



Succulent steaks, mile-high pies, flavor-packed burgers — when it comes to food, Oklahoma's got it all. And so does the Discover Oklahoma Destination Dining Guide.





Since 1991, "Discover Oklahoma" has been taking viewers to some of the state's most unique and beloved dining destinations.

The staff and crew have seen and tastetested a lot over the years, and now they're sharing that knowledge.

Whether you're in search of legendary Oklahoma food like chicken-fried steak and onion burgers or newer favorites like pho and gourmet grilled cheese, this guide will point you in the right direction — or send you in a whole new one.

The guide is organized into six travel regions that are color-coded for quick reference. Restaurants are listed alphabetically within each region and metro area.

You also will find information sprinkled throughout on some of Oklahoma's standout foods and locales. From the Depression-era rise of the onion burger to the 1870s coal boom that led Italian immigrants — and their mouthwatering home-cooking — to southeastern Oklahoma, the state's culinary history contains many fascinating stories.

A full index of restaurants by name can be found on page 75, and a city index is on page 80.

While we've done our best to ensure this guide contains accurate, up-to-date information, we encourage you to call ahead for business hours, directions and any other important details.



Want more Oklahoma dining options? The state's official travel and tourism television show, "Discover Oklahoma," gives viewers an up-close look at Oklahoma's tastiest restaurants and other unique destinations each week.

The program celebrated its 25th year in 2016. During the more than 1,000 episodes since the show began, the experienced, award-winning storytellers have been from Black Mesa to Beavers Bend and everywhere in between! The program showcases everything from incredible restaurants to amazing museums, unique stores, beautiful Oklahoma state parks and fantastic hotels and bed & breakfast inns. Most of the staff and crew are native Oklahomans, while the rest just "got here as fast as they could."

Produced by the Oklahoma Tourism & Recreation Department, the show airs in all Oklahoma television markets, as well as some in Kansas and Texas. Tune in each Saturday at 6:30 p.m. in Oklahoma City on **KFOR (NBC)**, in Tulsa on **KTUL (ABC)** and in Lawton on **KSWO (ABC)**. Stories and entire episodes are also available on YouTube.com/DiscoverOklahoma.

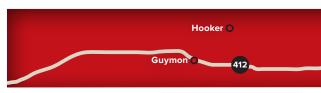
To stay up-to-date on where "Discover Oklahoma" has been and where the show's headed next, visit **DiscoverOklahomaTV.com** and follow along on social media.



instagram: @DiscoverOklahoma

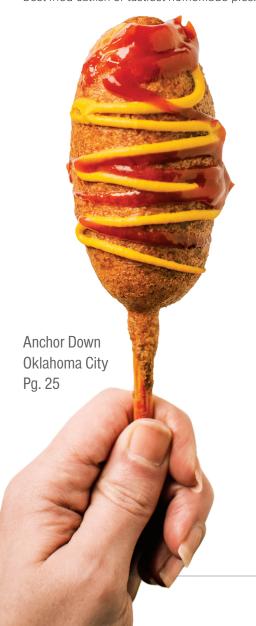
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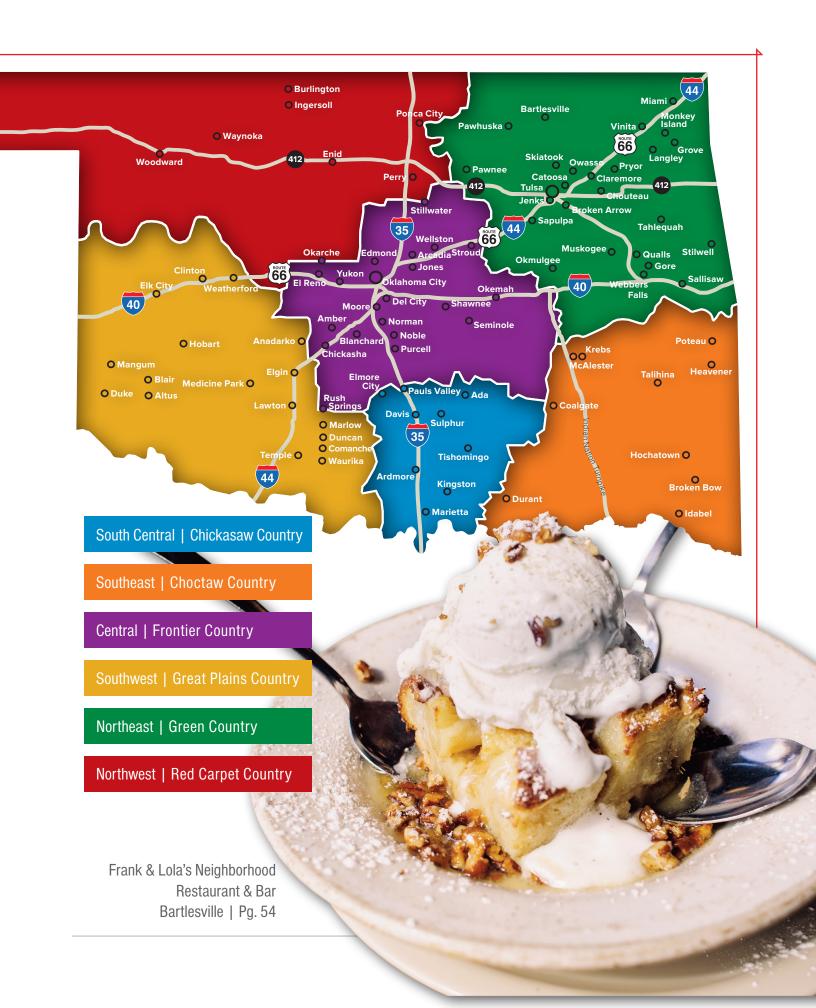
YouTube.com/DiscoverOklahoma



# TravelOK.com

Whether you're planning to visit a specific area of the state or just looking for some new dining ideas for a weekend adventure, the state's official tourism website has you covered. TravelOK.com is a user-friendly site with more than 20,000 listings of Oklahoma restaurants, accommodations, festivals and events. The site also features hundreds of articles, on topics like where to find the state's best fried catfish or tastiest homemade pies.







# Need more Oklahoma travel ideas? The Oklahoma Tourism & Recreation Department's free publications make vacation planning fun and easy.

The annual **Travel Guide** and **State Parks & Outdoor Guide** are the perfect companions to the **Discover Oklahoma Destination Dining Guide**, featuring nearly 200 pages of gorgeous photography and detailed information on activities and accommodations around Oklahoma.

Readers can pick up the **Oklahoma Route 66 Guide** to plan a Mother Road adventure, explore the state's African American history and culture with **Long Road to Liberty**; or plan their next fishing expedition with the **Oklahoma Fishing Trail** brochure. Among the other publications

available are the Oklahoma Indian Country Guide,
Oklahoma Motorcycle Guide and Fall Foliage brochure.

All guides can be ordered free of charge at **TravelOK.com/Brochures** or by calling **(800) 652-6552**. Many other free publications, including the official Oklahoma state map, are also available.

The guides are also available at Tourism Information Centers, Oklahoma State Parks and many hotels and tourism attractions around the state.





The Ranchers Club Savor a succulent salmon or steak filet at this Stillwater restaurant, where fine dining meets cowboy culture.

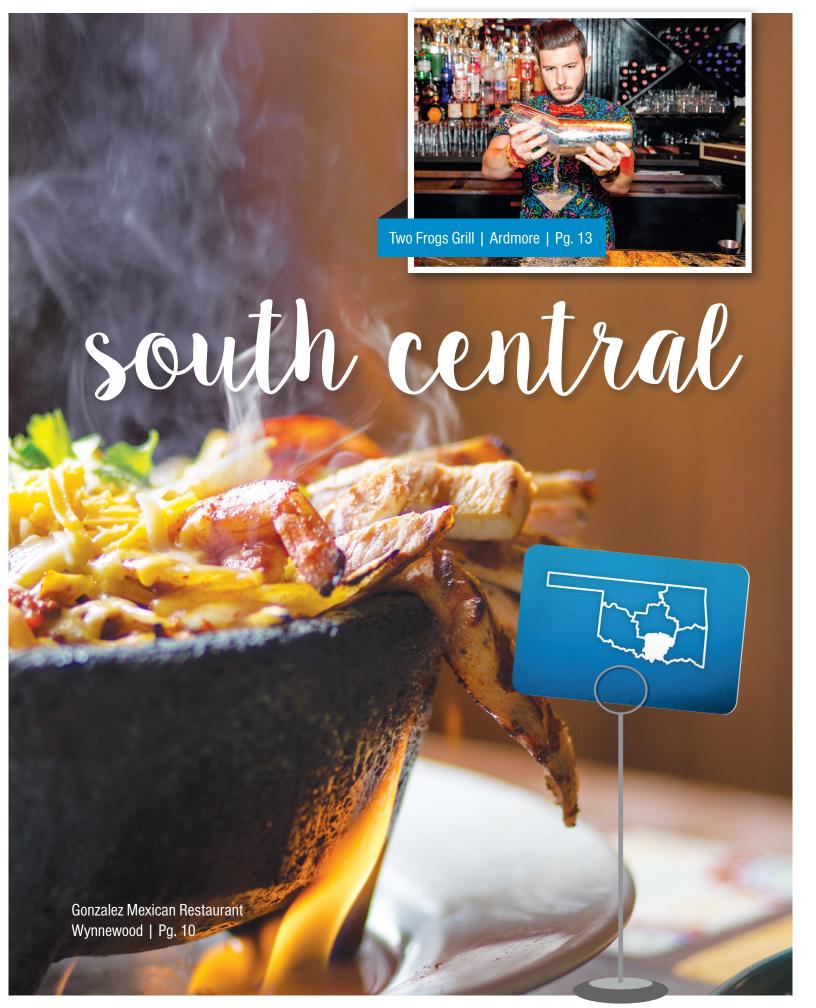


American Solera Grab a frothy brew from American Solera's taproom in Tulsa, RateBeer's Best New Brewery in the U.S. for 2016.



Lucille's Roadhouse Treat yourself to a chicken fried steak or slice of fried cheesecake at this classic Route 66 roadside diner in Weatherford.





# CHICKASAW COUNTRY

Known as a region brimming with streams and rivers, Chickasaw Country is famous for relaxing waterside retreats and distinctive shopping. But its delectable slow-smoked barbecue and classic diner fare aren't to be missed.

# Aldridge Coffee Shop

200 S. Broadway, Ada | (580) 332-5816 Breakfast and lunch Monday-Friday, breakfast only on Saturday, closed Sunday.

If you're looking for a spot that serves fresh, hearty breakfasts and keeps your coffee cup full, Aldridge Coffee Shop is the place to go. Aldridge specializes in classic items like bacon, eggs, pancakes and Belgian waffles, each prepared just the way you want it. The huge cinnamon rolls are loaded with icing for the perfect early morning treat.





# Badger Den Café

205 E. Lindsey St., Elmore City | (580) 788-4106 *Breakfast, lunch and dinner Monday-Friday, closed Saturday and Sunday.* 

Eating at the Badger Den Café has been a staple of life in Elmore City since the 1950s. The name pays homage to the school's badger mascot, and the building is proudly painted in the school's purple and white colors. The Badger Den is known for its tasty comfort food, including burgers and chicken-fried steak.

### Baron of Beef

350 Lawton Ave., Sulphur I (580) 421-5076 echocanyonmanor.com

### Dinner daily by reservation only.

Located in elegant Echo Canyon Spa Resort, Baron of Beef is a carnivore's paradise with prime-cut steaks and delicious seafood. Bring your appetite, because each guest is served a multi-course, three-entrée dinner at a preset price. Diners rave about the grilled duck breast, served in a citrus and Grand Marnier sauce. Try the signature Peach Hibiscus drink — a sweet, refreshing treat made with peaches grown on-site.



While folks in many regions of the country have very specific ideas about their barbecue, Oklahoma has become something of a barbecue crossroads — a place where sauces and dry rubs, pork and beef can coexist.

With that in mind, it's easy to see how Oklahoma barbecue joints have come to feature some out-of-the-ordinary smoked meats on their menus. Here are a few of our favorites:

BOLOGNA

If there's a barbecue delicacy that Oklahomans are known for, it's got to be smoked bologna. Nicknamed "Oklahoma Prime Rib" or "Oklahoma Tenderloin," it's available at many of the state's most well-loved barbecue joints, including **Dink's Pit Bar-B-Que** (Pg. 54) in Bartlesville, **Leo's Barbecue** (Pg. 32) in Oklahoma City and **Smokies Hickory House BBQ** (Pg. 59) in Broken Arrow. The flavorful meat also makes an appearance on the menus at Oklahoma-based chains **Billy Sims Barbecue** (billysimsbbq.com), **Earl's Rib Palace** (earlsribpalace.com) and **Rib Crib** (ribcrib.com).

BURNT ENDS Burnt ends are just what they sound like — heavily charred edges from the fattier corners of a brisket. Incredibly popular in the barbecue haven of Kansas City, MO, they're a little tougher to come by in Oklahoma. So when **Burn Co. Barbecue** (Pg. 52) in Tulsa began offering them on Wednesdays, the extra smoky, tangy meat was an instant hit.

PRIME RIB While some may jokingly call bologna "Oklahoma Prime Rib," **Bob's Pig Shop** (Pg. 9) in Pauls Valley actually does smoke prime rib. The tender, delicious treat is served with ground horseradish and is available only for Friday dinner.

RIB EYE

**Smokin' Joes Rib Ranch** (Pg. 13) in Davis has long been known for its meaty ribs and tasty brisket, but those in the know rave about Smokin' Joes smoked rib eye. Available only on Friday and Saturday nights, the steaks are a massive 16 ounces of juicy, tender meat.

### Bedré Cafe

1001 W. First St., Sulphur (580) 622-8020 | artesianhotel.com

### Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily.

Get your chocolate fix at Bedré Cafe, a soda fountain and gift shop located inside the Artesian Hotel, Casino and Spa in Sulphur. While the hot fudge sundaes and shakes are a big draw, the cafe's not just about dessert. Made-to-order sandwiches are on the menu, including the popular chicken salad sandwich. Don't forget to try the chocolate soda, which is made with Bedré chocolate.

# Blue Moon Cafe

1104 North Hills Shopping Center, Ada (580) 332-4477 | bluemooncafeada.com *Lunch and dinner daily.* 

The 1950s — and Elvis Presley — live on at Blue Moon Cafe, where the décor is a nod to the diners of the past and the King of Rock n' Roll. The food is classic American and diner fare, including sandwiches, steaks and burgers. The hand-breaded chicken-fried chicken is a customer favorite, as are the fried green tomatoes, which are freshly sliced and fried to a crispy golden brown.



# **Bob's Pig Shop**

829 N. Ash St., Pauls Valley I (405) 238-2332 Lunch and dinner Wednesday-Friday, lunch only Monday, Tuesday and Saturday,

closed Sunday.

Stop in Pauls Valley for a time-tested Oklahoma favorite: the Pig Sandwich. A staple of Bob's Pig Shop since 1933, the recipe is top-secret. Thinly sliced smoked pork is the headliner, and it goes great with the seasoned, hand-cut french fries. Visitors who make it in for Friday dinner can order a once-a-week treat — a plate of tender, juicy, smoked prime rib.

# Burgerland

700 E. Main St., Davis I (580) 369-3379

Breakfast and lunch Sunday-Wednesday, breakfast, lunch and dinner Thursday-Saturday.

Classic diner items await you at Burgerland, a Davis staple for more than 40 years. Stop by in the morning for hearty portions of breakfast favorites like pancakes, omelets, sausage and eggs. For lunch or dinner, try a classic double bacon cheeseburger and curly fries or the hand-breaded chicken-fried steak.





# Café Alley

126 Caddo St., Ardmore I (580) 223-6413 cafealleyardmore.com

Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Friday, dinner only on Saturday, closed Sunday-Monday.

An old downtown warehouse in Ardmore holds quite a surprise: Café Alley, an upscale dining establishment known for steaks and fresh seafood. Crab cakes and short-smoked salmon are perennial favorites, but the menu is wide-ranging and inventive. Don't miss the massive stuffed poblano peppers.

# Gonzalez Mexican Restaurant

110 N. Kemp Ave., Tishomingo I (580) 371-0102 202 S. Broadway St., Coalgate I (580) 927-9191 Lunch and dinner daily.

Handmade chile rellenos and cheesy chicken enchiladas are just a few of the appetizing entrées at Gonzalez Mexican Restaurant. The El Molcajete is a perfect meal for two. The delicious dish features chicken, beef, shrimp and chorizo on a bed of grilled onions. It comes with guacamole, sour cream, pico de gallo and tortillas.



If you're in southern Oklahoma, get off the interstate and make the short drive to Sulphur to the Bedré Cafe. The old-school 1950s diner serves up delicious burgers, fries and scrumptious desserts. The hot fudge brownie sundae is to die for!

# Folger's Drive In

406 E. Main St., Ada I (580) 332-9808

Lunch daily. (§)

There may not be a lot of elbow room at Folger's Drive In, but don't let that stop you from visiting this Ada institution. Since the Folger family moved into it in the 1950s, the tiny downtown building with a 12-stool counter has been home to some of the town's best burgers. Folger's is known for its old-fashioned, flavorful burgers with buns expertly toasted on the griddle. But many diners will tell you that the delicious fresh-cut fries are even better.

# Gringo's Mexican Restaurant

12530 Little Rd., Kingston I (580) 564-7875

Lunch and dinner Tuesday, breakfast, lunch and dinner Wednesday-Sunday, closed Monday.

Whether you're in the mood for sizzling hot fajitas, fresh ceviche or an ice-cold margarita, the folks at Gringo's Mexican Restaurant have you covered. Everything's cooked to order, and the tangy salsa's made fresh daily. Locals love the frequent specials, which include crispy catfish and tasty brisket tacos.





Jack Attack BBQ

107 W. U.S. Highway 70, Kingston (580) 564-5699 I jackattackbbq.com

Lunch and dinner Wednesday-Sunday, closed Monday and Tuesday.

Jack Jones and his wife Shelly started cooking up 'que to feed a big family — they've got nine kids — but they got so good at it that they soon hit the road in a food truck. Now, Jack Attack BBQ is settled into a cozy little spot in downtown Kingston. There's a covered patio for diners to relax under as they enjoy something from a wide selection of smoked meats, which include tender ribs, perfectly cooked pulled pork and an Oklahoma favorite: smoked bologna.

# McGehee's Catfish Restaurant

13487 McGehee Rd., Marietta I (580) 276-2751

Lunch and dinner Saturday-Sunday, dinner only on Thursday and Friday, closed Monday-Wednesday.

Folks have been flocking to McGehee's Catfish Restaurant since the early 1970s for all-you-can-eat catfish that is farm-raised and fried in peanut oil for a fresh taste and crunchy texture. The meal comes with quite a setup: freshcut fries, coleslaw, hush puppies and a sweet, tangy green tomato relish that has long been a guest favorite. Tasty grilled catfish is also available. Snag a seat on the enclosed patio for lovely views of the countryside and nearby Red River.

# Papa Gjorgjo

802 E. Main St., Ada I (580) 332-9500 I papagjorgjo.net Open for lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

With wood-fired pizza and tasty dishes, Papa Gjorgjo is the place to go in Ada for flavorful Italian favorites. Stuffed mushrooms, baked ziti and chicken parmigiana keep diners coming back for more, and they can choose from an extensive list of wine, beer and specialty drinks.

# A TASTE OF GELEBRITY

In the last few years, two of Oklahoma's most well-known stars have opened businesses that have turned their adopted hometowns into dining destinations for fans.

Ree Drummond, the blogger and Food Network star known as The Pioneer Woman, renovated a historic building in downtown Pawhuska to create **The Pioneer Woman Mercantile**. Inside are a restaurant, bakery and store. Since opening, the restaurant has drawn a crowd with Southern-style dishes that include a unique chicken-fried steak made from a ribeye cut of steak.

Meanwhile, down in Tishomingo, country music star and "The Voice" coach Blake Shelton opened **Ole Red**, a restaurant, live-music venue and retail space. On the menu are comfort-food dishes like meatloaf, burgers and the customer-favorite chicken and waffles.

Those aren't the only two famous names to grace Oklahoma restaurants, though. **Mickey Mantle's Steakhouse** in Oklahoma City's Bricktown Entertainment District bears the name of the legendary New York Yankees slugger. The classic steakhouse offers prime cuts of beef, an extensive wine list and hearty, family-style sides.

Also located in Bricktown, country singer **Toby Keith's I Love This Bar and Grill** is a massive restaurant with a stage for concerts. The décor tips its hat to Keith's music and well-known love of guitars and Ford trucks. The food includes down-home favorites like chicken-fried steak, meatloaf and calf fries. The restaurant also has locations at casinos in Catoosa and Thackerville.

CHICKEN-FRIED STEAK

### The Pioneer Woman Mercantile

532 Kihekah Ave., Pawhuska I (918) 528-7705 themercantile.com

Breakfast, lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

CHICKEN AND WAFFLES

#### Ole Red

214 W. Main St., Tishomingo I (580) 257-2217 olered.com/tishomingo

Lunch and dinner daily.

