

# Let's Do Lunch

*The only problem with "doing" lunch on the Monterey Peninsula is choosing among the hundreds of places available. These two boast great food and some of the most appealing atmosphere of any area restaurants.*

## **Patisserie Boissiere Café & Restaurant**

*Carmel Plaza, Carmel, 624-5008*

**Style of Food:** French, Continental. This charming little place is a Carmel classic that hasn't changed much over the years, and we like it that way. As the name suggests, it's a combination pastry shop and restaurant. The dining room has a cheery classical French feel with pale yellow walls, antique tables and chairs and ornate wall sconces. The overall quality of the food is so good that you can hardly go wrong, no matter what you select. The lunch menu kicks off with a few starters, including a *Quiche de Maison* with caramelized onions, roasted bell peppers, broccoli, sautéed mushrooms and feta cheese that caused one person at our table to exclaim, "This is the quiche I wish I could make." In addition to soup du jour, they serve a superb French Onion soup. There are several salads and three pasta choices. Shepherd's Pie, pretty with a decorative swirl of mashed potatoes; Chicken Pot Pie; Vegetable Filo Triangle and *Coquille St. Jacques* are among the specialties. Sandwiches include unusual offerings such as the *Croissant Campagnard*—layered ham and Swiss cheese topped with bechamel sauce baked in a croissant—rich but worth it. At Patisserie Boissiere you *must* save room for



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dessert: Their pastries are inspired, and we were enchanted with everything we sampled, especially the Strawberry Triangle, a light-as-a-cloud confection of flaky pastry, whipped cream, *crème patisserie* and strawberries.

**What to Try:** *Quiche de Maison*, French Onion Soup, Shepherd's Pie, Vegetable Filo Triangle, *Croissant Campagnard*, Chocolate Mousse Pie, Chocolate Walnut Torte, Mocha Custard, Strawberry Triangle.

**Price Range:** \$3.95–\$12.95.

~Andrea Sadler

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