



Among a flood of modern Japanese fusion experiments - actually very delicious! - Matsu goes back in history and presents a more traditional taste experience, offering authentic Japanese cuisine in Abu Dhabi.

The location is splendid for a night out!

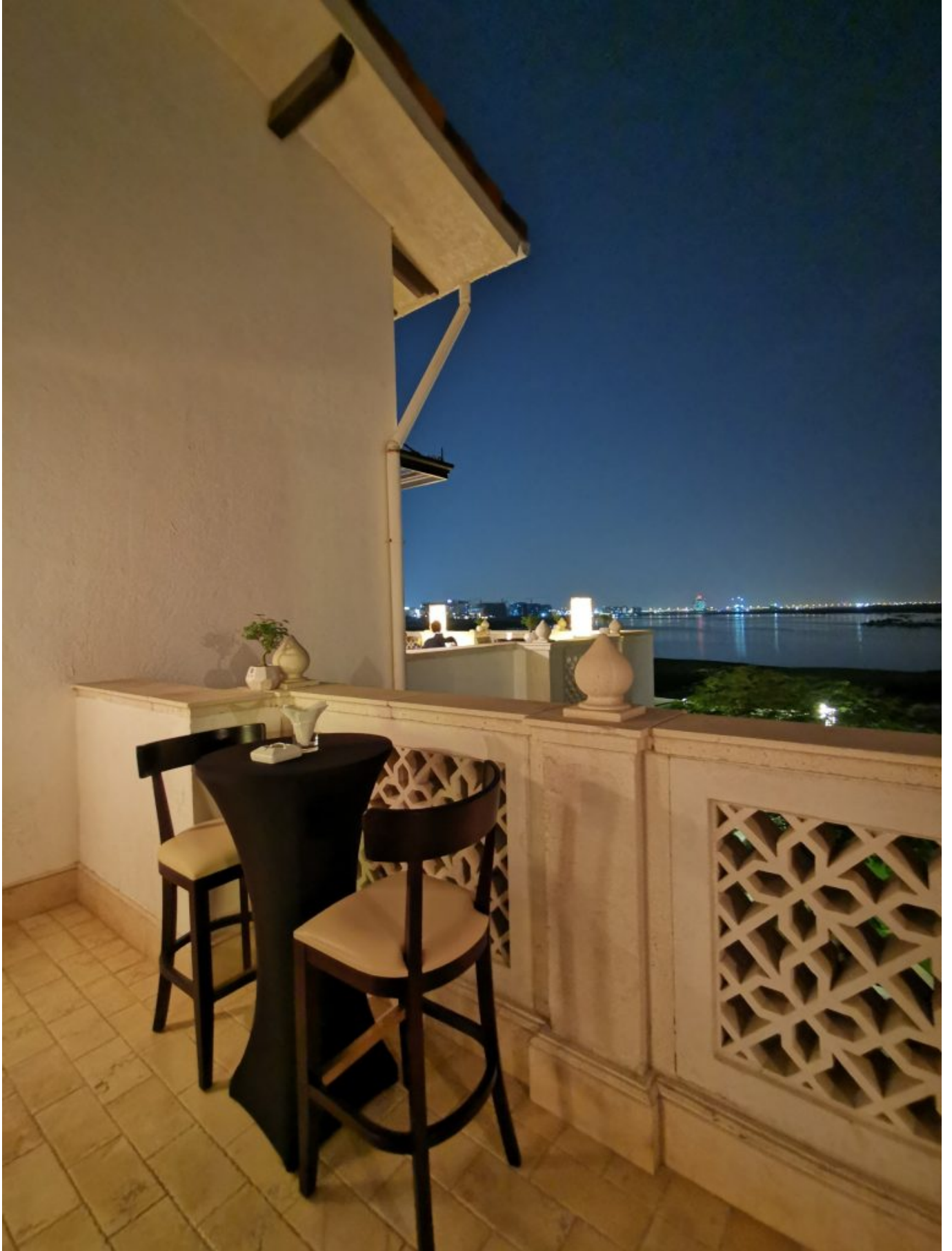
Perched on the upper floor of the Yas Links Golf Club, nestled among various rooms and open-air terraces of the mature white Spanish-style Club House, fresh-air dining is wonderful this time of year.





Matsu at Yas Links in Abu Dhabi

An almost labyrinthine network of small terraces ensures you will find a secret nook for your dining pleasure.





Matsu at Yas Links in Abu Dhabi

Or you may choose the larger main terrace.





Although the interior is equally appealing,





Matsu at Yas Links in Abu Dhabi

or simply perch yourself at the fully-stocked bar...





The dining experience is classy, and the service is stellar.



Matsu's menu is traditional, and I suppose few Abu Dhabi residents - other than those originally from Japan - understand exactly what's going on, and so it's best perhaps to allow the Chef to provide guidance, or to attend one of the themed nights.

Sakazuki Night is on Tuesdays, and so we joined in with glee!





As was explained by the charming wait staff, dressed in Japanese attire, Sakazuki is a bonding ceremony, usually involving Sake, the Japanese rice wine - and for the occasion at Matsu, a set menu is presented as well as three drinks.

Non-alcoholic options are available, and very nicely mixed.





Matsu at Yas Links in Abu Dhabi

The starter platters were a curious collection of bite-sized appetizers, including fresh and zingy mini-salads, and other morsels.



These were followed by a sushi and maki and sashimi plate.







The fresh air and outdoor seating made for a lovely evening, with views over the natural mangroves - deliciousness as time flies while having fun, and before we knew it the meal was over!



Sayonara! And we'll be back to explore the menu deeper, and to gain an appreciation of Japan's culinary heritage in traditional fashion embraced in a refined silver service ambiance.





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