PRIME RIBEYE

#### Mickey Mantle's Steakhouse

7 Mickey Mantle Dr., Oklahoma City I (405) 272-0777 mickeymantlesteakhouse.com

Dinner daily, reservations recommended.

MEATLOAF

### Toby Keith's I Love This Bar and Grill

310 Johnny Bench Dr., Oklahoma City I (405) 231-0254 WinStar World Casino & Resort, 777 Casino Ave., Thackerville (580) 276-9966

Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tulsa, 777 W. Cherokee St., Catoosa (918) 739-4888

tobykeithsbar.com

Lunch and dinner daily.

# Pigskins BBQ

1711 Stonebriar Dr., Ada I (580) 332-3898 Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, lunch Sunday.

With tender meats, hearty portions and yummy sides like hand-cut fries and fried okra, Pigskins BBQ is an Ada favorite. Locals will tell you that the day to stop by is Friday, the only day Pigskins serves its delicious smoked meatloaf.

# Punkin's Bar-B-Que & Catfish Restaurant

1911 W. Grant Ave., Pauls Valley (405) 238-2320

Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Saturday, lunch Sunday, closed Monday.

The name says it all at Punkin's Bar-B-Que & Catfish Restaurant. Among the specialties are delectable catfish, perfectly seasoned pinto beans and huge portions of lean smoked brisket. And they're all just waiting to be spiced up with something from the restaurant's pickle bar. Located a mile off Interstate 35, Punkin's ample seating and parking make it a great stop for groups traveling the highway.

# Robertson's Hams

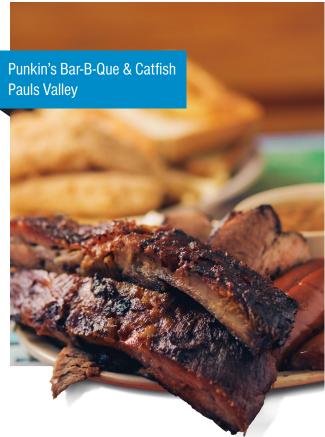
110 Wanda St., Marietta (580) 276-3395 | beefjerkynow.com

11276 State Highway 99, Seminole (405) 382-0555 | robertsons-hams.com

Lunch only Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

Since 1946, Robertson's Hams has been supplying Oklahomans with hickory-smoked hams and tasty beef jerky. They serve up a mean ham sandwich at the original Marietta store and other locations in Seminole and around Texas. With one Oklahoma store just off Interstate 35 and the other right off Interstate 40, Robertson's lets hungry travelers grab lunch to go and get back on the road.





# Smokin' Joes Rib Ranch

3165 W. Jolleyville Rd., Davis I (580) 369-2818 306 Blakeley Ave., Rush Springs I (580) 476-2274 Lunch and dinner Monday, Tuesday and Thursday-Saturday, closed Wednesday and Sunday.

Located less than a quarter-mile off Interstate 35, Smokin' Joes Rib Ranch in Davis has become a well-known pit stop for barbecue aficionados. Tender, dry-rubbed ribs, robustly flavored brisket and delectable pork loin are crowd favorites. Tasty side options include fried okra and potato salad. Diners who visit on Friday and Saturday nights can also order a delicious 16-ounce smoked rib eye. Be prepared to take some home, though. Smokin' Joes serves massive portions, and you must save room for Strawberries On a Cloud, a fluffy, a cake-like dessert topped with berries that is only available at the Davis location.

# Springs at the Artesian

1001 W. First St., Sulphur I (580) 622-8104 artesianhotel.com and traditionsspirits.com

Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily. Reservations recommended on holidays and weekends.

Whether you're planning a romantic date night or just an evening out with friends, Springs at the Artesian's relaxing atmosphere and upscale, Southern-inspired menu will fit the bill. Start with delicious fried zucchini, fried green tomatoes or creamy spinach artichoke dip. Then move on to heartier fare like the country-fried steak topped with bacon country gravy and served with garlic mashed potatoes and honey-glazed carrots. Or sample the savory chicken pot pie.

# Ten Star Pizza

109 E. Main St., Ardmore (580) 226-0101 | tenstarpizza.com

Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday. Reservations recommended on weekends.

With everything made from scratch, Ten Star Pizza is not your usual pizza joint. If you can't decide what toppings you're craving, the Old Blue pizza has them all. Loaded with meats, veggies and cheese — pretty much every topping in the kitchen — it is the restaurant's bestseller.

# The Aaimpa' Café

867 Charles Cooper Memorial Dr., Sulphur (580) 622-7130 | chickasawculturalcenter.com

# Lunch daily.

Located on the grounds of the Chickasaw Cultural Center, The Aaimpa' Café serves traditional American Indian food, including fry bread tacos, sweet grape dumplings and a hominy dish known as pishofa. Modern American favorites like hamburgers and salads are also available. If you've been curious about trying bison, this is the place. The lean, tasty meat is available on the tacos and burgers.

# Two Frogs Grill

2646 W. Broadway St., Ardmore (580) 226-3764 | twofrogsgrill.com

Lunch and dinner daily.

With autographed guitars and rare photos of music legends filling the walls, Two Frogs Grill exudes a serious rock-and-roll vibe. But no matter what music you prefer, you're sure to find something to your taste on the menu. Two Frogs serves a wide variety of Southern favorites with a Cajun twist. Among the signature dishes are the tender baby-back ribs and the Catfish Leon — catfish filets topped with crawfish tails and sautéed in Cajun spices.





### CHOCTAW COUNTRY

Southeastern Oklahoma is where the bayous of Cajun country give way to the pristine lakes and mountains of the Kiamichis. Amid the diversity of landscapes, you'll discover a mouthwatering assortment of Southern, Cajun and ethnic cuisines.

# Abendigo's Grill

U.S. Highway 259 and Stevens Gap Rd., Broken Bow (580) 494-7222 | abendigos.com

Dinner Tuesday-Saturday, closed Sunday and Monday. Reservations recommended.

A southeastern Oklahoma favorite, Abendigo's Grill serves Southern cuisine with a Cajun kick. The menu changes seasonally, but steaks are always popular. That's probably thanks to Abendigo's signature topping: a blue cheese glaze with port wine reduction and deep-fried, spicy shallots. Enjoy the casual, but classy, ambiance inside or relax on the spacious open-air patio and listen to live music on Fridays and Saturdays.

# GiaComo's Italian Cuisine

501 S. George Nigh Expy., McAlester (918) 423-2662 | giacomositaliancuisine.com

Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Saturday, closed Sunday and Monday. Reservations recommended.

GiaComo's Italian Cuisine offers legendary steaks and Italian dishes served family style. Bring your appetite, because each entrée comes complete with salad, hot bread, a relish tray, spaghetti, meatballs and flavorful ravioli.



Lucy's Two | McAlester | Pg. 18



# Grateful Head Pizza Oven & Tap Room

10251 N. U.S. Highway 259, Hochatown (580) 494-6030

Lunch and dinner daily. Reservations recommended.

Delicious pizza, cold beer and a laid-back atmosphere are the recipe for success at Grateful Head Pizza Oven & Tap Room. Diners rave about the light, garlic-dusted crust and pizzas like the Funky Chicken. The grilled chicken pie is doused with white sauce and topped with spinach, onions, mushrooms and roasted garlic.



Oklahoma's craft beer scene has grown rapidly in recent years, and there are now more than 15 breweries around the state.

The state's most legendary brewery is **Krebs Brewing Company**. Created by Pete Pritchard, founder of Pete's Place Restaurant, the company's Choc Beer has been around since 1919.

Founded in 2008, Oklahoma City's **COOP Ale Works** was an early addition to the scene. Facility tours are available on Saturdays on a first-come, first-serve basis.

It's only been around since 2012, but **Prairie Artisan Ales** has quickly evolved into a craft brewing powerhouse renowned for tart farmhouse ales and rich imperial stouts. The company brews its products in a facility outside of McAlester.

Tulsa is home to several breweries and taprooms, including **American Solera**, which was named best new brewery in the United States at the RateBeer Best Awards in January 2017.

Down in the Broken Bow area, **Beavers Bend Brewery** and **Mountain Fork Brewery** both have taprooms where guests can try their year-round and seasonal offerings.

### **COOP Ale Works Taproom**

4745 Council Heights Rd., Oklahoma City (405) 842-2667 | coopaleworks.com

Open Wednesday-Saturday, closed Sunday-Tuesday.

### Prairie Artisan Ales OKC

3 N.E. Eighth St., Oklahoma City I (405) 602-0894 I prairieales.com  $\mbox{\bf Open daily.}$ 

#### Prairie Brewpub

223 N. Main St., Tulsa I (918)  $936\text{-}4395\,\text{I}$  prairiepub.com Open daily.

### Prairie 345

345 E. Choctaw Ave., McAlester I (918) 302-3002 I prairieales.com

Open Thursday-Saturday, closed Sunday-Wednesday.

#### American Solera Taproom

1801 S. 49th W. Ave., Tulsa I (918) 949-4318

Open Wednesday-Saturday, closed Sunday-Tuesday.

108 E. 18th St., Tulsa I (918) 779-7763

#### Open daily.

american solera.com

#### **Beavers Bend Brewery and Taproom**

46 Coho Rd., Broken Bow I (580) 494-3455 I beaversbendbrewery.com Open Sunday-Monday and Wednesday-Saturday, closed Tuesday.

### **Mountain Fork Brewery and Taproom**

85 N. Lukfata Trail Rd., Broken Bow I (580) 494-3233 I mtforkbrewery.com **Open Wednesday-Monday, closed Tuesday.** 

# Isle of Capri

150 S.W. Seventh St., Krebs (918) 423-3062

Lunch and dinner Monday-Thursday, dinner Friday and Saturday, closed Sunday.

Rib eyes, Italian sausage and lamb fries are among the standouts at Isle of Capri, a family-style Italian eatery that opened in 1950. The steak comes from cornfed steer and is broiled and coated in a delicious garlic butter sauce. When the late Dominic Giacomo founded the restaurant, he also touched off a family tradition. Various members of his family now run the Isle, nearby GiaComo's Italian Cuisine and Gabriella's Italian Grill & Pizzeria in Oklahoma City.

# KC Roadhouse Bar & Grill

116 N. Second Ave., Durant (580) 924-9690 kcroadhousebarandgrill.com

Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Saturday, closed Sunday and Monday. Reservations recommended.

There's something for everyone at KC Roadhouse Bar & Grill. The restaurant serves a diverse variety of home-style items but is known for hand-cut steaks and seafood. The thick, well-seasoned rib eye is a favorite, and locals love the catch of the day. The fresh fish choice can be anything from shark to tuna to mahi mahi.



# Krebs Korner

510 W. Washington Ave., Krebs (918) 426-0009

### Lunch daily.

Most Oklahomans can tell you about the tiny town of Krebs and its legendary Italian restaurants, but Krebs Korner is a better-kept secret. Hidden inside a gas station, the delicious deli serves sandwiches, pizza and smoked brisket. Try the muffuletta sandwich, a massive treat piled high with Genoa salami, mortadella bologna, ham and Swiss. The sandwich is topped with the popular olive salad from nearby Lovera's Market and served on delicious Tuscan bread.

# La Magia Del Trigo

106 W. First St., Heavener I (918) 653-3570

Lunch and dinner Sunday-Thursday, lunch only on Friday, closed Saturday.

Diners at La Magia Del Trigo will find all the hallmarks of a good Mexican restaurant — fresh homemade tortillas, sizzling hot fajitas and a variety of tasty lunch combos. But it's what diners will find encased in the glass display case up front that sets the experience apart. The restaurant is also a bakery churning out authentic Mexican breads and treats, including the amazing Choco Flan, a layered dessert with chocolate on the bottom and flan on the top.



KC Roadhouse Bar & Grill | Durant



# Lucy's Two

200 E. Carl Albert Pkwy., McAlester (918) 423-1414 Lunch Monday-Friday, closed Saturday and Sunday.

With a menu full of fresh sandwiches, salads and soups, Lucy's Two in McAlester is a perfect downtown lunch spot. Visitors rave about the soups of the day. Favorites like loaded baked potato and tomato basil get an added kick from Lucy's spicy, seasoned crackers. Homemade desserts like bread pudding, cobblers and carrot cake are rich, delicious and served in generous portions.

### Main Street Barbecue

42 W. Main St., Durant | (580) 745-9120 | mainstreetbbq.org *Lunch and dinner daily*.

Delicious meats and huge portions keep customers coming back to Main Street Barbecue. The St. Louis-style spare ribs are tender and meaty with an amazing smoked flavor. They don't necessarily need sauce, but the three options — regular, smoky and spicy — all complement them well. While the barbecue steals the show, locals rave about the crispy fried catfish, flavorful corn fritters and spicy fried green beans.



Grateful Head Pizza Oven & Tap Room, a laid-back hot spot in the beautiful Ouachita Mountains, bakes up some of the best pizza in the state! Be sure to check out the gift shop and maybe take home a little tie-dye to remember them by.

# Marilyn's Restaurant

1211 S. George Nigh Expy., McAlester I (918) 426-1629 *Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily.* 

Stop at Marilyn's Restaurant for a good old-fashioned meal that sticks with you long after you head out the door. Locals love the all-day breakfast, especially the tasty biscuits and gravy and ham-and-cheese omelets. The flaky, homemade blackberry cobbler is also a winner, and the restaurant's affordable prices and convenient location on U.S. Highway 69 make it a popular stop for travelers. The fast, friendly service will have you back on the road in no time.

# Pam's Hateful Hussy Diner

304 Dallas St., Talihina I (918) 567-2051 Breakfast, lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, breakfast and lunch Sunday.

You tell one regular to get his coffee himself, and suddenly you're branded the "Hateful Hussy." The playfully applied moniker gave Pam Lewis the memorable business name of Pam's Hateful Hussy Diner, but actually, she's pretty beloved in Talihina. That's probably because she keeps everyone fed with chicken-fried steak, Indian fry bread tacos and the Hateful Hussy — grilled chicken breast on a Kaiser roll with bacon, pepper jack cheese and honey mustard.





120 S.W. Eighth St., Krebs | (918) 423-2042 | petes.org Lunch and dinner daily. Reservations recommended on weekends.

Pete's Place Restaurant has served its family-style Italian classics to generations of southeastern Oklahoma residents since its 1925 opening, and the beloved restaurant is still going strong. The place is known for its lamb fries — tender, flavorful meat with a perfectly crispy exterior. Pete's is also home to Choc beer, with the brewery adjoining the restaurant. Call ahead for a brewery tour, available on the second Saturday of each month.

### Roma Italian Restaurant

121 W. Main St., Durant | (580) 931-9961 romadurant.com

### Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Sunday, closed Monday.

Classic Italian food prepared by two brothers from Kosovo seems like a strange recipe for success, but it's worked out perfectly at Roma Italian Restaurant. Gzim and Tony Krasniqi spend their days churning out mouthwatering entrées like the Roma Special — chicken breast and sausage sautéed with roasted red bell peppers, ham and black olives. The delicious dish is topped with a white wine cream sauce and a touch of marinara, then served on a bed of pasta.

# Roseanna's Italian Food

205 E. Washington Ave., Krebs I (918) 423-2055 roseannas.com

Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Saturday, lunch Sunday, closed Monday.

Roseanna's Italian Food is the only one of Krebs' famed eateries that doesn't serve its dishes family style. That certainly doesn't mean you're going home hungry, though, because Roseanna's portions are ample. Most meals come with salad and bread, and some with pasta. Roseanna's is also known for its gnocchi: delicious handmade potato dumplings covered with marinara.



Ask an Oklahoman where to get Italian food, and you're likely to get an earful about the wonders of Little Italy — the area of southeastern Oklahoma where four restaurants heap plate upon plate of hearty Italian classics and delicious steaks upon their diners.

So, how did the tiny Krebs and nearby McAlester become a mecca of Italian cuisine? It all started with the coal boom of the 1870s, when Italian immigrants moved to the area to work in the mines. By 1910, Pittsburg County had nearly 1,400 Italians, many of whom lived in Krebs. Italian restaurants soon followed. First came Pete's Place Restaurant (Pg. 19), which opened in 1925, then Isle of Capri (Pg. 16) in 1950, GiaComo's Italian Cuisine (Pg. 15) in 1959 and Roseanna's Italian Food (Pg. 19) in 1975.

Planning a trip to Little Italy? Here are some tips for making it a good one:

Bring a serious appetite, and pace yourself. Most of the restaurants serve food family style, and it just keeps on coming — salad, bread, spaghetti, ravioli. If you're not careful, most of your entrée might wind up in your to-go box.

Allot plenty of time for a meal. It takes a while to get all that food cooked just right and hauled out to your table.

Stop to shop. A trip to Lovera's Italian Market for olives, sausages and award-winning Caciocavera cheeses is an integral part of the Krebs experience. Some of Lovera's items can also be purchased at Krebs Korner (Pg. 17), a local gas station and deli.

Plan ahead. All four restaurants are busy but allow reservations. Advance scheduling efforts might even get you there for a brewery tour at Pete's Place or for the Italian Festival in May.

Lovera's Italian Market 95 N.W. Sixth St., Krebs (918) 423-2842 | loverasmarket.com

Open 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday.

### Salita's Mexican Restaurant

1202 W. Main St., Durant I (580) 924-2945 salitas.com

Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

Everything at Salita's Mexican Restaurant is made in-house, and that attention to detail shows in every meal. First, there's the salsa. Beloved for its thickness and even consistency, it is now bottled and sold in stores around Oklahoma. But Salita's top-seller is actually a customer-inspired combination: fajita meat smothered in gueso and served on rice. After some local firefighters came up with the concoction, it made its way onto the menu — and into customers' hearts — as the Fireman Special.

### Sherrer's Restaurant

514 S. 9th Ave., Durant I (580) 924-4004 Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

Since 1948, Durant residents have been gathering at Sherrer's Restaurant for hamburgers, salads and chili served up by several generations of the Sherrer family. Locals swear by the double-decker Reuben sandwich and the onion rings. Don't leave without trying one of the delicious homemade pies. They're all pretty tasty, but coconut cream and strawberry are the most popular.



# Southern Belle Restaurant

821 U.S. Highway 59 N., Heavener I (918) 653-4458 Lunch and dinner Monday and Tuesday and Thursday-Friday, lunch Sunday, closed Wednesday.

A passenger train car from the 1940s isn't what you'd expect to see while cruising down U.S. Highway 59 in southeastern Oklahoma, but that's exactly what you'll find in Heavener. The Southern Belle Restaurant serves up down-home favorites inside a restored luxury rail car. Crispy catfish, delicious chicken-fried chicken and homemade peanut butter pie are among the scrumptious specialties.

# Steven's Gap Restaurant

RR 4, Box 91-6, Broken Bow | (580) 494-6350 *Breakfast, lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, breakfast and lunch Sunday.* 

The classic comfort food at Steven's Gap Restaurant makes the perfect fuel for a day of exploring at the nearby Beavers Bend and Hochatown state parks. Omelets, catfish and old-fashioned hamburgers are among the most popular items, but the desserts are what leave diners wanting more. Sweet homemade treats like hummingbird cake, Italian cream cake and coconut cream pie are as beautiful as they are delicious.







# The Blue Rooster

10235 N. U.S. Highway 259, Hochatown (580) 494-6361

Lunch and dinner daily.

The relaxed atmosphere, comfortable patio and old-fashioned Southern cooking will have you feeling right at home at The Blue Rooster. Order a family-style meal of fried chicken, catfish or chicken strips — or just get a basket for yourself — and don't forget to add some fried green tomatoes. The delicious treats are picked straight from owner Suzie Carper's garden, handbreaded and fried to crispy perfection. There's also a wide selection of beer, including many Oklahoma-brewed options, and you can often catch some live music on the weekends. And for dessert, there are delicious fried pies with vanilla ice cream.

# The Coffee Cup

401 N. Broadway St., Poteau | (918) 647-2622 Breakfast, lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, breakfast and lunch on Sunday.

Opened in 2007, The Coffee Cup is a family-owned coffeehouse that has also developed quite a reputation for tasty salads, soups and sandwiches. The loaded baked potato soup in a bread bowl will warm you up on a cold winter day. And desserts like the luscious chocolate mousse cake and blueberry-topped cheesecakes are heavenly. As for the drinks, The Coffee Cup offers a full complement of brewed coffee and specialty drinks.

### The Red B

10 N. Central Ave., Idabel I (580) 286-7919 Lunch and dinner Wednesday-Saturday, closed Sunday-Tuesday.

Delicious rib eyes, crispy chicken-fried steak, massive hamburgers — there isn't much the folks at The Red B don't excel at cooking for their loyal following of locals. No matter what you choose for the main course, you'll do well to finish it off with a piece of homemade meringue pie. With coloring books and goody bags for pint-sized visitors, The Red B is a great place to bring the whole family.

Warehouse Willy's | Poteau

### The Rock House

52060 Blackjack Ridge Dr., Talihina (918) 567-3577 | therockhouse.us

Dinner Thursday-Sunday, closed Monday-Wednesday. Reservations required.

