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GOODLIFEFAMILYMAG.COM

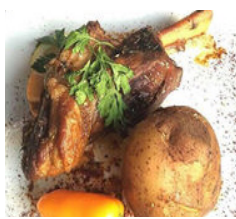
Good Eats Dining Guide

Our editors scoured the greater Dallas area for family-friendly dining destinations. Here are some of our favorites.

Updated November 2019



AFGHAN

**Nora Restaurant and Bar**

Restaurants featuring Afghan cuisine in Dallas aren't that easy to find. And finding one with a beautiful rooftop bar and patio is just about impossible—until Nora came along. If you're already familiar with the country's food, you'll be delighted to find your

favorites such as Kadu (sautéed pumpkin with garlic yogurt and meat sauce), Mantoo (steamed beef dumplings), Kofta Chalo (stewed meatballs with spices and dried plum) and Qabili Palao (seasoned meat with raisins and carrots). But if you're just getting started, you can't go wrong with any of the Kabobs and some of the best hummus we've sampled. Before or after dining, grab a Cardamom Martini and head to the roof for some of the city's most romantic views.

1928 Greenville Ave. | Dallas

(214) 828-0095 | noradallas.com

AMERICAN

Bread Zeppelin

While sandwich wraps may have been soooo 1990's, you gotta admit—there's something pretty appealing about cramming a bunch of delicious ingredients into a handheld bread-like thingy. So, take that concept and instead of using a stale tortilla, you use a delicious, hollowed-out artisan baguette (hollowed-out, by the way, equals fewer carbs!). If bread isn't your thing (and we'll try to understand)—skip it altogether and go for a hearty bowl (i.e., salad). With more than 40 gourmet ingredients and 20 dressings, you're sure to find something to love. It's a sandwich; it's a salad; no wait, it's a Zeppelin!

Multiple locations throughout DFW
breadzeppelinsalads.com

Celebration

Since 1971, Celebration has been a Dallas dining staple, offering farm-to-table ingredients in a festive family atmosphere. Yes, many items on the menu are sustainable, such as salmon raised in the clean waters of Patagonia and beef that's local, free-range and grass-fed—but the real focus is on delicious, beautifully-prepared food. Entrees are served with three fresh vegetables (family style) and your choice of homemade soup, fresh fruit or garden salad, and second helpings are available on most entrees of equal or lesser value. There are several dining rooms that can accommodate both intimate dinners and larger parties, and the patio boasts a relaxing waterfall and wood-burning fireplace for all seasons. Be sure to stop by Celebration-To-Go Market for terrific take-out or to place your next celebration's catering order.

4503 W. Lovers Ln. | Dallas

(214) 351-5681 | celebrationrestaurant.com

City Café

This neighborhood gem is a great place to impress out-of-towners in a fancy-but-not-too-fancy way. A classic interior and quiet ambience are the perfect backdrops to expertly prepared food, starting with the Signature Fresh Tomato Soup, moving right along to the Crab Louis Salad with stacked avocado—simply to die for. If you're a liver lover (lol), you'll flip for the Crisp Chicken Liver Salad with baby spinach, corn and warm bacon vinaigrette. Seafood entrees are exceptionally fresh, and there's a generous selection of wines by the glass, too.

5757 W. Lovers Ln. | Dallas

(214) 351-2233 | thecitycafedallas.com

**Crú Food & Wine Bar****New Listing!**

Wouldn't it be nice to find the perfect spot for weekend brunch with friends—that would also be perfect for a deliciously low-key family dinner? And romantic enough for date night? Welcome to Crú—your favorite neighborhood gathering spot for any

occasion. Think: no-snobby wine bar meets Napa-style cuisine with a flourish. We'd suggest starting with the Goat Cheese Beignet with honey and cracked pepper—sweet, savory, and utterly delicious. Standouts from the entrée menu include Cast Iron Seared Sea Scallops with Spinach Parmesan Risotto and Lamb Lollipops, slightly pink and succulent, served

with Truffle Potato Gratin. Check the website for regular specials and plan to enjoy them on the spacious patio while people-watching. Don't miss Pizza Mondays—buy a bottle of wine and get a killer stone-fired pizza on the house.

842 Market St., Ste. 100 | Allen

(972) 908-2532 | cruwinebar.com

Earl's Kitchen + Bar

How lucky are we?! While Earl's is a highly popular eating spot throughout Canada, the recently opened Legacy West location is only the ninth Earl's in the U.S. (so far) and the very first to open in Texas. A warm, contemporary décor throughout the dining room and spacious patio invites you to relax and stay a while, and the diverse menu offers locally sourced food so good you might not ever leave. We're talking "serious" cocktails, juicy burgers, mouthwatering appetizers designed to be shared, a killer 14-ounce ribeye, gorgeous salads that make you think you're eating more than a salad, and "on trend" offerings like the Quinoa and Avocado Powerbowl. Come for lunch, dinner and late night—then, come back on weekends for brunch (and don't miss the Strawberries + Cream Waffle).

7401 Windrose Ave., Suite D100 | Plano

(469) 969-2490 | earls.ca

eight|11 place

If walking into eight|11 feels like you've stepped into a friend's house (in Austin), there's a good reason for it: 1) it actually used to be a house and 2) the chefs/owners are from there. A classic, intimate interior with wood floors, plenty of candles and Mason jar pendant lighting make this wine bar a very cozy place to unwind; or, venture outside and share a table with fellow music lovers. Menu items Salads, Bites (think: Pimento Cheese Sliders) and house made Flat Breads such as the Chorizo Hero with local goat cheese, red onion, cilantro and roasted yellow peppers. This is the kind of place where you can kick back and enjoy the cool vibe while sipping on wines by the glass/bottle and local beers on tap.

7080 W. Main St. | Frisco

(469) 888-4037 | eight11place.com

GRRRowler's Beer Garden and Tap Room

What could be better than great food, cold beer and furry friends? Well, we just can't think of anything—unless, of course, you throw in a relaxing beer garden dedicated to craft beer, growler fills and yes, easy access to an awesome dog park. GRRRowler's, located at the Shacks at Austin Ranch, has tapped into DFW's latest craze of combining outdoor dining while hanging out with beloved pooches in a friendly, meet-your-neighbors kind of environment. No dog? No problem—it's still the perfect place to gather over the summer and beyond.

5800 Windhaven Pkwy. | The Colony

Hash House A Go Go

What's not to love about a restaurant that's self-described as "Twisted Farm Food"? Based in San Diego with several locations now in other states, Hash House serves hearty portions of breakfast-all-day menu items like Sage Fried Chicken Benedict, an assortment of savory hashes that will make you rethink hashes, and Sausage Gravy Pot Pie with scrambled eggs and mashed potatoes. Flapjacks and waffles are also solid choices, as is our other most recent anytime obsession—Hot, Sticky Granola with milk and mixed fresh fruit. Even several of the salads are rib ticklers; you will definitely not leave this place hungry. Other standouts on the dinner menu include Hand-Hammered Crispy Pork Tenderloin and Pan-Seared Airline Chicken Breast with fresh polenta, fried leeks and mushroom madeira cream.

1900 Preston Rd., Ste. 343 | Plano

(972) 867-4646 | hashhouseagogo.com

IVY Kitchen

Connected to the LOOK Cinema, IVY is the perfect romantic dining spot before or after a movie—but when the food is this good, it's a stand-alone destination. Small plates, like the Rhode Island Style Fried Calamari and the Smoked Brisket Chile con Queso, are shareable and nicely priced; you'll want several. A sleek, moody vibe and private booths make it intimate for date night, but it's also incredible for family brunch, with menu items such as the Crab Cake Benedict.

5411 Beltline Rd. | Dallas

(214) 306-7444 | theivykitchen.com

Kenny's Wood Fired Grill

There are so many things to love about Kenny's Wood Fired Grill—let us count the ways: how about a half-pound crab cake? Lobster Deviled Eggs with white truffle cream? Or, light and fluffy popovers? And of course, the Perfect Grey Goose martini, poured from their signature frozen tap

system. While Kenny's certainly meets the mark for special occasions, it's also just right for hearty business lunches and weeknight dinners with the family.

5000 Belt Line Rd. | Dallas

(972) 392-9663 | kennyswoodfiredgrill.com

**Lazy Dog Restaurant and Bar**

Reminiscent of a Jackson Hole, Wyoming après-ski lodge, this Addison outpost at the Village on the Parkway offers something delicious for everyone. From comfort food classics such as burgers and big salads to heartier fare including Lamb Stroganoff and Housemaid Veggie Lasagna, Lazy Dog feels like the perfect place to

replenish all those calories you burned off on the slopes (or more likely, shopping at the Galleria).

Village on the Parkway | Addison

(469) 754-1300 | lazydogrestaurants.com

Lekka

It's a restaurant/bar. It's a gallery/gift shop. It's Lekka! Whether you're looking for unique gifts, Himalayan salt lamps (you need one!), or the perfect spot to meet up with friends for a hearty salad and sandwich, trezzini (pita bread stuffed with, for example, mozzarella and artichoke) or a slab of decadent pie or cake, Lekka has something for everyone. Enjoy the spacious patio on warmer days—though inside is equally inviting. We mentioned the desserts, right? Rightly described as a "Slice of Heaven," pieces of pie are generous and worth a visit all by themselves. Choose from Banana Caramel Pecan, Key Lime, Double Chocolate Fudge and many others—all made from scratch. Whole pies and cakes are also available to order and on your way out, you might just pick up a chimenea, too. Open for lunch and dinner every day with live music on Friday and Saturday nights.

17606 Preston Rd. | Dallas

(972) 735-8425

1921 N. Henderson Ave. | Dallas

(469) 828-1686 | lekkashop.com

Newk's

Fast-casual, healthy dining is, no doubt, quickly becoming a "thing" in North Texas, and Newk's is an ideal place to jump onto that bandwagon. Everything here is made from scratch, and there's something on the menu for even your pickiest eaters to love, from fresh salads, delicious soups, and pizzas to a plethora of drool-worthy sandwiches. There's even a special menu section devoted to Mac & Cheese (we crave the Six Cheese Pimento with Bacon version), allowing you to order a large, decadent bowl of the gooey stuff or just a small side to pair with your salad. Dine in, order online, or check out Newk's Grab-N-Go—this is a terrific spot to grab dinner for the family or a quick bite after the kiddos' soccer game..

5960 West Parker Rd. | Plano

(469) 298-2071

6750 Gaylord Pkwy., Suite 290 | Frisco

(214) 494-4602 | newks.com

**Nosh Bistro New Listing!**

Renowned Dallas chef Avner Samuel is at it again with his latest culinary offering, Nosh Bistro, located in the shopping center at Hillcrest and Northwest Highway. Samuel's new menu reflects his love for gatherings in and near the kitchen with friends and family, sharing dishes like the

highly addictive Midnight Black Hummus-Hummus and Moroccan Spicy Beef Cigars. A colorful yet sleek dining room begs you to start with a Rose and Ginger Paloma, then treat yourself to a few slices of Ibérico Bello-ta-Bellota (the famous Spanish ham made from pampered pigs), served on a "volcano" dish with candle underneath to oh-so-slightly warm the ham. The BIG Crispy Fish for Two Mediterranean Style is sheer perfection. Come back for Sunday brunch.

8611 Hillcrest Rd. | Dallas

(469) 730-2400 | noshbistrodallas.com

Plano Kitchen and Bar

Make this your spot in downtown Plano to pop in for a bite with the fam. Sandwiches and burgers are excellent, and topping the list has to be the Plano Cheesesteak with roasted poblano peppers, caramelized onion and sautéed mushrooms under a warm blanket of melted provolone cheese. Trust us, there's nothing "plain-o" about it. Salads are generously portioned, and for a killer entrée on diet cheat day, go for the enormous waffle served with crispy chicken tenders and a side of black pepper country gravy. Yum. Weekend brunch is also served.

1010 E. 15th St. | Plano

(972) 633-9500 | planokitchenandbar.com

Rock & Brews

When you're hangry, thirsty, and ready to rock-n-roll, scoot on over to Rock & Brews for some much-needed sustenance. Start with a brew but be warned: the beer menu here is huge and requires due consideration—drafts, bottles, wheats, lagers, malty, hoppy, etc. Now, on to the food—generous appetizers, hearty salads, and signature wings are just a few of the excellent offerings. Entrees are well-prepared and surprisingly affordable, making it a terrific destination for getting together with friends or family. Dogs are welcome on the lovely patio, and as the name suggests, rock music RULES the fun-and-friendly vibe here.

5351 Nebraska Furniture Mart Dr. | The Colony

(972) 584-1670 | rockandbrews.com

Royal Blue

Whether you're looking to grab an awesome Stumptown coffee with a buddy, a healthy prepared lunch for the office, or you're just too darn tired to cook dinner for the family, Royal Blue has something for you. It's a thoughtfully-curated (and super-hip) urban grocery store as well as an excellent resource for locally sourced products; each store is different, tailored to the neighborhood it serves. Royal Blue also offers catering, with everything from breakfast tacos to boxed lunches, mix-and-match sandwich platters, cocktail bites (highly recommended are the Sambal deviled eggs and beef and pork meatballs with Romesco sauce) and more.

1 Highland Park Village | Dallas

(214) 526-9516

1800 Main St., Ste. 124 | Dallas

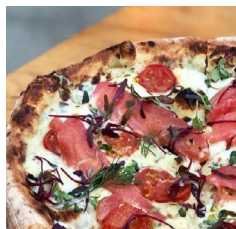
(214) 760-9686 | royalbluegrocery.com

Saint Ann Restaurant and Bar

Although the inside space is gorgeous, it's the patio overlooking the Arts District that's the real draw at Saint Ann—the perfect spot for a cocktail or weekend brunch. The food is fairly straightforward: salads, sandwiches, steaks and fish. We like ordering a few appetizers (the bacon wrapped Medjool dates and spinach artichoke dip are nice) and kicking back while taking in the hipster crowd.

2501 N. Harwood St. | Dallas

(214) 782-9807 | saintannDallas.com



Sixty Vines

What could be better than a great glass of wine? How about a great glass of wine—on tap? Not only does this mean that each glass provides the best possible taste at the perfect temperature, reusable kegs equal less spoilage and less landfill. But let's get to the food: Small plates like Manila

clams with creamy white wine chowder broth or wood-fired cauliflower with lemon dill yogurt are perfection. Hungrier appetites will find plenty to choose from too, such as fregola served risotto style, then topped with crispy wild mushrooms. The burger, made with Akaushi beef, is something you'll dream about later, and entrees, such as chicken, fish and chops, are solid choices. Perfect for both large parties and intimate gatherings.

3701 Dallas Pkwy | Plano

sixtyvines.com

Snappy Salads

You're trying to eat more salads and healthier foods but darn it, you're hungry. That's why you need to head over to Snappy Salads. Each veggie creation (and really, these are creations) is super fresh and generously portioned, and proteins are anything but your run-of-the-mill grilled chicken breast. Instead, think Sockeye Salmon, rare Yellowfin Tuna, sautéed-to-order Crab Cake and juicy mesquite-grilled Spicy Beef Tenderloin. Customer favorites include the Grilled Avocado Salad with black bean/poblano/corn relish and the Texas Taco Salad with spicy Jalapeño Ranch

dressing. If a salad just won't do, try any of the Piadina Wraps (we love the Go Go Steak version with spicy tenderloin and pickled onions). Soups are house made and satisfying, and if you must indulge, the lemon cookies are worth the splurge.

Multiple locations throughout DFW

snappysalads.com



The Biscuit Bar

Biscuits. Tater tots. Beer. Stop right there—what else do you need? At the Biscuit Bar, you can top your flaky biscuit with a wide variety of scrumptious gourmet ingredients, like southern fried chicken, bacon, jack cheese, house made sausage gravy and honey butter.

Can you say "cheat day-worthy?" There are both savory and sweet options for biscuits and tots, and two delicious salads (in case you're watching carbs). The story behind the restaurant is also bittersweet—owners Jake and Janie Burkett used their love of comfort food and turned a family tragedy into a way to share their passion with those around them. A patio and nice selection of coffee, cocktails, wine and kombucha on tap make this a great place for weekday happy hour.

5880 Hwy. 121, Ste. 102B | Plano

(469) 238-2227 | thebiscuitbar.com

The Grape

Though The Grape has been around for more than 40 years, there's a reason (actually, several) why it remains a Dallas favorite. Let's start with the Mushroom Soup, a must-have, and move right into, say, Cornmeal Fried Oysters and Crispy Duck Breast with Roasted Brussels Sprouts. Craving something less fancy? The burger, topped with house made peppered bacon and Vermont white cheddar, has been voted "Best in Texas" by Texas Monthly. Two dozen wines by the glass and a Monday through Friday Happy Hour with drink specials help make The Grape an after-work respite from the daily grind, and its romantic atmosphere keeps it at the top of everyone's Date Night list. Swing by for Sunday brunch, too.

2808 Greenville Ave. | Dallas

(214) 828-1981 | thegraperestaurant.com

The Theodore

The latest crown jewel from award-winning Chef Tim Byres and Turn the Tables Hospitality (Smoke, Bolsa, The Foundry, Chicken Scratch and more) is The Theodore. Inspired by Teddy Roosevelt's adventurous spirit, it's the perfect spot to enjoy cocktails and appetizers before a movie, or linger for a sumptuous dinner. Hand-painted constellation murals, vintage furniture, natural curiosities and cozy, nook-like seating give The Theodore a refined, quirky air. The menu contains the sort of rustic/sophisticated and shareable twists we've come to expect (and love) from Chef Byres. Highlights include Sausage and Chervil Artisanal Toast, Crispy Chicken Thighs with Squash Mustard and Salted Cucumber and the (vertical) Lamp Shank Pie in puff pastry. For dessert, don't miss the sublime Grapefruit and Honey Baked Alaska. In good weather, enjoy the patio.

NorthPark Center

8687 North Central Exwy. | Dallas

(469) 232-9771 | thetheodore.com

Union Bear Brewing Co.

This is on-site craft beer brewing at its finest. With indoor and outdoor, lake-view seating available, you'll enjoy a unique concept of chef-driven menu items paired with brews, staff-curated spirits and cocktails. Start with Beer Battered Asparagus served with sriracha bleu cheese or, for a lighter touch, California Crudo (thinly-sliced raw yellowtail with strawberries, jalapeno, avocado and spicy yuzu aioli). Super tender Beer Braised Short Rib goes nicely with house-made pappardelle, edamame and heirloom carrots. Staff here is friendly and knowledgeable, and be sure to swing back around for weekend brunch: We're giving a special shout-out to the Crawfish Benedict with Creole Hollandaise.

5880 Hwy. 121, Ste. 101 | Plano

(214) 297-2337 | unionbear.com

ASIAN

Asian Mint

Since 2005, numerous accolades from local and national magazines have marked Asian Mint as a go-to spot for New Bangkok-style cuisine in a clean, modern, and relaxed atmosphere. Every dish is carefully prepared and thoughtfully presented—from salads to noodles to sushi and more.

Four types of Pad Thai make choosing the right one difficult, though there's no wrong choice; in fact, it's some of the best Pad Thai we've had. Seafood lovers will appreciate the simple yet complex flavors of Steamed Sea Bass and Crispy Basil Fish. And don't miss the weekend brunch menu—where Thai comfort food meets American bacon and eggs plus a \$3 pineapple mimosa. Desserts are all fantastic and worth every calorie, and there's a full-service bar with organic wines and martinis.

Multiple locations throughout DFW

asianmint.com



The Blue Fish

The Blue Fish serves some of the freshest fish prepared by talented sushi chefs anywhere. But not everyone likes sushi (or so we've heard) and The Blue Fish accommodates that preference easily with delicious entrees such as Korean Style Slow Braised Short Ribs, Chicken Teriyaki and Sautéed Jumbo Prawns. A variety of small plate appetizers, craft cocktails, and extensive wine and sake offerings help make this family friendly place a local favorite.

