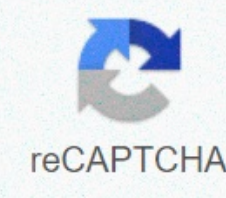


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Platform maadi cafes and restaurants

Although it works in varying success, many restaurants and cafes in Cairo largeley rely on a great location to steer them to success. This seems to be the case at Golio's newest branch. Located on recently built glorified food-court, the Platform, along the Maadi Corniche, Golio's, claims to be a Sicilian café and restaurant with everything from drinks and shisha to main courses. The Platform itself is very aesthetic, so to speak; Black stone tiles with tinted lights, it's definitely a stylish looking place that gets the best of the weather at this time of year. However, it is a pity that the aesthetics of the Platform are the best thing about this review. Golio's is to the left of the platform, with an indoor area with their white, pink and yellow colors, and an outdoor space for what appears to be the biggest attraction of the platform itself; the weather and the view of the Nile. Our waiters showed us to a table and gave us our menus; we chose a Crema Di Funghi Soup (27LE) – a cream of mushroom soup – and Antipasto Sciliano (47LE) – a variety of starters. Lacking any taste, barely lukewarm and with raw tasteless chopped mushrooms, the soup was a complete miss. The Antipasto Sciliano contained three pizzettas, fried mozzarella, bruschetta and parmigiana di melanzane; fried eggplant covered with cheese and tomato sauce. The pizzettas were tasty, the mozzarella wasn't too heavy, the bruschetta - made with garlic bread - was actually a nice twist and the parmigiana had so much cheese and tomato sauce you could barely taste the eggplant. It was, overall, an average platter, but generous in portion. We went to the main courses and opted for Grilled Sea bass (73LE) cooked with lemon butter sauce and Golio's signature Filetta Shalimar (100LE); a tenderloin topped with mushrooms, tomatoes and a light cream. There is a story, apparently, that belongs to the Filetta Shalimar; unfortunately that story is only worth noting if the dish was any good, and it really wasn't. The raw mushrooms and tomatoes were unappetising and the cream tasted like a sweet gravy. The side of red sauce penne pasta was forgettable at best, which is pretty unacceptable for a location itself as Sicilian labeling. To finish it all off, the food was cold - another miss. The sea bass, served with a side of rice and fried vegetables, was mild-tasting, but much better than the beef. A sauce was that tasted a lot like the soup, but no taste of either butter or lemon stood out. The vegetables were cooked and seasoned well and, overall, the sea bass dish did a lot better than the Shalimar, although the food was somewhat cold again. Aside from drinks and a shisha to compliment the great surroundings, we recommend skipping the main courses at Golio's, or trying one of the other locations on the Platform. Shisha and drinks in a great environment like it automatically makes Golio's a nice place to hang out. But if it's the for dining, there are better options just steps away. + {{staticContent.restaurant.checkout.addAddress}} {{staticContent.restaurant.basket.loading>YourAddresses}} {{ address.address }} {{basket.ref.restaurant.name}}{{staticContent.restaurant.checkout.restDoesntDeliver({}} {{ flatAreas[address.ref.areaUUID].name }}, {{ flatZones[address.ref.zoneUUID].name }} {{ address.data.address }} {{ toFixedPrice(basket.datareceipt.subTotal) }}{{staticContent.common.egp}} {{ toFixedPrice(basket.datareceipt.fee) }}{{staticContent.common.beContent.beContent.beContentent.common.egp}} {{ basket.data.receipt.total} }{{staticContent.common.egp}} {{ toFixedPrice(basket.data.receipt.totalBeforeDiscount) }} {{ toFixedPrice(basket.data.total) }} {{ toFixedPrice basket.data.total staticContent.common.egp}} {{ staticContent.common.cashOnDelivery }} {{ staticContent.common.creditCard }} {{ basket.ref.card? basket.ref.card.data.number.substr(8, 8) }} {{{creditCards &en creditCards.length>0?staticContent.common.change: staticContent.common.addNew}} {{staticContent.common.estimatedDelivery}}: {{basket.data.deliveryDuration}} {{ staticContent.common.mins }} {{ value }} {{staticContent.checkout.peopleView.failMessageTitle}} {{staticContent.checkout.peopleView. people}} {{staticContent.checkout.peopleView.items}} {{staticContent.checkout.peopleView.items}} {{staticContent.restaurant.basket.orderLocked}} {{staticContent.restaurant.basket.basket.basket}} {{staticContent.basket.basket.basket.unlock}} {{ {{ staticContent.restaurant.basket.basket.basket.friendsCantAdd}} {{staticContent.restaurant.basket.basket.basket.staticContent.restaurant.basket.unlockFailMessageTitle}} {{staticContent.restaurant.basket.unlockFailMessageBody }} The cool spring breezes