Talihina is known for its breathtaking scenery, but it's not the first place most would think to look for crab cakes. Maryland natives Sam and Tami Balzana have changed that, bringing the East Coast specialty with them. The meaty, flavorful appetizer paves the way for delicious USDA Upper Choice steaks and seafood entrées. The Rock House does serve up a big helping of southeastern Oklahoma beauty — the 1920s-era stone building's big windows look out onto the Kiamichi Mountains.

# Warehouse Willy's

300 Dewey Ave., Poteau | (918) 649-3400 Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Friday, dinner on Saturday, closed Sunday and Monday.

With eclectic treasures filling the walls and blues music wafting through the rooms, the atmosphere at Warehouse Willy's is laidback and inviting. But don't let the vibe fool you — this is one serious steakhouse. Before that rib eye gets to your plate, it's been hand-cut, seasoned, marinated, vacuum sealed and aged for 21 days. The effort shows in the finished product: 12 ounces of juicy, flavorful meat tender enough to cut with a fork.

# Whistle-Stop Bistro

2700 N. Main St., McAlester I (918) 423-8620 Lunch Monday-Friday, closed Saturday and Sunday.

You won't stay hungry long at Whistle-Stop Bistro. Nosh on complimentary warm sourdough bread and butter while waiting for your sandwich, soup or salad to be freshly prepared at the popular downtown lunch spot. Try the Turkey Reuben Grilled Panini. The tasty sandwich includes mesquite smoked turkey, Swiss cheese, sauerkraut and Thousand Island dressing and is served on marbled rye bread.

# Wright's Drive In

319 S. Ninth Ave., Durant I (580) 924-4793 wrightsdrivein.business.site

Breakfast, lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

Since the 1940s, locals have been flocking to Wright's Drive In for tasty diner food. Cheeseburgers, steak sandwiches and steak fingers are among the most popular menu items. Don't forget perfectly crispy onion rings, tater tots or fries for the side — and an old-fashioned milkshake for dessert. Those who visit on the first Thursday of every month will get a special treat: Throwback Thursday, when classic car owners stop by to show off their prized possessions.





# FRONTIER COUNTRY

Frontier Country sits at the crossroads of America's most famed highways. It's also at the intersection of diverse peoples, cultures and traditions. International cuisine abounds in central Oklahoma, alongside gourmet experiences and down-home cooking.



# **Anchor Down**

30 N.E. Second St., Oklahoma City (405) 605-8070 | anchordownokc.com

Dinner only Sunday-Thursday, lunch and dinner Friday and Saturday.

The bright red shipping containers that house Anchor Down make it clear from first glance: This Deep Deuce spot isn't like anything else in the city. The unique restaurant and bar specializes in gourmet corn dogs. The dogs come in all types, from the onion batter-dipped, chicken sausage Bird Dog to the vegan field roast Guard Dog.

# Ann's Chicken Fry House

4106 N.W. 39th St., Oklahoma City I (405) 943-8915

With a pink Cadillac and a vintage police car out front, Ann's Chicken Fry House is hard to miss. The former Route 66 gas station is now a cozy diner brimming with Mother Road and rock-and-roll memorabilia. Ann's huge, fork-tender chicken-fried steak is the main attraction, but the menu is full of tasty comfort foods in portions sure to fill you up.

### Back Door BBQ

315 N.W. 23rd St., Oklahoma City I (405) 525-7427 *Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.*Kathryn Mathis, owner and chef at Back Door BBQ, has a simple philosophy: "If you can eat it, we can smoke it." You'll know she's not kidding when you see The Beastwich, Back Door's ever-changing specialty sandwich. The Beastwich can feature a barbecue staple like pulled pork or a more exotic meat like lamb, duck or alligator. Whether you brave The Beastwich or just order the signature fatty brisket, smoked

14 hours to tender perfection, you'll want to experiment with Back Door's six-pack of sauces. Everyone's got their favorite, but the

Benedict Street Marketplace

tangy espresso sauce is particularly popular.

613 N. Pottenger St., Shawnee I (405) 273-2001 *Breakfast, lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.* 

Fresh salads, sandwiches and espressos are the signature items at the quaint Benedict Street Marketplace. The popular Cobb salad is loaded with goodies like bacon, roasted chicken and avocado topped with a delicious blue cheese dressing. Make sure to snag a cookie for dessert. Options change daily, but varieties like cinnamon oatmeal raisin and chocolate chunk are scrumptious.

Cattlemen's Steakhouse | Oklahoma City | Pg. 26



# **Big Truck Tacos**

530 N.W. 23rd St., Oklahoma City I (405) 525-8226 bigtrucktacos.com

### Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily.

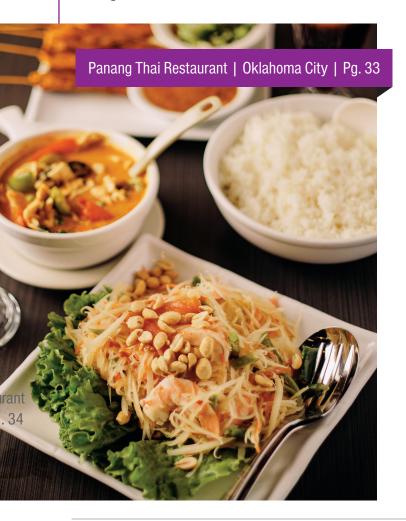
One of the first and most well-known members of Oklahoma City's thriving food truck scene, Big Truck Tacos' truck and restaurant have earned a loyal following for their clever take on traditional Mexican street food and array of spicy salsas. Try a unique-and-tasty taco like the Flaming Lips: hickorysmoked tongue topped with avocado, pico de gallo and queso.

### **Burrito Grill**

215 W. Veterans Memorial Hwy., Blanchard (405) 485-3020

# Lunch and dinner Wednesday-Saturday, closed Sunday-Tuesday.

Fresh, locally sourced ingredients are the key at Burrito Grill. Owners Matt and Erin Cosby use vegetables grown in Oklahoma; some even come from their own gardens. Customers can go down the line, choosing their ingredients to build the perfect burrito or tacos. And for dessert, the amazing cinnamon shake is a local favorite.



# Cafe Antigua

1903 Classen Blvd., Oklahoma City I (405) 602-8984 Breakfast, lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

While Oklahoma City has many options for typical comfort food breakfasts, Cafe Antigua takes all-day breakfast in a whole different direction with authentic Guatemalan cuisine. Regulars swear by the Huevos Motuleño, featuring corn tortillas layered with refried black beans, two fried eggs and a flavorful tomato sauce known as chirmol. It's topped with avocado, cheese crumbles and parsley and served with tortilla chips.

# Catfish Round-Up Restaurant

11278 N. U.S. Highway 99, Seminole I (405) 382-7957 *Lunch and dinner daily.* 

Next time you're headed down Interstate 40 in eastern Oklahoma, make a pit stop at Catfish Round-Up Restaurant. The light, crispy catfish is farm-raised and delicious, and visitors also rave about the piping-hot apple fritters and soft dinner rolls. Kids love the restaurant's 750-gallon aquarium with its albino catfish. Eat too much to continue your trip? There's an adjacent RV park.

# Cattlemen's Steakhouse

1309 S. Agnew Ave., Oklahoma City I (405) 236-0416 cattlemensrestaurant.com

### Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily.

It seems like just about everyone has eaten at the iconic Cattlemen's Steakhouse. Open since 1910, it's a go-to spot for locals and a place many eagerly bring their guests from out of town. The rustic atmosphere, attentive service and long list of celebrity diners that include George H. W. Bush, Ronald Reagan and John Wayne are all part of its lore. It's the steaks that keep everyone coming back, though, with prime or choice cuts of beef that are aged and charbroiled to perfection. They're served with warm rolls, a salad and a baked potato.

# Cheever's Cafe

2409 N. Hudson Ave., Oklahoma City I (405) 525-7007 cheeverscafe.com

# Lunch and dinner Monday-Friday, brunch and dinner Saturday-Sunday.

An upscale restaurant in uptown Oklahoma City, Cheever's Cafe specializes in comfort food with a contemporary twist. A prime example is the beloved chicken-fried steak — a hand-breaded top sirloin served over red-skinned garlic mashed potatoes and smothered with jalapeño cream gravy. For dessert, there's the Roasted Pecan Ice Cream Ball. The massive serving of vanilla ice cream is rolled in pecans and roasted with brown sugar, cinnamon and red chili. It's then coated with caramel, milk chocolate and white chocolate sauces.

# Clara Belle's Restaurant

105 N. Main St., McLoud I (405) 964-6338

Lunch only on Tuesday, lunch and dinner Wednesday-Friday, closed Saturday-Monday.

When Clara Belle's Restaurant owners Wayne and Donna Heins say they serve a little bit of everything, they mean it. German, Italian, Mexican and classic Southern dishes are all available in addition to more typical American fare. Every Friday, they alternate with a themed night. Customers love the muffuletta sandwich, which is on the menu as a Signature Sandwich. The New Orleans favorite has three types of meats and cheeses and is served on focaccia bread with an olive spread.

# Coney Island

223 S. Washington St., Stillwater | (405) 743-1262 Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday. 2136 W. Gary Blvd., Clinton | (580) 323-0955 Lunch and dinner daily.

coneyislandok.com

Coney Island has been a Stillwater fixture since 1969, satiating Oklahoma State University students' hunger with chili-cheese tater tots and concoctions like the Nuke Dog. The beloved coney is topped with Fritos, sauerkraut, chili, jalapeños, onions, hot sauce and American and Swiss cheeses. In 2014, the owners opened a Clinton location that offers a more modern vibe with the same classic food.

# Cow Calf-Hay

3409 Wynn Dr., Edmond | (405) 509-2333 *Breakfast, lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, breakfast and lunch Sunday.* 

212 N. Harvey Ave., Oklahoma City I (405) 601-6180 *Breakfast and lunch Monday-Friday, closed Saturday and Sunday.* 

thecowcalfhay.net

Don't let the whimsical bovine décor and humorously named menu items fool you: Cow Calf-Hay serves up serious burgers. Diners love to chow down on the Mad Cow Burger, topped with diced grilled chicken and potatoes, smoked bacon, spicy ranch dressing and American and pepper jack cheeses.

# Crazy 8 Cafe & Coffeehouse

415 Chickasha Ave., Chickasha I (405) 224-8288 crazy8cafe.com

### Lunch Monday-Friday, closed Saturday and Sunday.

A menu full of delicious hot and cold sandwiches, from-scratch desserts and the town's only full-service coffee and espresso bar keep Crazy 8 Cafe & Coffeehouse hopping. Locals love the specials, especially the Porky's Extreme. The tasty sandwich is loaded with slow-roasted pork loin, ham, bacon, honey mustard and melted cheddar on a jalapeño bun.

# Don's Alley

4601 S.E. 29th St., Del City | (405) 677-9049 Breakfast, lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

Don's Alley has come a long way from its beginning as a tiny diner in the 1950s. Today, Don's still serves homemade country-style food, but the setting is a spacious stone building. The stone and wood-paneled interior and exposed rafters provide a warm atmosphere that's more like a hunting lodge than a diner. Among the customer favorites are creamy homemade chicken and dumplings, chicken-fried steak and cream pies.



Eischen's Bar

109 S. Second St., Okarche (405) 263-9939 I eischensbar.com

Lunch and dinner Monday through Saturday, closed Sunday. §

For perfectly fried chicken without pretension, make the drive to Eischen's Bar. The crispy chicken is served on butcher paper with white bread, sweet pickles, dill pickles and onion slices. If you've never ordered a whole chicken before, it's eight pieces and will feed two to three people. Add on a family-sized side of delicious fried okra, and you've got one of the state's most beloved meals. Take a minute to soak in the atmosphere of a place that opened in 1896. Eischen's bills itself as the state's oldest bar — and they mean it. Eischen's antique bar was carved in Spain in the 1800s. A small part of it survived the restaurant's 1993 fire and is still on display. Make sure to arrive early on Friday or Saturday nights. The place fills up fast, and seating is an "every man for himself" sort of affair. And while reservations are encouraged for parties of 10 or more Monday through Thursday, none are accepted on Friday or Saturday.



It's hard to keep a local delicacy secret anymore. With tons of television shows, magazines and blogs dedicated to food, word gets out. Over the past few years, the Oklahoma onion burger has earned a turn in the spotlight.

So what is an onion burger? It's a hamburger that has a huge pile of thinly sliced onions — usually about half an onion's worth — smashed into the patty while it's frying on the griddle. The onions cook down considerably but inject an amazing burst of flavor into the meat.

Legend credits the onion burger's invention to Ross Davis, who operated a tiny El Reno burger joint during the Great Depression. Supposedly Davis came up with the idea of adding onions to help stretch the meat a bit further.

Today, El Reno has cemented its place as the center of the onion burger universe. The town has three venerable onion burger joints, and each May it hosts a Fried Onion Burger Day.

Oklahomans speak of El Reno's three diners — **Johnnie's Grill** (Pg. 31), **Sid's Diner** (Pg. 36) and **Robert's Grill** (Pg. 34) — almost in one breath, and all do a brisk business. However, it is Sid's appearances in *Saveur* magazine and on Food Network's "Top 5 Restaurants" and Travel Channel's "Man v. Food" that have helped introduce the onion burger to the world.

The onion burger tradition also carries on across the state in places like J & W Grill (Pg. 31) in Chickasha and Hank's Hamburgers (P. 55) in Tulsa. In Oklahoma City, there's Nic's Grill (Pg. 33) plus four Tucker's Onion Burgers locations.



### **Tucker's Onion Burgers**

324 N.W. 23rd St., Oklahoma City | (405) 609-2333 5740 N. Classen Blvd. Ste. 3, Oklahoma City | (405) 286-3331 15001 N. May Ave., Oklahoma City | (405) 254-5555 2166 N.W. 24th Ave., Norman | (405) 561-7373 tuckersonionburgers.com

Lunch and dinner daily.

# **Empire Slice House**

1804 NW 16th St., Oklahoma City (405) 557-1760 | empireslicehouse.com *Lunch and dinner daily.* 

Empire Slice House is a small place with a big personality. From the pink elephant parked out front to the cheeky menu item names, the Plaza District restaurant is endearingly quirky. Diners can order by the slice — and they're large ones, heavy with toppings — or purchase a whole pie. Regulars love the Sriracha-drizzled, chicken and bacon-topped Foghorn Leghorn. The Fungus Among Us, a flavorful mushroom, spinach and truffle oil combo, is another favorite.

# Eskimo Joe's

501 W. Elm Ave., Stillwater (405) 372-8896 | eskimojoes.com

### Lunch and dinner daily.

Famous for its cheese fries and a logo featuring a grinning boy and his dog, Eskimo Joe's has grown from a tiny college bar just east of the Oklahoma State University campus into one of the state's most well-known restaurants. Classic American food fills the menu, starting with those fresh-cut cheese fries, which are topped with grated Monterey jack and cheddar cheese. The tasty, charbroiled burgers are always a good choice, and you can wash it all down with a thick milkshake. The Joe's food and fun extends beyond one restaurant, though. Less than a mile away is Mexico Joe's, which is known for its yummy salsas and sizzlin' hot faiitas.

# Farmer's Daughter Market

302 Broadway, Tecumseh (405) 598-2683

farmersdaughtermarket.com

# Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Saturday, closed Sunday and Monday.

With tasty home-cooking, antiques and urban farmhouse décor, Tecumseh favorite The Farmer's Daughter Market is a dining and shopping destination. On the café's menu, guests will find delicious sandwiches, salads loaded with fresh ingredients and hearty soups like the popular brisket stew. Their specialty is the tomato and cheese pie, a tasty dish that's something like deep dish pizza baked into a flaky pie crust. For dessert, there are tasty fruit cobblers and bread pudding on Fridays and Saturdays.





### **BRICKTOWN OKC LOCATION**

310 JOHNNY BENCH DR. | BRICKTOWN OKC | (405) 231-0254

### HARD ROCK CASINO LOCATION

777 W. CHEROKEE ST. | CATOOSA | (918) 739-4888

### WINSTAR WORLD CASINO LOCATION

777 CASINO AVE. | THACKERVILLE | (580) 276-9966

# FireLake Fry Bread Taco

1568 S. Gordon Cooper Dr., Shawnee I (405) 273-0108 *Lunch and dinner daily.* 

Fry bread tacos have long been a fixture at fairs, festivals and American Indian cultural events in Oklahoma. In 2014, the tasty treats became available year-round when the Citizen Potawatomi Nation opened FireLake Fry Bread Taco. The create-your-own menu lets diners choose the meat, beans, toppings and spices for their tacos. Dessert versions of the light, fluffy fry bread can be topped with cinnamon, sugar and honey or strawberries and whipped cream.

# Florence's Restaurant

1437 N.E. 23rd St., Oklahoma City I (405) 427-3663 florences.restaurant

Breakfast, lunch and dinner Monday-Friday, closed Saturday and Sunday except for omelet bar on first Saturday of the month.

When she opened Florence's Restaurant in 1952, Florence Jones Kemp used family recipes she grew up with in Boley to make country food that was just plain good. That successful formula hasn't changed with delicious dishes like the light and crispy pan-fried chicken. The chicken can be rubbed with dry seasoning, smothered in its own gravy or flavored with Florence's candied yams.

# Granny's Kitchen

1006 S. Main St., Stillwater I (405) 743-1299 *Breakfast and lunch daily.* 

Oklahoma State University students missing grandma's cooking know they can find the next-best thing at Granny's Kitchen. The downtown diner serves home-style favorites like omelets, pancakes and eggs Benedict. Try the icing-drizzled cinnamon rolls or cinnamon roll French toast — two cinnamon rolls cut in half then dipped, grilled and sprinkled with sugar.

### Green Chile Kitchen Route 66

12 E. Main St., Yukon I (405) 265-4346 I gckrt66.com *Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Sunday, closed Monday.* 

Green Chile Kitchen Route 66 more than lives up to its name. Green chiles are in almost all of the restaurant's New Mexicostyle cuisine, from the queso to the lemonade to the sweet-and-spicy apple pie.

# Hamburger King

322 E. Main St., Shawnee I (405) 878-0488

Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

In business since 1927, Hamburger King has stood the test of time with its juicy, meaty burgers and crispy, hand-cut potato wedges. Kids love the unique ordering system where you call in an order from the phone at each table. If you like things a little spicy, try The Kicker — a bacon cheeseburger with pepper jack and grilled jalapeños.

### Hen House Cafe

613 W. Broadway St., Okemah I (918) 623-2501 Lunch Monday-Thursday, lunch and dinner on Friday, closed Saturday and Sunday.

Located just a mile off Interstate 40, Hen House Cafe specializes in down-home favorites and desserts so gorgeous it's hard to take your eyes off them. The delicious chickenfried steak is oven-fried in canola oil for a slightly healthier version of the Oklahoma classic, and the chicken and dumplings are a big hit during their Wednesday appearances on the specials menu.

# Hideaway Pizza

230 S. Knoblock St., Stillwater I (405) 372-4777 thehideaway.net I hideawaypizza.com

Multiple locations around the state

### Lunch and dinner daily.

Hideaway Pizza began in Stillwater as one of Oklahoma's first pizzerias in 1957 and has blossomed into a statewide chain. But locals and Oklahoma State University alumni still swear by the original location. Hideaway piles the toppings high on its specialty pizzas, and devout carnivores will drool over the Big Country, a five-meat pie perfectly accompanied by Hideaway's flavorful red sauce.

# **Hummus Mediterranean Cafe**

811 S.W. 19th St., Moore | (405) 759-7024 3000 W. Memorial Rd., Oklahoma City | (405) 216-5468 hummusmediterraneancafe.com

### Lunch and dinner daily.

As the name suggests, the specialty at Hummus Mediterranean Cafe is hummus — eight different types of hummus, to be exact. The delicious spread is made fresh from garbanzo beans, cooked until tender and blended with tahini, lemon and other flavors. For your main course, try the Royal Platter. It includes several types of grilled and skewered meats on a bed of vermicelli rice.

# **Hurts Donut Company**

746 Asp Ave., Norman | (405) 701-8991 111 S. Detroit Ave., Tulsa | (918) 574-2211

601 N.W. 23rd St., Oklahoma City

(405) 839-8343

### *Open 24 hours daily.*

From the Oreo and blue-icing topped Cookie Monster to the chocolate-filled and Butterfinger-kissed Bart Simpson, Hurts Donut Company's sweet cake doughnuts are inventive, colorful and tasty. Even better, Hurts stays open all day and night to offer around-the-clock doughnuts to hungry night owls.





# Ingrid's

3701 N. Youngs Blvd., Oklahoma City I (405) 946-8444 *Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily, brunch Sunday.* 6501 N. May Ave., Oklahoma City I (405) 842-4799 *Lunch Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.* 

ingridsok.com

Stuffing yourself at the Ingrid's Sunday brunch buffet has become a bit of an Oklahoma City tradition. The Sunday buffet, available only at the original Youngs Boulevard location, offers German meats and sides plus traditional American breakfast foods. There's also a dessert table loaded with pastries, cookies, cake and — if you're lucky — Ingrid's sumptuous bread pudding. If you can't make it for the Sunday spread, try the sauerbraten — juicy, tender roast beef topped with brown gravy.

