

Nagpur: A deliciously hearty breakfast story

We landed in Nagpur on our way to Kanha one early morning. A flight on a low-cost airline equals ravenous travellers. We needed some food and quickly. But in Nagpur? Yes, we could have done the down-the-road Udipi thing but didn't really feel like a *dosa*. Thankfully we had Google to rescue us and through it, I chanced upon an article about The Breakfast Story... and in a minute we were making our way there.

The Breakfast Story is a cute little place in the ground floor of a house. It feels like you are in someone's home

for a meal and that's the aim of the owners. The bunch of people milling around you look like friends or cousins running the business while mom and pop are in the kitchen! There are no grim,

disconnected waiters, but people who could very well be your neighbours. In a 'modern' restaurant, it is awesome to have someone like yourself talk you through the menu. It definitely adds

to the experience. There is the community table that Bombay is so used to now but in Nagpur it's huge. We sat next to a bunch of locals and chatted with them. This is one of the first-of-its-kind

places in Nagpur and people were waiting for more than 30 minutes for a table to sit. In a country of quick *dosas*, I was pleasantly surprised that large groups actually waited for a leisurely break-

fast. We had some scrambled eggs, a grilled sandwich, a mango shake and a caramel custard. Overall, great place, simple ambience and they also have outdoor seating. Quirks like the 'cartoon' menu card, the cartoons printed on the table top, the blackboard menu above the kitchen counter and the bill in a book (ours came in a Jiddu Krishnamurthy tome), are fun.

If you find yourself in Nagpur, I would definitely recommend the interesting and rather quirky The Breakfast Story!

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