

A photograph of four male chefs in a kitchen. They are wearing white chef's coats and tall white hats. They are smiling and looking towards the camera. In the foreground, they are preparing food on blue trays. The food includes salmon, green herbs, and other ingredients. The background is slightly blurred, showing kitchen equipment.

TASTES *of* CHICAGO

2010 Restaurant Guide

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Packaging World is pleased to provide this guide to Chicago restaurants. Because changes may have occurred since printing, we suggest you call ahead to confirm hours and location. Enjoy!

✂ AMERICAN ✂

10 PIN 330 N. State 312-644-0300 (\$) Take bowling to a new level at this trendy, chic lounge and bowling alley. With its self-described “inventive menu,” patrons are encouraged to split different dishes.

BIN 36 339 N. Dearborn 312-755-9463 (\$\$) Renown for matching the perfect wine with their bold and hearty contemporary American dishes, BIN 36 also allows you to mix and match to your liking.

BRANCH27 1371 W. Chicago 312-850-2700 (\$\$) Enjoy the exposed brick of this converted library-to-restaurant. The food matches the rustic feel. The grilled skirt steak paired with the pommes frites is hard to beat.

CARSON'S - THE PLACE FOR RIBS 612 N. Wells 312-280-9200 (\$\$) Huge piles of fall-off-the-bone baby-back ribs are the specialty of this Chicago classic. Brings new meaning to “finger lickin’ good!”

CHARLIE TROTTER'S 816 W. Armitage 773-248-6228 (\$\$\$\$) A true foodie’s delight! The renowned chef won’t disappoint with his whimsical and insightful cuisine. Complete with an occasional presentation of a dish by Mr. Trotter himself, any meal here is an evening well spent.

CROFTON ON WELLS 535 N. Wells 312-755-1790 (\$\$) With a simple yet comfortable atmosphere, you’ll find a variety of offerings from scrumptious salads to the creative vodka-spiked oysters. Satisfy your sweet tooth with the bittersweet chocolate cake.

EPIC 112 W. Hubbard 312-222-4940 (\$\$\$\$) With a sizeable wine list of over 200 bottles, enjoy American cuisine with a French touch. An added bonus is their rooftop lounge, Epic Sky - an ideal place to enjoy a nightcap!

THE GAGE 24 S. Michigan 312-372-4243 (\$\$\$) Think Irish pub with a touch of flair. The pork belly sandwich is divine. Conveniently located next to Millennium Park, the green tiled walls recreate a subway-esque feeling. A great place for groups, The Gage has multiple levels of seating!

GENE & GEORGETTI 500 N. Franklin 312-527-3718 (\$\$\$) Chicago is Frank Sinatra's kind of town and this restaurant is his kind of place. Renown for their generous portions, the dark and clubby atmosphere is sure to satisfy the true beef eater. Check out the autographed pictures of Frank and Bob Hope adorning the walls.

GILT BAR 230 W. Kinzie 312-464-9544 (\$\$) You'll find yourself guilty of enjoying the candlelit atmosphere that screams "speakeasy!" Adding pizzazz to your typical comfort foods, the pork belly is a crowd favorite.

HARRY CARAY'S 33 W. Kinzie 312-828-0966 (\$\$) Holy cow! Don't miss singing "Take me out to the ball game" in the bar or having a relaxed dinner in the dining area. Enjoy the food and the many autographed pictures of politicians and ballplayers that decorate this fun restaurant.

HENRI 18 S. Michigan 312-578-0763 (\$\$\$) Treat yourself to a chic dining experience with food that brightens your plate instantly. Start with the jumbo shrimp cocktail and let your waiter take you from there.

HUB 51 51 W. Hubbard 312-828-0051 (\$\$) Comfort food in an elegant setting. Enjoy the oversized plate of nachos, fresh tacos or a delicious burger, all while enjoying the contemporary ambiance.

KEEFER'S 20 W. Kinzie 312-467-9525 (\$\$\$) Talented chef John Hogan elevates this sleek space far beyond your typical River North steak joint. Enjoy top-notch prime steaks, classy seafood and delicious sides. Reservations recommended.

LOCKWOOD 17 E. Monroe 312-917-3404 (\$\$\$) Enjoy the sleek, modern and lounge-like feel of this restaurant set inside a vintage, ornate hotel. If you enjoy seafood, the mussels are an excellent starter before diving into the options the ever-changing menu brings you.

MITY NICE GRILL 835 N. Michigan 312-335-4745 (\$) With a 1940s feel to its dining room, Mity Nice Grill serves up "mity nice" platters of American classics – burgers, fish, chicken, steaks, salads and sandwiches. Highly recommended is the Baked Mity Nice Mac & Jack: the restaurant's version of macaroni and cheese.