### Iron Star Barbecue

3700 N. Shartel Ave., Oklahoma City I (405) 524-5925 ironstarokc.com

### Lunch and dinner daily.

Specializing in barbecue and comfort food with a modern flair, Iron Star Barbecue delivers unique, full-flavored food in a contemporary, but homey, atmosphere. The flaky, jalapeño-infused cornbread is served with butter and spicy salsa verde. It makes a perfect starter while you await your juicy, hickory-smoked chicken or brown sugar-cured brisket.

### J & W Grill

501 W. Choctaw Ave., Chickasha | (405) 224-9912 Breakfast and lunch Monday-Wednesday, breakfast, lunch and dinner Thursday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

Grab a spot at one of the 16 bar stools that comprise the seating at J & W Grill and get ready for a memorable meal. While there may not be much space, the fast and friendly staff keeps lines short and customers happy. Open since 1957, the Chickasha institution is known for fried onion burgers made with fresh Angus beef and onions cut daily.

# Jo's Famous Pizza

1438 S. Green Ave., Purcell I (405) 527-2379 Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday. 900 S. Kelly Ave., Edmond I (405) 340-7070 Lunch Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday. josfamouspizza.com (Edmond only)

Started in the 1960s in Purcell, Jo's Famous Pizza has become a central Oklahoma staple for its flaky, buttery crust and flavorful, homemade red sauce. Whether it's one of Jo's popular specialty pies or a custom order, the toppings are always fresh and applied liberally. A delicious salad topped with the creamy Pa's Garlic Dressing makes the perfect accompaniment.

### Johnnie's Grill

301 S. Rock Island Ave., El Reno I (405) 262-4721 *Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily.* 

In business since 1946, Johnnie's Grill serves up onion burgers — the fresh beef patties with caramelized onions smashed into them that have become El Reno's signature. Johnnie's, though, is also known for its delicious hot dogs. A coney covered in meaty chili and sweet, mustard-and-pickle-based slaw is a longtime customer favorite.

# Ken's Steaks and Ribs

408 E. Main, Amber I (405) 222-0786 kenssteaksandribs.com

### Dinner Thursday-Saturday, closed Sunday-Wednesday.

The folks at Ken's Steaks and Ribs keep it simple with just a few classic entrées and sides. Everyone gets a thick, juicy rib as an appetizer, and each meal comes with a trip to the salad bar. In addition to fresh vegetables, it's also stocked with fried okra and pinto beans. Perfectly cooked prime rib, steak, roasted chicken and those fabulous ribs are the restaurant's signature items.



# Kendall's Restaurant

100 S. Main St., Noble I (405) 872-0303 kendallsrestaurant.com

Lunch and dinner Wednesday-Saturday, closed Sunday-Tuesday. 🕥

Boasting about the size of the chicken-fried steak you ate has become something of an Oklahoma tradition. But those who survive the Chicken Fried Challenge at Kendall's Restaurant have truly earned bragging rights. The challenge features three intimidating and delicious pieces of fried goodness hanging right off the giant plate. The challenge has a one-hour time limit and includes salad, green beans, a biscuit, potatoes or fries and two cinnamon rolls.

### Kitchen No. 324

324 N. Robinson Ave., Oklahoma City (405) 763-5911 | kitchen324.com

### Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily.

Walking into Kitchen No. 324 is like taking a breath of fresh air. The downtown restaurant offers a bright and airy interior, an industrial-yet-upscale décor and fresh takes on comfort food. Scrumptious pastries and perfectly blended coffee make it a must-try breakfast spot.

# La Baguette Bistro

7408 N. May Ave., Oklahoma City I (405) 840-3047 labaguettebistro.com

# Breakfast, lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, brunch on Sunday.

A warm, inviting atmosphere and delicious French-American fusion cuisine are the hallmarks of La Baguette Bistro. Locals rave about the Sunday brunch and the Croque Monsieur, an open-faced ham and Swiss sandwich on sourdough bread that is topped with creamy bechamel sauce and then broiled. And don't pass up dessert — La Baguette Bistro is known for decadent treats like the richly layered chocolate mousse cake.

# Legend's Restaurant

1313 W. Lindsey St., Norman I (405) 329-8888 legendsrestaurant.com

# Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, lunch, brunch and dinner Sunday.

Located just off the University of Oklahoma campus, Legend's Restaurant has long been an upscale dining option that college students and their parents can agree on. American favorites, seafood and sandwiches grace the menu, including standouts like cheesy French onion soup and flavorful lobster macaroni and cheese.

### Leo's Barbecue

3631 N. Kelley Ave., Oklahoma City I (405) 424-5367 Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

Oklahoma City residents in the know have been chowing down on Leo's Barbecue since 1974. The tender chopped brisket and meaty, well-seasoned pork ribs are delicious by themselves or with one of Leo's two unique sauces a sweet, mild version or thicker, spicier hot sauce. Save room for a slice of strawberry banana cake. The yellow cake topped with fruit and a sweet glaze is included with Leo's dinners.

# Ludivine

320 N.W. 10th St., Oklahoma City (405) 778-6800 | ludivineokc.com

Dinner Tuesday-Saturday, bar only on Monday, closed Sunday.

With a menu that refreshes constantly to showcase locally sourced food, Ludivine is one of the city's most unique restaurants. One of its few constants is the roasted bone marrow. The rich, smoothly textured marrow is served as an appetizer inside two bone halves along with bread, whole grain mustard, toast, caramelized onions and pickled shallot onions. Ludivine's bar menu is also an adventurous one, with a strong selection of seasonal cocktails and local beer

# Mutt's Amazing Hot Dogs

1400 N.W. 23rd St., Oklahoma City | (405) 525-3647 mutts-hot-dogs.com

### Lunch and dinner daily.

If you're going to put the word "amazing" in your restaurant name, you're going to need some tasty food. That hasn't been a problem at Mutt's Amazing Hot Dogs. The hot dogs start with kosher, all-beef franks and perfectly toasted buns. Then things get a little crazy with choices like The Pitbull, topped with cilantro-lime aioli, pepper jack cheese and a hefty combination of peppers.

### Nic's Grill

1201 N. Penn Ave., Oklahoma City | (405) 524-0999 116 N. Robinson Ave., Oklahoma City | (405) 601-9234 Lunch Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

Only 17 people at a time can squeeze into Nic's Grill. Make that 17 lucky people, as owner Justin "Nic" Nicholas' burgers are the stuff of legend. So big that Nicholas cuts them in half before serving them, the burgers are incredibly juicy and bursting with flavor thanks to the grilled onion and jalapeño toppings. For those who prefer a more spacious atmosphere, Nic's Place in Midtown is a tasty but more upscale option.

# Off the Hook

125 W. Britton Rd., Oklahoma City I (405) 840-3474 *Lunch Tuesday-Sunday, closed Monday.* 

1920 S. Meridian Ave., Oklahoma City I (405) 606-6040 *Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Sunday, closed Monday.* offthehookokc.com

For those who like their seafood with a little kick, Off the Hook's Cajun flavors will really hit the spot. Their most beloved dish is the smothered seafood fries. The massive plate of fries is doused with a decadent lobster cream sauce and topped with bacon, cheese, fried onions, chives and pieces of shrimp, crawfish, lump crab and baby clams. Other local favorites include the spicy gumbo, flaky catfish.



# Panang Thai Restaurant

14101 N. May Ave. Ste. 109, Oklahoma City | 405) 752-8400 9022 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Oklahoma City | (405) 691-9989 3325 S. Boulevard St. Ste. 149, Edmond | (405) 285-5188 panangthaifood.com

### Lunch and dinner daily.

Generous portions, exotic flavors and affordable lunch specials make Panang Thai Restaurant a favorite on the city's north and south sides. Try the Chicken Sate, an appetizer featuring four skewers of marinated, charbroiled chicken with fresh peanut sauce and cucumber salad, and then one of the spicy curries. If you need to cool off your taste buds, try the Thai iced tea. The creamy, super-sweet drink is refreshing and delicious.



# **POPS**

660 W. Highway 66, Arcadia I (405) 928-7677 Lunch and dinner Monday-Friday, breakfast, lunch and dinner Saturday and Sunday.

pops66.com

When you see a 66-foot glowing soda pop bottle towering over the prairie, it's tough not to stop for a closer look. While POPS' brilliantly lit pop bottle sign and ultramodern architecture make for an awesome photo op, the diner and a store stocked with over 700 types of soda make it worth staying awhile. Enjoy tasty classics like burgers, chicken-fried steak, chili-cheese fries and, of course, soda.

# Queen of Sheba

2308 N. MacArthur Blvd., Oklahoma City (405) 606-8616

Dinner Tuesday-Saturday, closed Sunday and Monday.

Ethiopian food is tough to come by in Oklahoma, and Queen of Sheba is the city's only spot to find the flavorful, diverse cuisine. If you don't like things too spicy, there are several milder entrées that are indicated on the menu. The accompanying injera bread — a slightly sour, spongey flatbread used for scooping up meat and vegetables — also helps tone things down. With many meatless entrées, Queen of Sheba is also a great option for vegetarians.

# Ranch Steakhouse

3000 W. Britton Rd., Oklahoma City (405) 755-3501 | ranchsteakhouse.com

### Dinner daily.

Since its 1999 opening, Ranch Steakhouse has been dedicated to serving only the best. Those efforts show in the hand-cut prime beef that arrives on a hot plate to keep it warm throughout the meal. An elegant, yet warm, atmosphere and delicious down-home sides served family style complete the experience.

### Ranchers Club

S. Hester St., Stillwater I (405) 744-2333 theranchersclub.com

Breakfast and lunch on Monday, breakfast, lunch and dinner Tuesday-Friday, breakfast, brunch and dinner on Saturday, breakfast and brunch on Sunday.

With white tablecloths and tasteful, Western-tinged décor, the Ranchers Club is a dramatic departure from typical college town establishments. Located in the Atherton Hotel next to Oklahoma State University's Student Union, the restaurant offers a fine-dining experience using Oklahoma-grown meat and produce. The Vegas strip garners the most attention. OSU researchers developed the extraction method for this new cut of meat, which comes from the chuck portion of the cow.

# Redrock Canyon Grill

9221 Lake Hefner Pkwy., | Oklahoma City | (405) 749-1995 1820 Legacy Park Dr., | Norman | (405) 701-5501 9916 Riverside Pkwy., | Tulsa | (918) 394-7625 redrockcanyongrill.com

### Hours vary by location.

Two of Oklahoma's Redrock Canyon Grill locations offer beautiful waterfront views — of Lake Hefner in Oklahoma City and the Arkansas River in Tulsa. All feature mouthwatering Southwestern and American selections served in heaping portions. Try the perfectly seasoned rotisserie chicken.

# Robert's Grill

300 S. Bickford Ave., El Reno I (405) 262-1262 Breakfast, lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, lunch and dinner on Sunday.

With its 14-stool lunch counter, Robert's Grill is light on seating but heavy on nostalgia and delectable food. In business since 1926, Robert's excels in El Reno's specialties: onion burgers and chili- and slaw-topped coneys. Snag a seat and watch the onion burger-making process unfold in front of you. There's nothing like seeing onions and hamburger patties sizzling on the griddle to make your mouth water.

# Rock Café

114 W. Main St., Stroud I (918) 968-3990 rockcafert66.com

### Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily.

Not many restaurant proprietors earn themselves a character in an animated movie. But Dawn Welch of the Rock Café did just that after meeting Walt Disney/Pixar executive John Lasseter. He was exploring Route 66 doing research for what would become the hit movie "Cars." Welch became the basis for Sally Carrera, a Porsche dedicated to keeping her hometown shining. Welch and her café have become the stuff of Route 66 legend, and memorabilia from the Mother Road and "Cars" fill the unique rock building. The menu ranges from classic diner fare to more unusual delicacies like jagerschnitzel, a German dish of fried pork cutlets.

**POPS** 

# Rocky Mountain Grill

3600 E. I-35 Frontage Rd., Edmond (405) 562-4777 | rockymountaingrill.us

# Breakfast, lunch and dinner, Monday-Friday, breakfast, Saturday, closed Sunday.

"Comfort food with a kick" is how co-owner Scott Selburt describes Rocky Mountain Grill's tasty dishes. The "kick" is Coloradostyle green chili, which graces — among other things — the smothered breakfast burritos, the hand-pattied burgers and the Blake's Special chicken fry. The chili doesn't accompany all of the star items, though: locals love the large, fluffy pancakes.



# Roy's Bar-B-Q

309 W. Missouri Ave., Chickasha (405) 224-9843

Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Saturday, closed Sunday and Monday. §

With its red-and-white checkered table cloths, wall full of awards and one-page menu, Roy's Bar-B-Q is the quintessential small-town barbecue joint — as delicious as it is unpretentious. Roy Bryant has been supplying Chickasha with tender smoked meat since 1972, and his tangy, tomato-based sauce adds just the right amount of kick.

### Shuff's Main Street Grill

112 W. Main St., Jones I (405) 399-3565 Breakfast and lunch Monday-Friday, closed Saturday and Sunday.

Shuff's Main Street Grill specializes in old-fashioned hamburgers and other American classics cooked from scratch. Start off with the extra-crunchy onion rings, move on to one of the hand-pattied burgers and then see what fresh-made desserts Shuff's has for the day. The strawberry cake and coconut cream pie are beloved by regulars. Don't think too long, as slices tend to go fast.

# Sid's Diner

300 S. Choctaw Ave., El Reno (405) 262-7757 | sidsdiner.com

Breakfast, lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

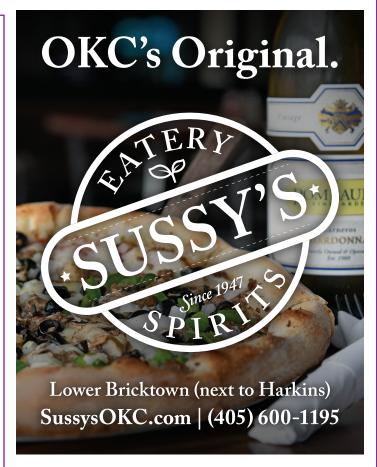
With appearances on Food Network's "Top 5 Restaurants" and Travel Channel's "Man v. Food," the juicy onion burgers at Sid's Diners are well-known inside and outside of Oklahoma. Sid's flavorful burgers come in two sizes, regular and double-patty king size. Whichever you get, plan on sharing the fresh-cut fries. Even a half portion is huge, and you'll want to save room for a thick chocolate peanut butter shake.

# Sooner Dairy Lunch

1820 W. Main St., Norman (405) 321-8526 | soonerdairylunch.com

Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Friday, lunch only Saturday, closed Sunday and Monday. (§)

When Sooner Dairy Lunch moved to Main Street in 1954, the drive-in was one of the few businesses on the street. As the city grew around it, Sooner Dairy Lunch stayed put. While there might not be carhops these days, customers can order at the window and get delicious hamburgers, shakes and malts made much the same way they were 50 years ago.







In a roll call of Oklahoma's best-known dishes, American comfort foods like chicken-fried steak, catfish or lamb fries probably come to mind first. But the Oklahoma City metro is making a name for itself as one of the best places in America to get pho (pronounced "fuh"), a Vietnamese favorite that you can find throughout the city's thriving Asian District.

For the uninitiated, pho is a soup with a complexly flavored broth that is left to simmer for hours before serving. It arrives at your table piping hot and teeming with hearty ingredients like tender rice noodles, onion, ginger and strips of meat — usually varying cuts of beef. Customarily arriving with the pho are a plate of herbs and vegetables to serve as possible garnishes and small bowls of sauce for dipping the meat in. Sriracha and other sauces are generally available for those who want to kick things up even more.

While many places offer a selection of ingredients so extensive it can seem intimidating, Oklahoma City pho favorites like **Pho Lien Hoa** and **Pho Cuong** have menus that carefully lay out all the choices, highlighting good options for beginners.

Tulsa also has its share of delicious pho restaurants, though they're more spread out than Oklahoma City's. Popular options include **Pho Nhi** and **Pho V-Nam**.

PHO LIEN HOA 901 N.W. 23rd St., Oklahoma City | (405) 521-8087

Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily.

PHO CUONG 3016 N. Classen Blvd., Oklahoma City I (405) 524-5045 Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily.

PHO NHI 11514 E. 21st St., Tulsa I (918) 947-4388

Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, breakfast, lunch and dinner on Sunday.

PHO V-NAM

8122 S. Harvard Ave., Tulsa I (918) 574-2888

Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

## Sunnyside Diner

916 N.W. Sixth St., Oklahoma City (405) 778-8861 824 S.W. 89th St., Oklahoma City (405) 703-0011 9148 N. MacArthur Blvd. (405) 722-8262

eatatsunnyside.com

## Breakfast and lunch daily.

It's only been around since 2016, but Sunnyside Diner has quickly become one of Oklahoma City's go-to breakfast spots thanks to its fresh ingredients and imaginative takes on breakfast favorites. The signature dish is the lemon blueberry French toast. The blueberries are grilled into the brioche French toast, and then it's topped with blueberry compote, whipped cream and maple syrup. Another favorite, the Eggs in Purgatory, has more of an Italian flavor with three sunny-side eggs simmered in spicy marinara and smothered in Parmesan cheese. For the non-breakfast crowd, there are also burgers, salads, sandwiches and wraps.

## The Butcher BBQ Stand

3402 W. Highway 66, Wellston (405) 240-3437

butcherbbgstand.com

# Lunch and dinner Friday and Saturday, lunch Sunday, closed Monday-Thursday.

What happens when one half of a father-and-son team starts a barbecue stand after eight years on the competitive circuit? Levi Bouska opened The Butcher BBQ Stand in 2015, and so far the results have been delicious meats and a growing popularity that has the stand selling out on many days. If you're having a hard time choosing between the juicy, hickory-smoked ribs, tender brisket and other delicious meats, order the Meat Locker and try them all.



When it comes to barbecue in central Oklahoma, you cannot beat The Butcher BBQ Stand in Wellston. This roadside restaurant on Route 66 operates out of a converted railroad car. It's become a pit stop anytime we're in the area!



Ludivine | Oklahoma City | Pg. 32

Opened in 2019, The Collective brings together multiple culinary concepts, a coffee shop and two bars, all in a modern space in the Midtown District. Diners have an amazing breadth of cuisines to choose from, including barbecue, tacos, doughnuts, poké bowls and gourmet waffles, along with craft cocktails and fresh-brewed coffee. The upscale food hall also features a large rooftop patio.

## The Diner

213 E. Main St., Norman I (405) 329-6642

Breakfast and lunch Saturday-Wednesday, breakfast, lunch and dinner Thursday and Friday.

The name might be rather nondescript, but in Norman, when you say you're headed to The Diner, no further explanation is needed. The restaurant has been around in some form or fashion for more than 100 years. The current incarnation has become legendary for its amazing beef chili and the Eggarito. The breakfast burrito is stuffed with scrambled eggs, green chiles and cheese, wrapped up tight, then smothered with more cheese and ranchero sauce.

## The Drake Seafood and Oysterette

519 N.W. 23rd St. Ste. 111, Oklahoma City (405) 605-3399 | thedrakeokc.com

Lunch and dinner Monday-Friday, brunch and dinner Saturday and Sunday. Reservations recommended.

With fresh fish flown in daily, The Drake Seafood and Oysterette pushes the envelope for seafood in Oklahoma. It offers oysters from both coasts and dishes like the Hiramasa Crudo, made with a fish that comes from the Pacific Ocean and served raw with a delicious citrus- and soy-based vinaigrette.

## The Miller Grill

326 Elm Ave., Yukon | (405) 265-2775 | millergrill.com *Breakfast, lunch and dinner Tuesday-Friday, breakfast and lunch Saturday and Sunday, closed Monday.* 

If you're looking for super-fast food or dainty portions, The Miller Grill is not the place to go. The folks there don't start making the food until you order it, and they give you plenty. Massive onion rings, thick burgers and an Indian taco that barely fits on the plate are among the go-to items. It's not just about quantity, though. The Miller Grill serves up quality, flavor-filled food that keeps diners coming back for more.

## The Mule

1630 N. Blackwelder Ave., Oklahoma City (405) 601-1400 l themuleokc.com

Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Saturday, brunch Sunday, dinner Monday.

A Plaza District favorite, The Mule specializes in grilled cheese sandwiches and comfort food with a twist. Start off with the deep-fried Watonga Cheese Curds, a beerbattered treat that is fluffy and delicious. Then move on to The Mule's signature grilled cheese: the Macaroni Pony. The flavorful, filling sandwich features jalapeño cornbread stuffed with chipotle barbecue pulled pork, pickles and three-cheese mac and cheese.

## The One Café

122 E. 15th St., Edmond | (405) 340-0333 Breakfast, lunch and dinner Monday-Friday, breakfast and lunch Saturday, closed Sunday.

Tucked into an Edmond shopping center, The One Café is easy to miss. It's worth taking a closer look though, as the sandwiches, soups and salads are all freshly made and delicious. But what really sets The One Café apart are its crepes. Whether stuffed with hot, savory ingredients or topped with sweet treats, the light, fluffy crepes add a delicious texture and flavor to every dish.

