

“A Worthy Destination”

Cafe Miranda Rockland, Maine



This is sure to raise a few eyebrows, but want a culinary travel destination on par with some of the greatest in the country? Would you believe it if I said you should book a flight to Portland, Maine; rent a car and drive an hour and a half up the Maine coast to Rockland?

Yeah, I'm serious, very serious. I first stumbled upon *Cafe Miranda*, a little 50-seat gem of a restaurant 12 or 13 years ago when I traveled regularly to the area on business. *Miranda's* is still alive and well, which in the restaurant business should tell you all you need to know, given the high failure rate in that industry.

I was back in the area this week for the first time in years and fully expected that *Cafe Miranda* wouldn't possibly be nearly as good as I remembered it. It wasn't, it was better! The continually changing, whimsically named menu is still voluminous at 43 appetizers and 35 entree's. The atmosphere is the polar opposite of big-name, celebrity chef

restaurants and the service is "relaxed," but the food is extraordinary. The five items my dining companion and I had were perfectly flavored and perfectly prepared and judging by the satisfied din of diners surrounding us, so were their meals.

Look, you could travel to New York and pay New York prices and hope to get a decent meal, or you could visit the West Coast; there are plenty of top shelf restaurants there to choose from. But when is the last time (or first!) you visited Maine? If you really need another reason to go north before winter sets in - you don't want to be in Maine in the winter - the leaves are just beginning to turn.

Autumn in New England and one of the best meals you'll ever have. I promise!

For more information on *Cafe Miranda*, visit their website. Better yet, call for a reservation - 207.594.2034

Eat, drink, and be merry!

Bruce