

北京ガア子の朝陽区な日々

慕田峪『The Schoolhouse』に行った

Today a colleague of mine took me to a restaurant near the Mutianyu Great Wall which is called The Schoolhouse.

www.theschoolhouseatmutianyu.com

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As the name suggests, this restaurant and glass studio have been created by the remodeling of a former schoolhouse.

The owner is an American (another theory has him as Australian). Nearby he also has a noodle specialty shop and a place of lodging. The lodge offers better prices and greater comfort than "Commune by the Great Wall", and is quite popular.



Big stone and signboard marker



Flowers blooming in the clean, well-serviced garden



Main building and courtyard

A surfaced road leads all the way to your arrival. And while modern Chinese tend to like big restaurants, for foreigners (The Schoolhouse's) remodeled sense of the old Chinese coziness is very appealing. The outside terrace is also something which foreigners like. And the restroom(s?) impressed us as being as clean as those of a hotel.

The staff speak English well and provide pleasant service with smiling faces.

In the past, even five-star hotels in Chinese cities provided awful service. There is no term for "service industry" in China -- or so I thought, but clearly it's not a question of national character so much as one of training.

The menu items are normal Western cooking, but tasty. (The price for pasta is 78 Yuan; main dish is 100 Yuan.)

After sightseeing at the Great Wall this is an excellent place to take a break. As it has become quite popular by word of mouth, I'd recommend you make a reservation for lunch.