



Ahuriri Master of India

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Still the master of India

Keeping up with your local restaurant scene can be difficult. Names, faces and themes seem to change in the blink of an eye. A clear exception is Master of India. For more than a decade their recipe for success consists of two very simple ingredients, quality food and warm hospitality.

editorial jeanette kelly / *picture* anneliese hough

Tucked away in Bridge Street, Master of India is an enduring feature of Ahuriri. While the surrounding streets have been developed with cafés, shops, galleries, apartments and hotels, for 11 years Master of India has remained a constant for those seeking the best in Indian cuisine.

Sanjay Patel and his wife, Sangita, have been the faces behind Master of India since day one. Sanjay hails from Gujarat, the westernmost state of India; however the menu is representative of the whole country, subtly honed over the years to suit the tastes of their local clientele. "We feature all the traditional Indian recipes that everyone knows and loves, plus some unusual dishes for the adventurous," says Sanjay. "And, as all are prepared to order, the heat can be adjusted to suit!"

Something Sanjay and Sangita find more often these days is their customers renewed appreciation for the health and nutritional values of Indian food. "People are a lot more conscious of what goes into their food now, so Indian food is a great choice with low fat, lots of protein and many tasty vegetarian and gluten-free options," explains Sanjay.

Above: An enriching cultural experience awaits you at the Master of India.

Ahuriri is the original and best known restaurant under the Master of India name. Two further restaurants, one in Hastings and another recently opened in Taupo, mean diners can enjoy the same great menu and service at more than one location. The restaurants all offer a takeaway and delivery service - a popular option for parties, sports teams and other large gatherings.

Sanjay expresses genuinely humble appreciation of the local support they have received. "Napier people have been so good to my family. On both a personal and business level they have become our friends and our community. We are honoured to serve them and in return are glad to get so many positive word of mouth recommendations."

With such an uncompromising attitude to delivering their customers the very best experience of food and hospitality it is no wonder that they have become a confirmed local favourite, a recipe that won't be changing anytime soon.

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www.masterofindia.co.nz