## The Press

1610 N. Gatewood Ave., Oklahoma City (405) 208-7739 | thepressokc.com

## Brunch, lunch and dinner Tuesday-Sunday, closed Monday.

With its light, open dining room and menu full of southwestern-inspired comfort food, visitors will feel right at home at The Press in Oklahoma City's Plaza District. On Tuesdays, the restaurant serves a Sooner State special: the official Oklahoma state meal. Featuring chicken-fried steak, barbecued pork, sausage with biscuits and gravy, fried okra, squash, corn, grits, black-eyed peas, cornbread, strawberries and pecan pie, the eye-popping meal is enough to split between two or three people.

## Tower Cafe and Okarche Bakery

411 Main St., Okarche I (405) 263-7911

#### Breakfast, lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

Oklahomans know Okarche is the place to go for Eischen's fried chicken, but Tower Cafe and Okarche Bakery also has a strong following. It's been family-owned for 45 years, and locals love the homemade country food, gooey cinnamon rolls and light, flaky pies. You can order the warm, fresh rolls with a meal or buy a dozen to heat up at home later. If you're after something heartier, try the customer-favorite chicken-fried steak topped with creamy gravy.



## Vast

333 W. Sheridan Ave., Oklahoma City (405) 702-7262 | vastokc.com

Lunch and dinner Monday-Friday, dinner only on Saturday, closed Sunday. Reservations recommended.

The addition of Devon Tower to the downtown Oklahoma City skyline in 2012 also brought a distinctive fine dining experience to the city. From its spot on the 49th floor, Vast provides breathtaking views in a refined, yet relaxing atmosphere with a smart casual dress code. The menu features expertly cooked steaks and seafood, and many of the dishes are made from locally and regionally sourced ingredients.

## Waffle Champion

1212 N. Walker Ave. Ste. 100, Oklahoma City (405) 525-9235 | wafflechampion.com

Breakfast and lunch Tuesday-Thursday and Sunday, breakfast, lunch and dinner Friday and Saturday, closed Monday.

When is a waffle more than just a waffle? When it's stuffed with fried chicken, chorizo or thick strips of bacon. Waffle Champion takes a new approach to the classic breakfast food, turning it into a sandwich ready to be stuffed with meat, veggies, cheese and whatever else comes to mind. Waffle classicists will still find lots of sweet fruit and syrup-topped treats, though. The Midtown restaurant often has a line out the door, so come prepared for a short wait.

## Yellow Rose Dinner Theater

1005 S.W. Fourth St., Moore (405) 793-7779 | yellowrosetheater.org

Dinner Friday and Saturday, closed Sunday-Thursday. Reservations required.

With Oklahoma talent and classic Oklahoma cooking, Yellow Rose Dinner Theater is great for date night or a family adventure. The theater's original productions change throughout the year and include an Elvis Presley tribute and Dean Martin-themed Christmas show. Patrons brag on the two entrée choices (smoked brisket or smoked chicken) and the decadent desserts. The dress code is business casual.

ARRA

## Zarate's Latin Mexican Grill

706 S. Broadway, Edmond I (405) 330-6400 zarateslatingrill.com

## Lunch and dinner daily.

If you're looking for Latin food that goes beyond Tex-Mex, Zarate's Latin Mexican Grill is the place. Zarate's delves much deeper into South American cuisine with items like Brazilian barbecue, Argentine steak and Peruvian stir-fry dishes known as saltados. Among the standout selections are the spicy, complexly flavored Jamaican Jerk Chicken and the tender Cuban Pork Chops marinated in citrus juices.





## **GREAT PLAINS COUNTRY**

Great Plains Country is home to ancient mountains, rugged landscapes and the famed Chisholm Trail. And its heartland heritage shines through in the cuisine. Burgers, catfish and old-fashioned steaks dominate the culinary landscape.

## **Backdoor Steakhouse**

400 S. Zinn St., Blair I (580) 563-2000 backdoorsteakhouse.com

## Dinner daily.

A traditional steakhouse tucked away in a small town, Backdoor Steakhouse draws visitors from near and far for its flavorful steaks, friendly staff and rustic Western atmosphere. Order some wood chips — baked potato slices loaded with cheese, bacon, chives and jalapeño slices — to tide you over until your expertly cooked rib eye or strip steak arrives.

## Bill's Fish House

Highway 79 five miles W. of Waurika (580) 228-2372 | billsfh.com

## Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Sunday, closed Monday.

Located less than a mile from the Oklahoma-Texas border, Bill's Fish House has been helping residents on both sides of the Red River get their catfish since the 1960s. While the restaurant is known for its crispy, thinly sliced catfish, it also offers a thicker-sliced variety. That's not all they have, though — the menu also includes steak, seafood and chicken.

## **Burgess Grill**

617 S.W. C Ave., Lawton I (580) 355-7473

## Breakfast and lunch Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday. 🔊

Burgess Grill has been a family affair since the lunch counter opened in Lawton in 1962. Shizuko Burgess and her daughter Dana still handle the cooking, churning out more than 20 types of burgers and homemade desserts. The biggest seller is the Hodgepodgeburger, a concoction piled high with grilled onions and mushrooms, bacon, guacamole and four types of cheese.





Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Saturday, closed Sunday and Monday.

DiCintio's Pizza Cucina has only been open for a couple of years, but it was decades in the making. Owner Brian DiCintio grew up in New York City, where his grandparents owned a pizzeria, but moved to Marlow more than 40 years ago. He started selling his pizza at a local gas station that he owned in the 1980s, and then owned Giuseppe's Italian Dining before retiring for a few years. In 2017, he opened DiCintio's, and it's been a hit. His New York-style pies like The Don, which is piled high with four types of veggies and four types of meat, have quickly become local favorites. The white pizza, featuring five types of cheeses and alfredo sauce, is another top seller.

## Gangnam Style

1915 N.W. Sheridan Rd., Lawton I (580) 595-9380 Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

Gangnam Style has developed a strong local following for its authentic Korean cuisine, particularly the beef bulgogi, a flavorful dish of thinly sliced rib eye marinated in barbecue sauce. Each meal is served with banchan, a grouping of small sides that includes cooked rice and traditionally prepared vegetable dishes.

## Giuseppe's Italian Dining

203 W. Main St., Marlow I (580) 658-2148 giuseppesitaliandining.com

Lunch and dinner Thursday-Saturday, closed Sunday-Wednesday.

Giuseppe's Italian Dining offers a broad selection of mouthwatering Italian classics like fettucine alfredo, eggplant parmigiana and fresh-baked lasagna. The restaurant is also known for its steak, a pan-seared beef filet served with herbroasted potatoes and vegetables. For dessert, there's creamy, house-made tiramisu.



Sometimes a hard day of traveling requires a little pick-meup. Luckily, independently owned coffee shops exist near Oklahoma's busiest highways. Here are some places to get your caffeine fix while taking in a little local culture.

U.S. HIGHWAY 412

#### Five80 Coffeehouse

122 E. Randolph Ave., Enid | (580) 233-3483 five80coffeehouse.com

## Open Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

This comfortable coffeehouse is a non-profit, with proceeds benefitting several local causes. It features a pay-as-you-go concept, with the menu listing only suggested prices for the delicious hot-and-cold drinks, soups and sandwiches.

INTERSTATE 35

## Main Street Coffee

108 W. Main St., Ardmore I (580) 226-8222 **Open daily.** 

This cozy coffeehouse is a local favorite, and the signature drink is a cold one: the Main Street Xtreme. It has an ice cream base with milk chocolate, white chocolate and caramel. The baked goods — especially the homemade cinnamon rolls — are also a big hit.

INTERSTATE 40

## Strayhouse Kitchen + Coffee

118 S. Fifth St., Clinton I (580) 450-2527 I strayhouse.coffee  $\mbox{\bf Open daily.}$ 

After getting its start out of a vintage Airstream travel trailer, this shop has upsized to a beautifully restored, 1907-era hardware store with a spacious dining area and an espresso bar. In addition to the amazing coffees and a selection of wine and beer, guests will also find tasty soups, sandwiches and salads.

U.S. HIGHWAY 81/ INTERSTATE 44

#### Viridian Coffee

1410 W. Main St., Duncan I (580) 606-6321

#### Open daily.

5366 N.W. Cache Rd. Ste. 1, Lawton I (580) 606-6850

#### Open Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

viridiancoffee.com

A welcoming atmosphere and a wide variety of delicious drinks have made Viridian Coffee a quick success. The coffee is airroasted in Duncan using Arabica beans imported from around the world, and the nine different blends are available in the shops and online. Tasty breakfast items and baked goods are also available.

## Hamburger Inn

126 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Mangum (580) 782-5254

Breakfast and lunch Monday-Saturday, dinner Friday and Saturday, closed Sunday.

Mangum's beloved Hamburger Inn opened in the 1920s. Since then, it has grown from a tiny building with just nine stools to take over two more buildings, now occupying most of the block. So, what's the secret of Hamburger Inn's success? The delicious fried onion burgers and a distinctive, spicy salsa that locals put on their burgers — and on pretty much everything else they eat.

## Jigg's Smokehouse

22203 N. Frontage Rd., Clinton (580) 323-5641 l jiggssmokehouse.com

# Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Saturday, closed Sunday and Monday.

Ever heard of the Wooly Burger? That's what the folks at Jigg's Smokehouse call the mammoth menu item stuffed with roughly two pounds of hickory-smoked ham and beef summer sausage. It's topped with mayo, chow-chow relish, cheddar and a splash of sweet barbecue sauce. You can also purchase a bottle of Jigg's sauce or some flavorful beef jerky to take home.

## John & Cook's Real Pit Bar-B-Que

1310 S.W. 21st St., Lawton I (580) 248-0036 johnandcooksrealpitbbq.com

# Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

The owner of John & Cook's Real Pit Bar-B-Que has very specific ideas about what constitutes "real" pit barbecue. "If it's not brick, it's not a pit," says Lonzo Gaines. He should know, since five generations of his family members have been churning out perfectly smoked meats from a brick pit since 1936. John & Cook's is known for tender, juicy chicken — served only on Friday and Saturday — and moist, fall-off-the-bone ribs.



## **Kozy Diner**

214 S. Main St., Hobart I (580) 726-2876

Breakfast and lunch Monday-Friday, breakfast only on Saturday, closed Sunday.

If you're in the mood for some home cooking, head to Kozy Diner in Hobart. Daily breakfast and lunch specials and rotating desserts keep things fresh, and the hand-breaded chickenfried steak and biscuits and gravy are a big hit with the locals. Stop in on Wednesday to snag a piece of coconut cream pie.

## Lucille's Roadhouse

1301 N. Airport Rd., Weatherford I (580) 772-8808 lucillesroadhouse.com

Breakfast, lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, lunch and dinner only on Sunday.

Immerse yourself in Route 66 history at Lucille's Roadhouse. The exterior is modeled after a 1920s-era service station that still resides in nearby Hydro. The interior is split into three areas: a diner with splashy retro décor, a classic steakhouse and a more laid-back lounge. Lucille's offers heaping helpings of American favorites like steak, sandwiches and burgers.

## McKenzie's Old Fashioned Burger Garage

206 N.W. Dearborn Ave., Lawton I (580) 353-2025

Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

What do you do when you inherit your family's auto repair business? If you're Les McKenzie, you turn it into a burger joint. McKenzie's Old Fashioned Burger Garage opened in 2014, and the playful atmosphere and serious burgers have made it an instant hit. The décor includes a red, open-wheel dragster that catches everyone's eye, and the tables are mounted on the garage's car lifts.



## Melvin's Drive In

107 S. Louis Tittle Ave., Mangum I (580) 782-3711

Lunch Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday. (\$\square\$)

It's changed hands a few
times, but Melvin's Drive
In has been a Mangum
favorite since it opened in
1957. Owner John Travis
tries to keep things the
same as they've always
been. Now he's serving
Melvin's juicy burgers,
hand-breaded steak
sandwiches and Rex
Chicken — bite-size pieces
of boneless fried chicken

— to a new generation.



## Mutti's German Restaurant

1410 S.W. Sheridan Rd., Lawton I (580) 353-3928

Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Saturday, closed Sunday and Monday.

Using spices and recipes from the Bavarian region of Germany, Mutti's German Restaurant serves up delicious dishes like jagerschnitzel. The hand-breaded pork cutlet is covered in creamy mushroom gravy for a rich, flavorful taste. If you're new to German food, try the sampler platter. With five different meats and four sides, it's a great introduction to the flavorful, hearty cuisine.

## **Prairiefire**

422 S. Main St., Elk City I (580) 225-6865 prairiefireelkcity.com

Lunch and dinner Monday-Friday, dinner only on Saturday, closed Sunday.

Amy Vickers, who runs Prairiefire along with her mother Mary Kilhoffer, says she focuses on using simple ingredients to make complex flavors. The strategy pays off. Customers rave about dishes like the grilled salmon, which is available as an eight-ounce filet or in a salad with a tangy raspberry vinaigrette dressing.

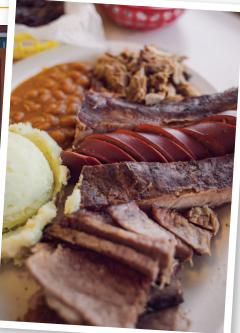
## Red Boot Grill

1916 S.W. Lee Blvd., Lawton I (580) 713-5335 Lunch and dinner Thursday-Friday, lunch only Saturday, closed Sunday and Monday.

Red Boot Grill specializes in Oklahoma favorites like hamburgers, chicken-fried steak and Indian tacos. The selection includes fun specialty burgers like the Tombstone, which has bacon, a cheddar crisp, fried onion strings, jalapeños and BBQ ranch and is served on Texas toast. There's a batch of homemade cookies each day for dessert.







John & Cook's Real Pit Bar-B-Que | Lawton | Pg. 42

## Riverside Café

180 E. Lake Dr., Medicine Park I (580) 529-2626 riversidecafeok.com

Lunch and dinner Wednesday-Sunday, closed Monday-Tuesday.

With delicious comfort food and a deck overlooking Medicine Creek, Riverside Café is the perfect place to unwind after a day of exploring Medicine Park. Try the hand-breaded fried catfish or the Wichita Mountains Buffalo Burger — seven ounces of freshly ground buffalo meat on a ciabatta bun.

## Rockin' H Land and Cattle Co.

116 N. Commercial Ave., Temple I (580) 342-5100 rockinhtempleok.com

Lunch and dinner Thursday and Friday, dinner only Wednesday and Saturday, lunch only Sunday, closed Monday and Tuesday.

If you're in the mood for steak, Rockin' H Land and Cattle Co.'s hand-cut, USDA Choice Black Angus beef is hard to beat. For dessert, there are fried peaches dusted with cinnamon and sugar and served with vanilla ice cream. On weekends, the adjoining Bootjack Saloon offers live entertainment.



A favorite stop in western Oklahoma is inside an old train station. The building that houses Prairiefire in Elk City was built in 1910. There you'll find a little bit of everything, from fried green tomatoes to delicious seafood and steaks.

## Sakura

212 E. Broadway St., Altus (580) 379-4533 | sakuraaltus.com

## Lunch and dinner daily.

When it opened in 2013, Sakura brought a whole new element to the Altus dining scene. The restaurant is a sushi bar and Japanese-style hibachi grill with a menu that is extensive and diverse. Try the flavor-packed chicken teriyaki bento or the Altus Roll, which features shrimp tempura, oyster and mango. It's wrapped with soybean seaweed, eel, avocado and mango, then topped with wasabi sauce.

## Salas Urban Cantina

247 E. Gore Blvd., Lawton (580) 357-1600 | salasurbancantina.com *Lunch and dinner daily.* 

Sales Urban Cantina serves up Tex-Mex favorites like handmade chile rellenos, sizzling fajitas and delicious tacos piled high with meat, cheese and lettuce. The restaurant also offers some tasty new dishes with a more urban twist. Enjoy the spicy street tacos and steak-topped pizza al carbon, along with a full service bar.

## Samurai Sushi and Hibachi

2007 N.W. Cache Rd., Lawton (580) 591-0035 | samurailawton.com

## Lunch and dinner daily.

Opened in 2013, Samurai Sushi and Hibachi has quickly established itself as Lawton's go-to spot for sushi. The fish is flown in from Hawaii several times a week, and with more than 100 menu entries, there's something to please every palate. For a tasty, entertaining evening, head to the hibachi bar, where the friendly and funny staff turn mealtime into an experience.

## Simon's Catch

On Merritt Road off Interstate 40 exit 34, Elk City I (580) 225-8400

Dinner Wednesday-Saturday, lunch and dinner on Sunday, closed Monday and Tuesday.

The folks at Simon's Catch keep it simple. Catfish, steaks and shrimp are about all you'll find on the menu. But what they do, they do well. The fried catfish and shrimp are crunchy and flavorful, and the steaks are hand-cut and perfectly seared. The all-you-can-eat catfish is served family-style with fresh-cut fries, slow-cooked pinto beans, homemade coleslaw and a religh tray that includes a deligious pickled green tomato religh.







With three interstates, numerous highways and the most drivable miles of Route 66 in any state, Oklahoma is all about the open road. It's the perfect place to indulge in some yummy, roadside comfort food.

Over the years, the humble chicken-fried steak has become a diner icon. It's easy to find along Oklahoma roadways, including these popular spots:

Pg. 26 Cheever's Cafe: Just off Route 66 in Oklahoma City, Cheever's puts a new spin on this classic dish by serving it with jalapeño cream gravy and red-skinned mashed potatoes.

Clanton's Cafe: A Route 66 and Interstate 44 stalwart in Vinita, Clanton's Cafe has been serving up its chicken-fried steak since 1927. The delicious treat is hand-battered, fried on the grill and topped with country gravy.

Del Rancho Drive-In (delranchousa.com): If there's no time for a sit-down meal, then it's time for Del Rancho. Multiple Oklahoma City-area locations are easily accessible from Interstates 35, 40 and 44. That lets hungry travelers scarf up the legendary chicken-fried steak sandwich and get back on the road.

**Kumback Café**: Up north, a Perry institution sits within easy reach of four major roadways — Interstate 35, State Highway 64 and U.S. Highways 77 and 412. The Kumback Café opened in 1926, and its perfectly cooked chicken-fried steak has long been a customer favorite.

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Lucille's Roadhouse: Located right along Interstate 40 and Route 66 in Weatherford, Lucille's is a great place to soak up some Route 66 nostalgia and enjoy a traditional, hand-breaded chicken-fried steak.

**Tally's Café**: Another Route 66 favorite that is easily accessible from Interstates 244 and 44, the chicken-fried steak at Tally's Café in Tulsa is tender, flavorful and served in hefty portions.

## **Soda Fountain Eatery**

108 W. Broadway St., Anadarko (405) 247-3800

Lunch Tuesday-Friday, closed Saturday-Monday.

The building that houses Soda Fountain Eatery spent nearly 100 years as a pharmacy, but now the Anadarko lunch spot serves strong doses of good food. Delicious soups, sandwiches and salads grace the menu, including the tasty, but deceptive chicken salad sandwich made not of chicken but of pork and beef. The recipe is a Depression-era holdover a previous owner conjured up when the chicken wouldn't keep.

## Tacos 'n' Taters Fajita Grill

112 W. Floral Ave., Frederick (580) 335-2501 Lunch and dinner Monday-Friday,

Lunch and dinner Monday-Friday, closed Saturday and Sunday.

Diners will find a variety of unique flavors at this tiny taco joint . Those with some serious hunger will want to try the Super Tacos, messy but delicious conglomerations that include shredded beef, refried beans, queso, guacamole and more. Another favorite is the California Steak Burrito, which features fajita meat with queso, sour cream, cheese and French fries. For those more interested in the taters than the the tacos, there's the House Taters, which feature fried potatoes smothered with meat, sour cream, quacamole, cheese and pico de gallo.

## Tastees Burgers

101 N. U.S. Highway 81, Duncan (580) 252-2558

Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

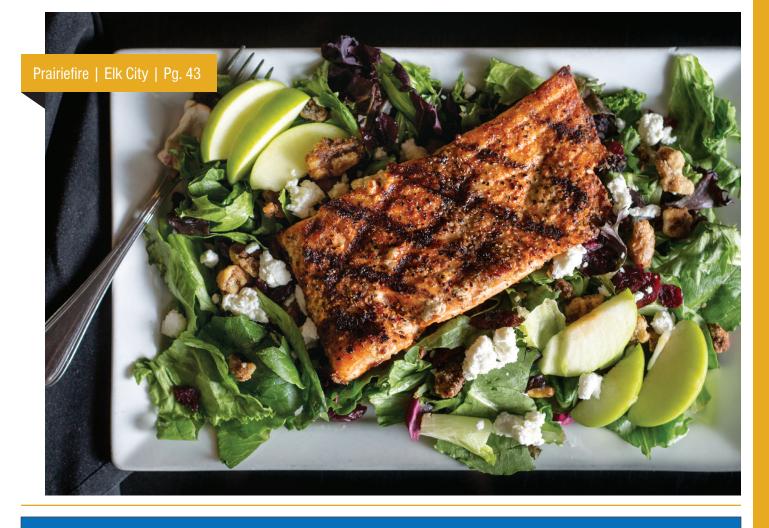
The name says it all: if you want a tasty burger, Tastees Burgers is the place to go. The tiny burger joint itself is a slice of nostalgia — it's a former Tastee-Freez ice cream stand from the 1950s. The juicy, old-fashioned hamburgers are made of fresh, thick patties and served on a sesame seed bun, and the ever-popular fried pickles are



QUICK

STOP

Pg. 70



# **MUMMIES, COWBOYS, EAGLES, CASINOS & MORE**



VISIT SHAWNEE.COM 888-404-9633 Shawnee is home to the only ancient Egyptian mummies in Oklahoma, five casinos, the International Finals Youth Rodeo, and one of only eight eagle aviaries in the US. Visit our website or request a brochure to plan your trip!