940 Garden Park Dr. | Allen

(972) 908-3433 | thebluefishsushi.com

C Rolls Sushi

C Rolls offers what we like to call "knock your socks off sushi." There's beautifully presented sushi, sashimi, raw rolls, cooked rolls, veggie rolls and—for those non-sushi folks (is there still such a thing?)—plenty of "small food" options including baked green mussels, jalapeño tempura (yummm), soft shell crab and BBQ ribs. C Rolls also offers a lunch roll combo including a generous roll of your choice, four pieces of California roll, miso soup, garden salad and a drink for just \$11.99. This is the kind of place where entrees are so pretty, you'll even want to eat the garnish. Be sure to ask about catering options and reasonably-priced party platters for your next big event.

18101 Preston Rd., Ste. 300 | Dallas,

(972) 447-4900 | crollsushi.com



Howard Wang's

While the Grills and the Brasserie offer slightly different menus, Howard Wang's is famous for nicely-sized portions of well-seasoned Asian Fusion food, served in a sleek, contemporary atmosphere. Large round tables make it the perfect place to meet up with friends after work, or host

a big family gathering. Whether you opt for something hearty, such as Kung Pao Chicken, or Beef and Broccoli Stir Fry, or lighter fare, such as steamed chicken and vegetables with sauce on the side, you're sure to leave satisfied. There's

a nice selection for vegetarians, too. A full bar, including beer, wine and mixology-driven cocktails, rounds out your meal perfectly.

4343 W. Northwest Hwy., Suite 345 | Dallas

(214) 366-1606

1471 E. Southlake Blvd. | Southlake

(817) 488-4666

3223 Lemmon Ave., Suite 103 | Dallas

(214) 954-9558

6740 Winning Dr. | Frisco

(469) 213-2002

The Star in Frisco

6740 Winning Dr., Ste. 1000 | Frisco

(469) 213-2002

hwrestaurants.com

Mr. Wok

Located in what looks like a former Pizza Hut, this is anything but a chain restaurant. From Tom Chung Ramen to Egg Foo Young and everything in between—everything is good. Do not miss two of their most popular dishes: Peking Duck and Beggar's Chicken. The succulent duck is carved tableside and made daily; when they run out, they're out—so get there early. After the meat's been carved, your server will ask whether you want the bones in a soup or stir-fried. Ask for a little bit of both—you'll thank

us. Beggar's Chicken is a whole chicken stuffed with Chinese sticky rice that's been stir-fried with shallot, Cantonese sausage, veggies, and five-spice powder and then wrapped in lotus, bamboo leaves, and bread crust, sealing in the juices and flavors during its 22-hour basting (yes, 22). Order the Chicken two days in advance; it's worth the forethought. BYOB.

2600 14th Street | Plano
mr-wok.com

Royal China

A family-owned Dallas favorite since 1974, Royal China offers an extensive menu of popular Chinese and Chinese-American classics, such as Cashew Chicken, Mongolian Beef, and Shrimp with Honey Walnuts—and all are consistently delicious. But it just might be the noodles—house made, from scratch—that keeps existing fans happiest and newer ones clamoring for more. Try the Dumpling Sampler and/or Xiao-Long-Bao (soup dumplings), which are traditionally filled with pork, jicama and meat gelatin. Each dumpling gives you a wonderful, chewy bite of dumpling and inside, broth that is meant to be slurped once it has cooled a bit. This is the kind of place where you find yourself asking your server what the guy at the next table ordered, so you can have it next time. Service is exceptionally friendly and kids and larger parties are welcomed.

Full bar, too.

6025 Royal Ln., Suite 201 | Dallas
(214) 361-1771 | royalchinadallas.com

Samui Thai

If you're looking for great Thai food, step right into Samui. Upscale Thai décor makes it a sophisticated option for evening dining but don't overlook the lunch specials—generously portioned and very reasonably priced. Too many menu choices to decide? Start with the Original Sampler Platter with something for everyone in your party including Chicken Satay, Sun Wrapped Shrimp, Calamari, Bags of Gold, Monsoon Roll, Sunshine Roll, and Veggie Tempura. Big Bowl Soups are a meal in and of themselves, and standout entrees include Pad Kee Mow (wide rice noodles, eggs, basil, and veggies in light soy sauce and paprika) and Panang Beef (flank steak simmered in coconut panang curry). There's also a nice cocktail menu—we keep coming back for the Lychee Martini.

5700 Legacy Dr., Suite A1 | Plano
(972) 398-2807 | samuithai.com



Tukta Thai

If you're looking for great Thai food, step right into Samui. Upscale Thai décor makes it a sophisticated option for evening dining but don't overlook the lunch specials—generously portioned and very reasonably priced. Too many menu choices to decide? Start with the Original Sampler Platter

with something for everyone in your party including Chicken Satay, Sun Wrapped Shrimp, Calamari, Bags of Gold, Monsoon Roll, Sunshine Roll, and Veggie Tempura. Big Bowl Soups are a meal in and of themselves, and standout entrees include Pad Kee Mow (wide rice noodles, eggs, basil, and veggies in light soy sauce and paprika) and Panang Beef (flank steak simmered in coconut panang curry). There's also a nice cocktail menu—we keep coming back for the Lychee Martini.

9625 Plano Rd., Ste. 500 | Dallas

(214) 342-0121 | tuktathairestaurant.org

Yao Fuzi

If there's such a restaurant genre as "upscale, Chinese comfort food, served in a romantic setting with great cocktails," then Yao Fuzi has nailed it. From Shanghai-style soup dumplings to Pork Steamed Buns and Ma Po Tofu to Kung Pao Chicken—everything is freshly made and utterly delicious. Some delightfully unexpected twists also make an appearance, like Summer Rolls with Spicy Ahi Tuna and Asian Pear, Lamb with Scallions, and Jalapeño Chicken. Yao Fuzi aims to please both the diner looking for familiar Chinese favorites, as well as those looking for something a bit more adventurous. Yao's extensive menu of Special Martinis is a refreshing departure from most Chinese restaurants: don't miss the Lychee Grapefruit-tini or the Orange Crush-tini with Absolut mandarin vodka, fresh-squeezed orange juice, and Grand Marnier.

4757 W. Park Blvd., Ste. 108 | Plano
(214) 473-9267 | yaofuzi.com

BARBEQUE

Hutchins BBQ

It's rare to find a Texan who doesn't take BBQ seriously, but the Hutchins family manages to take it to the next level. Meats slowly smoked over

pecan and oak woods and pits that run 24/7 ensure every pig, cow, turkey and chicken tastes as mouthwatering as it looks. By the plate or by the pound, you'll find freshly made sausages, brisket, ham and ribs, and for goodness' sake, don't forget to add in a dozen or so brisket stuffed jalapeños (available on weekends). Sides are homey and filling, and the catfish—really good—is a nice alternative for any pescatarians in your group.

1301 N. Tennessee St. | McKinney
(972) 548-2629

9225 Preston Rd. | Frisco
(972) 540-1920 | hutchinsbbq.com

Kenny's Smoke House

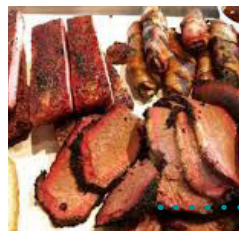
No doubt about it—Texans love barbecue. But the thing that makes Kenny's Smoke House so special is that it offers more than just standard Texas barbecue fare. Tasty eats like smoky Pulled Pork Tostadas are featured alongside must-have brisket, sausage and ribs. Even sandwiches and salads get the Smoke House treatment with ingredients like smoked turkey and smoked bacon, and don't miss the Smoked Gouda Mac n Cheese. A family style to-go menu makes this a great party option, too.

5760 Legacy Dr. | Plano
kennysmoke.com

SMOKE

What's not to love about Smoke? The food is delicious, the service is spot-on, the décor is warm and cozy, and the beautiful, covered patios are romantic and also a great place for people watching. And since it's date night, after all, don't miss the fire roasted oysters with scampi butter, chorizo and ash salsa. The Dallas location is small and charming with a retro feel (it's adjacent to the Belmont Hotel), offering excellent Texas-sized hospitality.

901 Fort Worth Ave. | Dallas
(214) 393-4141 | smokerestaurant.com



Ten50 BBQ

What can we say? We love Ten50. Yes, the BBQ is everything you could wish for in true Texas BBQ (meaty ribs, succulent sausage, juicy brisket), and desserts and sides are delicious (don't miss the crispy fried okra and extra cheesy mac 'n cheese). But we also love the restaurant's cool Austin vibe

and the opportunity to simply chill outdoors with good friends and a great plate of food, just off Central Expressway. The friendly staff will be happy to help you navigate through the cafeteria-style ordering process; you choose your protein first, then go inside for everything else. Weekends can get crowded, but once you've grabbed your spot, feel free to sit back, sip a beer and stay a while.

901 Fort Worth Ave. | Dallas
(214) 393-4141 | ten50bbq.com

BURGERS

Grub Burger Bar

While this is definitely a darn good burger bar, a few surprises on the menu take it up several notches. For lighter fare, the Ahi Tuna Salad is tossed with a kicking-it wasabi-teriyaki vinaigrette. And you certainly wouldn't expect Crawfish Pistolettes at a burger joint, now would you? And then there's made-from-scratch étouffée, wrapped in a French bread roll and served with house made Mississippi Comeback Sauce. Veggie burgers are actually flavorful and a nice alternative to beef, as is the Jive Turkey Burger with pesto, chipotle aioli and avocado. Optional burger toppings are fun and inventive, from fried eggs to ghost chili sauce. And don't miss the "Happier Hour" with \$3, \$4 and \$5 drinks, killer milkshakes and generous appetizers, enough to make a serious dent in your appetite.

4925 Greenville Ave., Ste. 150 | Dallas
(972) 370-3636

8255 Preston Rd., Ste. 300 | Plano

(972) 535-5157 | grubburgerbar.com

Hopdoddy

Hopdoddy believes "happy burgers" start with "happy cows"—humanely raised and without any added chemicals or hormones. In fact, just about everything at Hopdoddy is "happy": local and organic vegetables, hand-cut fries, made from scratch buns (including gluten-free options) and craft beers. There's no table service, per se, but staff helps you find a seat and is more than "happy" to bring you refills or anything else you need. Waits at the Preston Center location can be long at lunch but worth it.

Preston Center

6030 Luther Ln., Ste. 100 | Dallas
(214) 363-2337

3227 McKinney Ave., Ste. 102 | Dallas

(214) 871-2337

5100 Belt Line Rd., Ste. 502 | Addison
(972) 387-2337 | hopdoddy.com

Jake's Uptown: Burgers, Beer & Atmosphere

Now this is where you take out-of-town visitors for a really great, no muss/no fuss Texas-style hamburger. Yeah, there are a couple of obligatory salads on the menu but really, who cares? If you're at Jake's, you're there for fried, battered and delicious. Even desserts are fried. Really, it all goes back to the famous poppy seed buns, all crunchy and toasty. "Vegetables" include Fried Pickle Chips and even Fried Green Beans (See, Mom? We're eating our greens!). There are giant TV screens everywhere, showcasing a plethora of near and far sports channels, and beer is always frosty—whether in bottles or on tap. Servers are friendly, and you're welcome to stay for as little or as long as you like.

Multiple locations throughout DFW
jakesuptown.com



Kenny's Burger Joint

Whether you're in the mood for a really great, classic burger like Zed's Straight Up or something a little different like Mushroom Brie or Black & Blue (with Cajun spices and bleu cheese), Kenny's doesn't disappoint. Loaded Cheese Fries are the bomb here, and if you're really feeling indulgent, don't forget the thick cut onion rings—they're epic.

1377 Legacy Dr. | Frisco
(214) 618-8001

5809 Preston Rd. | Plano

(972) 378-0999 | kennysburgerjoint.com

Liberty Burger

Liberty Burger knows how to keep things lovingly local, from grass-fed, minimally processed beef to artisan buns and beyond. Even the vegetables used in its famously fresh veggie burger are grown locally. As if that weren't enough, Liberty supports numerous local schools, nonprofits, and fundraisers—all the more reason to feel good about your visit. Start with an order of Big O rings, done steakhouse style, then move on to your choice of burger (juicy beef, lamb, veggie, ahi tuna, or less fat/all flavor bison) with a clever variety of toppings. We love The Nooner with cheese, bacon, ham, hash browns, and a fried egg—everything it came with a nap! Salads are just as carefully prepared as everything else and filling, too. Round out your meal with an adult shake or cocktail and if you possibly have room, a delicious mini pie.

Multiple locations throughout DFW
www.givemelibertyburger.com



Snuffer's

If loaded cheese fries—the kind with tons of gooey cheddar, chopped bacon, jalapeños, and chives—are your thing, then you probably already know about Snuffer's. In fact, lots of folks say Snuffer's cheese fries are THE best in the Metroplex. But let us not

forget that this is a burger place, too, so try not to fill up on those fries. We drool over the sweet and tangy Dr. Pepper BBQ Bacon Burger; the Green Chile Cheeseburger is also outstanding. Or, skip the burgers and go for the Texas Giant Chili Dog or Black Angus Steak Strips with cream gravy. You can thank us *after* you've hit the treadmill. Or, opt for one of the lighter menu items, like the Chicken Strip Salad with grilled fajita chicken or Grilled Chicken Platter with veggie medley.

Multiple locations throughout DFW
snuffers.com

Village Burger Bar

Remember Monk's on Seinfeld, the café where the group gathered regularly to nosh and chat? That's how it is at Village Burger Bar in Watters Creek. Yes, the food is stellar (Cheffed-Up Gourmet Burgers, Truffle Fries and Decadent Shakes), but it's also a place where family comes first. Many customers pop in several times a week to watch games and let the kids run around. Its All Day/Every Day happy hour is also a draw.

957 Garden Park Dr. | Allen (469) 854-6616
5700 Legacy Dr. | Plano (972) 801-2772
[villageburgerbar.com](#)

CAFÉS & DINERS



Bread Winners Café and Bakery

Is your family having a tough time deciding what's for dinner (or breakfast or brunch)? Bring 'em on over to Breadwinners. Southern Lump Crab Cakes with spicy remoulade? No problem. Free-Range Roasted Chicken with

fresh herbs, seasonal vegetable orzo, and peppadew vinaigrette? Yep. Big, juicy Green Chile Jalapeño Bacon Burger? Of course! How about something more obscure, like Smoked Gouda Fondue with basil, or Pork Belly Sliders? Breadwinners has those, too. Don't worry, if you've got a hankering for big, hearty breakfast items, such as Beeman Ranch Akaushi Strip Steak & Eggs or one of several Eggs Benedict varieties, you won't be disappointed. Stop by the mouth-watering bakery on your way out for a little something to enjoy later, all by yourself.

Uptown, Inwood Village, Plano, NorthPark Center
[breadwinnerscafe.com](#)

Café Brazil

While this Dallas staple offers a varied menu of appetizers, soups, salads, entrees, desserts, coffees, and more, ingredients lean heavily toward Mexico—not Brazil. We're okay with that though because tasty, comfort food options abound. Breakfast portions are generous, and most entrees include a signature side of crispy Roasted Rosemary Potatoes or Fried Sweet Potatoes. Migas with house made chorizo really hit the spot. Several locations are open 24 hours on the weekends, and the University Park location is open 24 hours always. It's not easy to find that in Dallas!

Multiple locations in DFW | [cafebrazil.com](#)

Café Intermezzo

If you've been lucky enough to travel throughout Europe and find yourself longing for the distinctive ambience of a Viennese coffeehouse, you're in luck with Café Intermezzo. The word "intermezzo" means intermission, and in true form, this place provides a much-needed break in your daily routine. Whether you're in the mood for a hearty breakfast served all day (how about a rich Crab and Sherry Crepe?), classic Croque Monsieur with ham, Swiss, Mornay sauce and mustard, or a charcuterie platter, you'll savor every bite. If your sweet tooth is talking to you, you'll find over 48 varieties of homemade desserts daily.

The Shops at Legacy

7401 Lone Star Dr. | Plano
(404) 835-3410 | [cafeintermezzo.com](#)

Café Mila

Café Mila's intent from their inception was to create a neighborhood kitchen that felt like coming home. A family-owned spot in The Colony with a cozy vibe, Café Mila is perfect for enjoying \$1 mimosas (with purchase, on weekends) and a daily, hearty selection of egg sandwiches, pancakes, waffles, flatbreads, and more. The entire menu is made from scratch—down to their homemade syrups. Service is friendly, and if you're unsure what to order, the knowledgeable staff is happy to make recommendations.

6800 Windhaven Pkwy. Ste. 105 | The Colony
(972) 307-4247 | [cafe-mila.com](#)

Cindi's NY Deli

If you're looking for authentic New York deli food, go to Cindi's. Now. Oh, and it just happens to be owned by a lovely Vietnamese woman named Anh Vo. House made bagels and breads, Reubens, patty melts, generous omelets and matzo ball soup are just a few of the things that keep transplanted New Yorkers and original Dallasites alike flocking to Cindi's—morning, noon and night. The menu's huge, so suffice it to say, if you've got a taste for something, Cindi's probably has it—and it's all good. Breakfast served all day and catering available. With locations throughout the Metroplex, there's sure to be a Cindi's near you.

Five locations throughout the Metroplex
[cindisnydeli.com](#)

Corner Market

This beloved neighborhood staple on Greenville Avenue offers fantastic coffee, delicious pastries and house made breakfast and lunch items. A few additional bonuses: it's connected on one side to a gluten-free bakery

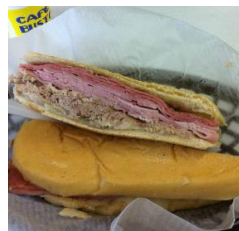
and on the other to a darling flower/gift shop offering reasonably-priced, hand-tied bouquets. With cute, local M-street names for a variety of hot and cold sandwiches and a deli case of nicely presented cold salads, there's something here for everyone—whether you're looking for a place to roost/work, takeout or catering. Bread is baked daily from Empire Bakery, meats are preservative free, veggies and herbs are from the rooftop garden, and even the eggs are from the Corner Market's very own chicken coop. Don't miss the mile-high huevos rancheros and Belgian waffles on weekends.

3426 Greenville Ave. | Dallas
(214) 826-8282 | [cornermarketdallas.com](#)

Crossroads Diner

Crossroads relocated to the NE corner of Preston and Campbell, making this former Walnut Hill favorite even more convenient for North Dallas-ites. Yes, the famous sticky buns are ooey, gooey, and over-the-top, studded with chopped pecans, caramel, and cinnamon—but this is a diner after all. You can't go wrong with the made-from-scratch, blueberry pancakes and hearty frittatas, but you'll also want to try lunchtime fare such as My Mom's Egg Salad Sandwich on wheat toast or the sublime Crispy Fried Chicken and Warm Brie sandwich. Crossroads welcomes kids and large parties, and, while this busy place doesn't take reservations, simply download the Nowait app and you'll get a text when your table is ready.

17194 Preston Rd., Ste. 101 | Dallas
(214) 346-3491 | [crossroads-diner.com](#)



Cuban Dulceria International Bakery

Tucked away in a sleepy (read: tired) shopping center in Carrollton just off George Bush lies this tiny treasure, operated by the lovely Vazquez sisters. (Their parents opened the bakery back in 1979.) It's the kind of place that you try once, then hesitate telling

your friends about it because basically you're selfish, and you want the mind-blowing café con leches, cortaditos (espresso, steamed milk, foam, sugar) and freshly-baked Cuban pastries all to yourself. We don't blame you. With just a few tables inside and out, you'd better be prepared to wait, but while you do, enjoy the black-and-white family photos of days-gone-by in Cuba. Do. Not. Miss. The sandwiches, particularly the Media Noche, stacked with meat and pickles and pressed onto freshly baked Cuban bread.

