



CAFE REVIEW BY LOUISE SCHWARTZKOFF

Address *Sotto on West, 67 West Street, North Sydney, 8065 9792.*

Open *Monday-Saturday, 6.30am-4.30pm; Sunday, all-day breakfast only, 8am-2pm.*

On weekends at cafes all over Sydney, diners sit down to endless variations of the same old breakfast menu. Eggs, pancakes, bowls of muesli, fresh fruit and, more often than not, mushrooms on toast. All decent but hardly imaginative.

Things are different at Sotto on West. Along with the usual suspects, this airy corner cafe offers quinoa and soy grain sourdough, eggs benedict served in hollowed tomatoes and in-house organic pork sausages. We choose the sauteed mushrooms with spinach, walnuts, pesto, lemon and goat's feta (\$14.50) and the smoked ocean trout and spinach omelet (\$16), topped with chives fresh from a herb garden out the back.

Both are terrific and come with a choice of toast from Brasserie Bread. As a smiling waiter takes our coffee orders (\$3.50) he notices our interest in the light fittings – a series of coloured teapots, cups and saucers suspended over small globes. “We made them,” he says. “You need a special drill to punch a hole for the wire.” Much thought has gone into this place and it has paid off. It is relaxed and beautifully fitted out. We’ll be back soon.