



Robert Louis Stevenson (1850-94)

Of the many famous sons and daughters of Edinburgh, Robert Louis Stevenson is among the best known. Most people have read *Treasure Island* and *Kidnapped*. What is less generally known, perhaps, is that Stevenson was a fine writer of short stories and essays, and a formidable journalist. He was also a lively letter writer. Stevenson was always a fine stylist, able to tell an exciting tale.

He was born in 1850 at 8 Howard Place, Inverleith, a short distance from the Royal Botanic Gardens. In 1853 the family moved across the way to 1 Inverleith Terrace. Though larger, the new house was damp and more exposed than the Stevenson's former home and medical advice suggested the family move to a more salubrious home. When Louis (as he was always called) was about seven the family moved up the hill to 17 Heriot Row.

Intended for lighthouse engineering, like his father, Robert rebelled. Even the law course at Edinburgh University was not to his taste. He made a few attempts to practise, and did have one client, but he regarded the completion of his studies as a fulfilment of a bargain with his father. Nevertheless he was very proud of a brass plate reading R L Stevenson Advocate which was placed at No. 17. Writing was his passion. Stevenson was a bohemian. He did not share his family's strong religious beliefs. Yet his first printed work was *The Pentland Rising*, set in the seventeenth century, which dealt with the Covenanters.

He fell in love with a married American woman, Fanny Osbourne. They were married in 1880, after she obtained a divorce. Shortly afterwards, Stevenson was diagnosed with tuberculosis. For the next few years the family travelled. Stevenson wrote voraciously but it was never easy. Excessive writing spells produced strong emotions and in turn, serious haemorrhages.

He travelled widely in the United States and the islands of the Pacific, finally settling in Samoa. Although in the Pacific, he wrote stories set mainly in Scotland. When he died suddenly, of a cerebral haemorrhage, he was only 44 years old. He was writing *The Weir of Hermiston*.

In Samoan: Tusi means 'to write'; Tala means 'stories' therefore; 'Tusitala' means 'Writer of Stories'.

Writing to Anne Jenkins on 25 May 1892 Stevenson explained: There are many judicial functions and TUSITALA (write - tale - really perhaps write - information - my native name) has to judge many causes and discriminate between different shades of falsehood...

dinner menu

Tusitala
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Tel: 0131 445 2233 www.tusitala.co.uk

Our policy is to constantly focus on quality of prime ingredients, freshness and use of local produce whenever possible. Whether through ingredient or recipe, the prevalent theme in all our dishes (most of which are made to order) is traditional with a contemporary presentation.

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SOMETHING TO SHARE

BREAD - IN HOUSE BREAD WITH DIPPING OILS	£1.50
OLIVE SELECTION	£2.50
PIZZA STYLE GARLIC BREAD	£3.60
PIZZA STYLE GARLIC BREAD WITH MOZZARELLA.....	£4.60

APPETISERS

SOUP OF THE DAY with home baked bread.....	£3.95
SPANISH TAPAS SELECTION	£5.95
MOULES MARINIÈRE - in white wine, cream, garlic and herb broth and home baked bread	£6.25
GRATIN OF SMOKED HADDOCK AND SMOKED SALMON - with crusty bread.....	£6.25
TRIO OF PÂTÉS - chicken liver, smoked fish and baked aubergine and courgette pâtés with a red onion relish	£5.50
BAKED CAPSICUM PEPPER - filled with Moroccan couscous, topped with baby mozzarella	£5.50
HOMEMADE FISH CAKE with sweet chilli sauce (please ask our server today's choice)	£5.50
FRESH ASPARAGUS SPEARS - coated with lemon and lime mayonnaise with chopped olives	£5.75
POMODORO BRUSCHETTA - wood roasted garlic bread, basil and tomato salsa.....	£4.95
BAKED GOATS CHEESE ON BRUSCHETTA - with fresh tomato and basil salsa	£5.50
PIZZA STYLE GARLIC BREAD	£3.60
PIZZA STYLE GARLIC BREAD - with mozzarella.....	£4.60

PASTA

Choose as a starter, primi or main course	primi/starter	main
PENNE NAPOLI - tomato, basil, garlic and white wine, shaved parmesan	£6.25	£7.50
LINGUINE BOSCAIOLA - mushrooms, shaved ham, white wine and cream	£7.25	£10.50
SPAGHETTI WITH ITALIAN MEATBALLS - tomato, rosemary and paprika sauce and shaved Parmesan	£7.25	£10.25
LINGUINE MARINARA - fresh salmon, prawns, mussels and squid with olive oil, garlic, chilli and shaved parmesan	£8.50	£11.50
PENNE PASTA - with baby spinach, garlic and cream topped with chargrilled artichoke and parmesan	£7.95	£10.95

SALADS

NEW YORK CAESAR SALAD WITH CHICKEN AND BACON	£9.95
PRIME BEEF AND STILTON SALAD with Horseradish Mayo	£10.25
A TRIO OF SCOTTISH SALMON PLATTER - hot smoked salmon, poached salmon and smoked salmon with beetroot chutney, lemon mayo, chefs salad and baby roast potatoes	£11.95
DEEP FRIED BRIE in breadcrumbs on a rocket and orange salad with redcurrant jelly.....	£9.95



MAINS

SEASONAL CATCH OF THE DAY - our staff will be pleased to describe today's seafood special. See our separate menu.

