



170 - 4775 Blundell Road (at Railway), Richmond | 604-285-9959 **MiniMe Pizza** **ENTER TO WIN** **BLUNDELL**

LOOK INSIDE FOR THE RESULTS OF THE SEVENTH ANNUAL RICHMOND BEST OF RICHMOND READER POLL

Black Press

THE RICHMOND REVIEW

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Robin Eder-Warren and Jacqueline Ko are checking out the Best of Richmond.

Richard Lam photo

People & Places



Best cursed place

Voodoo Palace inside Aberdeen Centre is hardly cursed. The 100-square-foot second-floor shop has been a hex of a success, in fact. Offering a wide-array of voodoo dolls that are equal measure cute and creepy—there were no bulk pins or needles for sale nearby—the owners have reportedly been pleasantly surprised by the store's faithful—dare we say occult-like—following. Each of the dolls are “hand-writted from a single string of cotton or line threads,” according to the company’s website at voodooopalace.com. There are several series of dolls available, each meant to “meet all your spiritual needs.” There’s the Love Series, which give the owners “all the power and fortune they need to strike the beloved ones’ heart.” There’s also the Guardian, Antidote, Strength and

Spell Series, the latter including the Witch doll, which helps the owner “keep stupid people at bay, mean people at home and jerks in the dark!” The most popular in the store: a blue-caped dracula, with its lips sewn shut, and a ninja doll, complete with a sheathed sword. Oh, by the way: it’s all a bunch of nonsense, says the company on its website. “VooDoo Palace dolls are purely our expression of imagination, creativity, and appreciation of anything cute. They are NOT for real and possess no curse effect whatsoever.” Turns out kids like them as fashion accessories or even key chains.

Information Services since January 2008. I love offering my time and help giving back to the community of Richmond in a perfect fit that suits me and VRIS allows me to do just that. They really appreciate their volunteers and the contribution they make to the organization. They have great staff members that work excellently with all their volunteers. I can't say enough wonderful things about them. Each staff member have all of MY VOTES! Thank you VRIS!!!"



Martin van den Hemel photo

Diosa, meet Daiso.

Best neighbourly anagram

Good luck finding two other side-by-side stores in Richmond that couldn't be more different and simultaneously the same. At Aberdeen Centre, there's the two-dollar store Daiso, two-storeys of cheap goodies, from houseware to toys to stationary

and knickknacks, and everything in between. But next to Daiso's second-floor entrance sits a lingerie store, named Diosa. Consisting of the same letters, but in a different order, that of course makes Diosa an anagram of Daiso.

Lezu Japanese Restaurant, Alderbridge Way Poppo, 1060-11660 3 Hwy.

MI, Lemongrass, 8180 Ter Hwy. In, 130-11080 No. 5 Rd. In Nam, 6820 No. 3 Rd.

Fry, that Bakery, 6111 London

Sweet Spot, 12000 No. 1 Rd. **ston Bakery**, 12231 No. 1 Rd.

Selection, es Gastropub, 5031 Hwy. **house Pub**, 6031 Blundell

Thack Cook House, 3900 St.

kfast or Brunch, 170-11380 Steveston Hwy. 5780 No 3 Rd., 10551 St. Jr.

sa Cafe, 3791 Bayview St.,

et, Jiffet, River Rock Casino 11 River Rd.

e Bunch Vegetarian, t. 6611 Buswell St. **aya Restaurant**, 4011 No.

er, Spot, 5880 & 6551 No. 3 Rd. **ly**, 12300 Steveston Hwy.

Best Chocoholic Experience

1. Sinfully the Best, 13-3993 Chatham St.
2. Le Chocolatere, 160-7971 Alderbridge Way
3. Chocolaterie Bernard Callebaut, 4120 No. 2 Rd.



"It has the best food court with great dishes and variety!"

Best Cocktail Lounge

1. (tie) Blue Canoe, 140-3866 Bayview St.
1. (tie) Chop, 10251 St. Edwards Dr.
2. Cactus Club, 5500 No. 3 Rd.
3. Browns Socialhouse, 11660 Steveston Hwy.

Best Coffee Shop (Chain)

1. Starbucks, numerous locations
2. Waves, 120-12231 First Ave. & 5951 No 3 Rd.
3. Tim Hortons, various locations.

Best Coffee (Independent)

1. Bean and Beyond, 120-12420 No. 1 Rd.
2. Cafe Espresso, 1230 Steveston Hwy.

- Meats, 12231 No. 1 Rd.
3. Save on Foods, 11666 Steveston Hwy, 3673 Westminster Hwy.

Best Dessert

1. Sweet Spot Bakery, 110 - 12000 First Ave.
2. Diplomat Bakery, 6111 London Rd.
3. Gudrun Tasting Room, 3500 Moncton St.

Best Dim Sum

1. Sun Sui Wah, 102-4940 No. 3 Rd.
2. Kimn Seafood Restaurant, 7900 Westminster Hwy.
3. The Jade Seafood Restaurant, 8511 Alexandra Rd.

Best Fine Dining

1. Tapanade Bistro, 3711 Bayview St.
2. Blue Canoe, 140-3866 Bayview St.
3. Chop, 10251 St. Edwards Dr.



"I LOVE Blue Canoe. The menu changes each season and is a thoughtful use of fresh, local food. The staff have always been welcoming and take the time to get to know client preferences. The deck is my absolute favorite anywhere. What a great place! Very well run."

Best Fish & Chips

1. Pajo's Fish & Chips, 3500 Bayview St. and Garry Point Park
2. Dave's Fish and Chips, 3460 Moncton St.
3. Friendly Banners Restaurant, 10151 No. 3 Rd.

Best Food Court

1. Richmond Centre, 6551 No. 3 Rd.
2. Aberdeen Centre, 4151 Hazelbridge Way
3. Lansdowne Centre, 5300 No. 3 Rd.

Best French Fries

1. McDonald's, various locations
2. Pajo's Fish & Chips, 3500 Bayview St. and Garry Point Park
3. New York Fries, Richmond Centre