



Party & Event Catering from The Lemon Tree

The Lemon Tree is one of the most respected and popular restaurants in Colchester and North East Essex. Our cuisine is mainly inspired by Europe, but our repertoire includes dishes from across the world.

We are well known as a specialist parties and events caterer, and we have long experience in making sure that occasions run smoothly and are remembered fondly for the quality of food and service we provide. We have many testimonials from delighted customers, and we are always happy to share them on request.

It doesn't matter whether you need to us cater for a small number of guests or hundreds, or whether you plan to entertain in a function room, a banqueting hall, a marquee or in the open air — we can help. If you're on a budget we can offer deceptively inexpensive buffet food, and if you're out to impress then our formal three-course meals will be remembered by your guests for years to come.

Whether you require full à la carte waiter service, or an informal buffet, you can rest assured that all our menus are created from the freshest and finest produce available, using a high proportion of seasonal ingredients that are sourced from local farmers, grocers and organic suppliers.

We can also help you find the ideal venue for your event, such as the Moot Hall or Old Library at Colchester Town Hall, Mersea Island Vineyard, Marks Hall and the Assembly Rooms, Dedham. Ask us for more details of these and other stunning locations.

Please browse our menus and, above all, remember that they are only a guide. We want to work with you to provide the catering that will take your parties and events to a new level.

**Drinks • Linen & Services • Special Packages • Canapé Selection • Formal Meals •
Premium Buffets • Popular Buffets • Barbeque Buffets**

Please note that all quoted prices exclude VAT

Arrival Drinks

Make your guests feel welcome

Arrival drink options	Price pp
Prosecco	£2.50
Fruit punch	£2.50
Alcoholic fruit punch	£3.50
Champagne	£3.50

NB: These prices include additional orange juice, available as an alternative for those who would prefer it.

Drinks

Wines, beers, spirits & soft drinks

We also offer a wider range of drinks and a cash bar service. Please ask us for details.

Wines & Beers

Soft Drinks

Wines

Red/ white wine:		Spirit & Mixer	£3.00	Elderflower cordial	£0.50
Bottle	£12.00	House double	£4.00	Apple / orange juice	£1.50
Glass	£3.50	Brandy / whisky	£3.00	Other soft drinks	£1.00

Beers

House beers:	
Bud • Peroni • Carlsberg	£3.00

*We also offer Mersea Beers and Carlsberg on tap.
There is a £50 set up charge for each, with pints at £3 thereafter.*

Linen & Services

Little extras for perfect presentation and service

We can provide you with efficient and conscientious waiting staff to ensure everything runs smoothly. And if you want to make sure presentation is of the highest possible standard, we also offer a linen hire service – we source our linen externally, allowing us to offer a wide range of colours and keep costs low. Ask us for further details and prices.

We will supply white china and cutlery free of charge for all food orders.



Special Packages

Everything you need for the most important occasions

The Lemon Tree's catering packages will add a touch of panache to your parties and events. These are our most popular packages, offering both quality and value for even the most ambitious party organiser. Please browse through this catalogue for further details of the Silver, Gold and Platinum menu and buffet options.

Platinum Package

£48.00 pp

Champagne & canapés on arrival
Three-course Platinum Menu
Platinum Evening Buffet
Coffee and chocolates

Gold Package

£39.50 pp

Prosecco and canapés on arrival
Three-course Gold Menu
Gold Evening Buffet
Coffee

Silver Package

£32.00 pp

Prosecco and canapés on arrival
Three-course Silver Menu
Silver Evening Buffet
Coffee

Canapé Selection

Elegant food, ideal for stylish social occasions

Choose two hot options and two cold options for £4.40 per person. We can also offer a bespoke selection of canapés: ask us for further details.

