

Bagel's Café

A wholesome meal.

One cannot live on bread alone. Sometimes, one needs bagels. Bagel's Café in DLF Phase I is tucked away in what's called The Shopping Mall. This is more like a community centre market than any other Gurgaon mall we know. The Bagel's Café is towards the back of the complex – look for a giant cartoon bagel ("Mr Bagel") waving at you.

Inside, it was light and airy, and people were drifting in for their lunch break. We were there for the

bagels, but their menu also included soups, pastas and meals-in-a-bowl. You can choose from white, wheat, sesame-white, sesame-wheat, onion-and-garlic and cinnamon-raisin bagels, and have them toasted if you like. We started off with a light, perky lemon soda (Rs 75) and a toasted salmon sesame-wheat bagel (Rs 230). We were also tempted by the simple club bagels (Rs 190 onwards), which you can get in BLT, salmon or chicken versions, with an omelette. Finally, we settled on a tuna melt sesame-white bagel.

Both our sea-themed orders were great. The bagels here are real boiled bagels, studded with sesame seeds. Our personal favourite, the salmon bagel, came slathered with cream cheese, capers and onions. The tuna melt was tuna salad and tomato, blanketed by a slice of melted cheese.

Next, we ordered sundried tomato cream cheese on a wheat bagel (Rs 110), but discovered that we misunderstood. It turned out to be a flavoured cream cheese, not cream cheese with sundried tomatoes. The salmon-hued cream

cheese was too sharply flavoured for our liking. We'd have been better off with the plain cream cheese.

We were looking forward to the peanut butter and chocolate sprinkles bagels for dessert, as well as the mountainous-looking lemon meringue tart, but we were just too full to attempt it. We're saving that for our next visit. *NMO D-140 The Shopping Mall, Arjun Marg, DLF City Phase I, Gurgaon (0124-4284742). Daily 9am-10pm. No alcohol served. All credit cards accepted. Meal for two Rs 700.*