2662 N. Josey Ln. | Carrollton
(972) 242-3797

1017 S. Broadway St. | Carrollton
(972) 466-2253 | [cubanbakerydfw.com](#)

Deli News

Sometimes, you've just gotta have a sandwich—a really big, juicy one on pillowy bread, piled high with deli meats, cheese and condiments. And Deli News, a true New York-style deli, restaurant and bakery has served the best for the past twenty-two years. They've got everything the ex-New Yorker is looking for: whitefish, chopped liver, pastrami and more. But they do dinner, too. Dine in or take out (they also cater) from their hot food menu including beef stroganoff, boiled chicken in the pot with matzo balls, stuffed cabbage rolls and braised short ribs. What are you waiting for?

17062 Preston Rd. | Dallas
(972) 733-3354 | [delinewsDallas.com](#)

Dream Café

This favorite breakfast-lunch-dinner-brunch spot, equally popular among young, energetic families and sleepy singles sporting disheveled hair, offers something for everyone: vegetarian entrees so hearty you'll never miss the meat; gluten-free dishes; breakfast items for dinner (Chicken and Waffles with bacon gravy?); and plenty more. Just looking for a nosh? Try the Blue Cheese Chips loaded with apple-smoked bacon and scallions or the Thai Crab Fritters with lemongrass, lime leaf, buttermilk, and chile. With friendly service and cocktail offerings, the dream is very much alive. Now with a location in Lakewood.

Locations in Addison, Uptown, Lakewood
[thedreamcafe.com](#)

Fifth Street Patio Café

This is a terrific place for patio dining—and they're open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. We adore the Bananas Foster French Toast, the Kentucky Hot Brown and the Frisco Cheesesteak (notice—we like decadent food!). Waits can be long, especially on weekends, but the food and the

vibrant scene are definitely worth it.

8621 5th St. | Frisco
(972) 377-3483 | [5thstreetcafe.com](#)

First Watch

Sure, these days you can get trendy and healthy menu items like avocado toast at just about anywhere, but at this place, it's over-the-top good with smashed avocado, extra virgin olive oil, a squeeze of lemon and Malden sea salt. A seasonal menu focusing on fresh produce offers lighter fare in warmer months and comfort food in cooler months, making it a perfect choice any time of the year. Carnivores shouldn't miss the scrumptious Millionaire's Bacon—four slices of hardwood smoked bacon baked with brown sugar, black pepper, cayenne and a maple syrup drizzle, and the Power Bowl made with protein-packed quinoa, veggies and lemon chicken breast is a perfect choice for lunch. Open for breakfast, brunch and lunch.

Multiple locations throughout DFW
[firstwatch.com](#)

Hugs Café

Everything about Hugs makes us want to smile—from the friendly staff, to the exceptional customer service, to the giant "HUGS" sign on the wall, and of course, to the food. Owner Ruth Thompson created the Hugs concept as a lunch-only place where adults with special needs could find meaningful work and then used her cooking background to create truly delicious menu items. You'll find daily soups, fresh salads and decadent sandwiches that are piled high with tasty fillings. Our favorite just might be The Chickie Hug, made with Hugs' signature chicken salad, cucumber, fresh spinach and tomato on your choice of bread. Ultimate Picnic Potato Salad is a must-try side, and everyone raves about the Signature Wedding Cake Cookies. Closed on Mondays.

224 E. Virginia St. | McKinney
(469) 301-6900 | [hugscfe.org](#)

International House of Pancakes

If plain pancakes aren't your thing, how about something decadent like Tres Leches pancakes layered with creamy vanilla sauce and topped with dulce de leche caramel sauce? Or Belgian Dark Chocolate Mousse pancakes? These aren't just pancakes; they're artful desserts posing as breakfast. IHOP's "limited time offer" menu changes frequently, so you're sure to find something new to try every time you visit. But wait, there's more: Ultimate Steakhburgers are juicy and ginormous or for something lighter, go for the classic Roasted Turkey Sandwich with hand-carved turkey. The menu offers many items as à la carte, side or combo portions, so you can mix-and-match as you wish.

Multiple locations throughout DFW
[ihop.com](#)

Le Peep

With a relaxed atmosphere and extensive menu, including all of your morning favorites (Goopy Buns served with cream cheese and Mom's Sassy Apples, giant omelets, skillet, pancakes, crepes—you name it), Le Peep can't be beat for breakfast. But that doesn't mean you should skip the lunch menu: sandwiches and salads are sized generously enough to power you through your busy afternoon, and the Signature Burger served on a brioche bun is worth a trip by itself. We also love the savory Monte Cristo Crepes topped with powdered sugar, sliced strawberries and raspberry sauce.

Multiple locations throughout DFW
[lepeep.com](#)

Mama's Daughters' Diner

If your own mama always told you to "clean your plate," then you'd better come to Mama's Daughters' Diner hungry. This family-owned and operated business (since 1958!) is currently run by three generations, serving generous portions of made-from-scratch yumminess throughout the day. Daily specials are of the "Meat & 3" variety (entrée plus your choice of three sides) and priced at just \$10.50—chicken and dumplings and meatloaf are standouts. Pies and cobblers are decadent and also available in whole sizes for takeout. Speaking of takeout, Mama's offers corporate catering and delivery, so be sure to call them for your next event—your staff will love you for it.

Multiple locations throughout DFW
[mamasdaughtersdiner.com](#)

Maple Leaf Diner

Calling all Dallas-based Canadians, and friends of Canadians! When ex-pats and experienced restaurateurs, Michael Delaurier and Chef Debra Delaurier, couldn't find the Canadian comfort food they craved in the Metroplex, they created their own place. Maple Leaf's menu offers what Canadians dream about: poutine (French fries topped with cheese

goodEATS

curds and gravy), peameal bacon (aka “real” Canadian bacon) and butter tarts. For a little bit of Canada meets Texas, try the scrumptious Southern Poutine with chicken fried chicken and white gravy. And with all-day breakfast plus a lengthy menu of burgers, wraps and hearty entrees, it’s a pretty terrific spot for family dining, eh?

12817 Preston Rd., Ste. 129 | Dallas
(214) 434-1626 | mldiner.com

Neuhaus Cafe

When’s the best time to stop by Neuhaus? How about morning, noon, afternoon, and evening! This lovely European-style spot has been delighting Dallasites’ taste buds for 30 years, offering a wide selection of coffees, breakfast, light bites, entrees, desserts, and candy—lots of candy (available by the pound and also prepackaged for gift giving). Running errands and looking for a light bite? Try one of the soups—Chicken Tortilla and Creamy Carrot are two excellent choices; add on the Beverly Hills Cobb Salad for a heartier appetite. Sandwiches are stellar and come with house-made potato chips. There are plenty of options for gluten-free diets, vegetarians, and vegans. Be sure to save room for a yummy old-fashioned ice cream sundae.

5959 Royal Ln., Ste. 626 | Dallas
(214) 739-4600 | neuhauscafe.com

Norma’s Café

Since 1956, Norma’s has been serving up its own brand of delicious fare and down-home hospitality. From giant omelets stuffed to the brim, to burgers, sandwiches, and so much more, narrowing down your choices can be a challenge. Everyone loves Norma’s biscuits, but don’t eat too many of them or you won’t have room for things like the Chicken Fried Steak (one of DFW’s best), Open-Faced Pot Roast Sandwich on Texas toast served with mashed potatoes and smothered with gravy, or the ubiquitous diner Patty Melt, positively oozing with Swiss Cheese and smothered onions. Don’t forget the pies! You can’t leave without indulging in one of Norma’s Mile-High Cream Pies™; the coconut version is an otherworldly experience.

Locations in Addison, Frisco, Oak Cliff
normascafe.com



Old West Cafe

This is the kind of homey café where service is friendly and cowboy/cowgirl-themed food rules—from breakfast favorites like the Gunslinger (ham and eggs plus two sides), to several versions of Sinkers N’ Slippers (loaded biscuits and gravy), to good ole Tex-Mex favorites (huevos, migas, etc.). Its motto is simple: Good Food - Get Some, so be sure to get some equally terrific lunch options like Mamaw’s Meatloaf and Chicken Fried Steak, nestled into a giant pool of red or cream gravy. If you’re craving something green, salads are hearty and delicious—we crave the Some Beach, generously studded with strawberries, candied pecans and blue cheese crumbles, drizzled with citrus-mango vinaigrette. Old West makes us want to run out and rope a cow or two, just so we can burn off calories and come back for more. Open for breakfast and lunch.

2420 S. Interstate 35 E | Denton
(940) 808-0081 | oldwestcafe.us

Snug on the Square

Snug is like a hug, tucked into a square. Does that make sense? Maybe it will when we tell you Snug offers delicious hand-crafted coffee beverages and ginormous portions of omelets, breakfast sandwiches, hearty soups, sandwich melts and salads—and both breakfast and lunch are offered every day, all day. If you live in McKinney, you’re lucky—you can just stumble into the square for a Snug brunch any ole time you like (up until 3 pm on Saturdays). The rest of us will make our visit a mini day trip, first filling up at Snug, then burning off those calories with a few strolls around the courthouse square, stopping in at all those cute, independently-owned shops. Waits can be long, especially on the weekends, but it’s worth it.

109 N. Kentucky St. | McKinney
(972) 548-7684 | snugonthesquare.com

Spoons

Located right on the square in beautiful, historic McKinney, Spoons offers breakfast all day plus a plethora of delicious sandwiches, burgers and hot dogs, soups and salads—something to suit everyone’s culinary cravings. Start by sharing an order of Cottage Potatoes All the Way—basically, a breakfast version of cheese fries: house potatoes smothered with Cheddar and Pepper Jack cheeses, crumbled apple smoked bacon and a side

of Spoons’ salsa. Spoons is famous for its chicken salad, and once you’ve tried it, you’ll know why: diced red grapes, celery, and pecans, mixed with mayonnaise and pickle relish, served on bread or slider buns, make it a standout. It’s a terrific place to chill with family and friends after shopping “The Square.” Hint: Do not miss out on the killer desserts including homemade pies (might we suggest coconut cream!), scones and Belgium waffles with toppings like ice cream, hot fudge and bananas. Catering available, too.

100 E. Louisiana St. | McKinney
(972) 548-6900 | spoonscafe.com



Sunny Street Café

If you’re looking for a new favorite breakfast/lunch spot, head on over to the sunny side of the street. Pancakes here are so fluffy, you could “use them as pillows,” but instead, you’ll devour them (especially the dizzyingly good Cinnamon Roll pancakes). Loaded Hash Browns with eggs, sausage,

cheese, and sautéed onions are a carb lover’s dream date; the only problem is deciding between them and the Stuffed Biscuits & Gravy. For lunch, burgers, sandwiches, and salads are generously portioned and made from scratch. Service is always with a smile.

Multiple locations throughout DFW
sunnystreetcafe.com

CAJUN • • • • •



Amberjax

This light and spacious Louisiana-style eatery has plenty to offer. Not only is it smack-dab in the middle of one of Dallas’ hottest dining destinations for date night and more, the freshly prepared seafood is tough to beat. Whether you’ve got a hankering for Down Home Shrimp and Grits, Lobster Mac & Cheese or maybe something lighter like Seared Yellowfin Tuna with Wasabi, Ponzu and Ginger, Amberjax will not disappoint. Don’t like fishy things? No worries. They also offer delicious chicken and beef.

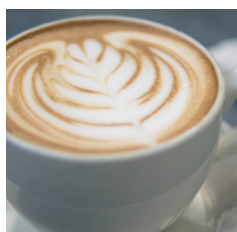
3011 Gulden Ln., Ste. 107 | Dallas
(469) 513-9088 | amberjax.net

Lava Cantina

With its newest location in The Colony and two established locations in Baton Rouge, Lava Cantina offers a unique dining/entertainment concept that father and son owners Steve and Ian Vaughn like to call, “Creole food with a Mexican twist.” The place is flooded with music memorabilia, making it the perfect backdrop to enjoy live outdoor bands, a rooftop patio, fantastic food, and plenty of adult beverages. This is where you want to people watch, with that just-right combination of Austin-esque outdoorsy-ness with a nod to bigger venues such as House of Blues. Grab a nosh or a meal: appetizer standouts include Crawfish, Alligator and Chorizo Dip served with tortilla chips, and Great Balls of Fire (basically, rice balls) made with boudin sausage. Entrees can be as light or as decadent as your waistline prefers, and Sunday jazz brunch is a nice way to round out the weekend with friends or family.

5805 Grandscape Blvd. | The Colony
(214) 618-6893 | lavacantina.com

COFFEEHOUSES • • • • •



Ascension Coffee

“Ascension” implies something that has risen to a higher level—and the coffee at this place is certainly given highest priority. We love how folks at Ascension describe coffee as “complex like wine, communal like beer, but habitual like water.” The food menu is also given emphasis with

chef-driven, on-trend items such as burrata and tomato jam on toast, and on weekends, baked ricotta hotcakes. Feel free to linger at this every-day, all-day, neighborhood destination.

Multiple locations throughout DFW
ascensiondallas.com



The Aussie Grind

Americans love Aussies and vice versa, so why aren’t there more Aussie-style restaurants around here? That’s what we wanted to know, and also why we were so happy when The Aussie Grind opened its doors. This breakfast (or “breaky”)—and-lunch spot offers gourmet menu items with zero attitude—think: hand-rolled potato gnocchi topped with sautéed bacon, onion, sage, and spinach; or lamb cutlet salad, grilled and seasoned with sea salt and rosemary, served on greens with sweet potatoes and Danish feta. Desserts are decadent, and there’s a smashing choice of coffees, too. Don’t wait another day; rush over to The Aussie Grind, mate.

3930 Preston Rd., Ste. 120 | Frisco
(469) 428-0966 | theaussiegrind.com

Boulangerie by Village Baking Company

When the bread is the true star of a café (and the name is French), you know it’s going to be good. Pain au chocolat and croissants are buttery and flaky and as good as you’ll get in a Parisian café—ooh la la! Sandwiches are always delicious and typically sell out, so get there early if you’re thinking lunch. Otherwise, it’s still a lovely place for a pastry, coffee and mingling time—especially on the patio.

1921 Greenville Ave. | Dallas
(214) 821-3477 | villagebakingco.com

Café Mila

Lovely spot in The Colony with a cozy vibe, perfect for enjoying \$1 mimosas (with purchase, on weekends) and a daily, hearty selection of egg sandwiches, pancakes, waffles, flatbreads and more. Service is friendly and if you’re unsure what to order, the staff is happy to make recommendations.

6800 Windhaven Pkwy. Ste. 105 | The Colony
(972) 307-4247

Coffeehouse Cafe

This is the perfect setting for “coffee talks” with friends, weeknight dinner with the family, date night or just about anything else. Coffee is European style, handcrafted, shade grown, mostly organic and all that—but there’s so much more. You’ll also see French press drinks, cold brews and pour overs, as well as delicious “adult” coffees, featuring tasty add-ins like Bailey’s, Frangelico and vanilla vodka. Why not stop in after a movie, when you’re not quite ready to call it a night? Or, maybe you’re in a hurry? No problem; this place even has a drive-thru, offering both beverages and breakfast/lunch items. And pouches are always welcomed on the patio—as long as they don’t drink too many espressos.

6150 Frankford Rd. | Dallas
(972) 232-2333 | coffeehousecafe.com

Dunn Brothers

Small batch, in-store roasting ensures every cup at Dunn Brothers will be fresh—really fresh. This may be a chain, but the emphasis here is on neighborhood and community. Seasonal specials make repeat visits mandatory: Think apple honey toast and pumpkin pie latte. There’s also all-day breakfast and a nice selection of sandwiches, wraps and salads.

3725 Belt Line Rd. | Addison
(972) 406-9711 | dunnbrothers.com

Fiction Coffee

Remember when coffee was just something to wake you up? These days, it’s so much more—now associated with terms like “third wave coffee standards” and “artisanal roasters.” And while Fiction offers high-quality coffee and its baristas are certainly knowledgeable, they’re anything but coffee snobs. This is a laid-back, homey place perfect for meet-ups and enjoying a sweet or savory pastry. Or two.

1623 N. Hall St. | Dallas
(469) 399-7724 | fictioncoffee.com

Filtered

This self-described “craft coffee and culture house” offers classic coffee beverages, international brew methods, pour-overs, and a variety of teas and Italian sodas. Mosey on back to play board games, or just sit and chill when live music is playing. Hip vibe meets McKinney family-friendliness at Filtered.

218 E. Louisiana St. | McKinney
(469) 219-8300 | getmefiltered.com

Fourteen Eighteen Coffeehouse

Brick walls and a pressed tin ceiling give Fourteen Eighteen the big city urban vibe that many of us crave in DFW, especially in the 'burbs, but really, it's about the coffee. And the comfy couches. Oh, and the pastries! If you're craving sweets, there's a generous selection of sumptuous pies from Emporium, flaky pastries, muffins and scones to pair with your double espresso or cappuccino, made with beans roasted by Oak Cliff Coffee Roasters. All-natural fruit smoothies and frappes are a nice alternative, and the non-rushed atmosphere means you can while away here on a Saturday morning, book in hand, feeling somehow transported. Or, bring a date later that night to share dessert.

1418 K Ave. | Plano

(214) 738-5664 | fourteeneighteencoffeehouse.com

**Frogg Coffee Bar & Creperie**

'Cause sometimes you need a crepe, too! And when the craving hits, it's time to head to Frogg. If the Nutella and Stuff crepe (with foster and caramel sauces, whipped cream, apples and cinnamon) isn't enough to make you jump in your car, maybe the friendly and knowledgeable baristas

will win you over with one of their delicious hot beverage options, topped with beautiful latte art designs. Heartier appetites will appreciate their delicious soups, sandwiches and filling omelet crepes. This place feels like a little slice of European heaven.

832 Market St. | Allen

(469) 342-6881 | froggcoffee.com

Global Peace Factory

If you think the name of this place refers to a hippie-dippie alternative to "that other factory" (you know, the one with cheesecake), think again. "Factory" is just for fun, because Global Peace is anything but. A fairly small space with highly customizable drinks, interesting ingredients and super-friendly wait staff are what bring folks back here time and again. We said interesting coffee ingredients, and we meant it: lavender or coconut syrup. Honey. Brown Sugar. There are also plenty of milk alternatives. But what makes Global Peace a standout for us is that it donates a portion of its proceeds to peacework charities. Pretty cool for a place that serves really hot beverages.

1377 Legacy Dr. | Frisco

(214) 705-2664 | globalpeacefactory.com

**Magnolias Sous Le Pont**

Look for the memorable teal façade of this Harwood District favorite, featuring art and handmade gifts by local artisans. Grab a fresh sandwich or salad from the takeaway case and prepare to park yourself in a comfy chair with a steamy cortado, flat white or matcha latte — this is the kind of place

that makes you want to stick around.

2727 N. Harwood St. | Dallas

(469) 249-9222 | magnoliasdallas.com

Mudsmith

This is the kind of straightforward coffee joint that makes life wonderfully simple: a few coffees, a few specialty drinks, some beer, a little wine and kombucha on tap. Daily wraps and sandwiches (a limited selection but all very tasty—served with chips and oddly, a banana—because bananas are awesome) provide something to nosh on while you linger (and you'll definitely want to linger). The atmosphere is Irish pub meets something from the set of Harry Potter with warm, dark woods, old paintings and taxidermied animals. Our only complaint is that folks like it so much here, they tend to set up camp at the small tables rather than grab-and-go, so if you've got work to do (free Wi-Fi), be sure to arrive early in the day. There are also seats at the bar and on the small front patio.