NORTH POND CAFÉ 2610 N. Cannon 773-477-5845 (\$\$\$) Local, seasonal ingredients, simply prepared, and elegantly served in an outstanding setting. North Pond Café is tucked into Lincoln Park and has a lovely arts and crafts-inspired interior with beautiful views.

O'CALLAGHAN'S 29 W. Hubbard 312-527-1180 (\$) Limited seating, but a generous draft selection along with well-rounded, plated hot fare from meat, fish and poultry to pasta and a delicious Reuben. Not fancy, but a cozy atmosphere.

PARK 52 5201 S. Harper 773-241-5200 (\$\$) Great atmosphere paired with charming food presentation, Park 52 is sure to delight your taste buds. If you're an appetizer lover, try the Spicy Crispy Rock Shrimp.

PARK GRILL ON THE PLAZA and PARK CAFÉ 11 N. Michigan 312-521-PARK (7275) Located in Chicago's Millennium Park, both eateries offer an unassuming menu exceptionally well prepared. Terrific blend of flavors and a good wine selection. The Park Café is great for carry-out while strolling through Millennium Park.

PETTERINO'S 150 N. Dearborn 312-422-0150 (\$\$) Petterino's has the classy, old Chicago feel to it. The food and service are terrific and you'll get a kick out of the creative menu items. Conveniently located in the heart of Chicago's Theater District.

THE PUBLICAN 837 W. Fulton Market 312-733-9555 (\$\$\$) Enjoy exceptional pork and a plethora of beer while dining at a European-inspired oversized communal table. Although it's not a quiet atmosphere, the concept is social and the mood is right to sip one of their many beers and feast on their ever-changing menu.

RIVA 700 E. Grand 312-644-7482 (\$\$\$) Located on Navy Pier, Riva offers an outstanding lake and skyline view, day or night, and a menu worthy of the ambiance. Premium seafood, steaks and daily specials are complemented by an impressive wine collection. Reservations strongly recommended.

RL/RALPH LAUREN 115 E. Chicago Ave. 312-475-1100 (\$\$\$) Outfitted as timeless and classy as his clothing line, Ralph Lauren extends his talents into the dining field. Pair a delicious martini with the sirloin steak straight from his personal farm or feast on the always-popular “Dover Sole.”

SIGNATURE ROOM 875 N. Michigan 312-787-9596 (\$\$\$) There’s nothing like dining while the rest of Chicago strolls below you. Located on the 95th floor of the Hancock building, choose the elegant Art Deco dining room or go up to the 96th floor for a drink in the Signature Lounge. Either way, talk about a room with a view!

SULLIVAN’S 415 N. Dearborn 312-527-3510 (\$\$\$) This swanky steakhouse won’t leave you hungry. The house special is a 20-ounce, bone-in Kansas City Strip steak and you’ll be sure to enjoy the nightly live jazz music. Reservations recommended.

TWIN ANCHORS RESTAURANT and TAVERN 1655 N. Sedgwick 312-266-1616 (\$\$) With nautical and cozy décor, enjoy all-American burgers, steaks, or filet mignon – the baby-back ribs are exceptionally good. Reservations accepted for parties over six.

WEBER GRILL 539 N. State 312-467-9696 (\$\$) The savory cuisine at Weber Grill consists of seafood, steaks, burgers and more, all cooked on a Weber charcoal kettle grill in an open kitchen. Diners get a great view of the action. Many grilled entrées and salads for non-beef eaters.

WILDFIRE 159 W. Erie 312-787-9000 (\$\$) Comfort is key at Wildfire, a rustic restaurant where almost every entrée is grilled or roasted over natural-wood fires; preparation is visible from every seat. Generous portions and delicious mashed potatoes!

✕ ASIAN ✕

CHIZAKAYA 3056 N. Lincoln 773-697-4725 (\$\$) A low-key Japanese restaurant that caters to the person dining! Enjoy the colorful murals while enjoying the classic noodle and rice dishes, teriyaki green beans or different yakitori.

RED LIGHT 820 W. Randolph 312-733-8880 (\$\$\$) Sister restaurant to Marché and Vivo, offering a delicious, unusual blend of Chinese and Southwest Asian dishes.

RON OF JAPAN 230 E. Ontario 312-644-6500 (\$\$\$) Steak, shrimp, chicken, and lobster prepared right at your own table. Grilled on an iron plate, the food is cut, seasoned and served by chefs who dish up amazing flair with the flavor.

SAWTOOTH RESTAURANT 1350 W. Randolph 312-526-3320 (\$\$\$) A new take on Vietnamese hits the Chicago area and is sure to impress! With a range of small to large portions, choose to share the cold and delicious Spring Rolls or claim an entire Snapper for yourself.

