

One bite and you'll be hooked

La Marina offers more than just seafood

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Taste Matters
**GEORGINA
CROUTH**

LA MARINA is the epicurean's delight – a trusted supplier to chefs and caterers around the city as well as home cooks alike. But while the name suggests its mainstay is seafood, they also supply chocolates, caviar, charcuterie, pestos and pastes, French imports, kitchen accessories, artisanal cheeses, Mauritian seabass, scallops, fresh seasonal truffles and just about everything your heart might desire.

If they don't stock it, they'll source it: hands-on owner Kirsten Jooste is up for the challenge of finding ingredients from around the world.

Having started back in 2003 in Strydom Park, Randburg, the operation has grown into a vast enter-

prise, which necessitated the move to the Modderfontein office park. Don't be put off by the location: a quick turn off the highway near the Greenstone shopping mall, and you're there.

La Marina expanded its offering two years ago to include a retail outlet, a deli and an eatery, which is really a few neat, practical tables set up in the deli area surrounded by the sushi station, deli fridges and all that gorgeous produce.

They have a wine and malt licence so sit-down diners can order craft beers as well as local wines and prosecco. They're open on Saturdays too, but close at noon which gives you just enough time to enjoy a quick brunch, or champagne and oysters, and prices are ridiculously low. What I love is that as a supplier

ON A ROLL: Sushi is among the many temptations that will be hard to resist at La Marina.

of the city's best produce, they also know how to prepare it.

A prego with chips will set you back R63, six black tiger prawns and chips R110. Scottish salmon strips in wasabi butter and chips

goes for R125, seabass and chips for R125 and grilled abalone and rice for R105.

Besides the imports, they stock some of our top local cheeseries, including Belnori, Datewood, Healey's and Langbaken.

Dessert is simple – tubs of Häagen-Dazs ice cream.

It's all fresh and delicious. Don't