2114 Greenville Ave. | Dallas

(214) 370-9535

817 Matisse Dr. | Fort Worth

(817) 878-4313 | mudsmithcoffee.com

Nerdvana

We're not sure what makes us nerdier: our love of Nerdvana's borrow-or-buy board games library or the fact that we get super excited about a hot beverage served in actual coffee mugs. Never mind. Nerdvana gets a

big thumbs up. Much of the seating in this wide-open space is community-style—perfect for socializing and playing games—with plentiful outlets for all your electronic devices. Teas and fresh juices round out your beverage selection, and the Texas Toasts are definitely worth a tasting. We swooned over the Divine Apple Pecan version.

5757 Main St. | Frisco

(214) 618-8130 | nerdvanafrisco.com

The Nest Café

Yes, we still love trendy avocado toast. But what about mushroom toast with scrambled eggs and ham? Or, hummus toast with beet hummus and micro greens? And while we don't mean to minimize the coffee here—because it's fantastic—the artfully-prepared food is worth a trip alone. The bulgogi panini is also noteworthy, and the clean, minimal atmosphere is sublime.

7777 Warren Pkwy. Ste. 325 | Frisco

(469) 579-4790 | nestcafe.net

Pearl Cup

When Carlene Saelg and Rita Davis moved to Dallas from Austin in early 2007, they began looking for a "real" coffee shop—the kind that served strong, mostly espresso-based drinks that weren't bitter, provided a community atmosphere and welcomed those who wanted to open up a laptop or book and hang out for a while. When they couldn't find one, they boldly opened Pearl Cup. Using only the best, local Texas roasters, Pearl Cup is the perfect venue for true coffee snobs—and we mean that in the most complimentary way. Of course, you must try their creamy, dreamy signature drink: The Pearl Latte™.

2701 Custer Pkwy. | Richardson

(214) 468-8182 | pearlcupcoffee.com

Peridot Coffee

The quote painted on the wall of Peridot says it all: "Life is too short to drink bad coffee." This serene place in Dallas' Koreatown is perfect for either chilling out or accomplishing "things" while enjoying delicious beverages like the beautifully layered Green Tea Flat or Hazelnut Latte with Almond Milk. Feeling peckish? Pastries are also available, or you can enjoy a sweet and filling bubble tea.

2240 Royal Ln. Ste. 101 | Dallas

(469) 567-3852

**Summer Moon Wood-Fired Coffee**

Located in historic downtown Frisco, Summer Moon offers a little taste of urban life, smack dab in the 'burbs. Try a nitro cold brew with "moon milk" (a blend of seven secret ingredients and the equivalent of melted ice cream — yes, please) and a breakfast taco; there are also pastries and wraps/sandwiches. As the name implies, there's drip wood-fired coffee and it's awesome.

6943 Main St. | Frisco

(469) 294-0117 | woodfiredcoffee.com

White Rock Coffee

Whether you're searching for a cool, caffeinated hangout after burning some calories at White Rock Lake or a quick walk-up/drive-thru with plenty of specialty drink options, like Iced Caramel Mocha and Mango Peach Green Iced Tea, White Rock aims to please. The main location on Northwest Highway offers plenty of seating (there's also a small balcony upstairs if the downstairs is full), free Wi-Fi, fresh muffins, bagels and pastries and if you hit them at the right time, free live music, too. It's also a great place to pick up a pound of locally roasted microlot, organic or direct/fair trade beans for your home brews.

Multiple locations throughout DFW

wrcoffee.com

FRENCH**Cadot**

Chef Jean-Marie Cadot, a native of Paris, grew up in a family that has been in the restaurant, hotel and bakery business since 1758—and no, that's not a typo. In other words, Cadot knows food, and the offerings at his eponymous restaurant in North Dallas are French comfort at their finest. Be sure to start with the Onion Soup Gratinée, a rich broth with silky onions, smothered in bubbling cheese. After that, any choice is the right choice. From Duck Terrine with Pistachios, Foie Gras and Truffle, to

Flounder Crusted with Parmesan, to other French classics, such as Steak Frites with Peppercorn Sauce or Coq Au Vin—each dish is both lovingly prepared and expertly executed. Ideal choice for weekday dinner, date night or special occasions.

18111 Preston Rd., Ste. 120 | Dallas

(972) 267-5700 | cadotrestaurant.com

**Edith's French Café****New Listing!**

For a lovely little slice of Parisian café life, stroll on over to Edith's. At the swanky bar where the Eiffel Tower is the focal point, mixologists offer full-service cocktails, coffee, tea, mimosas, champagne, and more to whet your appetite for what lies ahead in the dining

room. You'll have a hard time deciding between a classic French sandwich on crusty baguette or flaky croissant; or maybe you're in the mood for French onion soup, a crisp chopped salad, and pan-seared flounder? It's a French café, after all, so save room for dessert—everything on the Patisserie menu is decadent and authentic. Et mais oui, you must return for brunch and/or Edith's relaxing afternoon tea; there's even a kid's tea menu, so the little ones can be pampered, too.

916 Garden Park Dr., Ste. 500-A | Allen

(972) 954-7212 | edithscafe.com

Lavendou Bistro Provençal

Best described as a "retreat into the French countryside," and we couldn't agree more. The elegant yet cozy dining room, made even cozier with quintessentially French fabrics and decor, is the perfect setting for all of your favorite gatherings—from date night to family dinners. Start with velvety onion soup or lobster bisque to get your taste buds singing, then move right on to the Croquant de Chèvre Chaud—crispy warm goat cheese, Parma ham and pine nuts on a bed of baby greens. Entrees are nicely portioned and everything you'd hope for: Beef Tenderloin with cracked black pepper, Grilled Ribeye with Merlot butter, Pork Tenderloin with sweet and savory lavender honey, and our favorite—Roasted Duck with Cassis. Don't miss the calorie-worthy soufflé with Grand Marnier or chocolate. Be sure to return Monday-Saturday from 11:30-4 for High Tea—a wonderful and relaxing way to spend an afternoon en France.

19009 Preston Rd., Ste. 200 | Dallas

(972) 248-1911 | lavendou.com

rise n°1

Who doesn't love a really good soufflé? And this is definitely the place for one. Whether you go with a savory version like Truffle Infused Mushroom or Herb & Spicy Sausage, or a sweet soufflé like Chocolate or Grand Marnier (we would definitely suggest at least one of each), these are soufflés just like your grandmother used to make, if she happened to be French. Or a chef. Or both. If you're really lucky, you'll enjoy one of their spectacular seasonal soufflés, like Cranberry Champagne. And of course, you simply cannot miss the inadvertent appetizer for which the restaurant has become most famous: Marshmallow Soup. Though not technically marshmallows, small puffs of baked goat cheese float effortlessly on a delicious red broth topped with green pesto. Yum.

5360 West Lovers Ln., Ste. 220 | Dallas

(214) 366-9900 | risesouffle.com

GERMAN**Jörg's Café Vienna**

This quaint café, located in old downtown Plano, is known for some of the best Austrian and German food in the Metroplex, starting with the schnitzel. The schnitzel! Whether you opt for the heartier breaded version or the lighter grilled one—pork, chicken or veal—and with or without a delicate, rich cream sauce, you can't go wrong. Lunch-sized portions are offered between 11-2:30. And while you might not equate vegetarian options with meat-centered Austrian cuisine, there are plenty of side dishes that can be made into a satisfying meal (braised red cabbage, spätzle noodles and paprika cucumber salad are favorites). Kids love the Käse pretzen, a large, warm pretzel with melted Swiss cheese, served with fries. Nice selection of sandwiches and sausages, too. The Bier Stuben accommodates private parties, and the Biergarten is an ideal open-air spot to enjoy food and your favorite European bevvy on a nice day.

1037 E. 15th St. | Plano

(972) 509-5966 | jorgscafevienna.com

Kuby's Sausage House and European Market

Kuby's Catering has been a Dallas staple for decades. From mouth-watering deli trays to box lunches to sit down dinners, everyone loves Kuby's sausages, Oma's Potato Pancakes, Schnitzel, Reuben Sandwiches and Homemade Soups that change daily. Catering starts at just \$14 per person and includes two sausages, several traditional German sides, mustards, buns and even Apple Strudel for dessert.

6601 Snider Plaza | Dallas
(214) 363-2231 | kubys.com

ITALIAN & PIZZA**Andiamo Italian Grill**

This is an old-school Italian restaurant at its very best. Our only problem with the menu is trying to decide what to get—we want it all. Italian favorites are all there (Lasagna, Bolognese, Carbonara, etc.) and delicious, but there are also plenty of twists on classics, like Fettucine con Frutti di Mare with chiles and topped with breadcrumbs; Vitello Romano features tender veal medallions sautéed with baby artichokes, bacon and creamy mushroom sauce; Braciolo di Maiale is a juicy pork chop stuffed with crab meat in a brandy sauce (oh my). Service is knowledgeable and friendly, and the kitchen is happy to make substitutions.

4151 Belt Line Rd., Ste. 101 | Addison
(972) 233-1515 | andiamoitaliangrill.com

Brio Tuscan Grille

While Brio offers a delicious menu to suit many different needs or palates (gluten-free, children's, reduced calorie), it's their friendly, personalized service that really makes them stand out. Or as Brio likes to say, "You're not just a customer, you're considered part of the family." Its "Lighter Side of Tuscany" options are especially popular. Each of these entrees contains 550 calories or less, and with succulent choices such as Shrimp Mediterranean or a 5-ounce Filet Brio with Roasted Vegetables and Mashed Potatoes, you'll never miss the extra calories.

810 Central Exwy. South | Allen
(214) 383-5556 | brioitalian.com

**Campisi's**

When it comes to pizza, Campisi's is a Dallas favorite, but don't forget about the rest of the menu. Since 1946, the Campisi family has served up classic and beloved Italian favorites, from meatballs to artichoke hearts and everything in between. Pasta portions are generous and easily shared, and

all entrées come with a salad, bread and your choice of pasta. In recent years, Campisi's has expanded to include gluten-free pizza crusts, and most lunch specials, priced at just \$9.99 including entrée and drink, keep business folks, students and stay-at-home moms coming through the doors every weekday.

Multiple locations throughout DFW | campisis.us

Carrabba's

Because sometimes, you've just gotta have Italian. Whether you're carb loading with a rich plate of lobster ravioli or keeping it Paleo with a thick and juicy steak or seafood and a side of grilled asparagus, Carrabba's appeals to families and business professionals alike. Life-just-got-easier options, such as online reservations, several under 600-calorie entrées, and a gluten-free menu, make Carrabba's both accessible and upscale. Don't miss the Italian lettuce wraps with wood-grilled chicken, vegetables and ricotta salata, drizzled with port wine reduction. New owner Marco Martinez has a passion for customer service as well as his community, so be sure to say "Ciao" on your next visit.

17548 Dallas Pkwy. | Dallas
(972) 732-7752 | carrabbas.com

**Dough Bros. Italian Kitchen**

What goes better with craft beer than craft pizza? At Dough Bros., pizza and calzone dough is made fresh daily—they even use locally sourced honey. Start with the heavenly Kale Artichoke dip served with pita points, then go for one of the classic pizzas such as Margherita or The Bro (meat

lovers' delight). You can also build your own from a lengthy list of fresh ingredients such as spicy ranch sauce, banana pepper, broccoli and even house made mac and cheese (on a pizza!). Not feeling dough-y? Try the Mediterranean Chicken Salad with tomato, artichoke, black olives and 'shrooms or any of the delicious entrees such as Panko Crusted Chicken Parmesan. A rotating selection of craft beers or a signature cocktail round out your meal and the rustic atmosphere makes this a nice place to linger while waiting for your pie.

Locations in Dallas and The Colony | doughbro.com

Dough Pizzeria Napoletana

Why have just a plain-o pizza when you can have a gourmet Neapolitan pizza—in Plano? With seasonal, foodie-driven ingredients, including house made mozzarella, sautéed prosciutto, wilted arugula and truffle vinaigrette, each pizza is more like a work of art. And what's not to love about a burrata bar? (Think: mozzarella on the outside, cream on the inside). In fact, we'd suggest starting off with the signature Truffle Burrata, filled with mascarpone, black truffle flakes and truffle essence. Then, move right into any one of several pizzas cooked just ninety seconds in an 800+ degree oven for the perfect crust. Dough is a proud member of the Association of Neapolitan Pizzaioli, ensuring its pizza-making techniques adhere to authentic Neapolitan standards. Enjoy upscale surroundings and a cucumber basil martini or two while you're at it.

5960 West Parker Rd., Ste. 286 | Plano
(469) 814-0269 | doughpizzeria.com

**Eddie's Napolis Ristorante Italiano**

If you're craving authentic Italian cuisine, you're craving Eddie's. The quaint, casual vibe is the perfect setting for a big (and we mean big) plate of pasta, crispy pizza, sandwich or entree. Enjoy the complimentary garlic bread knots, but don't fill up on them or you

won't have room for the Calamari Frit Salad—deep-fried, tender calamari (a little bit naughty) atop a crisp salad with roasted garlic, capers, tomatoes and olives (a little bit nice). The Chicken Parmesan is some of the best we've had, served with a side of linguine. Friendly servers are happy to make recommendations.

8822 Teel Pkwy., Ste. 410 | Frisco
(214) 494-4455 | napolisfrisco.com

Grimaldi's

There was a time when you could only get Grimaldi's famous coal-fired brick oven pizza in New York. But that was then. Today, there are Grimaldi's almost everywhere, it seems. While the menu is somewhat basic (pizzas, calzones, salads), it's also consistent. But what we like about the Allen location is that it overlooks the little park at Watters Creek where live music is often played during warmer months.

836 Market St. | Allen
(214) 383-9703 | grimaldispizzeria.com

**Kenny's East Coast Pizza**

If you're from the east coast, there's no doubt about it: you're going to be verrrry picky about your pizza. That's why North Dallas has drawn the lucky straw in pizza eating, because Plano is where native Bostonian (and one of Dallas' fave restaurateurs) Kenny Bowers opened his own pizza place. While

the menu also offers Italian American favorites featured on the menus of his other successful restaurants, expect a selection here focusing mainly on the pie—pizza pie, that is; cooked in a classic Bakers Pride Deck Oven. Handcrafted cocktails and Grey Goose on tap, too? We're lining up at the door.

4701 W Park Blvd., Ste. 101 | Plano
(972) 519-9669 | kennyseastcoastpizza.com

Kenny's Italian Place

This is the real deal when it comes to Southern American Italian comfort food (think: Parmigiana, Picatta and Marsala) in a fun and friendly atmosphere. A nice selection of pastas ranging from vegetarian to killer "Midnight" meatballs as well as seafood, steaks and chops make Kenny's a perfect choice, whether it's family night or date night. Many dishes can be prepared "light" (if you're so inclined), vegetarian or gluten free.

5100 Beltline Rd., Ste. 764 | Dallas
(972) 661-9380 | kennysitalian.com

Mangiamo Italian Restaurant

If you're in the mood for straightforward, authentic Italian cuisine—just like Nonna used to make—this is the place for you. Located in a busy strip center at LBJ and Preston Road, stepping into Mangiamo feels more like a quaint trattoria in the Bronx. All of the "parks" (chicken, eggplant, veal, shrimp), lasagnas, and zitis are worth the trip alone, but many diners come here just for the pizza—real New York style pizza, that is. BYOB is an added bonus and staff is friendly and attentive. Plus, the complimentary garlic dinner rolls!

12835 Preston Rd., Ste. 220 | Dallas
(214) 866-0044

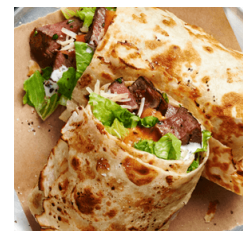
mangiamodallas.com

**Palio's**

When family schedules are in full swing, it's a good idea to have Palio's on speed dial. Each location is privately owned and family operated, offering a friendly neighborhood vibe that makes it a no-brainer place to meet up with friends and family. Oh, and it's BYOB with no cork fees, so bring a

bottle or two and relax while your pizza is being prepared for you. We appreciate Palio's unique ingredient combinations, such as the Nutty Chicken with roasted cashews, fresh mushrooms and spinach, and the Screen on a whole-wheat crust with Alfredo sauce, feta and mozzarella cheeses. Gluten-free crusts are also available. With multiple locations throughout the Metroplex, Palio's can be delivered to your doorstep before your kids can announce, "We're starving!"

Multiple locations throughout DFW
paliospizzacafe.com

**Piada**

When you hear the words "street food," you probably think about Vietnamese, Thai, or Mexican. Rarely, do you associate street food with Italian, so it's nice to find a place founded on that very concept. It all starts with Piada's super thin pizza dough—not quite tortilla, not quite lavash—but

wonderfully chewy and light. From there, a plethora of topping options (delectable meatballs, fried chicken, steak, avocado, greens, etc.) turns the dough into your choice of either a folded/layered sandwich known as a Tasca (pocket) or a Piada (wrap). Street sides are also good and very fresh, including Orzo Crunch or Roasted Corn. Piada's reasonably-priced menu makes it a favorite for a quick bite or a sit-down dinner in a fast, casual atmosphere.

Locations in Frisco, Richardson, Fort Worth
mypiada.com

**Princi Italia New Listing!**

If authentic pizza—to you—means a slightly charred, blistered crust topped with only the freshest, gourmet ingredients (hello, Black Fig & Gorgonzola, house-made pancetta, arugula, and fresh mozzarella), you'll be very happy at Princi. Step into the open, airy dining room and prepare to relax;

in nicer weather, the patio is the place to be. Pasta dishes are straightforward and well-executed; the South Texas Wild Boar Gnocchi is positively sublime. Lunch specials are delicious and affordable, but when it comes to brunch, this just might be one of our favorite brunch places ever. Start with a Tito's Bloody Mary and consider ordering several plates to share with your crew. How could you go wrong with a Princi Crab Cake with poached egg, French Toast Paesano, and Lemon Sole Piccata? One small warning: Don't fill up on the artisanal bread basket—trust us, you'll be tempted.

3300 Dallas Pkwy., Ste. 120 | Plano
(972) 908-2532 | princitalia.com

Roman Cucina

The best way to describe Roman Cucina is just this: simple, delicious and family-friendly. The Dallas location, with strings of party lights and comfy black leather booths, reminds us of something we might see in a Brooklyn, New York neighborhood, and the arched patio provides a lovely place for dining al fresco. The newer Allen location boasts a spacious dining

room as well as an intimate banquet room, both perfect for larger parties. At both locations, you'll find straightforward Italian fare: pastas, subs (worthy of a notable mention, especially the meatball), soups and salads, and classic entrées like Steak Milanese and Eggplant Parmigiana. But unlike a lot of other old-school Italian joints, this one also accommodates egg-free, gluten-free and dairy-free substitutions at low or no additional cost on many of their items. A small but well-priced wine list and cocktails are also available.

7989 Belt Line Rd., Ste. 315 | Dallas
(972) 716-9950

201 E. Bethany Dr., Ste. 1 | Allen
(214) 383-6677 | romancucina.com

Ruggeri's

Ruggeri's has been a favorite destination for authentic Italian cuisine for more than twenty-five years, whether you're looking for a cozy week-night spot for mouthwatering pasta or somewhere to celebrate a special occasion. Soft-Shell Crab Oreganato is a delicious starter, sautéed with lemon, plenty of garlic and oregano. Moving on to pasta, go for Ravioli Fresco del Gioro—tender dough pillows stuffed with sausage and ricotta and topped with a light tomato basil sauce. But the true menu star just might be the 16-ounce veal chop with wild mushrooms and Marsala wine; it melts in your mouth. Craving veal but can't conquer 16-ounces? Go for Vitello di Scampi—veal and shrimp living happily on the same plate, in a light and luscious lemony butter sauce. Traditional Italian desserts (Tiramisu, Cappuccino Pie, Spumone) satisfy your sweet tooth, too.