Hot

Mini Yorkshire puddings with roast beef and horseradish cream
Alsace onion and bacon tarts
Honey and mustard cocktail sausages
Chicken sauté with peanut dip
Stroganoff beef skewer with a roasted pepper aioli
Duck spring rolls with hoisin dip
Tiger prawns wrapped in a filo pastry with a sweet chilli dip (supplement – 50p per person)
Tomato and herb risotto balls (v)
Roasted button mushroom and goat's cheese (v)
Thai spiced crab cakes

Cold

Marinated olives & sun blushed tomatoes
Mini Quiche Lorraine
Applewood cheese & leek tartlets (v)
Red onion & brie cheese cup (v)
Savoury profiteroles with chives, garlic cream cheese, celery & grapes (v)
Smoked salmon on a granary croute
Crab & ginger tartlets
Mushroom money bags (v)
Smoked fish rilette on brown bread
Smoked chicken, bacon and spring onion pastry cup

Formal Meals

Three-course options for your guests

The Lemon Tree is renowned for its cuisine, and can provide you with food and catering that your guests will remember for years to come. We have provided three, popular menu choices below, but we are happy to create a tailor-made bill of fare for any occasion. Prices start from £21.50 per person, exclusive of VAT and labour charges.

Platinum Menu

£29.95 per person

Starters

Grilled garlic and chilli tiger prawns with a tomato, avocado and lime salsa

Chargrilled rolled aubergine with sautéed wild mushrooms, confit of duck and a port reduction

Cucumber salad on a pea and mint purée, finished with mascarpone cream (v)

Mains

Fillet of Beef Wellington on roasted horseradish and rich red wine jus *

Pan fried turbot rested on grilled asparagus and crispy streaky bacon with a truffle jus †

Mediterranean vegetable skewers on a goat's cheese, sun-blushed tomato and rocket risotto (v)

Lamb rump with dauphinoise potatoes and a sweet rosemary jus

Desserts

Classic Eton mess: fresh strawberries, meringue and vanilla cream

Sticky toffee pudding with warm pecan toffee sauce

Dark chocolate nemesis with Baileys ice cream

Selection of farmhouse cheeses with chutney, grapes and biscuits

* £5 supplement per person



† *The main course fish may vary, depending on season and availability*

Gold Menu

£24.95 per person

Starters

Cornish crab and smoked salmon lasagne, pickled cucumber salad with dill yoghurt dressing

Smoked duck and mango salad with a sweet chilli and hoisin dressing and sesame seeds

Greek salad with feta cheese, red onion, olives and plum tomatoes (v)

Mains

Oven roasted sea bass resting on streaky bacon and asparagus heads with a truffle jus

Roasted breast of duck, with caramelised apples and roast parsnips

Wild mushroom ravioli with a plum tomato and basil sauce, topped with fresh Parmesan (v)

Free-range chicken breast wrapped in air-dried ham and draped in a creamy thyme jus

Desserts

French lemon tarte with crème Chantilly

Profiteroles filled with vanilla cream and draped in a dark chocolate sauce

Baked raspberry cheesecake with a vanilla sauce and raspberry coulis

Silver Menu

£21.50 per person

Starters

Fresh crab, salmon and ginger rillette and summer salad leaves

Smoked chicken and duck terrine with red onion chutney and Melba toast

Leek and potato soup with herb croutons *(v)*

Mushroom and brie tart with a rocket and balsamic vinegar garnish *(v)*

Mains

Fillet of fresh salmon with a leek and prawn sauce

Breast of chicken wrapped in bacon with a creamy mushroom sauce

Fresh saffron and red pepper risotto with parmesan shavings and pesto *(v)*

Desserts

Raspberry crème brulee with butter shortbread

Dark chocolate brownie with a yoghurt ice cream

Summer pudding with raspberry coulis and crème Chantilly

Premium Buffets

Delicious and perfectly balanced

Our chef has devised three, mouthwatering premium buffet selections to choose from.

