



## Timo

► **Location** 13 Allandale Road, Stoneygate, Leicester, LE2 2DA  
**t:** 0844 502 7380 **w:** www.timorestaurant.co.uk

A fusion of the traditional and the contemporary makes Timo an Italian dining spot that will please all, whether you're looking to enjoy classic cuisine or try something a little different. Recently revamped, Timo is somewhere you will feel equally welcome to pop by for a quick coffee as a full three-course meal. In true Italian style, Timo offers personal service, fresh homemade fare and a relaxed environment. You might begin with an antipasti platter featuring a selection of fine Italian cured meats, pickles and toasted homemade bread, or oven-baked scallops in breadcrumbs and pesto. Continue with a pizza topped with tomatoes, pesto, pecorino, mascarpone, tomato sauce and mozzarella, a homemade pasta dish such as spaghetti carbonara, or one of the many new gluten-free and vegetarian dishes. Be sure to take advantage of the superb offers too – the Monday and Tuesday deal that includes a complimentary bottle of wine when two or more dine is particularly popular.

**Open:** Mon-Sat 10.30am-3pm, 5.30pm-late; Sun 5.45pm-late

Italian



Le

£18 to £27

## Cheikho's

► **Location** 9 Leicester Road, Oadby, LE2 5BD **t:** 0844 502 8238

The inviting candlelit atmosphere of this bijou bistro in the heart of Oadby is the perfect accompaniment to the authentic Italian cuisine that is its speciality. The menu here is reassuringly concise – testament to the fact that each dish is finely honed and freshly cooked to order – yet offers an excellent range, including a dedicated vegetarian selection and a regularly changing specials board that showcases seasonal dishes. The lamb shank I enjoyed for my main course was similarly well executed – the meat practically melted off the bone into a sauce that was rich with red wine and rosemary. My partner's chicken, basil and mushroom pasta dish was yet another lesson in balancing simple ingredients to create a dish that is refined yet in keeping with its rustic roots.

Cheikho's has a winning formula of traditional Italian food served in a welcoming and intimate setting. Pay a visit and experience its charms for yourself.

**Open:** Tues-Sat 6.30pm-10pm

Italian



Le

£22 to £27

## Don Leone

► **Location** 56-58 Queens Road, Leicester, LE2 1TU **t:** 0844 502 8036  
**w:** www.donleoneitalian.com **e:** don-leone@hotmail.co.uk

Italian cuisine is all about showcasing fresh, seasonal ingredients using traditional techniques and classic flavour combinations. This popular eatery in Leicester's Clarendon Park area has perfected this philosophy and boasts a varied menu that's bursting with tasty Italian favourites. My starter of pan-seared scallops with pea and mint purée and crispy pancetta was every bit as fresh and delicious as it sounds. I followed with hearty lasagne al forno, a true Italian classic, and can confirm that Don Leone's version is utter perfection. Other offerings include delicious pizzas, crisp salads and a regularly changing roster of dishes that can be found on the specials board. The laid-back, welcoming atmosphere of this restaurant makes it a great spot for relaxed lunches and dinner with friends. For bigger groups, there's a function room available upstairs, from which you can watch the hustle and bustle of colourful Queens Road.

**Open:** Mon noon-3pm, 6pm-10pm; Tues-Fri 11am-3pm, 6pm-10pm; Sat 10am-10pm; Sun 10am-3pm

Italian



Le

£20 to £35