## The Old Plantation Restaurant

140 E. Lake Dr., Medicine Park (580) 529-6262 theoldplantationrestaurant.com

## Lunch and dinner daily.

Opened in the early 1900s as a hotel, the cobblestone building housing The Old Plantation Restaurant is one of the most historic structures in one of Oklahoma's most historic towns. And while there's no longer a whiskey still in the basement — as there was rumored to have been in the 1930s — the hotel's original bar remains, a beautiful rock structure in an area of the restaurant known as the Tap Room. The menu mixes Oklahoma classics with more upscale steak and seafood dishes like the Cedar Plank Salmon. The eight-ounce salmon filet is seasoned and char-grilled to perfection.

## The Plaza IV

2512 N. Main St., Altus I (580) 379-4453 *Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, lunch only on Sunday.* 

With attentive service, an inviting atmosphere and delicious food, The Plaza IV is Altus' go-to spot for Tex-Mex and American favorites. For a particularly flavor-packed meal, try the deep fried avocado, which is stuffed with shredded chicken and cheese and served with rice and refried beans. Regulars also love the tasty, generously portioned quacamole.

## The Silver Spoon Kitchen and Bakeshop

529 S.W. C Ave., Lawton (580) 357-6800 | silverspoonlawton.com

Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Saturday, lunch only on Monday, closed Sunday.

Owner Vera Oldham considers The Silver Spoon Kitchen and Bakeshop an extension of her home kitchen. That thought process produces the warm atmosphere, friendly staff and fromscratch comfort food that endears the restaurant to customers. The lunch menu features tasty sandwiches, soups and salads, while dinnertime brings hand-cut steaks. And for dessert, Vera's shortbread-crust cheesecake or another treat awaits.

## Tiny Mae's Bar and Grill

9201 State Highway 17 Ste. A., Elgin (580) 492-1400 | tinymaes.com

Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Saturday, closed Sunday and Monday.

Tiny Mae's Bar and Grill opened in 2014, but the full-service bar and friendly atmosphere quickly made it a local hotspot. The beef in the burgers and steaks is all homegrown in Comanche County, and the fresh, delicious taste can't be beat. Tiny Mae's is also known for tasty starters like the Cajun Chicken and jalapeño-topped Comanche Nachos.



## Tribe Pride Pizza

906 Oak Main Ave., Comanche (580) 439-6367 | tribepridepizza.com

#### Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

Much of the secret to good pizza is the crust, and the crew at Tribe Pride Pizza has it down pat. Using fresh dough made from a house recipe, Tribe Pride cooks up pizzas with two delicious crust options: traditional hand-tossed or cracker-thin. Diners can get adventurous with the Screamin' Chicken — a spicy pie topped with habanero sauce — or stick to classics like the customer-favorite supreme.

## Wayne's Drive Inn

7 S.W. Sheridan Rd., Lawton I (580) 353-7444

## Wayne's Drive Inn II

6810 N.W. Cache Rd., Lawton I (580) 536-9000 waynesdriveinn.com

Breakfast, lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

Lawton residents have been coming to Wayne's Drive Inn to grab a burger and shake since 1950. Wayne's is home to the Sissy Burger, the restaurant's term for burgers with mayonnaise instead of mustard. There's also a variety of deep-fried drive-in classics like hand-breaded onion rings and massive steak fingers.

## White Dog Hill Restaurant

22901 N. Highway 66, Clinton (580) 323-6922

Dinner Wednesday-Saturday, closed Sunday-Tuesday. Reservations recommended.

Perched on a hill just off Route 66, White Dog Hill is well-known for its fantastic steaks and relaxing ambiance. The menu is a focused one, with only cheese board appetizers, grilled meats and a few other items accompanying the steaks. It's hard to go wrong with any of the choices, though. After dinner, order a drink and head out to the Adirondack chairs on the patio for stunning, unimpeded sunset views. If you're looking for a full drink menu, walk over to the Beany Bar. The tiny bar's offerings change seasonally and it occasionally hosts live music.

## Wong's Restaurant

712 Opal Ave., Clinton (580) 323-4588

Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Sunday, closed Monday.



Soda Fountain Eatery | Anadarko | Pg. 46





## **GREEN COUNTRY**

In a verdant land of rolling hills and tallgrass prairies, the cuisine is as appealing as the lush landscape. Green Country has plenty to offer, whether it's hitting Route 66 for a taste of Americana or dining with a gorgeous lakefront view.

## Amish Cheese House

101 S. Chouteau Ave., Chouteau | (918) 476-4811 Breakfast and lunch Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

With a café, bakery, deli and store, Amish Cheese House in Chouteau is an all-in-one stop. Build your own panini or sandwich on freshly baked bread or try one of the tasty specialty salads. After grabbing some homemade ice cream or fudge for dessert, browse the store for jams, jellies and candy.

## Amish Country Store and Restaurant

2410 N. 32nd St., Muskogee I (918) 686-0243 muskogeeamishstore.com

Breakfast, lunch and dinner Tuesday-Saturday, breakfast and lunch Sunday, closed Monday.

Cozy surroundings and tasty comfort food make the Amish Country Store and Restaurant an inviting stop for Highway 69 travelers. The slow-cooked roast beef is melt-in-your-mouth tender, and the desserts are plentiful and delicious. There are fried pies made fresh each morning.

## Andolini's Pizzeria

1552 E. 15th St., Tulsa | (918) 728-6111 12140 E. 96th St., Owasso | (918) 272-9328 222 S. Main St., Broken Arrow | (918) 940-2770 500 Riverwalk Terr. Ste. 100, Jenks | (918) 701-3701 andopizza.com

## Lunch and dinner daily.

Andolini's Pizzeria quickly captured a spot in locals' hearts when it opened in 2005. The mouthwatering pies feature housemade ingredients and a delicious crust that's not too thick and not too thin. And while it's tough not to think pizza when you see the dough flying through the air, there's much more to the menu. Locals swear by the flaky, meat-stuffed stromboli.

## Bodean Restaurant & Market

3376 E. 51st St., Tulsa | (918) 743-3861 | bodean.net Lunch and dinner Monday-Friday, dinner only Saturday and Sunday.

You can almost smell the saltwater in the elegant aquatic atmosphere of Bodean Restaurant & Market. Vibrant art glass and a deep-sea color palette make the interior sparkle, but they don't outshine the food. Bodean's menu is printed daily to accommodate the ever-changing selection of delicious seafood. The fish is flown in twice daily for the restaurant and accompanying market.



## **Bread and Butter Restaurant**

3837 E. 51st St., Tulsa I (918) 960-2070 breadandbuttertulsa.com

#### Lunch and dinner daily.

From deviled eggs topped with fried chicken to hushpuppies with a little jalapeño in 'em, Bread and Butter Restaurant takes comfort food to a different level. Their scratch kitchen turns out delightfully unique (and delicious) twists on Southern favorites. They're not afraid to top anything with a little bacon or fried chicken, be it salads, mac and cheese or even corn chowder. Be prepared for dessert — perhaps cheesecake or a tasty cookie — as the sweets in the display case up front are nearly impossible to pass up.

## Burger Barn

State Highway 100, Webbers Falls | (918) 464-2890 Lunch and dinner Monday-Friday, closed Saturday and Sunday.

Friendly folks and old-fashioned burgers are staples at the Burger Barn, a Webbers Falls institution since 1977. Locals rave about the crispy onion rings and creamy shakes — all made fresh. The location, just miles from Interstate 40, makes it a great stop for hungry travelers.

## Burn Co. Barbecue

1738 S. Boston Ave., Tulsa I (918) 574-2777

Lunch Tuesday-Saturday, closed Sunday and Monday.
500 Riverwalk Terr. Ste. 135, Jenks I (918) 528-6816

Lunch and dinner Wednesday-Sunday, closed Monday and Tuesday.
Inside Cain's Ballroom, 423 N. Main St., Tulsa

Dinner only on select concert nights.

burnbbq.com

The moment Burn Co. Barbecue opened in 2011, Tulsans were spreading word that this was must-try barbecue. Lines form before opening to try melt-in-your-mouth-tender sliced brisket and delicious baby back ribs with a crispy bark surrounding supple meat. Then there's the flavor bonanza known as The Fatty — chopped sausage, ground sausage and minced hot links wrapped in bacon.

## Cafe Olé

3509 S. Peoria Ave. Ste. 100, Tulsa (918) 745-6699 | cafeolebrookside.com

Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Friday, brunch, lunch and dinner Saturday and Sunday, closed Monday.

Cafe Olé's contemporary Southwestern take on Mexican food has made it a longtime favorite in the Brookside District. The restaurant is known for its cream cheese-based queso and Stacked Blue Corn Enchiladas. The flavorful dish is layered with green chiles, melted jack cheese, Chile Colorado, sour cream and black beans.

## Celebrity Restaurant

3109 S. Yale Ave., Tulsa I (918) 743-1800 I celebritytulsa.com Lunch and dinner Monday-Friday, dinner only Saturday, closed Sunday. Reservations recommended.

A visit to Celebrity Restaurant can feel like a step back to the 1960s, when the Midtown restaurant first opened as a private club. The elegant décor is heavy on red velvet and ornate gold trim, and the cuisine features fine-dining options peppered with Oklahoma favorites. The delicious fried chicken, cooked in a cast-iron skillet, is the stuff of local legend.



## Clanton's Cafe

319 E. Illinois Ave., Vinita I (918) 256-9053 clantonscafe.com

Breakfast, lunch and dinner Monday-Friday, breakfast and lunch Saturday, lunch Sunday.

The massive red-and-white sign perched on the side of Clanton's Cafe holds one short word: Eat. Since 1927, hordes of Route 66 travelers have taken the Clanton family up on that suggestion. Visitors chow down on Southern classics like chicken-fried steak, calf fries and fried okra. The chicken and dressing smothered in rich homemade gravy is another customer favorite.

## Claud's Hamburgers

3834 S. Peoria Ave., Tulsa I (918) 742-8332

Lunch only Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday, lunch and dinner Thursday and Friday, closed Sunday and Monday.

There's nothing fancy about Claud's Hamburgers. The Brookside diner is in a white-and-green block building with a simple, but sparkling clean, interior and a short-but-sweet menu. Tulsans will tell you, though, just how special Claud's is. Some have been going since it opened in 1954 to enjoy the classic burgers, homemade coleslaw and fries that are crispy on the outside and tender on the inside.

## Click's Steakhouse

409 Harrison St., Pawnee I (918) 762-2231 clickssteakhouse.com

Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Saturday, lunch Sunday, closed Monday.

Click's Steakhouse has been open since 1962, and the exacting process by which the steaks are prepared hasn't changed much over the years. Each piece of beef is hand cut and seasoned with Click's secret mixture. It's then cooked on a griddle to produce a delicious, tender finished product. The desserts are also made with care — especially the fluffy, towering meringue pies.

## Coleman's All Beef Burgers

118 N. Seminole Ave., Okmulgee (918) 756-0560

Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Friday, lunch only on Saturday, closed Sunday and Monday.

Massive burgers with fresh-made patties and thin, crunchy onion rings play the starring roles at Coleman's All Beef Burgers. Those classics have been a Coleman family tradition since they operated an Okmulgee drive-in in the 1950s. The toughest part of your trip might be choosing a dessert, but the coconut cream pie, Italian cream cake and German chocolate cake are time-tested favorites.

## Cumin: Flavor of India

8242 E. 71st St., Tulsa I (918) 872-7900 Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Sunday,

closed Monday.

With authentic cuisine from the Punjab region of India, Cumin: Flavor of India is a departure from typical Americanized Indian food. Complex dishes like the Butter Chicken and Tandoori lamb chops both marinated in yogurt and spices, then cooked in a traditional clay Tandoor oven — have made the restaurant a hit since it opened in 2014.

## **Dilly Diner**

402 E. Second St., Tulsa (918) 938-6382 | dillydiner.com

Breakfast, lunch and dinner Monday-Friday, breakfast, lunch, dinner and brunch Saturday and Sunday.

Located in Tulsa's Blue Dome District, the Dilly Diner serves up breakfast all day, along with sandwiches for lunch and classic Oklahoma dishes like chicken-fried steak and meatloaf for dinner. Locals swear by the chorizo-stuffed breakfast burrito, and the croque madame, a grilled ham and cheese sandwich topped with a sunnyside-up egg, is a favorite of the brunch crowd.



The Artichoke | Langley | Pg. 60



## Dink's Pit Bar-B-Que

2929 E. Frank Phillips Blvd., Bartlesville (918) 335-0606 | dinksbbg.com

#### Lunch and dinner daily.

Plenty of barbecue joints have come and gone in the past 30 years, but Dink's Pit Bar-B-Que keeps right on smoking. The restaurant's giant concrete pit runs 24 hours a day, cooking up legendary brisket and other meats over a hickory wood fire. A meal at Dink's is not complete without a plate of onion strings. The shaved onions are dusted lightly in a flour mixture and fried to crispy perfection.

## El Rancho Grande

1629 E. 11th St., Tulsa I (918) 584-0816 elranchograndemexicanfood.com

#### Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

A Route 66 staple since 1953, El Rancho Grande is known for its iconic neon sign and strong, tasty margaritas served frozen or on the rocks. The most popular of the Pearl District restaurant's Tex-Mex dishes is the Night Hawk. The dish features two cheese and onion enchiladas doused in chili con carne and cheddar, then served with a soft cheddar cheese taco topped with chili con queso.

## Elote Café & Catering

514 S. Boston Ave., Tulsa I (918) 582-1403 I elotetulsa.com *Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.* 

There's a lot to like about Elote Café & Catering: the fresh take on Mexican favorites, the locally sourced ingredients and the occasional wrestling nights. That's right, Elote regularly hosts luchadores for Mexican-style wrestling matches. The food is by far the star attraction, though. Try the delicious queso, a cream cheese-based concoction that tastes light and flavorful. Another signature item is the puffy taco, made by flashfrying dough to make a shell of puffed-up, crispy perfection.





## Frank & Lola's Neighborhood Restaurant & Bar

200 E. Second St. Ste. 1, Bartlesville (918) 336-5652 | frankandlolas.com

Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Friday, dinner only Saturday, closed Sunday and Monday.

The décor and cuisine are pretty eclectic at Frank & Lola's Neighborhood Restaurant & Bar, but somehow, it all seems to fit. The 1910-era building has local artists' paintings lining the walls, bicycles hanging from the ceiling and a mounted longhorn standing guard behind the bar. Meanwhile, the menu features unique dishes like pan-seared salmon glazed with sweet Thai chili.

## Freddie's Bar-B-Que and Steak House

1425 New Sapulpa Rd, Sapulpa (918) 224-4301 | freddiesbbg.com

## Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

Delicious steak, seafood and barbecue have made Freddie's Bar-B-Que and Steak House a popular Route 66 stop since its current location opened in 1979. The tender meat is topped with Freddie's own smoke sauce and served with a mouthwatering variety of flavors. Each steak order comes with traditional sides of salad, baked potato and Texas toast, but that's only the start. Smoked ribs and bologna, hummus, tabouleh, a relish tray and one of Freddie's amazing cabbage rolls are also part of the deal.

## Garden Gate Tea Room

103 N. Main St., Gore I (918) 489-2680

## Lunch Tuesday-Saturday, closed Sunday and Monday.

Tucked away in an old Main Street storefront that it shares with an antique store, Emily's Tea Room is a homey and tasty little lunch spot. Diners rave about the tasty sandwiches, fresh salads and yummy sweets. Try the popular chicken salad sandwich or flavorful quiche, and then finish it off with heavenly bread pudding topped with rum sauce.

## Hammett House Restaurant

1616 W. Will Rogers Blvd., Claremore (918) 341-7333 | hammetthouse.com

## Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Sunday, closed Monday.

Hammett House Restaurant has a sign reminding visitors that "Life is uncertain, eat dessert first." Once you get a look at the restaurant's pies and their glorious spherical mound of meringue, it's hard to disobey. As massive as they are beautiful, the pies can weigh in at more than 10 pounds. That doesn't mean you should skip the main course, though down-home favorites like pork chops, country fried steak and lamb and turkey fries are the stuff of local legend.

## Hank's Hamburgers

8933 E. Admiral Pl., Tulsa I (918) 832-1509

## Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

Hank's Hamburgers hasn't changed much since moving to its current location in 1955. Judging by the crowds that cram into the tiny spot, that is not a bad thing. The delicious burgers are still made the same and sprinkled with the same secret seasoning. Hearty eaters will want The Big Okie. It features four patties that make up a full pound of beef, four slices of cheese and onions grilled into the meat.

## Harmony House

208 S. Seventh St., Muskogee (918) 687-8653 | harmonyhouse4lunch.com

#### Lunch Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

Housed in a stately, white-columned house more than a century old, Harmony House proves irresistible with its delicious food and charming atmosphere. The sandwiches and salads are fresh and tasty, and so are the rotating lunch specials that come with soup or salad and a dessert.



## Ike's Chili House

1503 E. 11th St., Tulsa (918) 838-9410 I ikeschilius.com

Lunch and dinner Monday-Friday, lunch only on Saturday, closed Sunday.

Ike's Chili House opened in 1908, and since then its various iterations have served up a mild but flavorful chili loved by generations, including early regular Will Rogers. So, what do you order at Ike's? Most folks will point you to the Three-Way — beef chili and beans on a bed of spaghetti noodles with diced onions, shredded cheddar and sliced jalapeños on the side. There's also the Chili Mac — a bowl that's half chili and half mac-and-cheese — and the cheese- and onion-topped Chili Frito Pie.

## Jincy's Kitchen

31392 S. Qualls Rd., Qualls I (918) 457-5515

Dinner only on Friday, breakfast, lunch and dinner on Saturday, breakfast and lunch on Sunday, closed Monday-Thursday.

It's hard to beat the country charm of Jincy's Kitchen. Built in 1936 as the Qualls Mercantile Store, the building has a rustic red metal exterior and beautiful hardwood interior that movie buffs may recognize as the setting for Grandpa's store in the 1974 movie "Where the Red Fern Grows." But what makes the journey to Jincy's worthwhile is the delicious home-cooking, including chicken fried in a cast-iron skillet and pecan pie topped with a big dollop of vanilla ice cream.

## **Juniper**

324 E. Third St., Tulsa | (918) 794-1090 | junipertulsa.com Lunch and dinner Monday-Friday, dinner only Saturday, closed Sunday. Reservations recommended.

The new American cuisine at Juniper is as beautiful as it is delicious. Prepared simply but elegantly, Juniper's dishes aren't your usual Oklahoma cuisine. But most of them are made from ingredients sourced from the northeastern part of the state. The menu changes often, but some beloved mainstays are the Sweet Carrot Soup and the seared duck breast.

## Kilkenny's Irish Pub

1413 E. 15th St., Tulsa (918) 582-8282 | tulsairishpub.com

Lunch and dinner Monday-Friday, brunch and dinner Saturday and Sunday. Reservations recommended.

Few places have the truly transportive atmosphere of Kilkenny's Irish Pub. The Cherry Street District pub is filled with dark wood cabinetry, bric-a-brac straight from Ireland and the sounds of Irish and Celtic music. Fill up on Irish comfort food like the boxty, a grilled potato pancake stuffed with meats and vegetables, while enjoying something from the massive drink menu.

## Lassalle's New Orleans Deli

15 W. 5th St., Tulsa I (918) 582-6652 lassallesneworleansdeli.com

Lunch Monday-Thursday, lunch and dinner Friday, closed Saturday and Sunday.

There's nothing like the unique spices and flavors of Cajun and Creole cuisine. Outside of Louisiana, it can be tough to come by, but one spot in downtown Tulsa has perfected the classics. Lassalle's New Orleans Deli has only been around since early 2014, but the tasty po' boys and hearty jambalaya with just a bit of heat have quickly made it a lunchtime hot spot.

## Mac's Barbeque

1030 W. Rogers Blvd., Skiatook (918) 396-4165 | macsbbqok.com

Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Saturday, closed Sunday and Monday.

Since it opened in 1985, Mac's Barbeque has earned a loyal following for its meaty spare ribs, tender beef brisket and the Barbecue Frito Pie — chips, chopped beef and barbecue beans topped with peppers, onions and shredded cheddar cheese. Save room for the bread pudding, a heavenly treat topped with whipped cream and soaked in butter rum sauce.



If you find yourself in Claremore, you've got to stop at Hammett House Restaurant. Operating since 1969, it's known for down-home cookin' — especially the pies; the German chocolate pie weighs 12 pounds! Tell them Discover Oklahoma sent you.

## Margaret's German Restaurant

5107 S. Sheridan Rd., Tulsa I (918) 622-3747 margaretsgermanrestaurant.com

Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Saturday, lunch only on Monday, closed Sunday.

