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## Japanese restaurant offers many choices on its many menus



### Shogun Japanese Restaurant of Williston

#### Story, Photos and Video

By Jeff M. Hardison © Aug. 25, 2017 at 3:07 p.m.

**WILLISTON** -- A hidden gem of a restaurant in Williston, located across the street from First United Methodist Church and diagonally across the street from Dixie's Antiques and Gifts, welcomes patrons to see an expansive choice of delicious selections of food and beverages.

<https://youtu.be/AFJxsoSLemQ>

**This video shows viewers a top to bottom view of the entrance to Shogun Japanese Restaurant in Williston. Watching the one-minute (plus) video shows the viewer where this restaurant is in perspective to other structures around it. (This is a silent film.)**

Shogun Japanese Restaurant, located at 143 W. Noble Ave. (U.S. Alt 27), unit C, has an extensive Sushi Menu.

Other menus include Chef Specials; Lunch Specials; Sushi Lunch Specials; Bento Boxes; Teppan Lunch Specials; and Lunch Noodle Specials, as well as wine, sake and beer menus.

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## **Ming Wei Lin, manager of Shogun Japanese Restaurant**

Ming Wei Lin is the manager. He was born in China.

When he was asked about a Chinese man running a Japanese restaurant, he said this is relatively common.

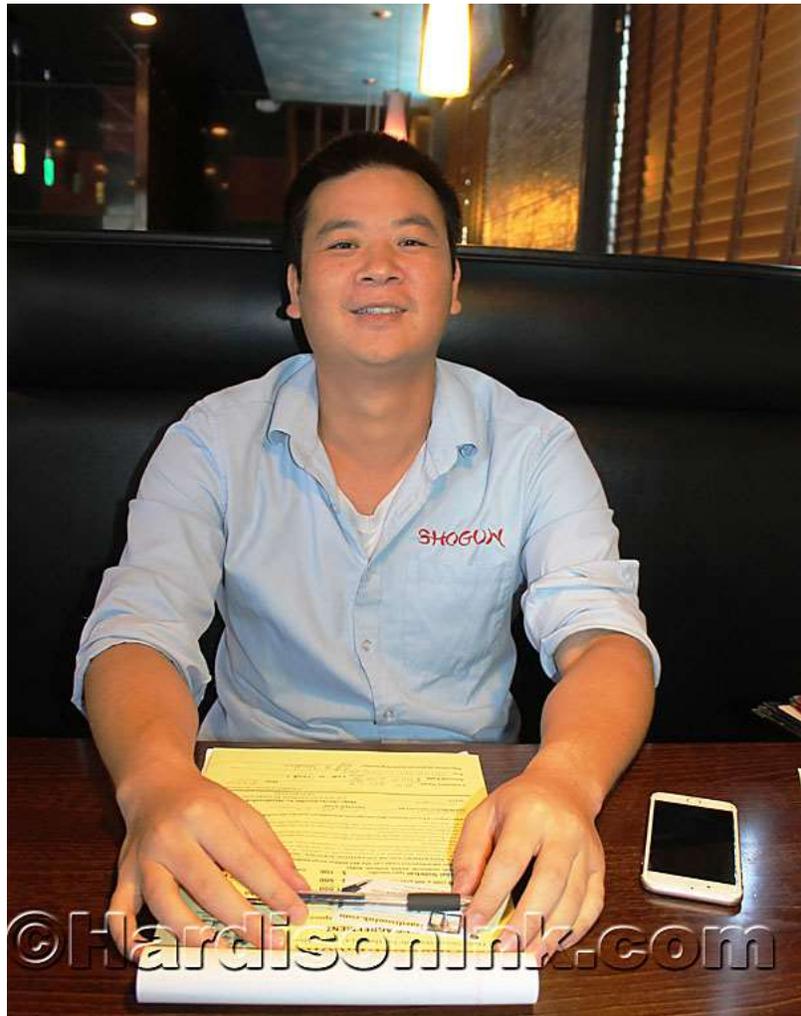
The highest quality of food is used at Shogun Japanese Restaurant of Williston, Lin added.

Another interesting fact about the restaurant in general, he said, is that it is a family restaurant operated by himself, his wife and two other relatives.

Shogun means “the general” or “the leader,” Lin said.

More specifically Shogun is a hereditary commander-in-chief in feudal Japan.

Because of the military power concentrated in his hands and the consequent weakness of the nominal head of state (the Mikado or emperor), the shogun was generally the real ruler of the country until feudalism was abolished in 1867.



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The restaurant is spacious and open with booths and tables. The sushi bar, kitchen and dining room are spotlessly clean.



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**Ken Lin is seen on Friday afternoon (Aug. 25) cutting yellow tail in preparation for serving.**

The restaurant is open from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and it stays open until 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday nights.

The restaurant first opened on July 14, 2016 and in its first year is has seen success.

The peak of business in the first year was from December through April. Lin said, with a strong core of patronage from people who reside at Williston Crossings RV Resort and from the professional horse owners of the Ocala area.

Lin said he welcomes everyone and hopes to see more regular customers from Levy, Dixie and Gilchrist counties since he decided to advertise in HardisonInk.com.

Following are some details from the various menus. Please remember there is an extensive set of choices and this is just a sample.

