

**China Coast Wine Bar & Grill
Hong Kong International Airport
Chek Lap Kok**

Reviewed by Kyle Potvin

While working recently at the new Hong Kong International Airport at Chek Lap Kok, I had several opportunities to eat at restaurants in and around the airport/hotel complex. One place in particular, the China Coast Wine Bar & Grill (from this point forward the CCWBG), became my favorite.

After experiencing what can only be labeled as severe traveler's food rejection after a brief stay in the downtown district of Kowloon, I found myself desperately seeking some food of a more familiar flavor. The CCWBG is located in the Regal Airport Hotel next to the airport terminal building. It is said to be inspired by some of the well-known steakhouses in New York and Chicago and I found that to be the case.

The first thing you notice as you enter the restaurant is that the path draws you through what I termed "the closet," a glass enclosed room serving as a wine cellar. A very extensive collection of bottles adorned the room from floor to ceiling, each bottle displayed with its name, year, and of course price. Apparently, if a patron wishes to imbibe in a night of wine drinking, this is the place to go. They will even sell bottles to take back to your room! Thankfully my wife had accompanied me for part of my trip and was there to restrain me.

After venturing further into the establishment, we were greeted politely and shown to a table. Since this is a steakhouse, I decided to order my typical litmus test for all steakhouses, a filet. It was excellent, even though it was slightly undercooked (it was either undercooked or my waiter misunderstood me). Along with my filet I had a glass of house red wine, which I believe was a Shiraz, and some mashed potatoes. After washing everything down with a second glass of wine I found myself extremely satisfied.

If you get a chance to spend some time in Hong Kong, and are at the airport for any time, I recommend having a meal at the CCWBG. One word of advice though, bring another person along with you to help restrain the wine enthusiast in you and to make sure that everything is understood between yourself and the waiter. At one point in the meal when asked if I would like another glass of wine, my wife thought they were asking if I would like to be washed. Fortunately, the CCWBG is not that type of place.