



Restaurants + Bars

'Million Dollar Chef' opens restaurant in Brickell



The tuna tataki with Norwegian salmon and buffalo pecorino roll, topped with Russian caviar, is on a tasting menu at the new Kaori by Walter Martino in Miami. (Kaori / Courtesy)

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MARCH 17, 2016

Kaori by Walter Martino

1250 S. Miami Ave., Miami, 786-805-6006, KaoriByWm.com

Italian chef Walter Martino, dubbed the "Million Dollar Chef" for selling one of his custom-designed plates adorned in gold and diamonds to the prince of Dubai for one million euros, has unveiled his very first restaurant in Brickell.

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"My dishes have so many influences from all over the world, which is perfect for the city," says Martino, who was private chef to elite clientele in Ibiza, Spain. "I think Miami is ready for my journey-of-the-senses experience."

His global fusion with Italian and Japanese influences is served on his custom plates and finished tableside. His signature is Sushiotto —risotto topped with seafood — such as saffron shrimp (\$18) and Chilean sea bass with calamari ink (\$22). Other highlights are bresaola Wagyu roll (\$26) and pastas such as fagottini stuffed with caciotta white truffle (\$14).

Lavish tasting menus with extravagant elements, such as edible silver and gold, range from \$300 to \$700.

Specialty cocktails (\$16-\$43) include the cherry wood-smoked Old Fashioned in a smoked snifter glass.

Dinner is served nightly, except Mondays, amid an ultra-modern, intimate ambience with neon chairs standing out against the state-of-the-art lighting on the walls as images shift to ambient music. The lounge is outside.

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