Giant donuts and maple bars are a go to here! As with most "mom & pop" shops there are gonna be some freshness issues here and there but this place is great most of the time. Also their breakfast sandwiches are great. As far as the "open 24hrs" thing I have come here at all kinds of hours and they are open but I have walked by and it looks like nobody is there.
Was this review ...?

Barry H.
VALLEY VILLAGE, CA
1 friend
9 reviews

9/7/2012

I gave this place 2 stars because I've gone there a lot, but I'm done. I'm finding another place. The donuts have never been great and the last ham & cheese croissant I ate made me sick. I frequented this place mainly because it was around the corner from where I live. My issues were as follows.

1. Customer service is lacking. In all the time I've gone there I've dealt with only 2 people. An older asian lady who barely speaks to you in a mumble or makes eye contact (kind of like talking to Rainman). Not very personable but at least she gets your order right. Then there's an older asian gentleman, I think her husband, who does talk to you but doesn't listen to you when you order so he keeps getting it wrong.

2. Donut selection and quality are both poor. Sure you can you can get a giant donut there but then a regular disappointment just becomes a giant disappointment.

3. The expiration date on some of the milk and juices they serve is sometimes expired. In all fairness they will point this out before selling it to you. Therefore the choice is yours. But why the hell are you still selling it?

That's pretty much it. They're not the worst but they're far from the best. It's not like I hate this place but I'm sure there is better in the area and I look forward to finding it. I'm a donut junkie and I need my fix.

Was this review ...?

Gregory S.
Studio City, CA
1 friend
41 reviews

9/15/2013

I'm squeezing out a three star review because I think they sometimes are pretty good. In order to make ends meet, the owners try to do too much. Donuts, croissants, sandwiches, etc.
Coffee is fresh and usually decent. But donuts are not made fresh every day and sometimes they are very low on product. I've been going there three times a week for two months and they still don't acknowledge me as a regular or anticipate my unchanging order.

Was this review ...?

Oddly spacious for a strip-mall donut shop, so if you are rolling deep, coaching a little league team or some combination of the two and find yourself in need of some donuts, this should be stop number one.

Right as I entered, the lone other customer alerted me to the fact that I must have missed a sign marked "No Knockout Babes Allowed", so that was nice of him. I guess either I don't make the cut or the management is lax in enforcing that (discriminatory!) policy, though, because I was served without hesitation. If an actual knockout babe DOES go there and have trouble getting served, though, I would definitely contact the BBB about that, because I don't think it's legal.

Overall: the plain cake donut was sweeter than average, in a good way. Chocolate frosted raised donut was ON POINT and delicious. Coffee was hot and adequate. Floor was clean-ish. As far as strip-mall donut shops go, Donut Inn is doing almost everything right.

Was this review ...?

Kathleen D.
Studio City, CA
ился 44 friends
-rated 44 reviews

http://www.yelp.com/biz/donut-inn-sherman-oaks
We blame ourselves, really: we went to a run-down donut shop for boba. But, we often pass this place on our way home, and it's the closest boba place to us, so we decided we had to at least give it a try.

So we gave it a try: two thai iced tea bobas. We waited in the stark interior of the shop, reading the faded posters, while the man behind the counter made our drinks. Unfortunately, even though he made them while we waited, the boba in both of them was stale. Bummer.

I guess anything is worth trying once, but once was enough for us. We'll try another boba place next time.

LOCATION

It's on the literal edge of Sherman Oaks & Valley Glen, with Magnolia and Coldwater being the Northernmost and Easternmost streets of Sherman Oaks. It's located inside a small corner strip mall of about 5-6 shops. The interior of this place is pretty old. The ceiling looks bad / falling apart / stained... however there's a bunch of old posters and news clippings of this donut store being in quite a few movies... though it looks like from back in the 70's and 80's.

THE GOODS

The donuts here are whatever. Definately better options nearby. They do have some interesting looking jumbo donuts but for the most part the 5-10 I've tried have been standard C-quality donuts.

~ MAPLE GLAZED ~ This is the only donut that stood out. I like glazed donuts and I also like MAPLE ICING so I tried this one and really liked it. The two MAPLE GLAZED donuts I've tried at other places since... haven't been as good. (4/5)

AND THE SURVEY SAYS...

Pass on this place. It "IS" open 24 hours but just drive down to USA DONUTS one block over on FULTON+BURBANK for a better 24-hour donut store option. Also there's been MANY instances that I've stopped by and there's no one there and a sign saying "BE BACK IN 10 MINS" ...and since I do delivery in the area... I'll come back 30mins later and they'll still be no one there -____-
3/21/2013

Always seem to show up when donuts are fresh. Got free donut holes on a couple occasions. Sure, it seems run down. It's not like the kinda place I would sit down and hang out... But despite the lackluster appearance I've never been disappointed. Oh except that one time, when I bought one more donut than I could eat.

Was this review ...?

Tim L.
Brooklyn, NY
7 friends
26 reviews

8/13/2011

This place is super close to a buddy's house, so I've visited it on many occasions. Every time, I hope that the donuts will be better than the last time, and they're not. Their cake donut, always a good indicator of a place's overall quality, is poor. The glazed is average at best. The selection is measly and their hours are erratic. Often the sign will say 'open' at night but there will be nobody there. Adding to the general feeling of malaise is an unused bizarre pedestrian side-window facing Coldwater. On the plus side, the apple fritter and bear claw are pretty good and my buddy swears by the maple bar. Also, the photos on the wall (in which Donut Inn donuts are prominently seen in the background of dozens of film and television shows) are a good conversation piece.

Was this review ...?

maxwell s.
Los Angeles, CA
27 friends
308 reviews

4/19/2013

the problem here is consistency -- sometimes the donuts are a+, sometimes they're not very fresh. the guy working overnights is pretty stale himself, but i don't come here for conversation.

Was this review ...?

John M.
North Hollywood, CA
0 friends
9 reviews
this place is disgusting  donuts are so old  it looks like a sample donuts the owner  drops the donuts in front of me he has the guts tells me the floors clean  its ok I threw the donut on is face and told him that I will be yelp your donut place  his answer was  f@u & your Yelp.

Was this review ...?

Useful 1  Funny  Cool

4 other reviews that are not currently recommended

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