Margaret's German Restaurant has been serving German food with a Polish twist since Margaret Rzepczynski took over an existing restaurant in 1989. With her infectious smile and friendly personality, Margaret makes everyone feel at home, but it's her cooking that really puts guests in a good mood. From the lightly breaded schnitzel to a goulash soup packed with sausage and vegetables, there's a hearty, delicious meal waiting for everyone.

## Meltdown Diner

4377 Southwest Blvd., Tulsa I (918) 906-9546 Lunch Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

Route 66 newcomer Meltdown Diner serves up a little nostalgia and a lot of grilled cheese sandwiches from its cozy little home, a brick building built in 1949 to serve as a lunch counter. The sandwiches use five different types of cheese — American, Swiss, jack, Colby and cheddar, if anyone's counting. The Whole Hog sandwich, with three types of meat (bacon, pulled pork and ham) and house-made barbecue sauce, is a favorite, as is that old Oklahoma standard: the fried bologna sandwich. Anything on the menu can be made gluten-

## Mid-American Grille

101 Cobblestone Dr., Pryor (918) 824-7625 | thegrillepryor.com

Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, lunch only Sunday.

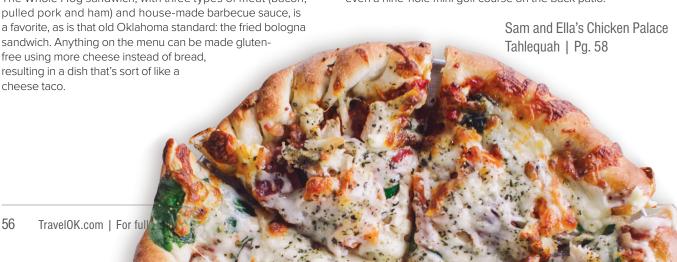
With steak, seafood, burgers and more than 30 types of beer, Mid-American Grille has something for everyone — and a handy location right off U.S. Highway 69. Try the customer-favorite Hudson burger, a third-pounder piled high with sauerkraut and pepper jack cheese. There's also the tasty rib eye sandwich.

## Mother Road Market

1124 S. Lewis Ave., Tulsa I (918) 984-9001 motherroadmarket.com

Lunch and dinner, Tuesday-Sunday, closed Monday.

Loyal travelers know there's more to Route 66 than just its famous diners, but Mother Road Market takes things to a whole new level. The food hall, which opened in late 2018, brings together a diverse mix of more than 20 food and retail options in a modern and inviting atmosphere. Visitors can sit down with a craft cocktail and some street tacos or smoked ribs, then shop for fresh produce, artisan breads, Route 66 souvenirs and more. There's even a nine-hole mini golf course on the back patio.



cheese taco.

## Molly's Landing

3700 N. Old Highway 66, Catoosa (918) 266-7853 | mollyslanding.com

## Dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

A trip to Molly's Landing isn't just a meal, it's an experience. Nestled in the trees just off an old strip of Route 66, the rustic log cabin has a quaint, cluttered interior that somehow feels more romantic than messy. The food is divine, starting with the fresh-baked bread that comes with each dinner. The wet-aged steaks, seafood and game are all perfectly grilled and delicious.

## Oklahoma Joe's

333 W. Albany St., Broken Arrow I (918) 355-0000 19361 N.E. Robson Rd. A, Catoosa I (918) 739-4757 6175 E. 61st St, Tulsa I (918) 894-4447 25 W. 5th St., Tulsa I (918) 960-2017 Mother Road Market, 1124 S. Lewis Ave., Tulsa okjoes.com

## Hours vary by location.

From the competitive circuit to the restaurant business, the name Oklahoma Joe's has become synonymous with amazing barbecue. World champion pitmaster "Oklahoma" Joe Davidson has come home, opening Tulsa-area locations that serve the melt-in-your-mouth tender meats that he's known for. It's hard to pick just one entrée, so diners might want to split the Grand Champion Platter. It features seven types of meat and three sides.











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## Ollie's Station Restaurant

4070 Southwest Blvd., Tulsa (918) 446-0524 | olliesstation.com

Breakfast and lunch Sunday-Wednesday, breakfast, lunch and dinner Thursday-Saturday.

It's hard to resist the charm of Ollie's Station Restaurant. Model trains on elevated tracks chug through the dining area of the Old Route 66 staple, and more locomotive memorabilia fills the walls. You can order off the menu — maybe the crispy fried chicken or yummy liver and onions — or try the daily lunch buffets loaded with Ollie's delicious comfort food.

## Phat Philly's

1305 S. Peoria Ave., Tulsa (918) 382-7428 | phatphillys.com

Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

A lifelong love of cheesesteaks sent Phat Philly's owner Jason Smith to Philadelphia in search of the perfect recipe. One week and many meals later, he came back and developed his own version of the classic sandwich — a messy but delicious concoction of steak, grilled onions, bell peppers and Cheez Whiz.

## Polo Grill

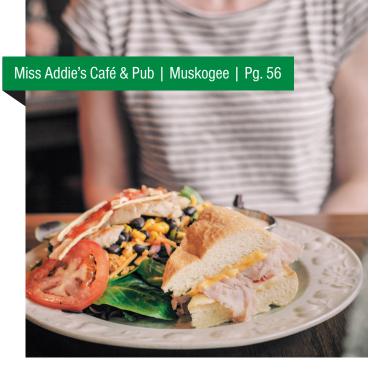
2038 Utica Square, Tulsa (918) 744-4280 | pologrill.com

Lunch and dinner Monday-Friday, lunch, brunch and dinner Saturday and Sunday.

For more than 30 years, Polo Grill has been one of Midtown Tulsa's go-to spots for fine dining. The restaurant is known for flavorful, perfectly cooked steaks and Southern-influenced dishes like the stone-ground cheese grits — an amazing, jalapeño-infused take on the classic favorite. There's also an extensive selection of award-winning wines to complement your meal.

Click's Steakhouse | Pawnee | Pg. 52





## Prhyme: Downtown Steakhouse

111 N. Main St., Tulsa (918) 794-7700 | prhymetulsa.com

Dinner daily. Reservations recommended.

The folks at Prhyme: Downtown Steakhouse believe there's more than one path to a good steak. Prhyme's beef is raised, finished and served in multiple ways. There's the leaner grass-fed beef, the fresh taste of wet-aged beef or the intense, earthy flavor of dry-aged beef. The hidden secret of Prhyme, though, might be the bar menu, with its delicious burgers made with USDA Prime Beef ground fresh daily.

## Sam and Ella's Chicken Palace

419 N. Muskogee Ave., Tahlequah I (918) 456-1411 *Lunch and dinner daily.* 

There are two things to get straight about Sam and Ella's Chicken Palace: 1. There's no Sam or Ella. 2. There's not much chicken, either. The name is actually a play on words: say it fast, and you'll realize it sounds like the much-feared illness that can come from eating bad chicken. Sam and Ella's is known for its amazing hand-tossed pizza, salads and sub sandwiches, and for one famous former employee. "American Idol" winner Carrie Underwood briefly waited tables there during her college years.

## Savastano's Pizzeria

8211 S. Regal Rd., Tulsa (918) 369-9387 | savastanospizzeria.com

Lunch and dinner daily.

There aren't too many places in Oklahoma to find a true Chicagostyle pie, but Savastano's Pizzeria serves deep-dish delights that are two inches high. The joint also offers plenty of other Windy City touches. Old Style beer — well-known as most Chicagoans' brew of choice — is on tap, and the sports bar atmosphere kicks up a few notches when the Chicago Bears or Cubs play.

## Siegi's Sausage Factory

8104 S. Sheridan Rd., Tulsa I (918) 492-8988 siegis.com

## Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

With a meat market, deli and restaurant serving delicious German cuisine, Siegi's Sausage Factory is a carnivore's wonderland in south Tulsa. Start off with a fresh-baked pretzel served with spicy mustard and a creamy Bavarian cheese spread. Then move on to the Spicy Chicken Bratwurst or the pork-and-beef Kolbasse — a spicy, smoky sausage seasoned with black pepper, caraway and paprika.

## Smoke. on Cherry Street

1542 E. 15th St., Tulsa (918) 949-4440 | smoketulsa.com

Lunch and dinner Monday-Friday, brunch and dinner Saturday and Sunday.

One of Tulsa's newest fine-dining options, Smoke. on Cherry Street uses locally sourced ingredients to produce inspired takes on American cuisine. While the menu is constantly changing, some popular items like the Crab Stuffed Fried Green Tomato have solidified a spot in the lineup. The unique appetizer features a ball of lump crab meat that is piled on top of a sliced green tomato, fried to crispy perfection and served with spicy Tabasco-Old Bay aioli and green tomato jam.

## Smokies Hickory House BBQ

5251 E. Kenosha St., Broken Arrow (918) 357-1113 | smokieshickoryhouse.com

## Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

Whether you're in the mood for a rack of ribs or a sandwich piled high with smoked meats, Smokies Hickory House BBQ has you covered. Customers love the juicy smoked chicken, St. Louis-cut ribs and the ability to spice up sandwiches with a choice of five Oklahoma-made barbecue sauces and a pickle bar that includes onions and jalapeños.

# Soda Steve's Restaurant at Fin and Feather Resort

445889 Highway 10-A, Gore (918) 487-9812 | sodasteves.com

Open weekends only in April, daily May-September, and occasionally during the fall. Hours vary by season.

Big juicy burgers and a tropical vibe are the main draws at Soda Steve's Restaurant, a fun warm-weather spot at Fin and Feather Resort. Make sure to indulge in Steve's hot fudge nachos. The cinnamon and sugar seasoned tortilla chips are propped up by a mound of chocolate and vanilla ice cream, then topped with strawberries, bananas and toasted coconut and drizzled with hot fudge.

## Somethin' Sweet

Black Jack St., Stilwell I (918) 696-2067

Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Saturday, closed Sunday and Monday.

Juicy burgers, homemade beef stew and made-to-order fried pies are among the signature items at Somethin' Sweet, a Stilwell favorite for home-cooking. It's hard to choose among the 16 flavors of fried pies, but German chocolate, raisin and apple come highly recommended. The lightly glazed treats are served with vanilla ice cream and are a customer favorite.

## Sterling's Grille

2905 E. Frank Phillips Blvd., Bartlesville (918) 335-0707 | sterlingsgrille.com

Lunch and dinner Monday-Friday, dinner only Saturday, closed Sunday.

Expertly cooked steaks, mouthwatering seafood and an elegant atmosphere await diners at Sterling's Grille. Try the freshly roasted prime rib or the Chicken Piccata — pan-fried chicken breast topped with Chardonnay, roasted garlic, lemon and capers.

## Tally's Café

1102 S. Yale Ave., Tulsa I (918) 835-8039 I tallyscafe.com 6100 S. Sheridan Rd., Tulsa I (918) 895-6375

## Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily.

If you're going to stop at Route 66 favorite Tally's Café, it's best to bring an appetite. The hearty portions are not for the faint of heart, and there are more than 100 menu items to choose from — mostly American favorites, plus a few nods to owner Tally Alame's Lebanese heritage. The icing-drizzled, big-as-your-plate cinnamon rolls are homemade and delicious, and so are the gravy-smothered chicken-fried steaks.

Kilkenny's Irish Pub | Tulsa | Pg. 55





It is said that Will Rogers judged towns by the quality of their chili. If so, he must have been a big fan of Tulsa. Legend has it that Rogers was a fan of **Ike's Chili House** (Pg. 55), sometimes pounding on the original owner's door after hours to track down a bowl of the spicy stew.

Tulsa's chili prowess expands beyond lke's, though. Here are some other well-loved local spots:

## A LITTLE KICK

#### **Coney Island Hot Weiners**

NW corner of Archer and Main streets, Tulsa I (918) 587-2821

Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

Made without beans or tomatoes, the chili at Coney Island Hot Weiners is a little different from what you usually find in Oklahoma. The recipe was cooked up by founder and Greek immigrant Christ Economou and has been in use since 1926. It's got a hint of cinnamon and a little kick. It comes on a host of items, including tamales and baked potatoes. Most popular is the Cheese Special. The three small coneys on steamed buns are topped with optional cheese, chili, mustard and onions and come with a free drink.



## Coney I-Lander

coneyi-lander.com

Started by Economou's daughter and son-in-law, the Coney I-Lander serves similarly delicious concoctions at seven Tulsaarea locations. Locals also love the chili- and cheese-topped Three-Way Spaghetti.



#### Ron's Hamburgers and Chili

ronsburgersandchili.com

Since 1975, Tulsans have been turning to Ron's for meaty, cheesy chili and delicious burgers. Most regulars will steer you toward the Chili Sausage Cheeseburger — a fried onion burger with mustard and pickles. Be warned, though: the burger is so smothered with chili goodness that you'll just have to take their word that there's meat and a bun underneath. There are multiple Ron's locations in and around Tulsa, plus franchises in the Oklahoma City metro, Arkansas and Texas.

## The Artichoke

35896 S. State Highway 82, Langley (918) 782-9855 | theartichokeatgrand.com

Dinner Tuesday-Saturday, closed Sunday and Monday. Reservations recommended.

Just west of Grand Lake sits The Artichoke, a restaurant that provides a fine-dining experience without losing the homey feel you get from its century-old farmhouse location. Mouthwatering steaks and seafood are the main attractions, with dishes like Cajun-seasoned blackened salmon and pan-seared tilapia. But the vegetables, many of which are grown on-site, are fresh and delicious. Try a whole, flash-fried potato or a steamed artichoke.

## The Chalkboard Restaurant

1324 S. Main St., Tulsa I (918) 582-1964 chalkboardtulsa.com

Breakfast, lunch and dinner Monday-Friday, breakfast, brunch and dinner Saturday and Sunday.

Located in the bottom floor of the Ambassador Hotel, The Chalkboard Restaurant offers an elegant, but warm, atmosphere, and its ever-changing menu features fresh takes on American and European cuisine. Try the sumptuous Beef Wellington. The tender meat is topped with a savory pâté and mixture of finely chopped wild mushrooms and herbs, then wrapped in a puff pastry and baked.



## The French Hen

7143 S. Yale Ave., Tulsa (918) 492-2596 | frenchhentulsa.net

Lunch and dinner Monday-Friday, lunch only on Saturday, closed Sunday. Reservations recommended on weekends.

Elegant yet comfortable, The French Hen has been a south Tulsa go-to for fine dining for more than 30 years. The cuisine is a delectable fusion of French and American styles. Diners rave about the tender, perfectly cooked grilled duck breast, which is topped with a choice of brandy peppercorn cream or orange and cherry glacé. If you're looking for an extra-special experience, make reservations for one of the monthly wine dinners, which are five-course meals and frequently feature the winemaker or winery owner as a special guest.

## The Parrot Steakhouse & Grill

2530 S. Main St., Grove (918) 786-7722 | 360grandlake.com

Lunch and dinner Wednesday-Monday, closed Tuesday.

Come toast the sunset at The Parrot Steakhouse & Grill, a lovely tropical paradise on Grand Lake with great food, stunning waterfront views and a full-service bar. Make sure to say "Hi," to namesake parrot Jake, a colorful macaw who greets visitors, before enjoying a platter of tasty coconut shrimp or fish tacos.



# EARL'S RIB PALACE

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#### Plan an adventure for your tastebuds!

For over 20 years we have been slow-smoking our meats over a blazing hickory fire, crafting a full-flavor experience you will never forget! Pair your BBQ with the best damn sides you'll ever eat.

Top it all off with an order of bacon-wrapped Earlapeños, and you've got a combo that is uniquely Oklahoman.

EarlsRibPalace.com





Hammett House Restaurant | Claremore | Pg. 55

## The Pink House at the Belvidere

121 N. Chickasaw Ave., Claremore I (918) 342-2544 pinkhouseofclaremore.com

Lunch only Monday, lunch and dinner Tuesday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

While it's no longer actually in a pink house, the iconic Claremore restaurant has retained the same charm and menu full of delicious food since moving into the first floor of the Belvidere Mansion in 2017. Try a soup, sandwich or fresh salad, or maybe one of their famous quiches or casseroles. Definitely save room for one (or more) of the heavenly desserts, though. The rich baked fudge and fluffy coconut cream pie are a perfect way to end a meal.

## Shebang

29975 S. 566 Rd., Monkey Island I (918) 257-5569 theshebanggrandlake.com

#### Dinner daily.

With a massive menu, lengthy wine list, attached clothing boutique and a nightclub across the street, The Shebang really does provide "the whole shebang" for visitors. The restaurant is located on Monkey Island, a peninsula on the northern shore of Grand Lake, and its two-story patio draws a lively crowd. The thin-crust pizza is perfectly sauced and stands out among the mix of tasty pasta, seafood and American dishes.

## The Spudder

6536 E. 50th St., Tulsa | (918) 665-1416 | thespudder.com

## Dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

Want a big, juicy steak with a big dose of Tulsa history? Head to The Spudder, a restaurant named after an old type of oil rig and filled with memorabilia from the oil and gas industry. Try The Gusher — a 22-ounce, bone-in rib eye cooked on a charcoal grill that folks tend to, well, gush over.

## The Wild Fork

1820 Utica Square, Tulsa (918) 742-0712 | wildfork.com

Breakfast, lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, brunch Sunday.

There's a little bit of everything on The Wild Fork's menu. The eclectic, but delicious, mix includes Southern classics, seafood and pasta, and it has made the restaurant a Utica Square favorite for more than 20 years. Diners love the classy, vibrant interior with its ever-changing collection of local artists' work, and the covered patio that lies alongside the shopping center's immaculate flowerbeds and greenery.

## Villa Ravenna

6526 A E. 51st St., Tulsa (918) 270-2666 | villaravenna.com

Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Saturday, dinner only Sunday, closed Monday. Reservations recommended.

Tucked into a southeast Tulsa shopping center, Villa Ravenna has gone from well-kept secret to must-do thanks to its delicious, authentic Italian cuisine and elegant, white-tablecloth atmosphere. The restaurant also excels at delicious seafood dishes like the perfectly grilled Chilean Sea Bass. Finish off your meal with a limoncello martini, made using Ravenna's incredibly smooth, house-made lemon liqueur.

## Waterfront Grill

120 Aquarium Dr., Jenks (918) 518-6300 | waterfrontgrilljenks.com

Lunch and dinner daily, brunch on Saturday and Sunday.

With seafood sizzling in the open kitchen and wait staff bustling around the spacious dining area, Waterfront Grill has a fun, upbeat atmosphere to go with its lovely views of the Arkansas River. The cuisine is an eclectic mix of seafood, sushi and American classics. If you get a look at it, you won't be able to resist the Crab, Avocado and Mango Stack. Part appetizer and part work of art, the full-of-flavor dish contains jumbo lump crab tossed in tangy remoulade sauce.

## Waylan's Ku-Ku Burger

915 N. Main St., Miami I (918) 542-1696

## Lunch and dinner daily.

Most Route 66 travelers don't need to be told twice to stop at a cuckoo clock-inspired building with a massive neon sign and a bird mascot wearing a chef's hat. But Waylan's Ku-Ku Burger is not all flash and no substance. Tasty, made-to-order burgers have kept it hopping long after the rest of what was once a Midwestern chain went extinct.

## Weber's Superior Root Beer Restaurant

3817 S. Peoria Ave., Tulsa (918) 742-1082 | webersoftulsa.com

## Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

Open since 1933, Weber's Superior Root Beer Restaurant is a Brookside District landmark. But the story runs much further back. In 1891, current owner Rick Bilby's great-grandfather Oscar Weber Bilby built an iron grill, used it to cook up some Black Angus patties and served them on sourdough buns. Some say that was the first modern hamburger. Whether it was or not, Weber's still cooks on that 125-year-old grill. The resulting old-fashioned burgers are quite a treat, especially with the option of adding a healthy dose of chili. There's a reason the root beer gets top billing, though. The rich, spicy drink is so popular that it's bottled and available for online order.

## Weeze's Cafe

328 S Dewey Ave., Bartlesville (918) 337-0881 | weezescafe.com

Breakfast and lunch on Sunday-Friday, just breakfast on Saturday.

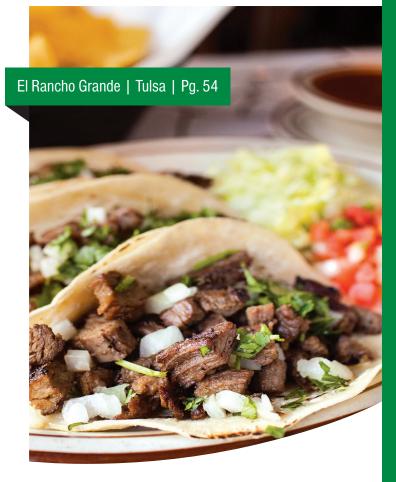
With a loyal crew of regulars, Weeze's Cafe is the place Bartlesville residents head for a good home-cooked breakfast or lunch. If you're looking for something super hearty to start your day, opt for the skillet supreme. The concoction features ham, bacon and sausage mixed with hash browns, onions, tomatoes, mushrooms, jalapeños and green peppers. It's topped with cheese and two cooked-to-order eggs.

