

Yi Peng & Loy Krathong 2026: the food cheat sheet

 Late November 2026 · full-moon nights (check exact dates)

EAT THIS

- Khao soi early (the famous shops sell out by mid-afternoon on festival days), then krathong-side snacks along the river: sai ua sausage, grilled river fish, khao lam sticky rice in bamboo, and roti for the walk home.

THE PLAN

- Riverside restaurants take bookings weeks ahead for lantern nights and most add festival set menus.
- reserve the moment dates are confirmed.
- The Old City moat area stays walkable; Nawarat Bridge and the river banks are shoulder-to-shoulder after dark.
- Hotels inside the Old City sell out first.

When is Yi Peng 2026?

Yi Peng and Loy Krathong track the twelfth full moon of the Thai lunar calendar — late November in 2026. Confirm exact nights before booking; the two festivals overlap across several evenings.

Where should I eat on lantern night?

Either book a riverside table weeks ahead, or do it like locals: khao soi late afternoon, then graze the night markets and eat standing by the river as the lanterns rise.

THE VERIFIED TOP 10 — CHIANG MAI

RESTAURANT	CUISINE	PRICE	WHY
The Service at 1921 House	Grill	\$\$\$\$	Selected
The House By Ginger	Asian, Thai	\$\$-\$\$\$	Bib Gourmand
Aunt Aoy Kitchen			Bib Gourmand
Baan Landai Fine Thai Cuisine			Bib Gourmand
Busarin Cuisine			Bib Gourmand
Charoen Suan Aek			Bib Gourmand
Dan Chicken Rice (San Sai)			Bib Gourmand
Ekchan			Bib Gourmand
Euang Kam Sai			Bib Gourmand
Ginger Farm Kitchen			Bib Gourmand

BOOK BEFORE IT'S GONE

Festival dates mean festival demand. Tables with views and hotels near the action go to whoever booked first — use the live guide for tours, tables and hotels:

chiangmairestaurants.com/yi-peng-food-guide