

## Panda Express Introduces Pacific Chili Shrimp, Adding Symphony of Flavors to Expanding Wok Smart Menu

New Entree Highlights Traditional Chinese Wok Cooking Techniques to Enhance Flavors of Premium Ingredients



**ROSEMEAD, Calif. (March 2, 2016)** – Panda Express, America's favorite Chinese kitchen, is expanding its better-for-you, feel-good options with the nationwide introduction of Pacific Chili Shrimp starting March 2 for a limited time. The new entree features premium ingredients, including large, succulent shrimp and freshly cut seasonal vegetables.

Each ingredient in Pacific Chili Shrimp is carefully selected to enhance one another, while the order in which they're cooked in the wok creates the overall flavor of the entree. First, Panda chefs begin with premium, marinated shrimp – an ingredient Panda has perfected over time and holds in high regard due to its significance to the Chinese culture. Known to bring happiness and good fortune, the shrimp is then mixed with seasonal sugar peas, red bell peppers, onions and wok-tossed three times in a house-made chili garlic sauce. Together, these ingredients offer a fresh, protein-filled option that will delight guests' taste buds and satisfy customers' craving for an honest, feel-good dish.

"Pacific Chili Shrimp is a delicious dish made with fresh ingredients for guests who desire a menu option that's nutritious and still packed with the great taste Panda delivers with all of our entrees," said Dave Wallinga, vice president of Guest Marketing, Panda Express. "Adding Pacific Chili Shrimp to our Wok Smart line-up is part of our vision to further evolve our menu to offer guests a wider selection of quality, American Chinese choices that satisfy the variety of lifestyles and preferences they embody."

Pacific Chili Shrimp is created fresh in store by skilled Panda chefs who have mastered the art of traditional wok cooking. Setting it apart from other fast casual restaurants, Panda's meticulous wok methods ensure vegetables are cooked yet crisp and the meat is seared yet tender. The wok also provides the perfect blend of caramelization and charring to deliver a symphony of flavors that are complex and richly flavorful.

Pacific Chili Shrimp is only 200 calories and provides 11 grams of protein. Guests can order the dish online at <u>www.PandaExpress.com/Order</u>, through Panda's mobile app or by visiting any of Panda's 1,900 locations.

For more information on Panda Express, please visit <u>www.PandaExpress.com</u>. For media inquiries, please contact <u>Panda@havasformula.com</u>.

## **About Panda Express**

Panda Express, America's favorite Chinese kitchen, is best known for its wide variety of original recipes including its Original Orange Chicken<sup>™</sup>, SweetFire Chicken Breast<sup>®</sup>, award-winning Honey Walnut Shrimp<sup>™</sup> and Shanghai Angus Steak<sup>™</sup>. Founded in 1983 and now with more than 1,900 locations throughout the U.S., Puerto Rico, Guam, Canada, Mexico, Dubai, Saudi Arabia and Korea, Panda Express is part of the family owned and operated Panda Restaurant Group, the world leader in Asian dining experiences that also includes Panda Inn and Hibachi-San. For more information, visit PandaExpress.com.

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