## White River Fish Market & Restaurant

1708 N. Sheridan Rd., Tulsa I (918) 835-1910 1105 E. Kenosha St., Broken Arrow I (918) 449-0366 whiteriverfishmarket.com

## Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

Sea bass from Chile, rainbow trout from Idaho — with seafood flown in from all over the coasts, White River Fish Market & Restaurant has an amazing variety to offer. It's all made-to-order, and not only do you choose how you want your fish prepared, you can even pick out exactly which one you want.

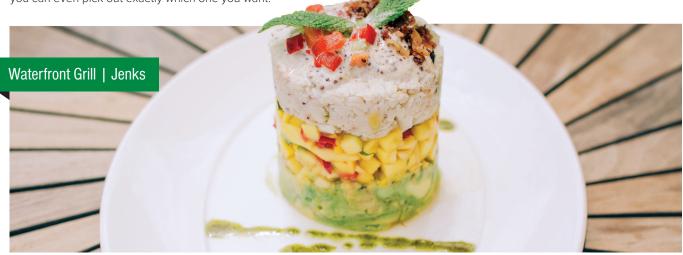


## Wild Horse Mountain Bar-B-Que

111001 S. 4612 Road, Sallisaw I (918) 775-9960

Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Sunday, closed Monday.

Open since 1965, Wild Horse Mountain Bar-B-Que is an eastern Oklahoma staple known for slow-cooked brisket and pork ribs so meaty that they're more like a pork chop. The location is a bit remote, but it's only three miles south of Interstate 40, and the scintillating smell of smoked meat wafting through the air will let you know when you're getting close.





## **RED CARPET COUNTRY**

With towering sand dunes, cracked salt flats and soaring mesas, Red Carpet Country is the physical embodiment of the West. Perfectly seared rib eyes and fall-off-the-bone ribs are just a taste of what awaits.

## Cafe Bahnhof

1725 E. Cecil St., Waynoka I (580) 824-0063 Dinner Wednesday-Saturday, closed Monday and Tuesday. Reservations required.

You won't find hamburgers, American beer or ranch dressing at Cafe Bahnhof. What you will find is traditional German food and beer, delicious steaks (this is northwestern Oklahoma, after all) and personable owner Dieter Dorner. Locals love the Rahm-Schnitzel, a unique take on wiener schnitzel that is smothered with fresh mushrooms, diced onions and a thick cream sauce.

## Cafe Garcia

324 S. Grand Ave., Enid | (580) 237-4775 Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, lunch only on Sunday.

Since 2004, the Rodriguez family has brought its home cooking to Enid with Cafe Garcia, and locals can't get enough of the tasty fajitas, quesadillas and tacos. Even after the family expanded the restaurant, it's still usually packed at dinner time. Try a flavorful, Mexicanstyle shrimp cocktail or the street tacos. And don't skip a trip to the salsa bar. It features homemade salsas and toppings in a wide variety of flavors and heat levels.



Cafe Garcia | Enid | Pg. 65

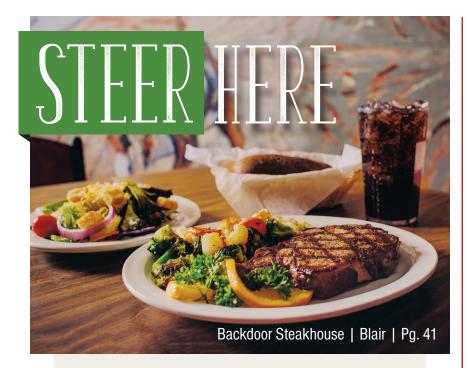


## Café Paradee

1018 Main St., Woodward (580) 256-8400 | cafeparadee.com

Lunch Monday-Friday, closed Saturday and Sunday.

"Cowboy French" is how Chef Rita Barney describes the cuisine at Café Paradee. That means everything is prepared with French techniques, but you'll find some little touches — like chipotle spices — that aren't exactly popular in France. Regulars love the Croque Monsieur, an egg-dipped and sautéed ham, turkey and cheese sandwich accompanied with a side of sweet raspberry sauce.



It's difficult to name a cuisine that can't be found in Oklahoma. From the comfortable to the exotic, just about every kind of dish can be had.

There are times, though, when you just want to visit an old-fashioned steakhouse. Those are the places with bare floors, wood-backed chairs and a hint of Western décor. No fancy sides — just warm bread, a giant baked potato and maybe some peanuts to munch on. And the most important part: A perfectly cut and cooked piece of beef.

Oklahoma is filled with those places. Work your way across the state and visit some of the most legendary ones.

RIB EYE NY STRIP Starting in the northwest corner, there's **Big Dan's Steakhouse** (Pg. 65) in Woodward, where locals talk up the 16-ounce, Black Angus rib eye. South of that is **Backdoor Steakhouse** (Pg. 41) in Blair. People flock to the town of fewer than 1,000 residents to enjoy delicious strip steaks and rib eyes.



Moving east to the Oklahoma City metro, you can visit **Cattlemen's Steakhouse** (Pg. 26). The iconic restaurant serves steak for breakfast and offers a T-bone that was a favorite of President George H. W. Bush.

PRIME RIB\* A drive north on Interstate 35 and east on U.S. Highway 64 will get you to **Click's Steakhouse** (Pg. 52) in Pawnee. Click's is so traditional that the original owner was known to be heard swearing if a customer dared to order fries with dinner. (Don't worry, fries are considered socially acceptable these days.) "Available only on weekends.



Down near the Arkansas border, check out **Warehouse Willy's** (Pg. 23) in Poteau. Willy's is home to a fork-tender rib eye that's been aged 21 days. Try it with the "shazamed" baked potato loaded with butter, cheese, chives, onions and the house ranch-based sauce.

## Caktus Jack's Steakhouse

2101 N. State Highway 64, Guymon (580) 338-8890

#### Lunch and dinner daily.

Great steaks, smoking hot fajitas and superfriendly service are what you'll find at Caktus Jack's Steakhouse. Kick back inside or on the patio with a refreshing margarita or beer from the full-service bar. Then dig into mouthwatering American classic or Tex-Mex cuisine. The crispy, flavorful buffalo wings are available in varying degrees of heat, and they're a great way to start your meal.

## Callahan's Pub

220 N. Independence Ave., Enid (580) 242-7299 callahanspublichouse.com

Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

While it might have a distinctive pub feel, Callahan's Pub goes far beyond the usual bar fare. Sure, there's fish and chips — and Callahan's beer-battered cod is delicious — but the menu's reach extends to the old British colonies. That allows for Indian dishes like the Chicken Tikka, a mildly spiced curry with marinated chunks of skewered chicken served with Basmati rice and warm naan bread.



## Chase's BBQ Shack

1122 8th St, Woodward | (580) 256-1226

Lunch and dinner Monday-Thursday, breakfast, lunch and dinner on Friday, lunch only on Saturday, closed Sunday.

There's not any indoor seating at Chase's BBQ Shack, but the drive-thru line and picnic tables outside stay packed with locals and out-of-towners who've heard about the mouthwatering ribs, pulled pork and other delights smoked by owner Chase Hawley. The shack is open for breakfast tacos on Friday, and it's not short on desserts, either — there's the famous banana pudding and some inventive sno-cone options. Don't wait too late in the day as the barbecue sometimes sells out.

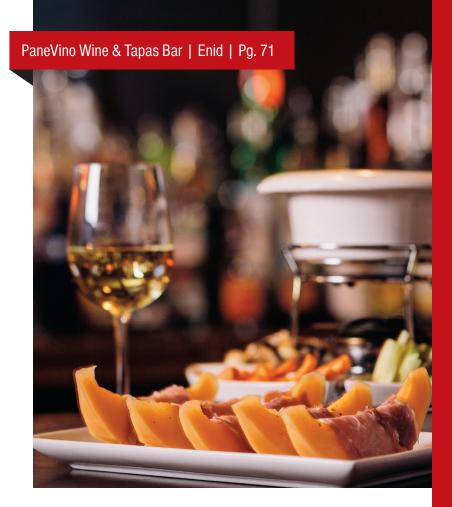
## Costello's Continental Cuisine

610 S. Cleveland St., Ste. 222, Enid (580) 234-7510 | costellosenid.com

Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Friday, dinner only Saturday, closed Sunday. Reservations recommended.

Husband-and-wife team Edmund and Catherine Costello love good food and good wine. And that's what they serve at Costello's Continental Cuisine. The sophisticated menu includes items like Mushroom Costello, an appetizer of crabstuffed mushrooms topped with melted port wine cheese sauce. There's also grilled duck, a boneless duck breast served with California Mission fig sauce and fresh autumn fruit compote.





## Danny's BBQ Head Quarters

1217 E. Prospect Ave., Ponca City I (580) 767-8304 dannysbbghg.com

Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

While the name may have changed at what was once known as Head Country Bar-B-Q Restaurant, the barbecue at Danny's BBQ Head Quarters is as delicious as it's always been. And it's still topped with the legendary Head Country Bar-B-Que sauce that has become one of Oklahoma's well-known food exports. Try some tender brisket, ribs or the spicy hot links.

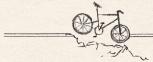
## Diartis Italian Café

2808 Eighth St., Woodward I (580) 254-5600 diartisitaliancafe.com

Lunch and dinner Wednesday-Monday, closed Tuesday. When Italy natives Art and Alvin Musili started Diartis Italian Café, the formula was simple: Authentic Italian food made from scratch with the freshest ingredients. That's been the recipe for success at Diartis. Guests rave about the pizzas, especially the hearty Meat Lovers pie, and rich desserts like the cheesecake and tiramisu.



Reuniting with old friends in Western Oklahoma? Unforgettable. At Foss Lake, the boys played football while us gals hit the water, inner tubes in tow ... inner peace soon to follow. We soaked up the sun and nostalgia, reminiscing on fun memories and reflecting on how far we've come. Next, we headed to Fort Cobb, where we golfed all day until our sunset picnic. Our grand finale? Roman Nose. We explored the gypsum rock cliffs and natural springs before winding down at the lodge. We don't see each other often, but when we do - we make it count. There's no better setting than an Oklahoma state park.



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## Dixie Dog Drive-In

1421 E. South Ave., Ponca City | (580) 762-4439 Lunch and dinner daily.

Around since 1964, the Dixie Dog Drive-In gets its name from its corndogs, which have a sweeter taste than standard cornmeal batter corndogs. Burgers and steak sandwiches are among the highlights at this classic drive-in, along with prompt service from the friendly carhops who appear at customers' cars to take their orders. Don't forget some curly fries or onion rings on the side and a shake for dessert.

## Enrique's Mexican Restaurant

2213 N. Waverly St. Ste. 3, Ponca City | (580) 762-5507 enriquesmexicanrestaurant.com

Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

From the unique puffy chips to the orange-flavored sopapillas, it's easy to have a great meal from start to finish at Enrique's Mexican Restaurant. Since 1983, the airport restaurant has been a popular stop for locals and pilots. Try the Pollo Loco Soup, a rich concoction of chicken, rice and vegetables that's available only at lunchtime.

## **Hector Y Amigos**

922 Main St., Woodward I (580) 256-1445

Lunch and dinner daily.

With fast, friendly service and delicious Mexican food, Hector Y Amigos is a favorite among locals in the Woodward area. Owner Hector Carvajal uses family recipes and puts his own spin on traditional Mexican entrees. His signature dishes include the Molcajete Mexicano, with grilled chicken and steak heaped into a molcajete bowl with grilled onions, tomatoes, bell peppers and a special hot sauce. Another Hector original, the pineapple fajitas, features pineapple fajita chicken or beef mixed with tomatoes, onions and bell peppers and is beautifully presented in a half pineapple.

## Hooker Soda Fountain and Grill

103 Glaydas St., Hooker I (580) 652-2222

Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

The sense of nostalgia is thick at Hooker Soda Fountain and Grill — and so are the burgers. From the old-school lunch counter to the vintage jukeboxes, there's plenty to take in from the moment you set foot on the black-and-white checkered tile flooring. But you'll be focused on the food soon enough, whether it's a juicy cheeseburger and tater tot combo or one of the tasty Mexican items like all-you-can-eat tacos.



Whether folded and fried or topped with mile-high meringue, Oklahomans love pie. The romance took on official status when pecan pie was declared part of the state meal in 1988.

Arbuckle Mountain Fried Pies captured Oklahoma's heart in 1893, when Nancy Fulton's grandmother began serving them to ranch hands. The delicious treats are still made daily at Fulton's original store in Davis and in locations around the state. The Field's Pies factory in Pauls Valley is another stalwart, churning out millions of frozen pies since opening in 1925.

Two newcomers to the pie scene also have strong followings. In Oklahoma City's Plaza District, **Pie Junkie** wins fans with decadent desserts like the Drunken Turtle, a fudge pie topped with salted bourbon caramel and pecans. **Antoinette Baking Company** in Tulsa delivers concoctions like the Mile High pie, a massive treat with chocolate mousse and a chocolate crumb layer.

Many restaurants also serve up can't-miss slices. The pies at Click's Steakhouse (Pg. 52) in Pawnee are a thing of beauty with their thick, towering meringue. Out west, Café Downtown Clinton delights customers with its coconut cream meringue pie.

APPLE

## **Arbuckle Mountain Fried Pies**

4145 Highway 77 S., Davis I (580) 369-7830 Multiple stores around Oklahoma and five other states **Open daily.** 



#### Pie Junkie

1711 N.W. 16th St., Oklahoma City I (405) 605-8767 I piejunkie.com Open Tuesday-Saturday, closed Sunday and Monday.



#### **Antoinette Baking Company**

207 N. Main St., Tulsa I (918) 764-8404 I antoinettebakingco.com **Open daily.** 



#### Café Downtown Clinton

502 Frisco, Clinton I (580) 323-2289

Open Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

## Katy's Pantry

2302 W. Willow Rd., Enid | (580) 233-1304 *Breakfast, lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.* 

katyspantry.com

Since it opened in 1978, Katy's Pantry has grown from a little pie shop to a full-blown restaurant serving soups, salads, sandwiches and quiches — all made to order. The restaurant even added a to-go-only Tulsa location in 2015. There are a dazzling amount of desserts to choose from, including cakes, pies and bars, but locals swear that the sugar cookies are the best around.

## Kumback Café

625 Delaware St., Perry I (580) 336-4646 Breakfast, lunch and dinner Monday-Friday, breakfast and lunch Saturday, closed Sunday. Since 1926, the Kumback Café has been sitting in the same spot, serving down-home favorites to locals and passers-through. It's hard to pace yourself with throwback menu items like chicken-fried steak, hot beef sandwiches and chicken and dumplings, but don't stop before dessert. The lightly glazed cinnamon rolls and thick, meringue-topped pies are delicious.

## Naifeh's Steak House

704 N.E. 12th St., Guymon I (580) 338-5355 Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Saturday, closed Sunday and Monday.

Since 1979, Naifeh's Steak House has been a Guymon go-to for steaks. It's also a traveler favorite, thanks to its delicious, uniquely seasoned food and close proximity to State Highway 64 and U.S. Highway 412. Try the shish kebab, a delicious and generously portioned cut of beef, and a bowl of the hearty homemade vegetable beef soup.





## PaneVino Wine & Tapas Bar

124 W. Randolph Ave, Enid I (580) 237-8488 panevinowinebar.com

Lunch and dinner Monday-Friday, dinner only on Saturday, closed Sunday. Reservations recommended.

The warm, classy atmosphere and mouthwatering selection of steak, seafood and pasta make PaneVino Wine & Tapas bar a great place for special occasions or casual evenings out. For something different, try one of the fondues. There's a classic gruyere and Swiss fondue started with white wine, and a beer-based bleu cheese version.

## Pollyanna Cafe

902 Main St., Woodward | (580) 256-9037 Breakfast, lunch and dinner Monday-Friday, breakfast and lunch only Saturday, closed Sunday.

The Pollyanna Cafe has been in the Williams family since 1953, and things haven't changed much since Al Williams passed it down to his sons. You'll still find good home-cooking with dishes like fried chicken, meatloaf and hand-breaded onion rings. Williams' sons did make one big change, adding an annex that draws a younger crowd with its sports bar-like atmosphere and modern cuisine.

Wee Too | Enid | Pg. 73

## Pub on the Bricks

120 N.E. Fifth St., Guymon | (580) 338-3463 *Lunch and dinner daily.* 

With classic American food and a friendly atmosphere, Pub on the Bricks is a Guymon hotspot. Drop in to watch the big game, shoot some pool or enjoy a dinner with the family. You can sit in the restaurant's family-friendly front half or back in the bar area while you enjoy crispy fried pickles, a tasty cheeseburger or the Green Chili Bites — tasty chunks of green chiles and cheese.

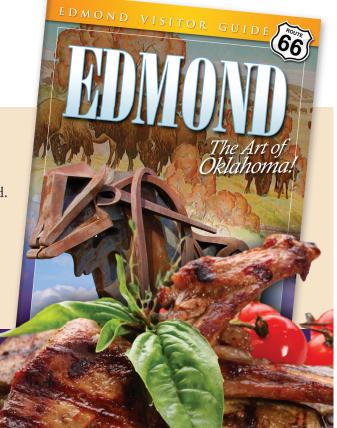


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Edmond Convention & Visitors Bureau 2901 Conference Drive, Edmond, OK (405) 341-4344 | VisitEdmondOk.com



## Rusty Barrell Supper Club

2005 N. 14th St., Ponca City I (580) 765-6689 rustybarrellsupperclub.com

Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Friday, dinner only on Saturday, closed Sunday and Monday.

The setup at Rusty Barrell Supper Club is unconventional to say the least. Visitors walk through an alley and ring a doorbell to gain access. Inside, the focus is on steak — both on the menu and in the dining room, where the meat is cooked on an open grill in the middle of the room. The tender filet, topped with a secret sauce, is the most popular item.

## Smok-Shak Bar-B-Que Restaurant

U.S. Highway 64 and Fourth St., Ingersoll (580) 596-3584

## Lunch and dinner daily.

It might be a little out of the way, but there's some good barbecue east of Alva at Smok-Shak Bar-B-Que Restaurant. The smoked brisket, ribs and chicken are all top-notch—tender, juicy and flavorful. Pace yourself, because each dinner comes with homemade cobbler that's not to be missed. Flavors vary by day, but it's usually apple, peach or pineapple.



Wagg's Bar-B-Q in Woodward is a must-eat location in northwest Oklahoma. Some favorites are the Rib Dinner and Wagg's Onion Blossom.

The atmosphere is great, and the wait staff is one of the friendliest in the state!

## Sula Korean Restaurant

1407 S. Van Buren St., Enid I (580) 234-0700

Lunch and dinner Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday.

Sula Korean Restaurant specializes in authentic Korean cuisine, with a few American favorites thrown in. The delicious food, generous portions and friendly service have made it an Enid favorite. Enjoy beef bulgogi served steaming hot with pieces of rib eye marinated in the house sauce. If you're feeling really adventurous, order the Oh Jing Uh Bokkum — sliced squid and vegetables fried in a spicy sauce.

## Taco Stop

406 W. Grand Ave., Ponca City I (580) 762-5096

Folks in Ponca City have been satisfying their taco cravings at Taco Stop for more than 40 years, during which time they estimate that they've made more than 1.5 million tacos. The tacos are the big seller, of course, but quesadillas, taco salads and burritos are all popular — and the elementary school crowd are big fans of their taco burgers. Those who like their Tex Mex with a little kick can choose from three sauces: mild, hot and extra hot.

Musical instruments are among the treasures adorning the walls of Wagg's Bar-B-Q, where many items from owner Eugene Waggoner's collection of cowboy and American Indian art are on display.



## Urban Bru Café

418 N.W. 21st St., Guymon | (580) 338-3010 urbanbrucafe.com

## Breakfast and lunch daily.

Gourmet coffee is the star attraction at Urban Bru Café, and the caramel macchiato, espresso and frappuccino are certainly delicious. But the little coffeehouse's selection of fresh, healthy food has helped make it a local favorite. The bacon-and-egg-topped breakfast pizza is a tasty way to start your day, and the homemade raspberry vinaigrette dressing has made the Strawberry Fields Salad a popular option.

## Wagg's Bar-B-Q

Seventh and Oklahoma streets, Woodward I (580) 256-6721 Lunch and dinner Tuesday-Saturday, closed Sunday and Monday.

A longtime northwestern Oklahoma favorite, Wagg's Bar-B-Q is known for its tender ribs — well-seasoned with just a hint of smoke — and the Wagg's Fries. The yummy fries are crispy, potato-chip thin and served in heaping platefuls. While barbecue might be the main event, Wagg's also serves up a mean chickenfried steak, a delicious catfish dinner and other classic comfort foods that will leave you wanting more. And the eclectic décor, which includes lots of Indian art, just adds to the fun.



## Wee Too

4002 N. Fourth St., Enid | (580) 233-4663 | wee-too.com *Breakfast and lunch daily.* 

A good old-fashioned breakfast is the specialty at Wee Too, an Enid staple since the 1970s. It's known for the Garbage Omelet, a heaping plateful of ham, bacon, sausage, bell peppers, onions, cheese and diced tomatoes. But the regulars — and there are a bunch of regulars — also love the fluffy, big-as-your-plate pancakes and yummy waffles topped with strawberries and cream.



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