

# Bottle it up



**Where** Above Spices & Flavours, Rajabhadur Mansion, Ambalal Doshi Marg, Hamam Street, Fort  
**Dinner for two** ₹1,200 (along with two starters)  
**Alcohol served** Yes (beer pint: ₹200)  
**Contact** 22100100

>> The CSK Mangolini (top) was the best drink at Bottle Bar. Also try the Mix Sauce Pasta (bottom left), Flavoured Cheese Bread (bottom middle), and Watermelon Martini (far right)

Known for its delectable Indian cuisine, Spices & Flavours in Fort has now launched a brand new bar — **Bottle Bar**. **Dev Goswami** gives us his verdict

**W**ith the myriad of one-ways that South Mumbai is known for, getting to Bottle Bar might not be easy. To cap it all, it's located right next to the Bombay Stock Exchange, in a barricaded lane, making you wonder if you've arrived at the wrong place.

Bottle Bar is located right above Spices & Flavours, which serves delicious Indian food. However, the two joints could not be more different. Bottle Bar has loud music playing, big screens on almost every wall and a laid-back ambiance that is perfect for a drink post work. For families, there is a brightly lit section, while there is a lounge-like low seating area for youngsters. They also have bar stools and tables for those looking for a quick drink.

Quite obviously, Bottle Bar is more of a drinking place than a dining one. They do serve food from Spices & Flavours, but the menu is limited to starters and finger foods. They also currently have a special IPL menu with a variety of starters. And speaking of the IPL, we loved the IPL décor, which is more detailed than most places, with framed posters and t-shirts apart from flags and a match on the big screen.

We started off with the Watermelon Martini (₹400) and Forbidden Apple (₹400). But, the first thing that caught my eye wasn't the neatly presented cocktail but the quirky coasters. Of the two drinks, it was the Watermelon Martini that appealed to me the most. It was sour-sweet and refreshing. The alcohol in the Forbidden Apple overpowered the apple flavour.

Next up was CSK Mangolini (₹475) and the Long Island Iced Tea (₹500). To go along with our drinks, we also ordered Flavoured Cheese Bread (₹195), Gangari Aaloo (₹159), Mix Sauce Pasta (₹275) and Kurkure Paneer (₹169). The CSK Mangolini was a discovery! The unique drink was the best of the night with sweet mango, perfectly balanced with bitter alcohol. The Long Island Iced Tea was not one of the best I've had and needed a little more lemon.

As far as the food went, it's easy to see why Spices & Flavours is so popular. Each of the dishes stood out, from their spicier take on cheese flavoured garlic bread to the deliciously soft and flavourful Gangari Aaloo — the food is lip smacking. The Mix Sauce Pasta surprised us with its subtle spices and cheesy taste (considering most of the food at Bottle Bar is spicy, I was expecting a more Indianised version) while the Kurkure Paneer (delightfully crispy, flat, paneer patty) went well with the drinks.

Overall, Bottle Bar is not perfect, though its USP is pocket-friendly food and drink. For a bar, drinks should have been better. But, the food reassures us that they have what it takes. Would I go there again? If I was in the area, sure. But, I would probably not schlep across town... at least, not yet.



## A SMOOTH NEW ENTRY

Popular yogurt chain, **Yogurtbay** has found a new home in Andheri. **Rhea Dhanbhoora** checks it out

You don't have to like flavoured yogurt to know Yogurtbay. Ever since it opened in Bandra, it's been one of the more successful of the stream of frozen dessert chains dotting the city. There's not much that's different at the new outlet in Andheri, except that it's not a stand alone outlet.

Having a yogurt shop in a coffee joint as popular with Andheri's fitness fanatic youth as Chai Coffee, is already doing them good, because people have a place to sit and indulge in healthy desserts and energising smoothies after their evening workout. With Chai Coffee being the centre of attention, the small yogurt counter can be missed, so it's a good thing they have a big sign to let you know where to head for a sweet treat.

As we settled in to see whether taste matched name, we were told that we must try the smoothies that people at the Bandra outlet skip over. So, we did, starting off with the Choc-o-Fella Smoothie (₹120), a grainy mix of oreo cookies in a chocolate milkshake. It could have done with a little more sugar, but that's just my sweet tooth talking; health aficionados will appreciate the lack of it. Next, we slurped up the Superfruit Smoothie (₹150), a mix of berries that included raspberry, blackberry, blueberry, acai and strawberry. It was just the right combination, not too sour, not too sweet — but a

**Where** Shop no 1 & 2, Beach Queen CHS, J.P. Road, Versova, Andheri (W)  
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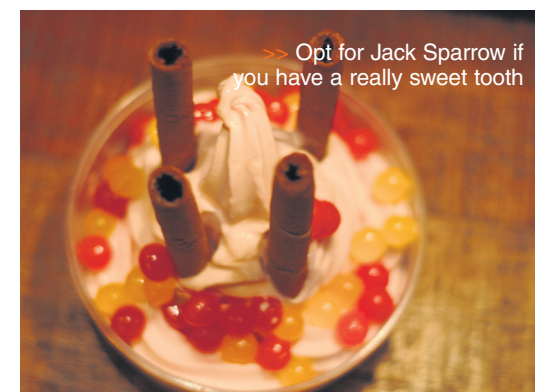


>> Blueberry Cheesecake is a must-try at Yogurtbay

little thick — so make sure you have the energy to get through it. I didn't. If seasonal shakes are what you prefer, try the refreshingly delicious Mango Passionfruit Smoothie (₹120), which was a heady mixture of fresh mango and passion fruit puree, complete with mango pieces. We missed out on the Johnny Bravo Smoothie (₹120), a mix of banana and peanut butter granola which fitness freaks should definitely opt for, since there's the option of adding chocolate protein powder for an additional ₹150.

We couldn't leave Yogurtbay without trying the

yogurts! So, we began to indulge with the popular Jack Sparrow (₹150) which was strawberry yogurt that I didn't fall in love with. But, if like me, you love poppers and chocolate sticks, it's not so bad. The Blueberry Cheesecake (₹100 for small, ₹160 for regular and ₹300 for share-a-cup) was as good as it's always been. Yogurt at Yogurtbay is the same as it's been anywhere else in the city and the seating space inside Chai Coffee gives it an added boost. We suggest saving the yogurt for your second visit and starting off with one of their delicious smoothies.



>> Opt for Jack Sparrow if you have a really sweet tooth