

Restaurant at the Standard

-- City's Best 2006

Hipster coffee shop offers comfort 24/7.

Summary



The Standard Hotel
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From the Editors

At a hotel that actually pays female models to writhe around on display in a glass box donning only their skivvies, The Standard is digging deeper these days to be perceived as a place with more tangible pleasures -- namely through dining -- and more specifically, the in-house coffee shop. Beyond the big banquettes and throwback bar stools that keep it kitschy cool, the '50s-style diner interior has a desert-like, mid-century modern design complete with cacti and flying saucer-light fixtures hovering above the tables. What's on the tables is nothing but sheer goodness: An intriguing assortment of international specialties ranging from sushi to a meaty lasagna, chicken quesadilla, sirloin burger, Thai beef salad and Tandoori salmon. Served all day, and all night (in case your hummus craving acts up at 4AM), the menu is sure to leave no one behind when it comes to pleasing -- and that certainly includes dessert hounds, who appreciate the thick marshmallow coating around the s'mores chocolate layer cake or the cauldron of chocolate fondue. Also, if you want a view of the cityscape on the side, ask to dine on the pool deck. And if you want a view inside the unisex bathroom, also go for the pool deck -- where you can ogle silhouettes of people primping in the mirror -- vital nourishment for your healthy curiosity about mankind. -- Gregg Rosenzweig (Photo: Gregg Rosenzweig)