



MARCEL'S

BY ROBERT WIEDMAIER

As Delicious As Ever

*Through nearly five Inaugurations and 18 years, chef Robert Wiedmaier's
Marcel's maintains its spot at the top of DC fine dining*

Marcel's by chef Robert Wiedmaier has reigned at the zenith of fine dining in Washington since opening in 1999. Through its elegant Franco-Flemish cuisine, fine wines and superb service, Wiedmaier and his loyal team have garnered top awards and critical praise for nearly 18 years—a true feat in a city that is as dynamic and ever-changing as its administrations.

December 2016, *The Washington Post's* revered food critic Tom Sietsema named it among his top splurge-worthy destinations, with a “dreamy” atmosphere from its “thick white linens that cushion your elbows to a subdued color scheme that brings to mind oysters, pearls and champagne.” He touches on the finessed presentation of delectable dishes such as the “**Mussels gratin** with tomato fondue and **salmon carpaccio** worthy of a gold frame.” Brunch items, like *Aunt Lila's Pancakes*, are among his favorites with “tufts of vanilla whipped cream, a shower of berries, a dusting of powdered sugar and a last-minute brush of butter [that] further elevate the eye-opener to a breakfast hall of fame.”

Just years earlier, in 2013, Sietsema gave Marcel's a glowing review and coveted 3.5-star rating following a stunning renovation. The results proved that it can remain a bastion of time-honored fine dining traditions while staying fresh. He urges readers to “make one of your choices **sea urchin flan**,” explaining that the “savory custard shot through with vermouth and thyme and finished with sautéed lobster and glinting caviar, is a glorious ode to Poseidon.” He adds to “ask for the buttery **langoustine** and crisp **sweetbreads**, a beautiful marriage of surf and turf arranged on a swipe of sweet pea puree and dappled with garlicky tomato concassé.”

The powers that be in Washington unanimously agree on its status. In June, the Restaurant Association of Metropolitan Washington [RAMW] awarded Marcel's with the 2016 RAMMY for Formal Fine Dining. No stranger to RAMMY Awards, it also earned Wine Program of the Year in 2013 and Wiedmaier himself was named Washington's Chef of the Year in 2009.

With almost two decades of excellence, Marcel's continues to shine brighter than ever.

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