5950-A Royal Ln. | Dallas
(214) 750-0111 | ruggierisrestaurant.com

Russo's Coal-Fired Italian Kitchen

This Houston-based eatery does offer a well-rounded menu, including Arancini (delectable Sicilian rice balls loaded with herbs and Romano cheese in a rich Bolognese sauce), fantastic Calzones, and standard Italian entrées (Chicken Piccata and the like). That said, the real draw to Russo's is the pizza, thanks to its nearly 1,000-degree coal-fired oven which gives us that chewy, but crispy, crust we love. Try the Prosciutto and Kale with Mozzarella and Ricotta cheese. Feeling carnivorous? The Paesano Napoletana will leave you feeling sated. Russo's is family-friendly, and they cater to both big and small parties.

700 East Campbell Rd. | Richardson
(972) 235-7992 | russoscoalfired.com

Terilli's

Have you tried Terilli's Italchos? What on earth are you waiting for?! Think: an Italian nacho loaded with a sky's-the-limit assortment of toppings, including smoked salmon, calamari, and white truffle oil—what's not to love? Other things to love about Terilli's: an expansive menu that includes all your Italian favorites, from silky pastas to wood fired meats and fish, a full bar with signature ice-cold martinis and a rooftop patio with one of the prettiest views of Dallas. Plus, most nights they play live music. Desserts are solid, but a standout for us is the Xango Cheesecake—filo wrapped, then fried and rolled in cinnamon sugar with amaretto and whipped cream—perfect with an Italian espresso or grappa, if you're living large.

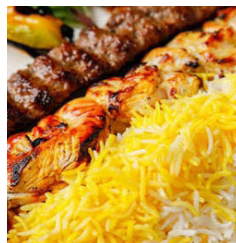
2815 Greenville Ave. | Dallas
(214) 827-3993 | terillis.com

Urban Crust

What's more relaxing than ordering in a pizza? Urban Crust's catering options take care of everything you need whether it's a small pick-up order, a huge catered affair or even their mobile pizza oven at your next home party, complete with two pizza chefs. Pizza is Urban Crust's mainstay but it also offers delicious mini appetizers like Chicken Parmesan Sliders and Bite Size Calzones. Fresh and hearty salads will round out your menu.

1006 East 15th St. | Plano
(972) 509-1400 | urbancrust.com

MEDITERRANEAN



Giovanni's Mediterranean and Italian Cuisine

Why choose between Mediterranean, Persian, and Italian cuisine when Giovanni's offers the best of all three? Giovanni's relaxed atmosphere makes it a perfect spot for a weekday bite with co-workers or a weekend date night or family outing. Start with a refreshing plate of Panir-O-Sabzi, a colorful

plate of feta cheese, radish, cucumber, onion, basil, and mint. Kebabs are well-seasoned and perfectly cooked; meat lasagna is also a standout. Eggplant Stew with chunks of beef, yellow split peas, and strips of fried eggplant is both fragrant and satisfying. Craft cocktails, wine, and beer plus live music on weekends make this a crowd favorite. Oh, and did we mention Saturday night belly dancing? What's not to love?

18484 Preston Rd., Ste. 119 | Dallas
(972) 596-8610 | giovannisusa.com

Mama Pita Mediterranean Grill

If you're looking for affordable and delicious Mediterranean food, Mama Pita is waiting for you. Easily customizable plates, salads and pitas allow you to pick and choose whatever sides you crave, from light and crispy falafel and flatbread to creamy hummus and tzatziki. Kafta (beef kabobs) are tender and delicious—perfect for dipping in one of several garlicky sauces (try the yellow tahini/carrot dip). Counter service is fast and friendly, and the open and airy atmosphere makes it a nice place for dining-in. Or, if you prefer, order online ahead of time and take 'er home.

5800 Legacy Dr., Ste. C6 | Plano
(972) 403-1609 | mamapita.com

Zoë's Kitchen

The name "Zoë's Kitchen" has become synonymous with quick, healthy and delicious Mediterranean food for busy people on the go; it's also a perfect choice for family takeout, offering something for everyone's taste buds. Start with a classic hummus trio appetizer, which includes the classic version, basil pesto and harissa red pepper—served with pita bread, pita chips and plenty of crisp veggies. Kabobs are flavorful and filling, whether you go with skewers of moist chunks of chicken, beef, seafood or veggies. We crave the Bowls, especially the Cauliflower Rice version with house-made tzatziki, Israeli skhug, feta, cucumbers and plenty of fresh dill. There are loads of options for vegetarians, Paleo eaters and those eating gluten-free, and check out the website for additional information on food sensitivities and allergens. When it comes to healthy, delicious food, Zoë's makes us want to say, "Opa!"

Multiple locations throughout DFW
zoeskitchen.com

MEXICAN



Café Malaga

A great pick for tapas and maybe a lovely glass of rosé. Just off the beautiful downtown historic square, Café Malaga's secluded back patio is a bit of a hidden gem but well worth a visit. Tapas standouts include the Lamb Lollipop Chops and gooey Fondue with five different types of cheese.

107 S. Church St. | McKinney
(972) 542-9996 | cafemalaga.com

Casa Mama

If you're looking for a family-friendly dining location offering both authentic Mexican recipes (specifically, from the Santiago Maravatio Guajalato region) and Tex-Mex favorites, Casa Mama is the right place for you. You'll find all your favorite Mexican dishes here and a few pleasant surprises, too, including rich and filling Guiso Pork Stew, homey Tortilla Lasagna, Chipotle Enchiladas, and Ribeye or Salmon Tacos. White Queso is one of the best around, served with light, crispy chips—take it up a notch by adding in ground beef, chorizo or brisket. House made salsa is unique and comes with a free kick. Service is known for being exceptionally friendly, and staff is happy to accommodate any special orders. Don't miss the all-day Tuesday happy hour or the relaxing Sunday brunch.

19129 Preston Rd. | Dallas
(469) 828-1045

1445 Los Rios Blvd., Ste. 301 | Plano
(972) 943-3900 | casamamas.com



Chuy's

What started in Austin in 1982 as fun/funky Tex-Mex joint—where you could grab a beer and chips or a comforting mix of familiar entrees, has since grown into what you might call a Tex-Mex empire, with locations across Texas and 14 other states. Still, Chuy's hasn't lost its charm. And a lot of love

goes into Chuy's food—from hand-pulled chicken in all entrees, to hand-rolled fresh tortillas, to any of the 10 signature sauces made fresh daily—those extra steps really make a difference in both taste and quality. If your appetite's cavernous, you'll definitely want to try a "Big As Yo Face" Burrito or famous Elvis Green Chile Fried Chicken breaded with Lay's potato chips, deep fried and smothered with green chile sauce and cheese. A small but refreshing selection of signature drinks still makes Chuy's a perfect place to kick back—any time, any place.

Multiple locations throughout DFW
chuy.com

Digg's Taco Shop

Dallasites have pretty particular opinions when it comes to tacos, so finding a taco shop that pleases everyone in your group can be challenging. But Digg's has taken care of that with plenty of menu items for vegetarians, Paleo enthusiasts, carnivores and kiddos. The Tex-Mex standards are definitely there, including braised chicken, roasted pork carnitas and slow cooked BBQ brisket. But you'll also find some tasty, spicy surprises, such as habanero shrimp with mango, the Bahn Jovi (basically, their take on a Vietnamese pork sandwich served on a tortilla) and grilled Alaskan flounder with serrano chile sauce. Salsas and queso are solid, but be sure to try a side of plantain chips with house dip, too. Salads and bowls provide healthy options for low-carbers and for those who don't mind carbs, the jelly donut holes are addictive.

6309 Hillcrest Ave. | Dallas
(214) 520-0155

7325 Gaston Ave. | Dallas

(469) 930-9504 | diggstacos.com

Dilla's

If you like quesadillas, you're going to love Dilla's. UT Alum Kyle Gordon created the concept behind Dilla's while still in college, where he consumed more than his share of the beloved Mexican snack. But here, you're in for so much more than the typical tortilla and melted cheese concoction—think ingredients like: smoked brisket, Portobello mushrooms, hatch green chile peppers, bacon, and fries (yes, folks, fries on a quesadilla!). Portions are generous, so come hungry, and for the truly ravenous, go for the Gorilla Fries or Chips—both come nacho-inspired and smothered in hatch chile queso. For those avoiding carbs, the Not-A-Dilla with spinach, romaine, citrus corn salad and your choice of chicken or steak is a nice alternative. Dilla's even offers a delicious black bean spread instead of cheese for vegans wanting to avoid dairy.

2008 Midway Rd. | Plano
(972) 473-4601

3930 Preston Rd., Ste. 140 | Frisco
(469) 362-6123 | dillas.com

El Bolero Cocina Mexicana

This authentic spot draws the inspiration for its food and beverages from the diverse regions of Mexico. The patio has plenty of umbrellas to provide shade, making it an ideal brunch spot; or kick back on an afternoon with one of their outstanding margaritas and some tacos al pastor.

1201 Oak Lawn Ave., Ste. 160 | Dallas
(214) 741-1986 | elboleromexican.com



Gloria's Latin Cuisine

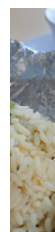
For three-plus decades in the Metroplex, Gloria's (under the loving care of the Fuentes family) has established itself as a date night and family favorite, offering the freshest Salvadorian-inspired food in a casual-chic setting. Start off with an order of pupusas—the dish that "started

it all"—handmade corn tortillas stuffed with gooey cheese, pork or both. Chile Relleno is tender and flavorful, never greasy, and you can't go wrong with any of the seafood specialties such as Camarones a la Plancha (jumbo seasoned shrimp, grilled to perfection). Don't worry, Tex-Mex fans, there's also a section on the menu for you! Some locations convert to dance clubs after hours on weekends (check the website), and brunch at Gloria's is always fun.

Multiple locations throughout DFW
gloriascuisine.com

Hugo's Invitados

A sleek interior and natural lighting provide a gorgeous, relaxed setting for the real reason we love Hugo's, which is the food. Friendly owner Hugo Miranda ensures his passion for Mexican flavors is presented in a unique way on every plate. Everything's fresh and made from scratch, with an



emphasis on delicious, healthy ingredients such as kale, quinoa, Brussels sprouts, and roasted corn. Seafood Enchiladas are bursting with five types of seafood and contrast nicely with pickled cabbage and chile ancho salsa. Simple tacos are not so simple when served on house-made tortillas and stuffed with ingredients such as vegetarian impossible meat (try it!), watercress, and avocado-serrano sauce. Book the Tasting Table with nine of your friends to enjoy world-class tequilas and mezcal, or stop by for daily happy hour specials. "Invitados" means guests, and you'll be more than welcome here.

5240 N. O'Connor Blvd., Ste. 160 | Irving
(214) 496-0590
hugosinvidados.com

Javier's

A Knox-Henderson "institution," Javier's is still the go-to place for a guaranteed good time with its bustling crowd of beautiful people and a swanky (just ignore the smoke) cigar bar. No Tex-Mex here. This is authentic Mexico City dining. Don't miss the Filete Cantinflas — tenderloin beef filet stuffed with Chihuahua cheese and topped with mild chile mulatto sauce or the Barra de Navidad — giant shrimp in a delightful diablo sauce. Olé!

4912 Cole Ave. | Dallas
(214) 521-4211 | Javiers.net

Hula Hut

Located on beautiful Lake Lewisville, a visit to Hula Hut feels a lot like a mini beach vacation: think tiki torches, bamboo huts, grass-thatched bars and hanging colored lights galore. Mexonisian-style cuisine (i.e. traditional Tex-Mex with a Polynesian twist) means that there's something for everyone, should you choose to bring a group. While you and your significant other are kicking back with a fishbowl-sized Hu-La-La signature cocktail made for two with three different types of rum (hello, Uber!), nosh on some Palm Tree Hugger Nachos loaded with cheese and other goodies. There are plenty of options for vegetarians, and Fajitas and Tubular Tacos are intensely satisfying as well.

210 E. Eldorado Pkwy. | Little Elm
(214) 618-4852 | hulahutlittletelm.com

Meso Maya

Chef Nico Sanchez's passion for food reflects beautifully in his regionally prepared dishes, such as Pescara Veracruz and Mexico City-style Pozole Verde. Flavors are both bright and complex; for example, Pollo con Mole with a hand-seared bone-in chicken breast, topped with rich sauce and served with sweet plantain. Margaritas are stellar (try the avocado version with fresh pineapple and lime juices), and there's also an award-winning selection of tequilas for those in-the-know. Serving lunch, dinner and a very popular weekend brunch, Meso Maya can accommodate both small and larger parties in a relaxed atmosphere.

Multiple locations throughout DFW
mesomaya.com



Mexican Bar Company

This open dining concept where dining room meets bar, patio and lounge area features vibrant original murals and a lively atmosphere. Start with a mix-and-match of the unique guacamoles and hop right into the "Born in Texas" tacos on freshly made tortillas (the pancita/pork belly is fantastic). You'll find all your other favorites, too, including spicy chorizo flautas, enchiladas and several options if you're feeling seafood-y. Nice cocktail menu (don't miss the "Big Nose" on fire) including a good selection of tequilas.

6121 W. Park Blvd., Ste. RS-10 | Plano
(972) 972-4466 | mexbars.com



Mexican Sugar

If Mexican Sugar doesn't make you want to book a vacation south of the border, pronto, we don't know what will. Chic, hacienda-style design, replete with arched doorways and hardwood floors, showcases perfectly the Latin food and flavors of this Shops at Legacy gem. Fresh, local ingredients and

plenty of lighter fare, too, help make this place a date night/family/crowd pleaser. Don't miss the stellar ceviche and shrimp/crab/avocado cocktail alongside heartier items like enchiladas and a fantastic hamburguesa

with chile bacon, roasted poblano and pickled jalapeño. For carb watchers, all of the fresh tacos can be served with lettuce cups rather than tortillas. "Beautifiers" (aka killer cocktails) are worth the trip alone. We can't get enough of the Smoked Pineapple Margarita and Basil Limonada. Love the Legacy Tequila Flight, too.

7501 Lone Star Dr., Ste. B150 | Plano
(972) 943-0984 | mexicansugarcocina.com

Mia Dia From Scratch

While folks who like Tex Mex food tend to prefer Tex Mex, and those who like Mexican food tend to prefer Mexican, Mia Dia offers the best of both worlds. The name says it all: from scratch. From tamales lovingly stuffed with pork and then topped with New Mexico red and green chile sauces, Oaxacan salsa with crema and pasilla, silky Negra Modelo Glazed Sea Bass to the crowd-pleasing Applewood Smoked Bacon and Chipotle Fajitas, each dish is prepared using mouthwatering ingredients with a flair. Signature items include Chipotle Ribs and wonderful Sopos—corn masa boats topped with Oaxacan black beans, pork belly, queso fresco, crema, micro cilantro, and New Mexico red chile. The Plano location's outdoor patio area is a perfect spot to enjoy one of their more than 25 different margaritas, maybe one of their craft cocktails, or a tequila flight.

Locations in Plano and Grapevine
midiafromscratch.com



Mi Cocina

Great chips, zippy salsa, friendly service, and the infamous Mambo Taxi (an intoxicating—literally—blend of Sauza Silver tequila, lime juice and house made sangria with Pinot Noir, brandy and fruit juices) have ensured that every single person in Dallas (or so we imagine) has been to Mi Cocina at least a

dozen times. While the Brisket Tacos are legendary, and the Queso Blanco with Picadillo Beef is the bomb, for the fitness-minded, the house made soups and hearty salads are also excellent. Feeling fishy? The seared Tilapia Filet with Orange-Garlic Mojo is solid. We'll also take anything they offer, as long as it's smothered in Mi Cocina's silky-smooth mole sauce.

Multiple locations throughout DFW
micocinarestaurants.com

Mr. Mesero

Featuring both "American standards and Mexican classics," this cozy, but popular, McKinney Avenue spot is favored by the in-crowd, making it a wonderful place for a date night or meeting up with friends. During non-peak times, it's also a nice family destination. When the weather's nice, the outdoor patio is especially popular to enjoy a Micorita, a house specialty made with Herradura Jimador tequila. Other favorites include Brisket Tacos and the flat grilled Mico "12" Strip Steak, served with serrano and grilled cherry tomatoes. If you have a hankering for a hot dog, this is the place to go. The Big Dog is made with ¼ pound of Kobe beef, topped with chile, cheese, and onion on a brioche bun.

4444 McKinney Ave. | Dallas
(214) 780-1991 | mrmesero.com



Torchy's Tacos

What better meal than one including the best queso and chips in town? This Austin-based eatery offers what most would call "gourmet" tacos in a fun, casual, *non-gourmet setting. Their taco of the month is always delicious and might include ingredients like pumpkin seed crusted chicken

tenders or escabeche carrots. They also offer hearty breakfast tacos, perfect for out-of-town guests.

Multiple locations throughout DFW
torchystacos.com

Urban Rio Cantina & Grill

As the younger sister restaurant of downtown Plano's popular Urban Crust Wood-Fired Pizza, Urban Rio opened with high expectations—and doesn't disappoint. Tortillas and tamales are made with hand-ground masa, and even the bolillo rolls for the tortas (sandwiches) are made in-house. Start with either Fried Guacamole Bites or a rich bowl of the Rio Queso with or without chorizo-style beef. Heads up—you might not want to share. Quesadillas are a signature dish, served double-stacked "club style" and stuffed with house-smoked brisket, Chimichurri grilled chicken or sautéed veggies. Cocktails are refreshingly unique, and the

open-air bar is a great place to enjoy live music and a lovely view of historic Plano.

1000 E. 14th St., Ste. 100 | Plano
(972) 422-4466 | urbanrio.com



Velvet Taco

When it comes to Texas cuisine, tacos are tops (along, of course, with barbecue) and in Dallas, Velvet Taco is a favorite. "Multi-cultural ingredients" allow diners to experience a little bit of Mexico, India, Cuba, Japan and more—all wrapped in a house made tortilla.

Start with the Red Curry Coconut Queso with pickled onion, Thai basil and crispy blue tortilla chips—it's sublime. Then go straight into what you came for: tacos. Seriously, they're all good, but stand-outs include Annatto Shredded Pork with grilled pineapple on a hibiscus tortilla and Fried Paneer with tomato chutney and tikka sauce. There's no drive-thru, per se, but most locations offer online ordering and a quick pick-up window, making Velvet all the more enticing on busy weeknights.

Multiple locations throughout DFW
velvettaco.com

PUB FARE

Austin Avenue

Now, this is what we call a sports bar. Nothing fancy—just plenty of good grub and suds, and of course, TV screens. But what makes Austin Avenue a local favorite is its festive, neighborhood vibe. March Madness bracket contests with wing specials, dart tournaments, Halloween dress-ups and corporate social hours are really what keep regulars coming back for more.

1801 N. Plano Rd. | Richardson
(972) 907-8003

935 W. Parker Rd. | Plano

(972) 422-8003 | austinavenue.com

Bar Louie

Truly terrific food with something to please every palate keeps Louie's fans clamoring for more. Portions tend to be generous and perfect for sharing: don't miss the Buffalo Chicken Totchos—that's right, folks—tater tots AND tortilla chips, all smothered with cheesy, bacon-y goodness. Flatbreads are excellent, too—the Thai Chicken version is especially popular.

190 East Stacy Rd., Ste. 1000 | Allen
(469) 709-2050 | barlouie.com

Brick House Tavern + Tap

Described as a "sports bar with elevated pub fare," Brick House offers a relaxed atmosphere with enough comfort food to totally blow your diet for the week. Think Chicken and Waffles, Battered Fish and Chips, Steak and Eggs and Drunken Chops. Their late night menu runs until 1 am weeknights and 2 am weekends. Don't miss their famous meatballs, and burgers are decadent.