Supreme Buffet

£24.95 pp

Hot selection

Marinated BBQ Spare ribs
Cajun-spiced chicken drumsticks
Thai red king prawn curry
Honey and mustard cocktail sausages
Tiger prawns wrapped in filo pastry with a sweet chilli dip
Hot Mediterranean vegetable skewers (v)

Cold selection

Whole poached and dressed salmon
Honey-roast ham
Selection of sandwiches (inc. v) and chicken Caesar wraps
Mushroom and brie tart (v)
Coarse smoked chicken terrine
Prime roast rib eye beef platter

Salads

Dressed baby leaf salad (v)
Marinated olives and sun-blushed tomatoes (v)
Crayfish and avocado cocktail and cherry tomato salad
Smoked fish rillette on brown bread crostini with a dill dip
Home-made coleslaw (v)
Potato, chive and crème fraîche salad (v)
Red onion and tomato salad with a balsamic dressing (v)
Classic Greek salad (v)
Hot new potatoes and a selection of breads (v)
Selection of homemade chutneys (v)

Desserts

Homemade chocolate brownie
Lemon Tree baked raspberry cheesecake
All-English cheese board with grapes and biscuits

Deluxe Buffet

£19.95 pp

Hot selection

Marinated BBQ spare ribs
Cajun-spiced chicken drumsticks
Honey and mustard cocktail sausages
Thai green chicken curry

Cold selection

Whole poached and dressed salmon
Honey-roast ham
Selection of sandwiches (inc. v)
Mushroom and brie tart (v)
Coarse, smoked chicken terrine

Salads

Chargrilled Mediterranean vegetables and mixed leaves (v)
Marinated olives and sun-blushed tomatoes (v)
Crayfish cocktail and cherry tomato salad
Homemade coleslaw (v)
Potato, chive and crème fraîche salad (v)
Spiced couscous salad (v)
Hot new potatoes and a selection of breads (v)
Selection of homemade chutneys

Desserts

Homemade chocolate brownie
Lemon Tree baked raspberry cheesecake

Premier Buffet

£17.95 pp

Hot selection

Marinated BBQ spare ribs
Cajun-spiced chicken drumsticks
Honey and mustard cocktail sausages

Cold selection

Poached and dressed salmon
Honey-roast ham
Selection of sandwiches (inc. v)
Mushroom and brie tart (v)

Salads

Chargrilled Mediterranean vegetables and mixed leaves (v)
Homemade coleslaw (v)
Potato, chive and crème fraîche salad (v)
Red onion and tomato salad with a balsamic dressing (v)
Hot new potatoes and a selection of breads (v)

Desserts

Homemade chocolate brownie
Lemon Tree baked raspberry cheesecake

Popular Buffets

Informal choices to share with guests

Cold Buffet

£16.95 pp

Cold section

Poached and dressed salmon
 Honey roast ham
 Selection of sandwiches (*inc. v*)
 Mushroom and brie tart (*v*)
 Smoked chicken, bacon and spring onion terrine
 Roast beef platter & horseradish dip

Salads

Chargrilled Mediterranean vegetables and mixed leaves (*v*)
 Homemade coleslaw
 Potato, chive and crème fraîche salad (*v*)
 Red onion and tomato salad with a balsamic dressing (*v*)
 Classic Greek salad (*v*)
 Selection of breads and chutneys (*v*)
 Spiced couscous salad (*v*)

Desserts

Homemade, plated chocolate nemesis with a white chocolate sauce
 Lemon Tree baked raspberry cheesecake

Oriental Buffet

£19.95 pp

Table canapés

Japanese rice crackers (*v*)
 Prawn crackers

Starters

Kungpo prawns
 Chicken satay with peanut dressing
 Spicy chilli beef skewers
 Vegetable sushi with mirin and soy sauce (*v*)

Mains

Baked monkfish curry with coriander and lemon grass
 Moroccan-style lamb tagine
 Singapore noodles
 Thai green chicken curry
 Basmati rice (*v*)
 Naan and papadums (*v*)

Canapé Meal

£4.00 pp

Canapé-style fish and chips

Mini fish goujons and thick cut potato wedges with a condiments table of ketchup, mayonnaise, salt and pepper and homemade tartar sauce.

