

X2 CHIANG MAI RIVERSIDE RESORT

Headed by not one but two Michelinstarred chefs, the deconstructed dishes at x2 Chiang Mai Riverside Resort's refined Oxygen Dining Room never fail to impress. Case in point: 2018 Iron Chef Thailand winner, Executive Chef Alexandre Demard's inventive Larb Moo Thord. At first glance, you'd never recognise the striking dish as the minced pork and herb larb salad, but one bite and the familiar, herbal flavours shine through. Minced pork, shallots, spring onions, fish sauce, chilli, mint and lime juice are hiding in these delicious, deep-fried bites.

Wine companion: I love a sparkling wine with spicy dishes like this, and this is a good opportunity to try a wine from Thailand. The Monsoon Valley sparkling extra dry rosé uses the same production method as Champagne. It starts with the aroma of red berries and leaves a long finish in the palate.

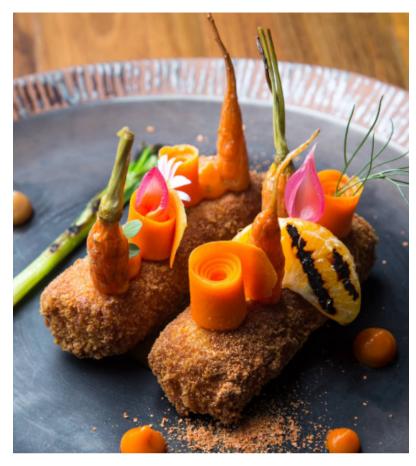
x2resorts.com/resorts/chiang-mai-riverside



The Chinese-inspired Moo Hong is a popular dish and for good reason. The slow-cooked pork belly with five spices, soy sauce, palm sugar and a hint of cinnamon offers a hearty main dish bursting with flavour, particularly Executive Chef Laia Pons' version with a side of greens. Served at the Kata Rocks *Clubhouse* overlooking the azure Andaman Sea in Phuket, you'll certainly feel on holiday enjoying the chef's high-end cuisine paired with paradisical views.

Wine companion: Pork belly is naturally quite fatty so we are looking for a wine with a crisp cutting edge. A wide selection of wines are available at Kata Rocks, but I immediately went for a German Riesling and Dr. Heger, Riesling Spätlese 2010 is alles gute. Powerful acidity and freshness is a winner with this popular pork dish.

katarocks.com





Executive Chef Alexandre Demard's Larb Moo Thord — Oxygen Dining





Executive Chef Laia Pons' Moo Hong — Kata Rocks Clubhouse





TOP: Overwater walkways and natural ligh make Rosewood Phuket a photographer's dream property. (@rosewoodphuket

CENTRE: Can you go to Phuket without visiting Kata Rocks Resort & Residences pool bar? We don't think so.

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BELOW: A cinema underneath the stars at Six Senses Koh Samui has got to be shared @sixsenseskohsamui

