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August 23, 2011 | by [Awis Mranani](#)

Party at the Hamptons



Open kitchen bakery at Hamptons Cafe. (JG Photo/Awis Mranani)



When the snow melts and the weather gets warmer, America's rich and famous flock to a place called The Hamptons — a deluxe party destination on Long Island, New York, where they carouse in pastel colored suits and summer dresses, with a glass of champagne in hand, while nibbling on the best canapes. Now Jakarta dwellers can have a taste of that lifestyle at Hamptons Cafe, without having to fly all the way to the States or spending a fortune on great nibbles.

Hamptons Cafe specializes in serving canapes and finger foods. The canape dates back to the 18th century when the French started offering guests small, decorative foods, known as amuse-bouche.

"The name of the cafe illustrates not only the luxury of the region itself, but also the kind of lifestyle the people have in the area," said Tisha Shabrina, marketing and promotion manager of the cafe. "When we decided to open the cafe, we were inspired by the homes in the Hamptons, where people like to have cocktail parties, and canapes are the kind of food they usually serve."

When I visited the cafe last weekend, I automatically wanted to try their tartlets because they were decorated very beautifully and their tiny size definitely made me want to take a bite of those sweet treats.

The tartlets, priced between Rp 7,500 and Rp 9,000 (90 cents to \$1.05) each, come in a variety of flavors: mixed berry, peach, meringue in lemon cream, chocolate fudge, choco banana, cappuccino with cornflakes, bavaris macaron and chocolate chip. Not only are they pretty, but they are also rich in taste and crispy. They make for the perfect pairing with afternoon tea.

As for the canapes, Hamptons Cafe serves savory selections including mini burgers, prawn mayo, salmon rolls and kung pao chicken.

For more sweet selections, the cafe has a great range of petite four, such as a red velvet cupcake, strawberry mousse and panna cotta, among many others.

"For first timers, I would suggest they try our tartlets, cupcakes and ice cream sandwiches," Tisha said. "For the drinks they should try our Nutella hazelnut milkshake and smoothies. Or for those who like tea, we offer selections of TWG Tea."

Diners who are looking for something more fulfilling can also choose from main courses such as pasta, burger steaks and chicken cordon-bleu, among others.

Living up to its namesake, the cafe offers high tea packages like the "Tea Party" package, which includes five kinds of canapes with TWG Tea for Rp 60,000. Diners can order a "Fondue Special" for Rp 37,500, which consists of choices of fruits, marshmallows, biscuits and a chocolate fountain.



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During Ramadan, Hamptons Cafe is having an iftar promotion for Rp 47,000++, which includes five tartlets, one ta'jil, one date and hot tea. The promo is available from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Hanging out at the Hamptons Cafe Jakarta is not just about filling up your stomach with delicious nibbles, but also about relaxing because the ambience was designed with that purpose in mind.

"I have this thing about high tea rituals, when we drink tea in the afternoon, with mini cakes or sandwiches placed on three-tier plates," Tisha said. "A good high tea set and canapes are kind of rare in Jakarta except in fancy hotels. Here at Hamptons Cafe, we would like to offer the high tea and canape experience in the simplest way."

Hamptons Cafe has two different levels. The first floor is an open kitchen bakery with lots of finger foods and breads on display, while the second floor has a more homey atmosphere where visitors can perch on comfortable sofas.

The second floor also has a boutique where visitors can browse a mini collection of fashion apparel, footwear and accessories.

Hamptons Cafe

Jl. Benda Raya No. 1-C, Kemang, Jakarta

Tel: 6221 7004 8844

Hours of operation:

7 a.m. to 10 p.m. on weekdays, 10 a.m. to 1 a.m. on weekends,

4 p.m. to 11 p.m. during Ramadan

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