SUNDA 110 W. Illinois 312-644-0500 (\$\$\$) Sushi oh my! With a swanky yet relaxed feel, Sunda's cuisine is inspired by Japanese and Chinese fare. The menu is extensive, so give yourself plenty of time to read through all the options.

SUSHI SAMBA RIO 504 N. Wells 312-595-2300 (\$\$) An energetic, clubby restaurant with pulsating salsa rhythms and Asian flavor in a cavernous room divided into several areas. Original dishes from an extensive menu are artfully presented. The sake and wine list and specialty cocktails are hard to pass up.

VEERASWAY 844 W. Randolph 312-491-0844 (\$\$\$) Though not a large space, you'll enjoy the pleasurable simplicity of the food. Start the meal sharing the fried okra appetizer then indulge in the braised lamb with caramelized onions and cashew-yogurt sauce.

✂ CAJUN ✂

HOUSE OF BLUES 329 N. Dearborn 312-923-2000 (\$\$) Although the food is secondary to the music, this River North location offers a varied Cajun/Creole menu.

WISHBONE 1001 W. Washington 312-850-2663 (\$) Instead of the traditional bread basket, your meal begins with complimentary warm cornbread muffins. Trendy, bustling, urban space with lively food and atmosphere. Traditional Cajun and innovative offerings. Located near Oprah's studio so keep an eye out for her or her guests!

✂ CONTEMPORARY ✂

SCHWA 1466 N. Ashland 773-252-1466 (\$\$\$\$) Though the dining room is small in this gourmet BYOB, you'll enjoy choosing between the three course or nine course meal to satisfy your foodie palette.

SIXTEEN 401 N. Wabash 312-588-8030 (\$\$\$\$) Upscale dining located on the sixteenth floor of the Trump Tower. The chic interior matches the fine dining tastes of Donald Trump.

✂ CUBAN ✂

CAFE LAGUARDIA 2111 W. Armitage 773-862-5996 (\$\$) Arrive hungry to this funky restaurant, adorned in mirrors and animal print. Combine the mojitos with the fried plantains and you'll be golden.

MAMBO GRILL 410 N. Wells 312-467-9797 (\$\$) Great Latin-inspired cuisine with unique fish selections and fun drinks. Voted "Chicago's Best Mojito" by Metromix.

✂ FRENCH ✂

BISTRO 110 110 E. Pearson 312-266-3110 (\$\$) One of the city's hidden charms, Bistro 110 is authentically French. Start with an appetizer of artichoke baked with brie and end with crème brulee topped with berries. The bright floral murals add to a comfortable ambiance.

BLACKBIRD 619 W. Randolph 312-715-0708 (\$\$) Randolph Street's popular restaurant features a seasonally influenced menu. Intimate setting, loud when crowded, but food is worth every penny!

NoMI 800 N. Michigan 312-239-4030 (\$\$\$\$) Located in the Park Hyatt Chicago, the stunning views of the Chicago skyline and Lake Michigan are just the aesthetics. Choose either the casual or elegant cuisine, but between the food and the views, your dining experience will be one of a kind.

TRU 676 N. St. Clair 312-202-0001 (\$\$\$\$) Lavish setting for serious dining, anchored by French-influenced creations and sweetened by spectacular desserts. Reservations required.

✂ GREEK/MEDITERRANEAN ✂

AVEC 615 W. Randolph 312-377-2002 (\$\$\$) Consistently good and offers a seasonal menu. The restaurant's staples include pork shoulder, chorizo stuffed dates, and the roasted chicken thigh. You'll feel as if you're in Spain with its vivacious atmosphere.

GREEK ISLANDS 200 S. Halsted 312-782-9855 (\$\$) Between the flaming cheese appetizer, the octopus and the olive oil, you must go Greek. A wide variety of traditional Greek dishes well prepared and served in a boisterous, casual atmosphere. Complimentary valet parking. Oopah!

REZA'S 432 W. Ontario 312-664-4500 (\$\$) With generous portions and an eclectic array of entrees, Reza's offers great food variety and affordable prices. With a mainly Persian cuisine, there is something for everyone.

SANTORINI 800 W. Adams 312-829-8820 (\$\$) Set in the heart of Greektown, it is the Greek tradition to serve large portions. With two levels available for seating, patrons will not be disappointed with the authentic décor and delicious dishes.

✂ INTERNATIONAL ✂

ARIA 200 N. Columbus Drive in the Fairmont Hotel 312-444-9494 (\$\$\$) Aria offers contemporary ambiance, exceptional service, and an original menu, highlighting international flavors, comfort foods and beautiful desserts. Experience the elaborate sushi station for the ultimate raw experience.