4900 W. Park Blvd. | Plano
(972) 596-0916

700 W. State Hwy. 114 | Grapevine

(817) 442-9796 | brickhousetavernandtap.com

Buffalo Wild Wings

Hang out at the bar or grab a table—either way, the relaxed atmosphere feels almost like a neighborhood pub. There's an extensive selection of signature sauces and dry seasonings for your chicken "wangs," and plenty of screens for all your sports viewing needs.

Multiple locations throughout DFW
buffalowildwings.com

Christie's Sports Bar & Grill

With its prime location in the Uptown Arts District, dark mahogany walls and brass accents, Christie's feels more like an intimate supper club than sports bar. A large covered patio provides plenty of seating for people-watching on McKinney Avenue.

2811 McKinney Ave., Ste. 22 | Dallas
(214) 954-1511 | christiessportsbar.com

End Zone Bar & Grill

While the End Zone offers plenty of screens for easy game viewing from

every angle, the fun doesn't stop there—a generous happy hour (11 am to 7 pm, most days), AHL poker, live trivia games and karaoke nights make this the kind of place you'll find excuses to visit several nights a week.

3033 W. Parker Rd., Ste. 109 | Plano
(972) 867-3400 | endzonebars.com

Henry's Tavern

Looking for an upscale sports bar/tavern that's also kid-friendly? Henry's is your place. With a full-scale menu (burgers, tacos, pizzas, fresh fish, you name it), you can bring the whole family and enjoy a snack, meal, dinner and even Sunday brunch. There's also live music Tuesday through Saturdays and no cover charge, thank you very much.

5741 Legacy Dr. | Plano
(972) 473-7252 | henrystavern.com

Pluckers

Sometimes, you've just gotta have a good wing. And some waffle fries. And by all means, don't forget the fried pickles. Multiple TV screens and a family-friendly vibe make Pluckers wildly popular, just about any time of the day. Voted "ESPN Top 5 Sports Bar" and "Top 10 Wing Bar" (USA Today), you'll find traditional Buffalo-style wings alongside spicy Korean and Garlic Parmesan varieties. Wash it all down with your favorite brew.

Multiple locations throughout DFW
pluckers.net

Tailgater's Sports Bar & Grill

A cozy atmosphere and neighborhood vibe make Tailgater's a local favorite, where friendly and attentive bartenders will keep those craft beers coming to you for as long as you like. Be sure to pair your cold brew with an order of bacon-wrapped, grilled stuffed jalapeños—these get rave reviews.

5605 Farm to Market 423 | Frisco
(214) 469-1811

The Lion & Crown Pub

This English-style pub offers 38 beers on tap and numerous large screen TVs to catch all of your favorite sporting events. If the game's already over (or your team's losing badly), folks love grabbing a relaxing spot on the patio and enjoying the view, along with some truly delicious pub grub.

932 Garden Park Dr. | Allen
(972) 649-4311 | lionandcrownpub.com

The Nodding Donkey

The Donkey's "chef-driven, scratch menu" isn't just a marketing ploy—these folks are serious about food, and Donkey fans know it. Whether you're looking for something appetizer-ish to pair with your adult beverage, an over-the-top burger or sandwich—piled high with gourmet ingredients—or a super-fresh salad topped with house-made dressings, our voters swear you'll leave satisfied.

2900 Thomas Ave. | Dallas
(214) 922-8898 | thenoddingdonkey.com

SEAFOOD

Dive Coastal Cuisine

Yes, Dive, located in Snider Plaza, attracts ladies who lunch. And ravenous, yet well-heeled SMU students. But what packs in customers for lunch and dinner Monday through Saturday is the food. It's really good, and portions are surprisingly generous. Think the-Hamptons-meets-shabby-chic with convenient counter-service and a strong commitment to seasonal, organic ingredients. As the name suggests, there's a strong bent toward seafood with freshly-shucked oysters, mussels and daily fish specials served with a choice of sauce and two sides. But that's just the beginning. Not feeling fishy? Try the South Beach Turkey Burger with sriracha aioli or the Grilled Churrasco Steak Wrap. One of our faves is the trio salad sampler featuring soba noodles topped with perfectly cooked salmon, agave chicken salad and raw artichoke & herb salad. Cocktails, beer, wine and seasonal sangria round out your swim.

3404 Rankin St. | Dallas
(214) 891-1700 | dive-dallas.com

Fish & Fizz

In 2018, Nick and Kelli Barclay opened this little gem of a fine-casual fish and chip shop as a way to bring "a bit of seaside to the city, without the seagulls," and many say it's the most authentic English fare around. Responsibly-sourced cod is perfectly battered and fried, served atop fat chips on a newspaper-lined tray, and you'll find all the traditional English trimmings such as curry sauce, mushy peas, and malt vinegar. Other Brit favorites include bangers and mash, flaky Cornish pasties, and bubble and squeak. The "fizz" part includes a lovely selection of adult bubbles

(bruts, rosés, proseccos) and both local and European beers, pairing perfectly with the fish.

400 N. Coit Rd., Ste. 1908 | Richardson
(469) 687-0022 | fishandfizz.com



Fish City Grill

Great seafood at affordable prices may seem like an impossible combination, but not at Fish City Grill. Start with an order of Oyster Nachos—plump fried oysters nestled atop crispy tortilla chips, drizzled with chipotle tartar sauce and fresh pico de gallo (make that two orders; they're that good).

Char-grilled Oysters with lemon pepper butter and parmesan are also scrumptious. Gumbo is authentically rich and filling, and Roasted Jalapeño Soup is nothing short of over-the-top delicious. Seafood dishes can be light (Grilled Catfish) or decadent (Shrimp and Crab-Stuffed Flounder with caper dill beurre blanc)—it's your call. A curated selection of wine, beer, and cocktails makes Fish City Grill a wonderful place to visit.

Multiple locations throughout DFW | fishcitygrill.com

Lefty's Lobster House

Long considered a neighborhood gem, Lefty's serves the kind of seafood you'd expect to find somewhere on the East Coast: clam chowder, lobster bisque (Can't decide between the two? Ask for half and half), whole main lobster (Lefty's uses cull lobsters that have one claw—hence, the name) and fried shrimp. Hearty salads are made heartier with the addition of chicken, salmon, shrimp or lobster—and if you're simply not feeling fishy, go for a perfectly cooked filet mignon or burger. Lefty's numerous accolades speak for themselves, and it gets a lot of regulars, especially on weekends—so be sure to make a reservation online. Open for lunch and dinner, and the bar stays open late.

4021 Beltline Rd. | Dallas
(972) 774-9518 | leftyslobster.com



Sea Breeze Fish Market & Grill

Finding truly fresh fish in Dallas can be challenging, but Sea Breeze makes it sooo easy. Selections are flown in daily, representing only the freshest seafood available. Part retail fish market, part sit-down restaurant with full bar, at Sea Breeze you can purchase fish to prepare in your own home...or let the experts do it

for you while enjoying a glass of wine or cocktail. Be sure to start out with the Sesame Crusted Yellowfin Tuna Nachos with avocado wasabi, sweet Thai chili, and lemon zest—or maybe you're more of a Smoked Salmon Deviled Egg person; you can't go wrong with either one. The Lobster Roll is a top seller, its traditional split-top bun filled generously with buttery lobster salad (it also comes in an appetizer size). There's a nice selection of soups and stews, including a stellar cioppino, and gumbo that will remind you of your Cajun granny (if you have one). Specials change weekly depending on what's freshest. Daily happy hour from 3-6 pm, and both catering and large platters are available.

4017 Preston Rd., Ste. 530 | Plano
(972) 473-2722 | seabreezefish.com

Sea Breeze Lobsta & Chowda House

For the past decade, the Oruch family has brought North Texans the freshest seafood selection in the region at their acclaimed Sea Breeze Fish Market & Grill. The menu at this newer restaurant showcases a limited menu of specialty items including the New England Lobster Roll—a simple sandwich of wild-caught Maine lobster simply dressed with mayonnaise, celery and tarragon on a buttered bun brought in from New England. We also recommend the Connecticut Lobsta Roll—butter poached lobster on a bun. The tasty rolls are joined by shrimp cocktail, peel & eat shrimp, a smoked salmon dip and the restaurant's celebrated Clam Chowder. Come for the food and for the East Coast vibe.

Legacy Hall
7800 Windrose Ave. | Plano
(972) 473-2722 | seabreezefish.com

The Keeper

Sustainable seafood and a tropical tiki bar create the just-right combination to give you a little taste of your last beach-y vacation. The menu's "Just Flew In" section offers the day's freshest selections, both artfully prepared and utterly delicious. There are also some unexpected seafood menu choices, including shareable portions of Crab Fried Rice with crispy

Spam and topped with a perfectly cooked egg, and the Hamachi Crudo—buttery, raw Hamachi topped with apple, avocado, chilies, yuzu sauce and delicate micro greens. House salads are fresh and seasonal ingredient-inspired, and if you're simply not in the mood for fish, The Keeper offers a superb Grilled Half Chicken with Tomato Butter Sauce.

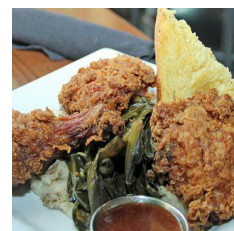
5840 Legacy Circle, Ste. D100 | Plano
(469) 210-5337 | thekeeperplano.com

The Oceanaire Seafood Room

While this may be considered more of a date night place, if you happen to bring your in-laws here for a night out, they'll never forget it. The freshest seafood in a sleek setting makes The Oceanaire the perfect spot for a luxurious dinner with top-notch service. Menu offerings are based entirely on freshness and availability, so arrive prepared to "just go with it." There are several sides you won't want to miss including Chardonnay Roasted Mushrooms and Shells & Cheese with Smoked Gouda and Applewood Bacon. Their full bar might just make you forget you promised to pick up the tab.

The Westin Galleria Dallas
13340 Dallas Pkwy. | Dallas
(972) 759-2277 | theoceanair.com

SOUTHERN



Babe's Chicken Dinner House

Babe's just might be the ultimate in family-friendly, down-home cooking. If you like things battered and fried, Babe's has got you covered. The fried chicken is (practically) world-famous but the chicken fried steak is equally delicious. The catfish is as good as any we've had. If you insist, they have one

un-fried option: Hickory Smoked Chicken. Sides are unlimited and served family-style, just like Grandma used to make, including iceberg lettuce with sweet vinaigrette, creamed corn, green beans cooked with grease (don't expect al dente), mashed potatoes with gravy, and fluffy biscuits. Without a doubt, Dallas loves Babe's, so there can be a wait, especially on weekends, but seating moves quickly. For food this good, at just \$12.99/person for adults, it's definitely worth it.

Multiple locations throughout DFW
babeschicken.com

Chicken Scratch

If you're looking for slow fast food and a cool Austin vibe, Chicken Scratch (CS) is the place to be. The Fork and Knife Chicken Finger Biscuit Sandwich is like Chick-fil-A on steroids only in this version, the chicken is hormone-free, never frozen and local, and the biscuit is made from scratch. Not feeling "fried"? No problem. CS offers big salad bowls and pecan wood rotisserie plates, too. Grab an adult beverage next door at The Foundry and hang out at the outdoor picnic tables. When you've had your fill, enjoy an all-natural fresh fruit popsicle.

2303 Pittman St. | Dallas
(214) 749-1112 | cs-tf.com

Sissy's Southern Kitchen & Bar

Really, everything we've tried at Sissy's is good. Really, really good. And the owner, Lisa Garza Selcer, couldn't be more hospitable. But for family dining, the way to go at Sissy's is with a bucket of her famous fried chicken. You'll get ten pieces for just \$25 (if you prefer all white meat, it's \$32) and it comes with your choice of coleslaw or whipped potatoes and gravy. Throw in some of her delicious sides like collard greens (\$9), Sissy's mac & cheese (\$12) or her famous squash puppies with Texas honey butter and jalapeño jelly and voilà! Dinner is served.

2929 N Henderson Ave. | Dallas
(214) 827-9900 | sissysouthernkitchen.com

Sugarbacon Proper Kitchen

When we think of Sugarbacon, we think of upscale comfort food in a warm, rustic setting. Let's start with the signature appetizer: sugarbacon. Picture a perfect little cube of house-smoked Berkshire pork belly, glazed in smoky ancho BBQ sauce, sitting atop spicy bread and butter pickles on a tiny piece of toasted bread. Berkshire pork is known for its rich taste—thought by some to be the "Kobe beef of pork." One bite of it and you'll know why. But try not to get stuck in the appetizer section, or you'll miss out on several other delicious offerings, such as the collard green salad with bacon, bleu cheese and pickled apple or the mighty fine SB burger made with local Wagyu beef and topped with, you got it, sugarbacon.

goodEATS

Southern sides with a twist, like green chile hominy, round out the meal nicely. Enjoy a craft cocktail or glass of wine from a select wine list.

216 W. Virginia St. | McKinney
(469) 952-5150

6400 Gaston Ave. | Dallas
(972) 290-0731 | sugarbacon.com

The Heights

We could practically live at The Heights. All of our food needs would not only be met but also thoroughly satisfied. From homey breakfasts, such as a custom scramble or Lakewood migas, to hearty salads, juicy burgers and a killer club sandwich, to steamed mussels and chicken pot pie with a jalapeño cheddar biscuit—this is the type of cozy neighborhood spot where you can meet a friend for lunch, grab a cup of locally roasted Full City Rooster coffee and a piece of pie to go or enjoy a relaxing dinner and cocktail. Executive Chef Karin Porter (formerly of Dallas' beloved The Grape restaurant on lower Greenville) aims to deliver "Southern comfort food sensibility," and everything we've tasted hit the mark. This is just what Lakewood needed. Open late on weekends and brunch hours, too.

2015 Abrams Rd. | Dallas
(214) 824-5800 | theheightslakewood.com

The Rustic

The gigantic patio is always packed! Enjoy down-home food made from scratch daily. The menu features seafood from the Gulf, steak sourced from local ranchers, and dairy and produce grown by local farmers. The bartenders stay busy, pouring the most prolific collection of local beverages in town, including 40 beers on tap.

3656 Howell St. | Dallas
(214) 730-0596 | therustic.com

Whistle Britches

The logo says a lot: Chicken. Biscuits. Beer. But what it doesn't convey is that Chef Omar Flores and his team pickle brine each and every bird, creating one of the juiciest, most flavorful chicken experiences we've ever had. And at Whistle Britches, it is all about chicken: half chickens, whole chickens, roasted chickens, fried chicken tenders—even chickens glazed with pomegranate molasses. Sides and starters are comfort-driven, such as pickled jalapeño pimiento cheese, served with saltines. Or deviled eggs with country ham. Three cheese mac. Grits with gouda. Are you hungry yet? Brunch, lunch and dinner served, along with a nice selection of cocktails, beer and wine. Desserts are straightforward and totally decadent.

6110 Frankford Rd. | Dallas
(972) 590-8991 | whistlebritcheschicken.com

STEAKHOUSE



12 Cuts Brazilian Steakhouse

There's simple—and then, there's simply delicious. With a focus on Brazilian and Argentinian prime cuts of meat, organic salad bar offerings, specialty sides, and homemade desserts, this family-owned and operated place is a fool-proof choice for family gatherings, special occasions, and date

nights. Expect a traditional churrascaria (roughly translated, barbecue) experience, with gaucho chefs carefully carving each cut of meat. Not a beef fan? Not a problem; go with mouth-watering chicken, succulent lamb, or juicy pork. Or, stick with the artistically-presented salad bar that includes numerous hot items, thoughtfully presented—either way, you won't leave hungry, we promise.

18010 Dallas Pkwy. | Dallas
(469) 779-7012 | 12cutssteakhouse.com

Ill Forks

With a North Dallas location covering 25,000 square feet, Ill Forks can accommodate everything from date nights, to family gatherings, to big parties, and even giant corporate and special events (up to 900 people). You'd think with all that available space, the intimate steakhouse vibe would be lost but that isn't the case. Superior service and individual dining rooms, each named after a Texas hero who fought for independence, help make this place unique. Start with Ill Forks famous salad with toasted pecans, blue cheese, Granny Smith apples, and a not-too-sweet maple pecan vinaigrette, then move right onto your main—whether you prefer steak or seafood, it's seriously all good. If we were you, we'd order one of every side

dish, but if you can only find room for one, don't miss the Lobster Mac & Cheese—it's to die for.

17776 Dallas Pkwy. | Dallas
(972) 267-1776 | 3forks.com



Al Biernat's

Since 1998, Al Biernat's has offered quality prime aged steaks, the freshest seafood, and the perfect locale on Oak Lawn Avenue to suit the needs of Dallas' glitterati, date nights, and family gatherings. You'll find all the upscale steakhouse favorites, including just about every cut of steak imaginable, chops, chopped or Caesar salad, fresh oysters, and the seriously-creamiest-of-cream spinach. Start with the small or large seafood tower to share and you won't be disappointed. An intimate bar area is a terrific spot to meet up with a friend or co-worker, and the attentive staff will ensure that your special occasion will be memorable. In fact, every meal at Al Biernat's is memorable.

4217 Oak Lawn Ave. | Dallas
(214) 219-2201 | albiernats.com

Fleming's Prime Steakhouse and Wine Bar

Whether you prefer your steak wet- or dry-aged, the name Fleming's is synonymous with the highest quality, USDA Prime beef. And while we also associate Fleming's with a truly elegant dining experience, perfect for a special occasion or date night, it's relaxing bar is also an ideal place to meet up with friends or co-workers for a glass of wine (100 wines are available by the glass—a rare find at most steakhouses) and to share an appetizer or two. We love the house made burrata—creamy cheese served with charred grape tomatoes, wild arugula and toasted garlic crostini. Not surprisingly, steaks are stellar, especially when you throw in a luscious Steak Companion, like Truffle Poached Lobster with Béarnaise Sauce and Caviar or Jumbo Lump Crabmeat. Mouthwatering sides like Fleming's Potatoes with cream, jalapeños, and cheddar cheese are meant to be shared, and desserts are decadent. Beautiful private dining rooms are also available for your next event.

7250 N. Dallas Pkwy. | Plano
(972) 543-2141 | flemingssteakhouse.com

Fogo de Chao

Fogo de Chao literally means "ground fire," referring to what the restaurant is famous for—the traditional gaucho method of roasting meats over an open fire. This Brazilian fine dining experience ensures you'll enjoy the juiciest meats (including steak, chicken, lamb and pork), delicious sides (we love the crispy polenta) and award-winning wines. And while you probably associate Fogo de Chao with meat, there are plenty of lighter options for vegetarians and pescatarians, too—Chilean Sea Bass is cooked to perfection, topped with a luscious mango relish and malagueta pepper sauce. Yes, it's the perfect place for family celebrations, but don't save it for special occasions: starting at just \$15, the Gaucho Lunch features fresh salads, imported cheese, cured meats, seasonal soups and more.

Multiple locations throughout DFW
fogodechao.com

Jaxx Steakhouse

Texans are known for loving steak, but (those of us who are carnivores) are picky. When it comes to steakhouses, we want it all: The highest quality beef and seafood—perfectly cooked—outstanding side dishes and ambience, too. Jaxx Steakhouse gets all of it right, where old school urban charm meets today's modern tastes. Since 1992, Jaxx has been an Addison favorite for all occasions. Sure, you'll find traditional favorites like shrimp cocktail and fried calamari, but you'll also want to try the steak eggroll appetizer stuffed with onion, bell pepper and cheese. And of course—the beef: whether you're craving a filet, NY strip or ribeye—or something lighter like Lemon Pepper Tilapia or Pan Seared Ahi Tuna with bok choy—each dish is prepared with love and creative flair. Jaxx is an ideal location for business lunches and can easily accommodate larger parties of up to 100.