## **\* Sushi Bar Appetizers**

The Sushi Bar Appetizers range in price from \$6 to \$10.95 and includes stuffed scallops; lava (which is fried tilapia with baked crab on top); fried crab; fried fish; sushi sampler; beef tataki (seared beef, sliced thinly with ponzu sauce); yellowtail jalapeño;

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and more.

## \* **A la Carte and Sashimi**

(Sushi is the one with rice and sashimi is without rice)

A la Carte and Sashimi items range in price from \$3.50 to \$5.45 and include bean curd (cooked); baby octopus; imitation crab stick; smoked eel (cooked); Japanese egg (cooked); octopus (steamed); smoked salmon; shrimp (steamed); conch; fish roe (fish eggs); salmon; tilapia; mackerel; surf clam; scallops; squid; tuna; and more.

## \* **Chef Specials**

Chef Specials range from \$12 to \$18.

Beauty and Sea Roll - Spicy escolar, cucumber, cream cheese inside. Eel and avocado on top.

Anger Bird Roll - Fried shrimp, asp, cream cheese, avocado inside. Spicy tuna and 4 color tobico on top.

Anger Roll - Seared tuna, avocado, deep fried asp inside. Eel, yellow tail, tuna and salmon on top with tempura flakes.

BMW Roll - Fried shrimp, cucumber, spicy crab inside. Fresh salmon and avocado on top.

Christmas Roll - Spicy yellow tail, cucumber, crunch inside. Pepper tuna, avocado and green tobico on top.

Butterfly Roll - Spicy tuna and crab inside. Tuna and yellow tail, avocado on top.

CJ Caliente Roll - Seared tuna, avocado inside. Spicy tuna and fresh tuna on top.

Geisha Roll – Spicy tuna, avocado inside. Tuna and crab on top.

Hurricane Roll – Spicy yellow tail and crunch inside. Fried lobster and tobico on top.

Kathy Roll – Tuna, salmon, snapper, cream cheese, avocado inside. Wrapped in soy paper.

Louis Roll – Yellow tail, salmon, asp, and tempura flakes inside. Escolar and jalapeno on top.

Ocean City Roll – Black pepper tuna, avocado, asparagus, mango, scallion inside. Steam shrimp on top.

Madeline Roll – Spicy tuna, cream cheese crunch and avocado inside. Yellow tail and black and yellow tobico on top.

Pink Lady Roll – Spicy tuna, oshinko inside. Salmon, avocado on top.

Red Heart Roll – King crab, yellow tail, crunch inside. Fresh tuna on top.

Sushi Sandwich – Spicy tuna, eel, avocado, crab inside. 4 color tobico on top.

Red River Roll – King crab, avocado, crunch inside. Fresh tuna on top.

TNT – Spicy escolar crunch, cucumber inside. Seared tuna and avocado on top.

Summer Roll – Cucumber, kani, avocado, spicy tuna inside. Fresh tuna on top.

UCF Roll – Spicy tuna, kani, avocado inside. Deep friend yellow tail and black tobico on top.

Sunrise Roll – Tuna, avocado, fried asp inside. Spicy tuna on top.

Sweet CJ Roll – Spicy tuna, crab, mango inside. Avocado and black tobico on top.

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## **BEER**

There is a separate list of many beers, which include Japanese beer, as well as other imported beer and domestic beer.

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## **WINE**

Another menu shows various wines – Red and White. Imports and California (prices vary). House wine – Copper Ridge California \$5/glass.

There are 13 different types of Sake along with flavored Sake shots, house Sake and Sake mixed drinks that are available.

The sushi and sashimi menu are available, where the diner can choose what he or she wants inside. Sushi is with rice, sashimi is without rice. There is a choice of two or three pieces for the Sashimi. The hand or Sushi roll is shaped like an ice cream cone and can be ordered for one or six pieces. There are house special rolls and Sushi dinners are available. The dinners are served with Miso soup. All dinners are Chef's Choice.

A wonderful menu of steaks and seafood is available -- including filet mignon and lobster. The restaurant manager mentioned the filet mignon is very tender.

All of the dinners are cooked on the Teppan which is a traditional Japanese grill. All entrees are served with soup, salad, noodles, vegetables and fried rice.

Patrons can individually order a wide variety of appetizers, soups, salads, side orders, fried rice or noodles, and desserts. There are choices for children and for Tempura dinners.

There is a separate menu for lunch which includes Sushi Bar, Sushi, Bento Boxes, Teppan and Noodle lunch specials.

Out of 15 Yelp reviews, there were 12 five-star ratings (out of a possible five-star as best). There were three four-star ratings, with one of those diners noting she gave it four stars rather than five because the hibachi dinner was cooked in the kitchen rather than at the table.

“This is a real find in good dining,” one reviewer noted. “Excellent service staff, friendly atmosphere and especially good Asian food. We had Specials that waitress recommended and it was great. Fresh and hot with lots of flavor.

“Good wine and beverage list with OK prices. Our bill with wine was less than \$50. Not bad for great evening. Maybe the best (restaurant) in the Williston area. We will return and maybe try the full meals. Fun atmosphere and packed with people.”

One reviewer noted they were very pleased with the full dinner of New York steak and shrimp.

And so this gem of a restaurant -- while not discovered yet by everyone in its first year -- is shown for more people to see now through a story, photos, video and advertising.