

## é Café

★★★★★

**From the blue-ribbon reception in the rustic Eddé Yard, down to the last gulp, é Café is out-and-out perfection.**



The people behind Eddé Sands, Lebanon's most popular and luxurious wellness hotel and beach resort, have expanded their turf to spread their brilliance across the enchanting old souk of Jbeil. A beautiful outdoor area and a beautifully cosy interior make for an ideal year-round venue. The é Café is the embodiment of a perfect French bistro offering a small, yet impeccable menu, which

employs the finest ingredients one can lay hands on in Lebanon, whether the figs from Amchit, the fresh duck from Batroun or the home-grown herbs. But who needs a menu when it's summertime at é Café and the barbecue formula is up for grabs? Surely not the Time Out staff that have been longing for the taste of é's special cook-out all winter. The chef grills a shareable portion of rib steak (500g or 1kg) to your liking right in front of your eyes and carves it into slices of bliss, which he delicately lays



on a bed of grilled potato chunks deliciously peppered and scattered with tiny rings of heavenly moist grilled onions. Barbecue may sound like ordinary fare, but with every bite of é Café's grilled masterpiece, you'll grow more addicted to its goodness. As though prime angus beef and potatoes isn't enough refinement, a buttery dip and a divine sauce cèpe accompany the meal along with a large bowl of rocket salad succulently dressed with the subtle tang of fine balsamic vinegar. Since the grilling doesn't start until 9pm, you can start by sharing a bresaola pizza, which they wood-bake at the él Forno next door, superbly matched with a glass of homemade Kir. Waffles may be regarded as a breakfast meal in many cultures, but it would be a crime to leave é Café without sampling their version, the 'gauffre' with dark chocolate dip. You don't need to be a fan of waffles to savour every moment of it. A stomachful and a long drawn-out dinner later, you'll find yourself pronouncing on what you would want your last meal to be. (09 542224) Eddé Yard, Old Souk, Jbeil. Daily 12noon-12mid. Meal for two with drinks: LL130,000.