious food you always serve."

**Margaret Jones, Vancouver**

"We have had many good restaurant tips from friends, but never one as good as when we were told about Ashiana's. This was still in the days when it was a tiny, but thriving establishment on Victoria Drive twelve years ago. Once we ordered Murg Makhani and Lamb Nawabi, we were hooked. Ashiana has been our favorite Vancouver restaurant ever since. Our complaint is that there are too many great dishes to choose from! Usually we order a lot more than we should, but since we can count on only freshest ingredients being used, we know all our leftover will make a superb meal the next day.

There are two equally important reasons why we think Ashiana is the finest Indian restaurant in the lower mainland – the incredible pride and care Rick and his kitchen staff take in preparing the food; and the warm, friendly service you experience."

**David, Cathy & Rachel Elmy, Burnaby**

"My wife and I derive from two ethnic backgrounds, mine is Irish, hers is East Indian. I was never was and advocate of Indian cuisine, spicy is not my forte, nor hers for that matter. However, she swears by her mother's cooking, what child doesn't. I believe Ashiana is the exception to the rule for both of us. I am quite smitten with tandoori dishes and you have spoiled my wife with your coconut Goa curry style chicken. This is our confident choice when it comes to Indian cuisine, we frequent. Thank you for making our dining experiences, tasteful and satisfying."

**Mark and Seema Tuit, Vancouver**

"We are happy to say we have been delightfully served and deliciously fed by you through the years. We always recommend you to visiting family and friends, some of whom make regular pilgrimages north of the 49th just to dine with you. We all congratulate you on your Twentieth Anniversary. May you have many more....annuals, Twentieths, Thirtieths and those beyond!!!!"

**Dr. Michael Lepawsky and Family**

"The Ashiana fills the need that can't be met anywhere, be the food and the atmosphere are addictive. Each dish is rich and distinctive having been prepared with skill and pride. The warm welcome of our hearts draws us into the calm. Ashiana has lasted. It is steadfast and seamless. It is special place that we treasure."

**Suze, Patrick, Adrian. Mark Black, Gabriola Island**

"We have been "regulars" at the Ashiana almost since you opened your first restaurant on Victoria Drive. After an excellent meal, one of our friends spoke to the chef to thank him personally for the superb meal. (This friend is an excellent cook himself). Since then we've brought many friends, out-of-town guests. We introduced our children to Ashiana, so they have "grown-up" with you. We hope you'll keep up the great work and wish you all the best for the next TWENTY YEARS!"

**Harry & Lynn Watson**

"We have been coming to your restaurant for 15 years. Without a doubt, our family always finds your food to be nourishing and delicious. We always feel welcomed and appreciate the relaxing and friendly atmosphere at the restaurant. Thank you for being there and pleasant part of our neighborhood."

**Jen, Paula & Martha**

"We have enjoyed Ashiana many times over the years for the quality of your food, particularly the great sauces, and the fact that you and your staff were always so welcoming to our children"

**Christl and Tom Phipps**

"Our family have been enjoying the most delicious Indian food in Vancouver for almost your entire 20 years beginning as "regulars" at your little restaurant on Victoria Drive. It was James Barber's book about good places to eat in Vancouver that led us to you in the first place but it was your mouth-watering food that kept us coming all these years. Cheers to your next 20 years."

**Ruth, Brouwen Jones and Keith Robinson. Vancouver**

"I want you to both know that I always looked forward to your kind and gentle hospitality, your sweet and easy way of giving attention."

**Richard F. Cornnier**

"My friends and I first came to your restaurant when it was near Victoria Drive. We were all young teachers and we enjoyed going to the Ashiana for lovely food and ambience. Now we are retired, but it is always a special treat to come to your restaurant on Kingsway."

**Ms. Jan Harvey, West Vancouver**