

The M.B.A. for your B.A.

An innovative MBA track designed for people without business degrees.

MBA ASSUMPTION

There's more to business than simply the bottom line. [CLICK HERE](#)



telegram.com

NEWS



CURRENT: 54°

Home | News | Sports | Money | Deaths | Entertainment | Blogs | Shop | Real Estate | Jobs | Cars | Advertise | Place an Ad
 World News | Local News | The Day In Pictures | On the Common | Living | Court | Opinion

SHARE  Larger Text  Smaller Text  Print  Email  RSS Feeds



Thursday, March 19, 2009

Willy's more than just a steakhouse

By Bill Clapper Telegram & Gazette Reviewer

[Add a comment](#)

Don't categorize Willy's as just another steakhouse. A staggering array of sushi, seafood, poultry and pasta entrées are featured on the menu of this venerable restaurant in the heart of Shrewsbury.

Willy's Steakhouse Grill & Sushi Bar has historically set the standard for excellence in the region with its bountiful steaks. It was with beef anticipation we made our way to Willy's on a Saturday night.

We were not disappointed. From the warm greeting by the hostess when we walked in to the effusive good-byes when we made our way back up the steps to street level 2-1/2 hours later, Willy's was an experience not to be missed.

It was steak we came for, and it was steak we ordered. The steak Diane (\$29.95) was terrific but it lost some luster because it was prepared in the kitchen and served without fanfare. Traditionally, steak Diane is prepared tableside with a flaming brandy sauce. The pyrotechnic display is part of the appeal of the dish.

But putting aside the lack of showmanship, the steak was exquisite. Butter, shallots, fresh mushrooms, Worcestershire sauce added to the pan juices created a complex yet pleasing sauce that covered the generous filet mignon. I had to cease halfway through the steak for fear of steak overload. The next day, the steak Diane held up well for a very fancy lunch.

My partner ordered the nightly special, a filet prepared au jus, that was priced at \$31.95. The steak had a sprinkling of fresh mushrooms, but there were no frills or anything fancy, just an oversized steak that was free of any fat, gristle and done to perfection.

Vegetables and potatoes were available à la carte and served family-style. We ordered the garlic mashed potatoes and steamed asparagus without the hollandaise sauce. Both were delightful. Other choices included Asian fresh vegetables, sautéed or creamed spinach, sautéed mushrooms and butternut squash. All the veggies and potato sides were \$5.95, except the asparagus at \$6.50.

The bul goki appetizer was ordered from the sushi menu. It took one bite to reaffirm Willy's reputation as the region's premier steakhouse. A beef filet was smothered with caramelized onions and scallions in a spicy Korean sauce that was topped with strings of fried parsnips.

A lobster bisque was perfect in taste, consistency and presentation but could have been warmer.

The Caesar salad was limp and flavorless — and lacked those crunchy croutons — but a beet salad was delectable.

Willy's Steakhouse Grill & Sushi Bar



2 Grafton Street, Shrewsbury Hours: Sundays and Mondays 4 to 9 p.m.; Tuesdays through Thursdays 4 to 10 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays 4 to 11 p.m. Phone: (508) 842-7220 Web: www.willyssteakhouse.com Parking: Limited; behind building or on street. Credit cards: Visa, Master Card, American Express, Discover. Prices: High. Entrées \$16.50 to \$35.95; sushi \$4.85 to \$13.75. Pluses: Professional, mature staff that anticipates needs of diners; décor that fits the historic building; intimate booths for quiet dinners for two and larger tables and arrangements for groups; ability to make reservations online. Minuses: À la carte menu.

Click here to book today on Direct Air from Worcester Regional Airport.



Flights are Public Charters operated by Virgin America and USA Jet.



Start your school career



WorcesterWorks.com **TOP Jobs**

FOOD & BEVERAGE
MANAGER Worcester Country Club seeks experienced Food & ...

RN NEEDED Nurse aide / Home Health Aide Instructor Must have five years exp. ...

Administrative Assistant,
Strong organizational skills.

Beets were roasted and served with pecans, strawberries and goat cheese.

A dessert tray drew our attention when we entered Willy's, and, in anticipation of the confections, we said we would be somewhat conservative in how much dinner we consumed. Restraint has never been our strong suit and when it was time to order dessert, we chose the least filling item on the tray — a single crème brûlée to share. Like the steaks, soup, appetizer and salads, the crème brûlée was exceptionally presented and had remarkable texture and taste with glazed blueberries and strawberries atop the custard.

The entire experience at Willy's was enjoyable. There was no bustling of servers delivering meals or taking orders, even though the corner of the restaurant where we sat was nearly filled. The food was elegantly presented and exceptionally prepared. And while the price of dinner for two with wine and coffee — nearly \$160 — may have seemed high at first glance, it actually reflected the price structure of most high-end restaurants in the area. As a bonus, we each had great lunches the next day.



Click here
to subscribe to the
Telegram & Gazette

Add a comment

Buzz up!

[Send a Singing Telegram](#)

Costumed Singers w/ Balloons personalized Routine.
nationwidesingingt

[Articles about Self-Defense](#)

Informative personal self-defense training lessons.
CloseCombatTrainin

[Singing Telegrams](#)

Custom-written songs. Same day service. NYC, Long Island, preppygrams.com

Ads by Yahoo!

Reliable. Book ...

DRIVER CDL Class A for Dump trailer. Must have previous exp with ...

FRONT DESK driven indiv. to multi-task for BUSY Worc office. Bilingual ...

LAUNDRY WORKER FT days, every other weekend. Exp. with personals a plus. ...

HVAC TECH Experienced to service commercial accounts. Immediate start. ...

CASHIER FULL TIME MONDAY - FRIDAY APPLY IN PERSON SAINT VINCENT ...

More great jobs at WorcesterWorks.com

Employers Advertise Here

[News](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [RSS](#) | [Corrections](#) | [Weather](#) | [Company Store](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Submissions Policy](#) | [Contact us](#)

© 2009 Worcester Telegram & Gazette Corp.

Order the Telegram & Gazette, delivered daily to your home or office!