make me relax in my seat while watching the Nile from my front row seat. The Nile is brimming with activity, from birds plunging into the chilly waters and wanting to find their catch of the day, to boats passing by lazily, causing ripples on the surface of Egypt's vein. I could stay here forever, sipping on my tea while in the view. The Platform Maadi is the perfect spot on the Nile. Parking that was once difficult has now been fixed; there are plenty of outdoor spaces and the possibility of valets to park your car in front of you. I step into the sleek, ultra modern design of The Platform, overlooking the Nile from my elevated position on the stairs before making my way down. The dusty, messy, noisy city of Cairo is instantly forgotten as the peace and quiet embraces us. The Platform even has a playground called Boomers. Next to the entrance, Boomers is equipped with a playground, workshops, (top right of this picture, where the green slope is). This is an ideal way to keep kids busy and at a distance from adults who want some quality time with the sun, Nile and friends. The ultra chic and modern design design consistent throughout the platform. Much to my taste, there is a range of restaurants and cafes at The Platform, so one can choose a different place to sit with each visit. Every restaurant and café has its view of the Nile, with a promenade in between, which encourages people to take a walk, just like what I imagine Gamal Abdel Nasser doing before highways were built along the Nile, as described in the novel A Woman of Cairo by Noel Barber. There is a glass parting between the walkway and the Nile with beautiful flower beds. The entire design exudes a chic, stylish modern design. There is a busy stream of commuters coming to The Platform via the Nile Taxi, which is a small speedboat. It's such a convenient mode of transportation for those who live near the Nile, as they don't have to worry about parking. But it's the views I've come up for, and there's plenty of that. Avid photographers are in for a treat because there's plenty to photograph, from docked feluccas to the coast, birds hunting, and rowing boats and fishermen pouring their nets into the water. There is also a steady stream of passenger boats sailing on the Nile. Amazingly The Platform guards don't ask me to put my camera away as I steadily took photo after photo. The fact that they are photography-friendly scored great points with me because this is something I have to deal with when I have my digital SLR in Cairo. The platform is nice and quiet during the mornings and early afternoons, before the lunch rush where employees from nearby offices can stop by for a bite to eat. It is a place where both Egyptians and foreigners are spotted enjoying a latte or salad. I personally spotted 50 Canadians enjoying dinner, courtesy of the school they teach in Cairo. It is a place where everyone is welcomed and no one is hawked for not looking Egyptian. It may be a little stuffy by the Nile during the late afternoon during the summer, but it is perfect during the winter months. There are also small mosquitoes at this time of day, so I would recommend applying a repellent. Fridays are of course the busiest, and finding a parking space near The Platform can be very difficult. I've found that during the middle of the week for dinner rush is the best time. If you like your peace and quiet, going before noon will guarantee you some of that. For photography purposes, I found that the best time of day is in the morning, when the sky is still blue and has not yet turned to white from the smog and warmth of the sun. Spending the whole day there is a treat since I have to see the sun in the Nile. Each restaurant and café has its own bathrooms and there is a head-to-head next to the entrance next to the stairs of The Platform. conveniently next to the children's playground. There is also a prayer room for men and women end of The Platform next to the Coffee Bean and Tea Leaf. Watching the sunset from The Platform is a pure delight. The platform platform relatively new, recently opened in November 2013. The platform is the perfect place to spend the day with friends and family or even alone. It is laid back but chic and sleek and photography-friendly which gives this place full marks. The Platform's restaurants and coffee shops are: TCHE café, The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf, The Coffeeshop Company, Golio's Cafe Siciliano, Qahwa Layla, Baladeena, F.i.g, Mazaj, La Pietra, Lord of the Wings, Buffalo Burger and Koy Lounge and Restaurant. The Platform De Nile, Maadi 500 meters after HSBC; on the right. Tel: 0115 671 1114 Opening times: Mon-Sun: 09:00 – 02:00 Facebook page: The Platform Platform

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