

Taiwan restaurant serves crocodile-foot ramen

6th July 2023



Ramen is becoming more and more popular around the world. It is a noodle dish of Chinese-style wheat noodles served in a rich broth. Common flavours are soy sauce and miso, and common toppings include sliced pork, dried seaweed, bamboo shoots and spring

onions. A restaurant in Taiwan has added a new ingredient – a crocodile foot. The Witch Cat Kwai restaurant in Yunlin has named its dish "thick witch crocodile ramen". Photos of the ramen have gone viral on social media. Internet users are calling it "Godzilla ramen". The restaurant's owner told CNN Travel that the ramen is very popular. There is a long waiting list to eat at the restaurant. It is fully booked until the end of August.

The Godzilla ramen is not cheap. One bowl costs about \$50. The chef said the soup and the crocodile foot take about three hours to cook. He prepares just 10 feet a day. The chef uses 40 types of fresh ingredients. First, he cleans the foot and rubs it with alcohol. Then, he covers it with a variety of spices. Finally, he puts the foot in the ramen broth for two hours. The owner said some customers were "afraid" to try the dish. However, many others really want to try it. The chef said: "A lot of customers say crocodile meat tastes like chicken, but it is more springy, soft and elastic than chicken." In Taiwan, it is legal to farm and eat crocodiles that are not protected species.

Sources: people.com / cnn.com / dailymail.co.uk

Writing

We should not kill crocodiles for food and fashion. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

ramen / popular / noodles / broth / soy sauce / miso / toppings / crocodile / August / Godzilla / soup / ingredients / spices / customers / dish / chicken / protected species

True / False

- 1) The article says ramen is becoming the world's most popular food. T / F
- 2) Ramen has toppings that include winter onions. T / F
- 3) Photos of the crocodile-foot ramen quickly spread across social media. T / F
- 4) The crocodile ramen restaurant is currently fully booked. T / F
- 5) One bowl of the crocodile-foot ramen costs about \$50. T / F
- 6) The chef uses 10 types of fresh ingredients in the crocodile-foot ramen. T / F
- 7) Some of the restaurant's customers are afraid to try the ramen. T / F
- 8) Many customers say the crocodile meat tastes like salmon. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. popular | a. called |
| 2. rich | b. typical |
| 3. common | c. breed |
| 4. named | d. inexpensive |
| 5. fully | e. lawful |
| 6. cheap | f. well-liked |
| 7. chef | g. scared |
| 8. afraid | h. totally |
| 9. legal | i. full-flavoured |
| 10. farm | j. cook |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think of ramen?
- b) What are your favourite noodle dishes?
- c) What do you think of soy sauce and miso?
- d) Why does all unusual meat taste like chicken?
- e) What do you think of eating a crocodile foot?
- f) What food do you upload on social media?
- g) What are your favourite restaurants?
- h) Would you like to try the thick witch crocodile ramen?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Ramen is becoming more and more | a. until the end of August |
| 2. wheat noodles served in | b. include sliced pork |
| 3. common toppings | c. variety of spices |
| 4. There is a long waiting list to | d. a rich broth |
| 5. It is fully booked | e. like chicken |
| 6. One bowl | f. species |
| 7. The chef uses 40 types | g. popular |
| 8. he covers it with a | h. eat at the restaurant |
| 9. crocodile meat tastes | i. of fresh ingredients |
| 10. protected | j. costs about \$50 |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- What do you know about ramen?
- What spices does food really need?
- What's the most unusual food you've eaten?
- Why might people be afraid to try the crocodile ramen?
- Is it wrong to kill crocodiles for meat and fashion?
- What's your favourite food?
- What questions would you like to ask the chef?

Spelling

- Ramen is becoming more and more pluraop
- noodles served in a rich rbtoh
- moconm toppings
- added a new enriendgti
- Photos of the ramen have gone riavl
- It is fluyl booked
- He pseaperr just 10 feet a day
- he covers it with a yeviatr
- some cotussrme were "afraid" to try the dish
- it is more ignprys
- soft and elitacs
- protected eicsesp

Answers – Synonym Match

1. f	2. i	3. b	4. a	5. h
6. d	7. j	8. g	9. e	10. c

Role Play

Role A – Tomatoes

You think tomatoes are the best ingredients for cooking. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ingredients. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): onions, garlic or eggs.

Role B – Onions

You think onions are the best ingredients for cooking. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ingredients. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): tomatoes, garlic or eggs.

Role C – Garlic

You think garlic is the best ingredient for cooking. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ingredients. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): onions, tomatoes or eggs.

Role D – Eggs

You think eggs are the best ingredients for cooking. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ingredients. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): onions, garlic or tomatoes.

Speaking – Ingredients

Rank these with your partner. Put the best ingredients at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| • Garlic | • Mushrooms |
| • Tomatoes | • Cream |
| • Onions | • Cabbage |
| • Chilli | • Eggs |

Answers – True False

1	F	2	F	3	T	4	T	5	T	6	F	7	T	8	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.