

La Bonne Franquette: Best of show near the Place du Tertre.

3.0 La **Bonne Franquette**, 2, rue des Saules in the 18th, 01.42.52.02.42, never closed, is the sort of place where ranking/grading is nigh impossible.

(Backstory: I have two rules about eating out on the Mont: 1) Never eat out on the Mont and 2) never, ever eat at the top near the Place du Tertre. So, how do I explain this breaking of the rules? Easy, it was Sunday lunch and I was hungry and wanted to eat some place I'd never been before.) But back to the ranking/grading dilemma.

First, you start out on the Montmartrobus (my local jittney that takes old folk like me up the mountain with their groceries from the Monoprix/Franprix/thieves down hill, and who, jaded tho' they/we are, still turn to look out over Paris as we pass in front of Sacre Coeur) +2 points, +1 for ease of access and +1 for the view.

Then you descend in/near the Place du Tertre, where the hoards of fellow foreigners descend from tourbuses and taxis and clog the streets, postcard and tee-shirt shops and cafes -1 point.

You proceed to the resto which is open on Sunday (for lunch, a miracle) +1 point and has a banjo band out front playing old-time French music not American jazz music +1 point.



You are received warmly but without recognition by wait person #1 who is quickly superceded by the owner who says "M. T., please come this way." +1. "We're out of the Bordeaux, but otherwise, go to it. +/-.

Menu huge, in French and English; rooms in back of me full of tourists (all French, all quiet, all having a very good time - when I asked wait person #2 how many, I stopped counting after 60 or so). -1 for the overstuffed menu, +1 for the well-behaved Frog-types whose ladies all had wedding rings and were all attired in the same uniform, jeans and a un-tucked-in loose checkered shirt.

Started with a dish as in Lyon; three sliced sausages with cornichons and salad +1 but California-type hot-house out-of-season tomatoes -.5.



Then I had the Charolais beef (0 points for overcooking) with green peppercorn sauce (with a really good kick +1) and potato galettes +1 point.

With two glasses of wine, poor bread, nice tap water one exits for under 40 E.