

AMS Philadelphia 2009

Guide to area restaurants

Cuba Libre 10 S. 2nd St., 627-0666. Authentic and delicious Cuban cuisine and rum bar where you might also be treated to live salsa dancing. Tropical setting is a sight to behold. \$\$\$

Eulogy Belgian Tavern 136 Chestnut St., 413-1918. Popular Old City establishment offering a full menu of award-winning American and Belgian cuisine, as well as a dizzying array of draught and bottled beers. \$\$\$

Fork 306 Market St., 625-9425. This New American bistro offers a menu that is seasonal, fresh, and inventive, as well as an award-winning wine list. Upscale casual; reservations recommended. \$\$\$

Positano Coast 212 Walnut St., 238-0499. This Italian restaurant and wine bar makes use of both a lounge setting and formal dining area, serving delicious cuisine in what feels like the Amalfi coast. \$\$

Zahav 237 St. James Pl., 625-8800. Excellent modern Middle Eastern/Israeli cuisine served up family-style in a warm, Society Hill atmosphere. \$\$\$

South Philadelphia

Beau Monde 624 S. 6th St., 592-0656. French creperie offering deliciously light crepes in many combinations, both savory and sweet. Romantic and lovely setting, suitable for groups as well. \$\$

Cantina Los Caballitos 1651 E. Passyunk Ave., 755-3550. Known especially for its margaritas and drink specials and serving Mexican fare in a lively setting. \$\$

Cucina Forte 768 S. 8th St., 238-0778. Lively service that makes you feel like family, where you'll dine on homemade Italian specialties such as delectable, hand-rolled gnocchi. BYOB. \$\$\$

Geno's Steaks 1219 South 9th St., 928-1911. Open 24/7. No indoor dining. The ingredients are simple, exacting and never greasy thinly sliced rib-eye steak, melted cheese, oven-fresh baked bread and delicately grilled onions. \$

Jim's Steaks 400 South St., 928-1911. Tourist-friendly cheesesteak establishment on South St., serving up filling and delicious versions of the Phamous Philly Phood. \$

Philadelphia's 9th Street Italian Market 9th St. between Wharton and Fitzwater. Dozens and dozens of vendors line up along ten city blocks in the country's oldest open-air market where you can find all kinds of vegetables, cheeses, meats, and spices. Gourmet shops and restaurants occupy the storefronts in between. \$ to \$\$\$

University City

White Dog Café 3420 Sansom St., 386-9224. Local, creative, and socially-conscious cuisine make up the ever-changing menu at this eclectic UPenn classic. Great for both groups and intimate meals, with a full-service bar. Located along a strip of restaurants and shops in University City. \$\$\$

For additional information and suggestions, see
www.allmenus.com/pa/philadelphia/

Local Arrangements Chair Steven Zohn (Temple University) kindly compiled this list. Detailed descriptions and links to menus are available at the AMS Philadelphia web site: www.ams-net.org/philadelphia.

All phone numbers utilize area code 215.

A Short Walk from the Sheraton

Bonte Wafflerie & Café 130 S. 17th St. 557-8510. Also at 922 Walnut St. 238-7407. At this Euro-style café, enjoy coffee, lunch, and sweets, including Bonte's signature Belgian waffles served all day. \$

Capital Grille 1338 Chestnut St., 545-9588. An elegant steak house serving the finest in dry aged steaks and fresh seafood; includes an award-winning wine list of over 5,000 bottles. Reservations Recommended. \$\$\$

Capogiro Gelateria 117 S. 20th St., 636-9250. Also at 119 S. 13th St., 351-0900. Authentic and delicious Italian gelato is served up here, as well as espresso drinks and other snacks. Highly recommended for a fix this side of the Mediterranean! \$

Continental Midtown 1801 Chestnut St., 567-1800. Hip restaurant and rooftop bar; excellent and creative American fare served with flair. Reservations recommended on weekends. \$\$

DiBruno Brothers 1730 Chestnut St., 665-9220. Here is the much larger, Center City version of the DiBruno Brothers' Italian Market shop. Cheeses, meats, homemade specialties, lunch to go, etc. Market downstairs; casual, seated dining upstairs. \$\$

Fountain Restaurant at the Four Seasons Hotel, One Logan Square, 963-1500. Fine dining with an imaginative French-continental menu, the Fountain has a strong local following and a national reputation for excellence. Reservations recommended. \$\$\$\$

La Colombe Torrefaction 130 S. 19th St., 563-0860. A world-renowned, Philadelphia-based, coffee-roasting company. Grab a cup and people-watch off of the Square. Cash only. \$\$

Marathon Grill 16th and Sansom, 569-3278. A Philadelphia establishment serving affordable, inventive American in a swanky diner setting. \$\$

Melograno 2010 Sansom St., 875-8116. Terrific open-air restaurant serving interesting Italian cuisine that is a local hot spot. Reservations accepted Tuesday through Thursday only. \$\$\$

Melting Pot 1219 Filbert St., 922-7002. A fun night out at this fondue restaurant offering four-course dining as well as a full-service bar; go for cheese, meat, and/or chocolate fondue and your meal serves as entertainment! \$\$\$

Nodding Head Brewery & Restaurant 1516 Sansom St., 2nd floor, 569-9525. Enjoy the extensive on-tap offerings at this gastropub where neither the food nor the brews disappoint. \$\$

