

# Inside!

Enlightening, Educating & Entertaining  
E! Employees Everywhere

August 2004

## Reviews: Crescent Heights & Wilshire Boulevard

In an effort to expand our lunch options, Inside! ventured out to the strip mall at the southeast corner of Crescent Heights and Wilshire Boulevard to sample lunch at five of the restaurants there. The shopping center is exactly three-fifths of a mile from E!, but if you drive rather than walk, bring your patience, because parking is at a premium during the lunch hour. If you are looking for a sandwich, salad or wrap, and none of the options below appeal to you, there is a Subway franchise located here as well.

### Caffè Latte

By **Elizabeth Johnson** (Public Relations)

As the name suggests, you can get an amazing caffè latte at this cozy restaurant, but along with great coffee drinks, Latte also serves up some of the best salads in the area. At an average cost of \$9, Latte's salads are definitely worth it--especially the amazing sesame-chicken salad, the warm spinach salad or the unique raspberry-chicken salad.

Caffè Latte also offers a nice selection of sandwiches; for vegetarians, there's a black-bean burger and grilled veggie sandwich. There's also a grilled-fish sandwich, blackened turkey loaf and a delicious hamburger! There are daily specials, too, including soups, omelettes and pasta dishes. Caffè Latte also has a full breakfast menu with an *amazing* pasta mama (fresh pasta scrambled with eggs) and a bruschetta Benedict along with great pancakes in a variety of flavors. Don't forget dessert, including cinnamon-apple bread pudding, pear ginger molasses cake and lemon squares! Prices range from \$8 to \$13. You can eat in or take away.



### Wahoo's Fish Taco

By **Heidi Wood** (Administration)

Wahoo's Fish Taco, which specializes in healthy California-style Mexican food, has just seven locations in Los Angeles, so we're lucky to have one within walking distance. Wahoo's is a generally relaxed eatery, and the walls are plastered with skateboarding, skiing, surfing and snowboarding stickers. Televisions hanging overhead play endless loops of thrills and spills, as hungry diners feast on enormous portions of the rice-and-bean cuisine. The place can get fairly busy, but the prices are low. There is indoor and outdoor seating, or take your food to go. Choose from a range of soft drinks or chill after work with beer and wine. Wahoo's accepts cash or credit cards--and die-hard surfers who never leave their desks can hang ten at [www.wahoos.com](http://www.wahoos.com).

### Trimana Grill

By **Scott Linn** (Human Resources)

Trimana offers homemade soups, five types of wraps, nine different salads, 15 deli sandwiches and 19 kinds of burgers (beef, turkey, garden, chicken breast, sirloin steak or tofu). The burgers are all served with the Trimana

special sauce, which is also available for purchase separately. I had the American Burger with the low-carb lettuce-wrap option. Make sure you get *lots* of napkins--it's messy. While business was brisk and all the tables were occupied, the line at the counter moved quickly; you can dine in or take out.

### **Sushi and Teriyaki**

By **Ann Clingan** (Human Resources)

Sushi and Teriyaki offers just that: sushi and teriyaki, in the form of appetizers, combo specials, bowls and platters. Not much to recommend here for the vegetarian eater. The prices are average, for the average food they serve.

### **Tawanna Thai**

By **Yvonne King Lopez** (International)

Tawanna Thai is an inexpensive and pleasant lunchtime option. The atmosphere is cozy, and someone at the restaurant watches decorating shows, because each table is adorned with a green apple inside a clear plastic cup--a glass would have been nicer, but they *are* trying.

There is a lunch special for \$5.75, which includes a choice of entrée (such as orange chicken, beef broccoli or spicy eggplant) with steamed rice, egg roll and salad. I tried number 13, the Pad Kra Paw, which has spicy basil leaves, red peppers, onions and chilis and can be served with chicken, beef, pork or shrimp. I ordered it with tofu. It turned out to be full of flavor, with appropriately sticky rice, a good but tiny egg roll and an average salad.

On my second visit, I had the Chinese broccoli with steamed rice entrée for \$6.25. I ordered it with tofu (an extra dollar), but found the meal to be on the bland side, and the broccoli definitely needed an accompaniment. Without the tofu, I don't think I would have enjoyed it at all. Tawanna Thai has many items on its menu, including salads, noodle dishes, soups, curries and rice. The Thai standards (*pad thai*, *rad na*, pineapple fried rice and Thai iced tea) are all available. All in all, Tawanna Thai is an enjoyable lunch time getaway with cheap prices, good food and a mellow atmosphere.

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