

Hóng Bāo 2010 Banquet Menu

February 13th

Hosted Cocktail Hour: 5-6pm

Bendistillery Crater Lake Lychee 'tinis
2008 Anam Cara Estate Riesling
2006 Anam Cara Nicholas Estate Pinot Noir
Tsing Tao Beer
Sugar Cane Shrimp Puff and Chicken Jiǎo zi

Appetizer Platter

Vegetarian "Goose" Tofu Skin Rolls 素鸭腐竹卷
Lotus Root stuffed with sticky Rice 糯米莲藕
Small Plum Tomatoes 小西红柿
Pickled Cucumber 凉拌黄瓜

Soup 汤

"Mock" Shark Fin Soup: Dry Scallops in Supreme Broth 鱼翅干贝汤
Peking Roasted Duck 北京烤鸭
Birds Nest with Macadamia Nuts and Beef 鸟巢牛肉拌夏威夷干果

SPEAKERS PROGRAM

Peking Roasted Duck: Second Course 北京烤鸭两吃
Snow Pea Vines Crowned with King Mushrooms and Garlic 蒜蓉蘑菇雪豆
Whole Pan Fried California Striped Bass 干煎鲈鱼
Seafood Rice with Salmon and Pine Nuts 松子三文鱼炒饭

Dessert 甜点

Tea 茶
San Souci Chocolates, 巧克力
Whole "Togetherness" Tangerines, 蜜桔
"Lucky" Melon Seeds and Lychee Fruit 好运瓜子和荔枝

Food Notes

Chinese New Year is associated with many symbols and customs. Every year, the Kitchen God Tsao Chun ascends to heaven to report to the Jade emperor on the behavior of the family. Honey and sugar are smeared on his picture, to keep his mouth “full of sweets” so he is unable to give a negative report. The house is cleaned and family reunions, and food, feature prominently in the celebrations. Jiǎo zi dumplings shaped like gold ingots, representing wealth, are eaten. Duck is a symbol of fertility and Peking Duck, popularized during the Qing Dynasty (1736-1796) among the upper classes, has become a symbol of Beijing Cuisine. It is served here in two courses; First the crispy skin is wrapped in pancakes with green onion and Hoisin. Later, the duck returns, chopped with vegetables in a savory broth, wrapped in Lettuce leaves. The word for “Fish” in Mandarin is a homophone for “abundance” so a whole fish is traditionally served; The head and tail are left intact symbolizing “surplus” and a “good beginning and end” to the upcoming year. Rice represents a link between Heaven and Earth. The grain plays a central role in everyday meals, but on Banquet days, rice is served at the end of the meal, so no guest should leave the table hungry. Tangerines are given as gifts of prosperity, family unity and fertility in the future. Melon seeds also represent fertility and luck. We hope you enjoy our celebration.

Xīn nián kuài lè

Wine Notes

Anam Cara Cellars: Each of our wines comes from the Nicholas Estate vineyard we live in and farm ourselves in the hills between Newberg and Sherwood.

2008 Nicholas Estate Riesling: From only one-acre of Riesling, this lovely, fresh, balanced and off-dry wine has been voted the top Riesling in the Pacific Northwest. Perfect with spicy and aromatic foods, sushi, crab, and fried calamari.

2006 Nicholas Estate Pinot Noir: An elegant, rich wine with velvety texture and surprising softness. Warm, full-bodied fruit reminiscent of plums, wild blackberries and dusty red roses. A favorite with wine critics and top restaurants in Portland and beyond.