14925 Midway Rd., Ste. 101 | Addison
(972) 458-7888 | jaxxsteakhouse.com

Knife

We're soooo happy that Knife has made its way north. We've loved Chef John Tesar's steakhouse creation since it opened its doors at the Highland Dallas, and now we have another option at the Shops of Willow Bend. "Exotic" steaks are dry-aged up to 240 days for superior flavor, crusty on

the outside and melt-in-your-mouth on the inside. When we say every cut here is exceptional, we mean it. If you're not wanting beef, though, seafood is also expertly prepared, and there are several options for vegetarians, too. Extensive wine list and cigars.

6121 W. Park Blvd. | Plano
(214) 299-5935 | knifepiano.com

Rick's Chophouse

Located in the beautiful Grand Hotel & Ballroom in downtown McKinney, Rick's is absolutely a date destination for lunch, cocktails and dinner. Comfy leather couches, live music from local artists Thursday through Saturday and handcrafted cocktails are just part of what makes Rick's so popular but it's a chophouse, after all, and the real emphasis here is on the food. Mouthwatering steaks, juicy burgers, fresh seafood (including Jumbo Lump Crab Cakes served with Roasted Corn-Crawfish Bisque and Bacon-Wrapped Trout) along with classic, hearty salads like the Iceberg Wedge with Maytag Bleu Cheese Dressing are just a few of the things you'll love at Rick's. And since you've already booked the sitter, why not include an overnight stay at the historic hotel? Rick's serves Sunday brunch, too.

107 North Kentucky | McKinney
(214) 726-9251 | rickschophouse.com

The Keg

Whether you're meeting up with friends after work or getting together with family to celebrate, The Keg offers an upscale yet relaxed dining experience for everyone. Based in Canada, The Keg knows a thing or two about steaks, seafood, and ribs. Casual plates include a stellar, hearty burger or lighter tuna tacos. The Lobster Menu is a crowd-pleaser, offering both traditional whole Atlantic lobster with drawn butter as well as entrees such as the Lobster Granitine with garlic, herbs, and gooey, melted Monterey Jack and cheddar cheeses. Prime Rib and Top Sirloin steaks are top-notch, and if you like an uber-thick steak, try the Baseball Top Sirloin—so thick, it can only be grilled to medium rare or less. Plenty of options for vegetarians and if you have food allergies, check out The Keg's website for a complete allergy food guide.

6101 West Park Blvd. | Plano
(972) 403-0430 | kegsteakhouse.com

WINE BARS



Crú Food & Wine Bar

While Crú is known for its friendly, knowledgeable staff as well as delicious appetizers, cheese plates and stone fired pizzas, it also offers a nice selection of "big plate" items including filet mignon, herb crusted branzino and Barolo braised short ribs. Join their free Wine

Club and you'll get all sorts of juicy discounts, including a free entrée on your birthday.

Locations in Allen, Plano, Dallas
cruwinebar.com

Mercy Wine Bar

Offering over 50 wines from 10 countries by the bottle and 100 wines by the carafe, the Mercy experience feels like a cozy extension of your living room (if yours looks like a chic boutique hotel). With shareable appetizers and desserts as well as fresh fish, grilled meats and succulent pastas, this is a perfect spot before or after a movie. Close to several theatres, too.

5100 Belt Line Rd. | Dallas
(972) 702-9463 | mercywinebar.com

Veritas Wine Room

Veritas is a true wine lover's dream, offering a rotating menu of 30 wines by the glass and a plethora of both familiar and obscure wines by the bottle—many of them at reasonable prices. The warm, woody atmosphere makes you want to pull up a leather ottoman and just chill. Hungry? Enjoy a beautiful local and imported cheese/meat plate and chocolate (yes!) from Wiseman House Chocolates in Hico, Texas. Great selection of craft beers, too.

2323 N Henderson Ave. | Dallas
(214) 841-9463 | veritaswinedallas.com

SPECIALTY LISTINGS

BEST COFFEEHOUSES

Readers' Poll November/December 2018

**Ascension Coffee**

"Ascension" implies something that has risen to a higher level — and the coffee at this place is certainly given highest priority. We love how folks at Ascension describe coffee as "complex like wine, communal like beer, but habitual like water." The food menu is also given emphasis with

chef-driven, on-trend items such as burrata and tomato jam on toast, and on weekends, baked ricotta hotcakes. Feel free to linger at this every-day, all-day, neighborhood destination.

Multiple locations throughout DFW
www.ascensiondallas.com

Fiction Coffee

Remember when coffee was just something to wake you up? These days, it's so much more — now associated with terms like "third wave coffee standards" and "artisanal roasters." And while Fiction offers high-quality coffee and its baristas are certainly knowledgeable, they're anything but coffee snobs. This is a laid-back, homey place perfect for meet-ups and enjoying a sweet or savory pastry. Or two.

1623 N. Hall St. | Dallas
(469) 399-7724 | fictioncoffee.com

Filtered

This self-described "craft coffee and culture house" offers classic coffee beverages, international brew methods, pour-overs, and a variety of teas and Italian sodas. Mosey on back to play board games, or just sit and chill when live music is playing. Hip vibe meets McKinney family-friendliness at Filtered.

218 E. Louisiana St. | McKinney
(469) 219-8300 | getmefiltered.com

Boulangerie by Village Baking Company

When the French is the true star of a café (and the name is French), you know it's going to be good. Pain au chocolat and croissants are buttery and flaky and as good as you'll get in a Parisian café—ooh la la! Sandwiches are always delicious and typically sell out, so get there early if you're thinking lunch. Otherwise, it's still a lovely place for a pastry, coffee and mingling time — especially on the patio.

1921 Greenville Ave. | Dallas
(214) 821-3477 | villagebakingco.com

Magnolias Sous Le Pont

Look for the memorable teal façade of this Harwood District favorite, featuring art and handmade gifts by local artisans. Grab a fresh sandwich or salad from the takeaway case and prepare to park yourself in a comfy chair with a steamy cortado, flat white or matcha latte — this is the kind of place that makes you want to stick around.

2727 N. Harwood St. | Dallas
(469) 249-9222 | magnoliasdallas.com

Peridot Coffee

The quote painted on the wall of Peridot says it all: "Life is too short to drink bad coffee." This serene place in Dallas' Koreatown is perfect for either chilling out or accomplishing "things" while enjoying delicious beverages like the beautifully layered Green Tea Flat or Hazelnut Latte with Almond Milk. Feeling peckish? Pastries are also available, or you can enjoy a sweet and filling bubble tea.

2240 Royal Ln. Ste. 101 | Dallas
(469) 567-3852

Dunn Brothers

Small batch, in-store roasting ensures every cup at Dunn Brothers will be fresh — really fresh. This may be a chain, but the emphasis here is on neighborhood and community. Seasonal specials make repeat visits mandatory: Think apple honey toast and pumpkin pie latte. There's also all-day breakfast and a nice selection of sandwiches, wraps and salads.

3725 Belt Line Rd. | Addison
(972) 406-9711 | dunnbrothers.com

Café Mila

Lovely spot in The Colony with a cozy vibe, perfect for enjoying \$1 migas (with purchase, on weekends) and a daily, hearty selection of egg sandwiches, pancakes, waffles, flatbreads and more. Service is friendly and if you're unsure what to order, the staff is happy to make recommendations.

6800 Windhaven Pkwy. Ste. 105 | The Colony
(972) 307-4247

The Nest Café

Yes, we still love trendy avocado toast. But what about mushroom toast with scrambled eggs and ham? Or, hummus toast with beet hummus and micro greens? And while we don't mean to minimize the coffee here — because it's fantastic — the artfully-prepared food is worth a trip alone. The bulgogi panini is also noteworthy, and the clean, minimal atmosphere is sublime.

7777 Warren Pkwy. Ste. 325 | Frisco
(469) 579-4790 | nestcafe.net

Summer Moon Wood-Fired Coffee

Located in historic downtown Frisco, Summer Moon offers a little taste of urban life, smack dab in the 'burbs. Try a nitro cold brew with "moon milk" (a blend of seven secret ingredients and the equivalent of melted ice cream — yes, please) and a breakfast taco; there are also pastries and wraps/sandwiches. As the name implies, there's drip wood-fired coffee and it's awesome.

6943 Main St. | Frisco
(469) 294-0117 | woodfiredcoffee.com

Coffee House Café

This is the perfect setting for "coffee talks" with friends, weeknight dinner with the family, date night or just about anything else. Coffee is European style, handcrafted, shade grown, mostly organic and all that—but there's so much more. You'll also see French press drinks, cold brews and pour overs, as well as delicious "adult" coffees, featuring tasty add-ins like Bailey's, Frangelico and vanilla vodka. Why not stop in after a movie, when you're not quite ready to call it a night? Or, maybe you're in a hurry? No problem; this place even has a drive-thru, offering both beverages and breakfast/lunch items. And pooches are always welcomed on the patio—as long as they don't drink too many espressos.

6150 Frankford Rd. | Dallas
(972) 232-2333 | coffeehousecafe.com

Corner Market

This beloved neighborhood staple on Greenville Avenue offers fantastic coffee, delicious pastries and house made breakfast and lunch items. A few additional bonuses: it's connected on one side to a gluten-free bakery and on the other to a darling flower/gift shop offering reasonably-priced, hand-tied bouquets. With cute, local M-street names for a variety of hot and cold sandwiches and a deli case of nicely presented cold salads, there's something here for everyone—whether you're looking for a place to roost/work, takeout or catering. Bread is baked daily from Empire Bakery, meats are preservative free, veggies and herbs are from the rooftop garden, and even the eggs are from the Corner Market's very own chicken coop. Don't miss the mile-high huevos rancheros and Belgian waffles on weekends.

3426 reenville Ave. | Dallas
(214) 826-8282 | cornermarketdallas.com

Cuban Dulceria International Bakery

Tucked away in a sleepy (read: tired) shopping center in Carrollton just off George Bush lies this tiny treasure, operated by the lovely Vazquez sisters. (Their parents opened the bakery back in 1979.) It's the kind of place that you try once, then hesitate telling your friends about it because basically you're selfish, and you want the mind-blowing café con leches, cortaditos (espresso, steamed milk, foam, sugar) and freshly-baked Cuban pastries all to yourself. We don't blame you. With just a few tables inside and out, you'd better be prepared to wait, but while you do, enjoy the black-and-white family photos of days-gone-by in Cuba. Do. Not. Miss. The sandwiches, particularly the Media Noche, stacked with meat and pickles and pressed onto freshly baked Cuban bread.

2662 N. Josey Ln. | Carrollton
(972) 242-3797

1017 S. Broadway St. | Carrollton
(972) 466-2253 | cubanbakerydfw.com

**Fourteen Eighteen Coffeehouse**

Brick walls and a pressed tin ceiling give Fourteen Eighteen the big city urban vibe that many of us crave in DFW, especially in the 'burbs, but really, it's about the coffee. And the comfy couches. Oh, and the pastries! If you're craving sweets, there's a gener-

ous selection of sumptuous pies from Emporium, flaky pastries, muffins and scones to pair with your double espresso or cappuccino, made with beans roasted by Oak Cliff Coffee Roasters. All-natural fruit smoothies and frappes are a nice alternative, and the non-rushed atmosphere means you can while away here on a Saturday morning, book in hand, feeling somehow transported. Or, bring a date later that night to share dessert.

1418 K Ave. | Plano
(214) 738-5664 | fourteeneighteencoffeehouse.com

Frogg Coffee Bar & Creperie

'Cause sometimes you need a crepe, too! And when the craving hits, it's time to head to Frogg. If the Nutella and Stuff crepe (with foster and caramel sauces, whipped cream, apples and cinnamon) isn't enough to make you jump in your car, maybe the friendly and knowledgeable baristas will win you over with one of their delicious hot beverage options, topped with beautiful latte art designs. Heartier appetites will appreciate their delicious soups, sandwiches and filling omelet crepes. This place feels like a little slice of European heaven.

832 Market St. | Allen
(469) 342-6881 | froggcoffee.com

Global Peace Factory

If you think the name of this place refers to a hippie-dippie alternative to "that other factory" (you know, the one with cheesecake), think again. "Factory" is just for fun, because Global Peace is anything but. A fairly small space with highly customizable drinks, interesting ingredients and super-friendly wait staff are what bring folks back here time and again. We said interesting coffee ingredients, and we meant it: lavender or coconut syrup. Honey. Brown Sugar. There are also plenty of milk alternatives. But what makes Global Peace a standout for us is that it donates a portion of its proceeds to peacework charities. Pretty cool for a place that serves really hot beverages.

1377 Legacy Dr. | Frisco
(214) 705-2664 | globalpeacefactory.com

i Java & Chai

Looking for an off-the-beaten path hangout serving good coffee (including a delicious Turkish option), a plethora of hot and cold teas and tons of bubble tea options? This is your new go-to. And we're not just talking bubble tea—there are popping bubbles, tapioca pearls, jelly—if you enjoy a certain amount of chewable-ness in your beverage, they've got you covered. Also nice are the unique pastries, including baklava, pretzels, cakes, macarons and za'atar pie—not really a traditional pie but a savory snack made with Middle Eastern spices and sesame seeds on pocketless pita bread. Popular with students doing homework, this family-run biz even offers them a 15% discount with ID. It's even open until 2 am on Fridays and Saturdays, a rare and welcome find in Plano.

1820 Coit Rd. | Plano
(972) 519-8445 | ijavaandchai.com

Mudsmith

This is the kind of straightforward coffee joint that makes life wonderfully simple: a few coffees, a few specialty drinks, some beer, a little wine and kombucha on tap. Daily wraps and sandwiches (a limited selection but all very tasty—served with chips and oddly, a banana—because bananas are awesome) provide something to nosh on while you linger (and you'll definitely want to linger). The atmosphere is Irish pub meets something from the set of Harry Potter with warm, dark woods, old paintings and taxidermied animals. Our only complaint is that folks like it so much here, they tend to set up camp at the small tables rather than grab-and-go, so if you've got work to do (free Wi-Fi), be sure to arrive early in the day. There are also seats at the bar and on the small front patio.

2114 Greenville Ave. | Dallas
(214) 370-9535

817 Matisse Dr. | Fort Worth
(817) 878-4313 | mudsmithcoffee.com

Nerdvana

We're not sure what makes us nerdier: our love of Nerdvana's borrow-or-buy board games library or the fact that we get super excited about a hot beverage served in actual coffee mugs. Never mind. Nerdvana gets a big thumbs up. Much of the seating in this wide-open space is community-style—perfect for socializing and playing games—with plentiful outlets for all your electronic devices. Teas and fresh juices round out your beverage selection, and the Texas Toasts are definitely worth a tasting. We swooned over the Divine Apple Pecan version.

5757 Main St. | Frisco

(214) 618-8130 | nerdvanafrisco.com

Pearl Cup

When Carlene Saelg and Rita Davis moved to Dallas from Austin in early 2007, they began looking for a “real” coffee shop—the kind that served strong, mostly espresso-based drinks that weren't bitter, provided a community atmosphere and welcomed those who wanted to open up a laptop or book and hang out for a while. When they couldn't find one, they boldly opened Pearl Cup. Using only the best, local Texas roasters, Pearl Cup is the perfect venue for true coffee snobs—and we mean that in the most complimentary way. Of course, you must try their creamy, dreamy signature drink: The Pearl Latte™.

2701 Custer Pkwy. | Richardson

(214) 468-8182 | pearlcupcoffee.com

Snug on the Square

Snug is like a hug, tucked into a square. Does that make sense? Maybe it will when we tell you Snug offers delicious hand-crafted coffee beverages and ginormous portions of omelets, breakfast sandwiches, hearty soups, sandwich melts and salads—and both breakfast and lunch are offered every day, all day. If you live in McKinney, you're lucky—you can just stumble into the square for a Snug brunch any ole time you like (up until 3 pm on Saturdays). The rest of us will make our visit a mini day trip, first filling up at Snug, then burning off those calories with a few strolls around the courthouse square, stopping in at all those cute, independently-owned shops. Waits can be long, especially on the weekends, but it's worth it.

109 N. Kentucky St. | McKinney

(972) 548-7684 | snugonthesquare.com

White Rock Coffee

Whether you're searching for a cool, caffeinated hangout after burning some calories at White Rock Lake or a quick walk-up/drive-thru with plenty of specialty drink options, like Iced Caramel Mocha and Mango Peach Green Iced Tea, White Rock aims to please. The main location on Northwest Highway offers plenty of seating (there's also a small balcony upstairs if the downstairs is full), free Wi-Fi, fresh muffins, bagels and pastries and if you hit them at the right time, free live music, too. It's also a great place to pick up a pound of locally roasted microlot, organic or direct/fair trade beans for your home brews.

Multiple locations throughout DFW

wrcoffee.com

BEST SPORTS BARS

Readers' Poll September/October 2017

Best Craft Beer Selection**The Lion & Crown Pub (Watters Creek)**

This English-style pub offers 38 beers on tap and numerous large screen TVs to catch all of your favorite sporting events. If the game's already over (or your team's losing badly), folks love grabbing a relaxing spot on the patio and enjoying the view, along with some truly delicious pub grub.

932 Garden Park Dr. | Allen

(972) 649-4311 | lionandcrownpub.com

Pluckers Wing Bar

Voted “ESPN Top 5 Sports Bar” and “Top 10 Wing Bar” by USA Today, Pluckers offers several craft beers on draft including popular brews like Angry Orchard, refreshing Sam Adams Seasonals and Summer Shandy. Multiple big screens give this place a laid-back vibe, making it ideal for a quick post-work snack or dinner with the family. Online ordering also available.

Multiple locations throughout DFW

pluckers.com

The Nodding Donkey

With 20 giant TVs and an impressive selection of some of Texas' finest craft beers, the Donkey makes its fans want to sit back and stay awhile. This is the perfect place to book your Fantasy Football Draft Party, too.

2900 Thomas Ave. | Dallas

(214) 922-8898 | thenoddingdonkey.com

Henry's Tavern

Henry's offers an upscale sports bar experience with a diverse menu, making it a terrific spot for both serious sports nuts and families with little ones. Numerous ciders, ales and lagers are on tap, and for the non-beer drinkers—we hear there are some of you out there—a nice selection of cocktails and specialty shots.

5741 Legacy Dr., Ste. 100 | Plano

(972) 473-7252 | henrystavern.com

Tailgater's Sports Bar & Grill

A cozy atmosphere and neighborhood vibe make Tailgater's a local favorite, where friendly and attentive bartenders will keep those craft beers coming to you for as long as you like. Be sure to pair your cold brew with an order of bacon-wrapped, grilled stuffed jalapeños—these get rave reviews.

5605 Farm to Market 423 | Frisco

(214) 469-1811

BEST MENU**Bar Louie**

Truly terrific food with something to please every palate keeps Louie's fans clamoring for more. Portions tend to be generous and perfect for sharing: don't miss the Buffalo Chicken Totchos—that's right, folks—tater tots AND tortilla chips, all smothered with cheesy, bacon-y goodness. Flatbreads are excellent, too—the Thai Chicken version is especially popular.

190 East Stacy Rd., Ste. 1000 | Allen

(469) 709-2050 | barlouie.com

The Nodding Donkey (see also in Best Craft Beer Selection)

The Donkey's “chef-driven, scratch menu” isn't just a marketing ploy—these folks are serious about food, and Donkey fans know it. Whether you're looking for something appetizer-ish to pair with your adult beverage, an over-the-top burger or sandwich—piled high with gourmet ingredients—or a super-fresh salad topped with house-made dressings, our voters swear you'll leave satisfied.

2900 Thomas Ave. | Dallas

(214) 922-8898 | thenoddingdonkey.com

Pluckers Wing Bar (see also in Best Craft Beer Selection)

Whether you lean toward bone-in or boneless, Pluckers does wings—and does them right. For those who love heat, the Ginger Peach Sriracha gets rave reviews for that just-right sweetness with a kick. Other favorites include Lemon Pepper and its sweeter sister, Dr. Pepper. Special mention goes to the Gut Grenade—aptly named for its double beef patties topped with queso, bacon and jalapeños, served with gooey waffle fries and a 34-ounce domestic beer.

