



Nowruz Menu

(a Persian New Year experience)

(for in-house dining only)

Available March 18-April 1

Appetizer *(choose one)*

AASH RESHTEH

classic aromatic Persian noodle soup with fresh herbs & beans, garnished with whey, sauteed garlic & mint and fried onions

KOOFTEH TABRIZI

ground beef meatball stuffed with yellow split peas, walnut and prune, simmered and served in a tomato saffron broth

KOOKOO SABZI

(symbolizing renewal and growth)

a vibrant, green chopped fresh herb, leek, walnut, barberry and egg frittata, served with Persian bread

NOWRUZ SALAD

roasted beet, Persian cucumber, red onion and feta cheese, topped with an infused fresh herb, olive oil & grape vinegar dressing, served in a bibb lettuce cup

Entree *(choose one)*

SABZI POLO BA MAHI

(a traditional Nowruz dish)

lightly breaded and pan-fried fresh cod filet served over our herbed Sabzi rice and drizzled with lemon butter sauce

RESHTEH POLO

(symbolizing the unraveling of life's destiny for the new year)

a fragrant Persian dish of saffron rice cooked with roasted wheat noodles (reshteh), onion, raisins and chopped dates, topped with roasted young chicken

BAGHALI GHATOGH *(Vegetarian)*

traditional fava bean, garlic, dill and egg stew from Northern Iran, served with our basmati rice

DOH JOOR KOOBIDEH

one skewer of **ground beef kabob** & one skewer of **ground lamb kabob**, flame-grilled and served with saffron rice and grilled tomatoes

Dessert *(choose one)*

SAFFRON ROSE HALVA NAPOLEON

a luxurious delicate, flaky puff pastry filled with the rich, aromatic sweetness of Persian halva and rose cardamom cream, dusted with chopped pistachio and dried rose

BASTANI AKBAR MASHTI

a rich, creamy Persian rosewater and saffron ice cream, sprinkled with chopped pistachio *(optional)* and served with a wafer



What is Nowruz?

Nowruz, the Persian New Year, is worldwide celebrated on the first day of Spring, at the equinox (this year it is March 20). Nowruz is mostly celebrated in Persian cultural regions, where pupils get a two-week holiday in order to take part in this traditional family feast and celebration. People visit their friends and neighbors, exchanging small gifts and best wishes.

The celebrations begin on the Tuesday night before the Spring equinox. It is called **Chaharshanbeh Soori**, and is a **Persian fire festival** where people **light bonfires** and jump over them, symbolizing **letting go of illness, bad luck, and negativity** while taking in **strength, health, and energy** from the fire. It's a lively and ancient tradition that symbolizes **cleansing, renewal, and the welcoming of spring**.

An important tradition is the collection of the **Haft-Seen**, which means "seven sees". A seen is the sound of the Persian letter "S". These seven pieces of decoration for the Persian tabletop symbolize a Zoroastrian virtue. **Rebirth, Affluence, Love, Health, Beauty, Sunrise and Patience**. These are the seven wishes for the New year that starts on Nowruz Day.

On the 13th day of the New Year is another ancient Persian festival (**Sizdah Bedar**) marking the end of the Nowruz celebrations. It is known as **Nature's Day**, and people spend time outdoors to embrace nature, let go of bad luck and welcome happiness for the year ahead.

Come in and see **Divan's** version of the Haft Seen (available March 18 through April 1) and enjoy some traditional Nowruz dishes! Our regular menu is also available.