Pietro's Coal Oven Pizzeria 1714 Walnut St., 735-8090. Great pizzas, salads, and entrees located near the fancy shops on Walnut Street and Rittenhouse Square. \$\$\$

Reading Terminal Market 51 N. 12th St., A must-see for tourists and locals alike, the RTM offers an array of ethnic and local cuisine, suitable for any meal of the day. Opened in 1893, it is the oldest public market of its kind and includes Amish goods from Lancaster County. Shop for gifts, too. \$ to \$\$\$

Su Xing 1508 Sansom St., 564-1419. Excellent, affordable, fully vegetarian Chinese cuisine, offering a lunch special on weekdays that is an especially good value. \$\$

Tinto 114 S. 20th St., 665-9057. Philly-famous chef Jose Garces serves up authentic and delicious Spanish tapas in this Basque-style wine bar. \$\$\$

Tria 18th and Sansom, 972-TRIA. Pair wine, cheese, and beer together at this laid-back café where the staff is extremely knowledgeable and will help you come up with something that won't disappoint. \$\$

Tuscany Café 222 W. Rittenhouse Sq., 772-0605. Wonderful coffee and dessert as well as lunch specials are served at this spacious café with free wi-fi and plenty of people-watching at its Rittenhouse location. Linger as long as you wish. \$\$

Chinatown

New Harmony Vegetarian Restaurant 135 N. 9th St., 627-4520. A friendly Chinatown establishment, serving vegan and Kosher Chinese food and offering specials including daily all-you-can-eat Dim Sum for \$12 per person. \$

Lee How Fook Tea House 219 N. 11th St., 925-7266. A family-owned BYOB serving an abundance of authentic Cantonese dishes in a relaxed, casual atmosphere. \$\$

Ocean Harbor 1023 Race St., 574-1398. Long-standing Chinatown establishment whose best offering is its traditional Dim Sum served on carts at a fast pace. A wait is to be expected unless you arrive early. \$

Sang Kee Peking Duck House 238 N. 9th St., 925-7532. Family-owned for over 20 years and serving authentic Chinese cuisine with an excellent reputation; famous noodle soup of a secret recipe is a specialty. \$

Vietnam 221 N. 11th St., 592-1163. A lovely space including an upstairs bar and lounge and serving top-notch, affordable Vietnamese cuisine that is very popular with the locals. Reservations not taken. \$\$

Vietnam Palace 222 N. 11th St., 592-9596. Locals are torn between Vietnam and Vietnam Palace as a favorite for Vietnamese cuisine in Chinatown, and VP serves much the same as its competitor across the street. \$\$

Center City (slightly further afield)

Audrey Claire 276 S. 20th St., 731-1222. Fine dining near Rittenhouse Square, this Mediterranean BYOB is a Philadelphia favorite. Intimate, open-air setting; cash only and reservations recommended. \$\$\$

Bistro La Viola 253 S. 16th St. 735-8630. Very small, intimate restaurant serving excellent Italian cuisine; well-loved by locals. Cash only and reservations recommended. \$\$\$

El Vez 121 S. 13th St., 928-9800. Mexican-American and bustling until late, serving a menu of delicious food and drink that is popular with the young crowd. Casual to dressy; reservations recommended. \$\$\$

Ernesto's 1521 Café 1521 Spruce St., #101, 546-1521. Lovely, intimate space offering a simple and elegant menu that changes with the seasons and is popular with concert-goers and Rittenhouse residents alike. \$\$

Govinda's Gourmet Vegetarian 1408 South St., 985-9303. Popular with both vegetarians and omnivores in Philly, offering both take-out and sit-down dining and specializing in vegetarian, vegan, Halal, and Kosher meals. \$\$

Lolita Restaurant 106 S. 13th St., 546-7100. Serving up an award-winning menu of authentic Mexican cuisine to a hip crowd in an intimate setting. BYO tequila and they will mix you an excellent margarita. BYOB; cash only. \$\$\$

Maosz Vegetarian 1115 Walnut St., 922-3409. An international, quick-service restaurant chain serving up satisfyingly simple and fresh vegetarian focused on a falafel sandwich and Belgian fries. \$

Mixto 1141 Pine St., 592-0363. Offering an excellent Cuban-Colombian menu and ambiance with a full-service bar and friendly service. \$\$

Monk's Café 16th and Spruce, 545-7005. A Belgian beer emporium and restaurant with an endless and intriguing selection on tap and a large, exciting menu. \$\$

Naked Chocolate Café 1317 Walnut St., 735-7310. A chocolate boutique and dessert café that will dazzle any sweet tooth. Specializing in cupcakes and drinking chocolates. \$\$

North Philadelphia

Osteria 640 N. Broad St., 763-0920. Celebrity chef Marc Vetri serves up a fabulous and adventurous Italian menu, as well as excellent brick oven pizzas and a terrific wine list to accompany. \$\$\$\$

Old City

Buddakan 325 Chestnut St. #1B, 574-9440. Swanky and ultra cool, serving exquisite Asian fusion food that surprises and delights in a setting to remember. Reservations recommended, as it contends for the title of most popular restaurant in the city. \$\$\$

Continental Martini Bar 138 Market St., 923-6069. The inspiration for the Continental Midtown, the martini bar is a popular Old City institution, serving an eclectic global menu to an equally eclectic crowd, as well as creative cocktails. \$\$\$