OR

Chicken Pad Thai noodles

Classic Thai noodles with chilli, soy sauce and peanuts

OR

Homemade thick-crust pizza

with a choice of 4 of the following toppings

Chicken, ham, salami, bacon, mushroom, pepper, prawn, sweetcorn, pineapple, courgettes, red onions and extra mozzarella.

Platinum Evening Buffet

£14.95 pp

A selection of sandwiches with:

- Prawns Marie Rose
- Smoked cheddar and chutney (*v*)
- Chicken Caesar

Honey and mustard cocktail sausages

Classic Greek salad (*v*)

Tomato couscous salad (*v*)

Special recipe coleslaw (*v*)

Smoked salmon platter

Balsamic and beetroot salad (*v*)

Crisps and nuts

Gold Evening Buffet

£9.95 pp

A selection of sandwiches with:

- Prawns Marie Rose
- Smoked cheddar and chutney (*v*)
- Chicken Caesar

Honey and mustard cocktail sausages

Roasted pepper and cheese tart (*v*)

Crisps and nuts (*v*)

Potato and chive salad (*v*)

Silver Evening Buffet

£5.95 pp

A selection of sandwiches with:

- Prawns Marie Rose
- Free-range egg mayonnaise (*v*)
- Chicken and tomato

Honey and mustard cocktail sausages

Crisps and nuts

Barbeque Buffets

Sizzling selections

Why not entertain in the sunshine with one of our superb barbeque buffets?

Barbeque Selection 1

£17.95 pp

Fresh from the BBQ

Thai spiced swordfish steaks

Chargrilled rib eye steaks

Marinated Mediterranean vegetable skewers (v)

Award-winning sausages

Cajun-spiced chicken drumsticks

Salads

Crayfish and prawn cocktail with a cherry tomato salad

Homemade coleslaw (v)

Potato, chive and crème fraîche salad (v)

Red onion and tomato salad with a balsamic dressing (v)

Platters

A selection of finger sandwiches (inc. v)

Feta cheese and red onion tart (v)

A selection of breads (v)

Selection of homemade chutneys (v)

Desserts

Homemade chocolate brownie

Lemon Tree baked raspberry cheesecake

Barbeque Selection 2

£12.95 pp

Fresh from the BBQ

Mediterranean vegetable skewers (v)

Award-winning sausages

Cajun-spiced chicken drumsticks

Homemade burgers

Salads

Prawn cocktail with a cherry tomato salad

Homemade coleslaw (v)

Potato, chive and crème fraîche salad (v)

Red onion and tomato salad with a balsamic dressing (v)

Platters

Feta cheese and red onion tart (v)

A selection of breads (v)

Selection of homemade chutneys (v)

Desserts

Homemade chocolate brownie



Terms & Conditions

Please read carefully!

1. We require a deposit of 20 per cent of the estimated final bill.
2. All deposits are non refundable and non transferable.
3. All bookings are considered provisional until a deposit is received.
4. Bookings are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. We reserve the right to not issue a quotation if the requested booking would exceed our operational capacity.
5. If you reduce the booked number of meals within five days of the booking date, no refund will be given.
6. We will always do our best to accommodate an increase in booked numbers, but this is subject to availability.
7. Canapé bookings must be for a minimum of 25 people.
8. Only one cheque per booking deposit will be accepted.
9. The Lemon Tree reserves the right to substitute alternative food or drink if the items requested cannot conveniently be ordered. In such cases, prices may be subject to revision.
10. The Lemon Tree will be under no liability for any loss, damage or injury to a client's property or the property of the client's guests or other persons the client is responsible for. If Lemon Tree staff are asked to use a client's equipment, we shall not be held responsible for any damages or breakages.
11. Glass and crockery are counted after each event for loss or breakages. Clients are liable for all losses, breakages and damage of hire equipment.
12. If, due to events beyond The Lemon Tree's control, including, but not limited to war, an act of terrorism, strikes, lockouts, accidents, fire, blockade or ice, The Lemon Tree is unable to perform its obligation to the client, The Lemon Tree will be under no liability to the client for any loss or damage which may be incurred by that client.