Multiple locations throughout DFW

pluckers.com

Henry's Tavern (see also in Best Craft Beer Selection)

It's easy to understand why our voters love Henry's because it provides that just-right selection of items both truly decadent and healthy, depending on your mood. Salads are big, hand-pulled barley malt pizzas are delicious and also available gluten-free, and while \$10.95 may seem a bit high for hand-seasoned waffle fries—at Henry's, they're a meal. The poutine version with cheese curds and onion/pepper gravy is a repeat favorite.

5741 Legacy Dr., Ste. 100 | Plano

(972) 473-7252 | henrystavern.com

BEST BIG SCREENS**Pluckers Wing Bar (see also in Best Craft Beer Selection and Best Menu)**

If a sports bar offering multiple big screens and some of the best chicken wings in town doesn't entice you—we don't know what will! Pluckers can also accommodate larger parties for your next group viewing event.

Multiple locations throughout DFW

pluckers.com

End Zone Bar & Grill

While the End Zone offers plenty of screens for easy game viewing from every angle, the fun doesn't stop there—a generous happy hour (11 am to 7 pm, most days), AHL poker, live trivia games and karaoke nights make this the kind of place you'll find excuses to visit several nights a week.

3033 W. Parker Rd., Ste. 109 | Plano

(972) 867-3400 | endzonebars.com

The Nodding Donkey (see also in Best Craft Beer Selection and Best Menu)

You'll find multiple screens hung hither and thither, ensuring you won't miss a minute of that football game...or boxing match...or soccer play-off...or golf tourney. You can even book a table ahead of time for some events through the Donkey's website.

2900 Thomas Ave. | Dallas

(214) 922-8898 | thenoddingdonkey.com

BEST VIBE**Christie's Sports Bar & Grill**

With its prime location in the Uptown Arts District, dark mahogany walls and brass accents, Christie's feels more like an intimate supper club than sports bar. A large covered patio provides plenty of seating for people-watching on McKinney Avenue.

2811 McKinney Ave., Ste. 22 | Dallas

(214) 954-1511 | christiessportsbar.com

Buffalo Wild Wings

Hang out at the bar or grab a table—either way, the relaxed atmosphere feels almost like a neighborhood pub. There's an extensive selection of signature sauces and dry seasonings for your chicken “wangs,” and plenty of screens for all your sports viewing needs.

Multiple locations throughout DFW

buffalowildwings.com

Henry's Tavern (see also in Best Craft Beer Selection and Best Menu)

A comfortable lounge that feels like your living room, a game room with large, garage door-style windows, and a pet-friendly patio keep our readers happy at Henry's. Larger parties are easily accommodated in one of several rooms, including the urban-vibe Tap Room with rich hardwoods and distressed brick.

5741 Legacy Dr., Ste. 100 | Plano

(972) 473-7252 | henrystavern.com

End Zone Bar & Grill (see also in Best Big Screens)

Reasonably priced drinks and nightly games with prizes keep regulars coming back for more. End Zone has the familiar, friendly atmosphere of the bar on Cheers (for you youngsters, that was a TV show in the 80's/90's).

3033 W. Parker Rd., Ste. 109 | Plano

(972) 867-3400 | endzonebars.com

The Nodding Donkey (see also in Best Craft Beer Selection, Best Menu, and Best Big Screens)

The people have spoken, and they love this place! A laidback vibe along with its large, wraparound patio and plenty of friendly wait staff keep The Nodding Donkey a top option for game time viewing.

2900 Thomas Ave. | Dallas

(214) 922-8898 | thenoddingdonkey.com

The Lion & Crown Pub (Watters Creek) (see also in Best Craft Beer Selection)

Readers love the fact that this large but cozy English-style pub sits right on Watters Creek, providing a nice view and great people watching, plus an adjacent area for the kiddos to play. All of this plus traditional English entrees like Steak & Guinness Pie? We're in, mate.

932 Garden Park Dr. | Allen

(972) 649-4311 | lionandcrownpub.com

BEST SWEET TREATS

Readers' Poll July/August 2017

Andy's Frozen Custard

The choice between a massive drive-thru and walk-up ordering makes this a unique stop on our list. There are a few benches outside, but be warned, there is no indoor seating here. Frozen Custard is a change of pace from all of the ice cream, and since blueberries are in season, we went with the Blue Bonnet Jackhammer, which mixed vanilla custard with blueberries and a marshmallow center. Not your thing? Try a Malt, Shake or even a Banana Split. No matter what you order, the whole family will be impressed. Don't forget about bringing Spot along—Andy's is dog friendly!

1731 E Hebron Pkwy. | Carrollton

(972) 394-7555 | eatandys.com



Bahama Bucks

Dozens of unique flavors are served up by high school employees who seem to be having as much fun making the concoctions as you will have eating them. Try the Caribbean Cola, a soda with vanilla flavoring and tropic cream. Another favorite for the teen scene is the Super Sour Sno Cones.

Apple, Blueberry and even the Atomic Warhead are all winners for those who like to make pucker faces with their icy treats. The list of flavors is dizzying, and then with the add-ons like ice cream, chocolate syrup and more, you can really customize your creation.

8700 Preston Rd. #127 | Plano
(214) 618-8395 | bahamabucks.com
(multiple other locations)

Henry's Homemade Ice

With a tagline like "Ice Cream Makes You Pretty" this stop was a no-brainer. Homemade ice cream with unique flavors, such as Corn, Strawberry Marshmallow and Triple Oreo—we were able to sample many and then take some for the road. After devouring my Pecan Praline, I will say I felt a little prettier.

3100 Independence Pkwy. #215 | Plano
(972) 943-3639 | henryshomemadeicecream.com

Highland Park Soda Fountain

Step back in time and hop up on an old-fashioned circular stool to experience the "soda jerks" mixing up your favorite treat. Milkshakes and Malts (extra malt, please!) are just the start. Maybe a Float is your thing or Egg Cream Soda? Order what you like and while you wait, you can wander around and check out all the goods for sale. Everything from lotions and candles to baby clothes and artwork line the walls of this historic shop.

3229 Knox St. | Dallas
(214) 521-2126 | highlandparksodafountain.com

Howdy's Homemade Ice Cream

Howdy's is the best way to my heart or anyone else's! This unassuming blue door in a shopping center holds a delight that is worth a drive from anywhere in the metroplex. Incredible flavors like Dr. Pepper Chocolate Chip and Hot Tamales (yes, like the candy) are just a few of the gems here. The real treat though, is the staff. 14 out of the 16 employees are people with special needs, who love their job. It shows. We couldn't eat the samples fast enough—the staff is so proud of their flavors and product that they can't wait to share it with everyone. They handed us spoonful after spoonful of every delicious flavor, and we couldn't get enough. I left with a bag full of pints and a huge smile on my face.

4333 Lovers Ln. | Dallas
(469) 930-8494 | howdyicecream.com
Paciugo Gelato

Is there anything more indulgent than gelato? How do they pack in all that flavor with 70% less fat than ice cream? I don't know, but I do know that I love the Salted Caramel Gelato here. Give me a giant scoop in a waffle cone, and my inner fat kid is happily fooled. You can also find sorbets and lattes if that's more to your liking. Most locations are open late so this is a great place to head after a movie or dinner if you want that night to go on just a little bit longer. (Hint, hint fellas!) Locations are all over so there really is no reason why you can't go tonight.

936 Garden Park Dr. | Allen
(972) 359-8586 | paciugo.com
(multiple other locations)

Sublime Chocolate

Frozen hot chocolate. Need I say more? Stop by this unique chocolate shop for a decadent treat and stroll through the resort-style shopping center for a truly special day or after dinner treat. (While you're there, you might take home a few pieces of "bean to bar" chocolate and ask Troy for a lesson in how real chocolate is made.)

908 Watters Creek Blvd. | Allen
(214) 383-6776 | sublimechocolate.com

Sweet Firefly

Located in the adorable Canyon Creek neighborhood in Richardson, this gem is a must visit. I hit frozen utopia with the Slowpoke ice cream—chocolate ice cream with salted caramel ribbons and pecans. It's almost as wonderful as the staff! The location also boasts a beautiful party room for showers and birthdays, and really, who wouldn't love an ice cream party? Fun for the whole family, including your pooch who can enjoy a Puppy Cone on the patio with you.

2701 Custer Pkwy. | Richardson

(972) 635-5635 | sweetfirefly.com

TOP 10 PATIOS

Readers' Poll September/October 2017

Earl's Legacy West

Sippable craft cocktails, shareable plates, and romantic up lighting during evening hours make Earl's the kind of patio where you'll want to linger. Fans also love its nonalcoholic beverage options, including cold brew coffee and a nice selection of house-made craft sodas.

7401 Windrose Ave., Ste. D100 | Plano
(469) 969-2490 | earlsrestaurants.com

Stan's Lakeview Draft House

Don't you wish you had your own lake house with a huge deck out back, overlooking the water? Well, at Stan's, you practically do. Live music makes it memorable, too.

4847 Main St. | The Colony
(972) 370-9994 | stanslakeview.com

Harry's at the Harbor

Situated in the beautiful Italian-esque Adriatic Village complex in near-by McKinney, Harry's patio boasts relaxing views of the water—perfect for cocktailting with friends or just enjoying a little "me" time.

6601 Mediterranean Dr. | McKinney
(214) 592-0240 | harrysattheharbor.com

Lazy Dog

This open-air, dog-friendly patio with plenty of available shade offers complimentary water bowls to your pooch. You can even order Fido a bowl of chicken and rice for just \$4.95.

5100 Belt Line Rd., Ste. 500 | Addison
(469) 754-1300

2521 State Hwy. 121 | Euless

(682) 738-0861 | lazydogrestaurants.com

Lekka

Handcrafted original artwork (for looks and for sale), generously-sized patios, and live music on the weekends give Lekka a fun, quirky vibe.

Lekka Café & Gifts
17606 Preston Rd. | Dallas
(972) 735-8425

Lekka
1921 N. Henderson Ave. | Dallas
(469) 828-1686 | lekkashop.com

Fernando's Mexican Cuisine

Upscale Tex-Mex cuisine, stellar margaritas, friendly service and a killer weekend brunch with \$4 Bloody Marys and Margarita Swirls make Fernando's a local patio-available favorite.

4514 Travis St., Ste. 201 | Dallas
(214) 521-8600

4347 W. Northwest Hwy., Ste. 100 | Dallas

(214) 351-9010

1250 State St., Ste. 100 | Richardson

(972) 234-1730 | fernandotextmex.com

Casa Milagros

An intimate patio featuring quaint string lighting and seasonally blooming plants have made Casa Milagros a consistent favorite among readers. It's like a little taste of Mexico—right in Richardson.

1403 E. Campbell Rd., Ste. 110 | Richardson
(972) 234-6999 | casamilagrorestaurant.com

Wildflower Patio and Grill

Formerly known as Marcus Café, Wildflower has modern Texas cuisine and a flower-filled patio that make this a no-brainer choice for Happy Hour, Date Night, or relaxing weekend evenings. It's also a beautiful spot for your next family celebration.

2701 Custer Pkwy., Ste. 700 | Richardson
(469) 330-0900 | wildflowerpatioandgrill.com

Mi Cocina (Watters Creek)

A beautiful patio with umbrellas, lush greenery and a nice view of the creek keep this patio well-populated. Enjoy the ducks as they swim by—while you're hoisting a Mambo Taxi Margarita (or two).

815 Market St. | Allen

(214) 667-2100 | micocinarestaurants.com

The Rustic

Local, craft beers, Texas wines and spirits, live music and a large patio with picnic tables give The Rustic a taste of Austin, Dallas-style. Don't miss the Cactus Fritters or Wild Boar Meatballs—perfect to share while you're soaking in the social scene.

3656 Howell St. | Dallas
(214) 730-0596 | therustic.com

BEST OUTDOOR DINING

March/April 2019

Smoky Rose

Brunch, now served all weekend long at Smoky Rose, is only one of the many perks of dining at this BBQ-driven eatery. A visit to Smoky Rose is highlighted with refreshing drinks, great food, and a large patio that has both covered and uncovered seating options. Live music often fills the air alongside the tangy smells of their open-style smokehouse.

8602 Garland Rd. | Dallas
469.776.5655 | smokyrose.com

Mudhen Meat and Greens

Voted Dallas' best farm-to-table restaurant, Mudhen doesn't disappoint on ambience in addition to delicious, healthy food. Their patio includes scenic views of the Dallas skyline and hanging shrubbery to instill the wholesome and fresh vibes that the restaurant has to offer. After tooling around its next-door neighbor, the Dallas Farmers Market, take a load off and get some fresh air at one of Mudhen's spacious outdoor tables!

900 S. Harwood St. | Dallas
214.698.7000 | mudheninthe.net

Savor Gastropub

Savor's floor-to-ceiling glass building offers a unique and modern view of Klyde Warren Park and downtown Dallas. With stainless steel finishings, comfy couches surrounding a large fireplace, and several fans or heaters depending on the weather, Savor has thought of every amenity to make your outdoor experience delightful. But don't let the sophisticated food and atmosphere fool you—Savor maintains a casual vibe by inviting you to bring your four-legged friends along for a meal or drinks on their patio.

2000 Woodall Rogers Fwy. | Dallas
214.306.5597 | savgorgastropub.com

Harlowe MXM

This rooftop patio, overlooking the vibrant streets of Deep Ellum, is spacious with plenty of high-top tables and couches to spare. Enjoy a craft cocktail or anything off their full menu, which features upper-scale bar food, such as Thai Sticky Ribs and the MXM Burger. Whether you're spending your time people watching the streets below or enjoying the regularly scheduled live music, you definitely don't want to miss out on this neighborhood gem.

2823 Main St. | Dallas
214.624.3310 | harlowemxm.com

Truck Yard

Coining themselves a "Come-As-You-Are Beer Garden and Adult Playground," Truck Yard is truly a unique establishment. Including at least three rotating food trucks every single day, Truck Yard also offers delicious, daily cheesesteaks for anyone who needs a cheesy fix. Grab one of their cocktails on tap, and climb a spiral staircase to the top of their very own treehouse. Or perhaps lounging at one of their wooden picnic tables with your family (and dog!) is more your speed. Whichever you decide, you're sure to enjoy this casual and unconventional atmosphere that keeps people coming back.

5624 Sears St. | Dallas
469.500.0139 | truckyarddallas.com

HG Sply Co.

If you're needing a more substantial meal, HG Sply Co. offers a full menu from their street-level restaurant. However, for both spirited and non-spirited drinks and delectable appetizers to nosh on, the rooftop patio is the place to be. Whether you need a casual post-work drink and snack or a place to watch your favorite sporting event, HG Sply Co. offers an expansive patio with several TVs and tables large enough for all your friends to join. On a health kick? Enjoy one of their homemade juices while taking in Lower Greenville's views.

2008 Greenville Ave. | Dallas
469.334.0895 | hgsplyco.com

Fogo De Chão Legacy West

An internationally renowned Brazilian steakhouse, there's no worry that whatever dish you decide on is sure to be noteworthy and delicious. However, what really sets this location apart is the opportunity to devour Brazilian delicacies while seated on their patio alongside the sophisticated streets of Legacy West. Enjoy your traditional churrasco-style meal complemented by the sounds carried from Legacy Hall's outdoor music venue (which is right next door!).

5908 Headquarters Dr., Ste. K150 | Plano
469.606.1000 | fogodechao.com

The Beachcomber

Need a new opportunity to highlight your competitive streak? The Beachcomber offers the perfect combination of eats, drinks, and beach volleyball (yes, volleyball!). In addition to a full menu and a stocked bar, there are several white-sand courts for games of beach volleyball. The Beachcomber offers the perfect hangout spot for anyone wanting to try their hand at volleyball. (Even if you don't already have a team, their website offers a link for singles to register.) If beach volleyball isn't your thing, relax courtside around a firepit in one of their lounge chairs or at a table under their covered patio.

5812 Windhaven Pkwy. | The Colony
469.535.3262 | combthebeach.com

Tackle Box

Don't fret over the limited seating inside because Tackle Box's deck is definitely the place to be. Tackle Box's deck offers a plethora of seating with plenty of room for your pup as well (the deck overlooks a dog park!). Enjoy classic seafood and Cajun-style dishes, such as fried baskets, Po' Boys, and gumbo, while seated at picnic or high-top tables. Growing trees are incorporated into the wooden deck, giving Tackle Box's patio an eclectic and outdoorsy vibe, perfect for an afternoon spent with friends, family, and your doggie!

5804 Windhaven Pkwy., Ste. 100 | The Colony
469.731.5222 | tackleboxseafood.com



Chip's Old Fashioned Hamburgers

Chip's has served up delicious burgers in Dallas for over 30 years. At its newest location at the Boardwalk at Granite Park, you can enjoy your burger on their patio, which comes with all the benefits that the Boardwalk has to offer. Firepits and lawn chairs, provided by the Boardwalk's specially designed area for outdoor gatherings, are in abundance directly next to Chip's patio. With an open concept connecting the restaurants and the Boardwalk, there couldn't be an easier transition between exploring the Boardwalk's waterfront view and dining outside on Chip's patio.

5872 Texas 121, Ste. 105 | Plano
214.297.2323 | chips-hamburgers.com

Chelsea Corner

The perfect blend of old and new, Chelsea Corner was built in 1926 but underwent renovations in 2016 to maintain its hip and fashionable appearance. Their dog-friendly patio, which is over 2,500 square feet, evokes a "backyard" vibe, while serving up a delectable brunch and lavish bar-style food. Trees and wooden tables and chairs add to the patio's casual, neighborhood atmosphere. Grab a spot and enjoy sporting events on any of their 19 large TV screens, or stop in with your pup after walking the streets of Knox Neighborhood.

4830 McKinney Ave. | Dallas
469.726.2211 | chelseacornerdallas.com

V-Eats Modern Food

For all those vegans out there, don't worry we have the perfect patio for you! V-Eats Modern Food, tucked into the trendy, converted warehouses of Trinity Groves, has a menu entirely devoted to vegan gourmet comfort food (with gluten-free, tree nut-free, and soy-free items as well). Proving the misconception that "vegan means flavorless" wrong, V-Eats also de-

livers on patio atmosphere. With high-top and low-top table options and amazing views of the Margaret Hunt Hill Bridge and downtown Dallas, the patio definitely delivers on comfort and ambience.

3011 Gulden Ln., Ste. 102 | Dallas
v-eats.com

Hugo's Invitados

Trees and plants are scattered throughout Hugo's, which creates a seamless transition between its sleek interior and one of their two patios. Table options with umbrellas or heaters for when it's chilly, create a comfortable environment to enjoy their made-from-scratch Mexican cuisine, such as their Seafood Enchiladas (which have five different types of seafood!). Book their Tasting Table with nine of your friends to enjoy their world-class tequilas and mezcals, while getting some fresh air and relaxing on their spacious patios.

5240 N. O'Connor Blvd., Ste. 160 | Irving
hugosinvitados.com



Frogg Coffee Bar & Creperie

With its pre-existing sidewalk patio perfectly placed among the shops of Watters Creek, Frogg Coffee Bar & Creperie was already a superb option for an afternoon pick-me-up. However, this unique French-infused café is also opening up a Pop-Up Patio inside

Watters Creek's Tree House play area, which is adjacent to the restaurant. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings, you can enjoy Frogg's fare among the trees on the Pop-Up Patio. There couldn't be a better place to cozy up and listen to one of the outdoor concerts that often take place at Watters Creek. Additionally, you don't have to worry about impeding on the kids' space in the play area, as the Tree House partially closes for Frogg's Pop-Up Patio. Enjoy your crepe and coffee just feet away from your kids' fun!

832 Watters Creek Blvd. | Allen
froggcoffee.com