FILLET OF SCOTTISH SALMON baked in oatmeal with heather ale gravy, roast and baby potatoes and market vegetables	£13.95
WHOLE BAKED SEABASS - filled with a rocket, prawn and haddock mousse. roast and baby potatoes and market vegetables	£14.95
EAST COAST HADDOCK fresh from the market, deep fried in batter or natural breadcrumbs and served with mushy peas, fries and tartare sauce	£10.95
ROAST BREAST OF DUCK - with red berry, honey and port sauce, served with rosti potato and market vegetables	£14.95
SAMOAN CHARGRILLED CHICKEN BROCHETTES -marinated in herbs and spices served with coconut rice and Samoan Katsu sauce.....	£15.50
BRAISED LAMB SHANK in a red wine and mint gravy with mustard mash and market vegetables	£15.50
BAKED FILO PARCELS - filled with goats cheese, ratatouille of Mediterranean vegetables and roasted pine nuts with a tomato chutney and mixed tomato and leaf salad.....	£12.95
CHARGRILLED STEAK BURGER with the works - home made burger, tomato, bacon, pineapple, cheese, fried egg, salad and fries	£11.50
CERTIFIED SCOTCH CHARGRILLED RIB EYE STEAK - cooked to your liking, and served with tomato, mushrooms, onion rings and fries	£15.50
SAUCES - Au Poivre, Grain mustard, red wine and cream, Diane or Garlic Butter	extra £2.00

CHEF'S DISH OF THE DAY

Please ask our waiting staff for today's choice

SIDES

MIXED SALAD.....	£1.95
PIZZA STYLE GARLIC BREAD.....	£3.60
PIZZA STYLE GARLIC BREAD WITH MOZZARELLA.....	£4.60
FRENCH FRIES.....	£1.95
EXTRA SELECTION OF VEGETABLES	£2.25

WOOD FIRED PIZZAS

FIRE AND SMOKE - fiery jalapeño and roasted garlic with pepperoni, mozzarella and spicy tomato sauce.....	£10.50
MARGHERITA - tomato and basil sauce with mozzarella	£8.50
TUSITALA - black pudding, bacon, pineapple, tomato, rosemary and mozzarella	£10.50
QUATTRO STAGIONI - four seasons - Italian sausage, mixed seafood, mushrooms, peppers, tomato, basil and mozzarella.....	£10.50
CHICAGO DELI - chorizo, ham, chilli beef, tomato and mozzarella.....	£10.50
SAMOA - ham and pineapple, tomato, basil and mozzarella.....	£10.50
NEW YORKER - Italian meatballs, roasted onions, peppers, tomato and basil.....	£10.50
CALZONE - filled pizza with Italian sausage, anchovies, tomato, mushrooms and mozzarella	£10.70
CARDINALE - ham, chicken, tomato and mozzarella	£10.50
AMERICAN - pepperoni, sliced tomato, basil with mozzarella.....	£10.50
CONTADINI - sliced roasted potato, roasted onions, peppers, tomato, mozzarella and garlic oil	£9.25
TREASURE ISLAND - goats cheese, basil, sun blushed tomato and spinach	£9.95
EXTRA TOPPINGS - anchovies, pepperoni, mushrooms, pineapple, ham, olives, extra cheese and sliced tomatoes	£1.25

SENIORS MENU

We recognise that some of our senior citizens have a smaller appetite, therefore we offer a smaller portion of these items listed below for our retired customers

FILLET OF HADDOCK - with fries deep fried in batter.....	£6.75
or in natural breadcrumbs	£6.75
PENNE NAPOLI	£6.25
LINGUINE BOSCAIOLA	£7.25
SPAGHETTI with ITALIAN MEATBALLS.....	£7.25
LINGUINE MARINARA.....	£8.50
PENNE PASTA (V)	£7.95
WHOLETAIL SCAMPI - in natural breadcrumbs with salad and fries.....	£6.75
BREAST of CHICKEN - in a creamy Thai coconut sauce with rice or potatoes and vegetables.....	£6.95

Service charge is NOT included.

An optional 10% will be added to tables of six or more persons.

All tips go straight to our staff. Please feel free to reward your server accordingly.