GRAND LUX CAFÉ 600 N. Michigan, enter on Ontario 312-276-2500 (\$) Interesting, luxurious and glamorous setting with a terrific tree-top view of the Magnificent Mile. Over 100 selections and freshly baked desserts on the menu.

NATIONAL 27 325 W. Huron 312-664-2727 (\$\$\$) Drawing inspiration from 27 countries, this funky restaurant does tapas well. Plan to order a lot of little dishes to indulge in the variety of flavors available.

PARAMOUNT ROOM 415 N. Milwaukee 312-829-6300 (\$\$) For an eccentric selection of beer and a globally-inspired menu, seek out a table on the first floor for a quieter dining experience or head to the basement for a louder pool hall with comfy booths and plasma TVs.

✂ ITALIAN ✂

312 CHICAGO 136 N. LaSalle 312-696-2420 (\$\$\$) Enjoy a leisurely evening of excellent food and service. An “Italian-inspired American menu” with dishes such as olive oil poached bass, spit-roasted lamb and polenta soufflé.

CALITERRA 633 N. St. Clair 312-274-4444 (\$\$\$) Offers a unique menu of impressive, Californian-inspired Italian dishes. Tasteful décor and conveniently located a block off of Michigan Avenue.

CIBO MATTO 201 N. State 312-239-9500 (\$\$\$) Venture onto the second floor of The Wit Hotel and you will stumble upon this delicious restaurant whose name means “Crazy Food,” but really just serves delightful dishes. The best go-to dish? The squid ink spaghetti. Don’t be shy about asking the waiter for recommendations.

FRANKIE'S SCALOPPINE 900 N. Michigan Ave, 5th Floor 312-266-2500 (\$\$) A casual yet chic restaurant where the salads, pastas and scaloppine are the main dishes. Try the “Famous Chopped Salad” and hope to meet either Big or Little Frankie while dining!

ITALIAN VILLAGE 71 W. Monroe 312-332-7005 (\$\$\$) A Loop institution since 1927. With its romantic ambiance and booth seating, it attracts devoted locals, tourists, shoppers and theater patrons.

MAGGIANO'S LITTLE ITALY 516 N. Clark 312-644-7700 (\$\$) A replica of New York's Little Italy. After the healthy family-sized portions of pastas, you will be singing “Amoré.”

MIA FRANCESCA 3311 N. Clark 773-281-3310 (\$\$)

FRANCESCA'S ON TAYLOR 1400 W. Taylor 312-829-2828 (\$\$) Huge portions of tasty food, fun atmosphere, and reasonable prices make either restaurant a wonderful choice for Italian food. Reservations accepted on Taylor, not Clark.

ROSEBUD 1500 W. Taylor 312-942-1117 (\$\$\$)

ROSEBUD ON RUSH 720 N. Rush, 312-266-6444 (\$\$\$) Huge platters of fabulous, yet not overdone Italian food are provided at both places. The Rush Street site is a little glitzier.

SCOOZI! 410 W. Huron 312-943-5900 (\$\$) With a wall of wine to greet you, Scoozi! offers an array of fresh Italian ingredients blended together to complete a delectable entrée. Try their signature white pizza and you will not be disappointed.

TRATTORIA No. 10 10 N. Dearborn 312-984-1718 (\$\$) This lower level, cozy space provides respite from the street hustle and bustle above. If you can't get a reservation (required), enjoy the happy hour buffet in the bar, including salads, shrimp, and tenderloin.

VIVERE 71 W. Monroe 312-332-4040 (\$\$) The flashy, mod décor compliments dishes such as the ravioli filled with sweet, spiced butternut squash. Extensive wine list.

✂ MEXICAN ✂

DOS DIABLOS 15 W. Hubbard 312-245-3100 (\$\$) Be careful with the endless chips and salsa pre-meal: not only are they delectable, but they keep them coming! Leave room to try the carne asada or large portioned chicken quesadillas. The entrees are delicious.

MERCADITO 108 W. Kinzie 312-329-9555 (\$\$\$) Some like it a la carte – which is exactly how this menu is built. Don't be deceived by the small plates if you bring a large appetite, the food is meant for sharing. If you yearn for scallops, try the Callo Ceviche – tender with small bits of watermelon!

TOPOLOBAMPO 445 N. Clark 312-661-1434 (\$\$\$) Next door to the Frontera Grill, with which it shares a kitchen, this small restaurant produces fabulous, upscale, gourmet Mexican food. Reservations can be tough so call early.

XOCO 449 N. Clark 312-334-3688 (\$\$) Taking simple Mexican and making it upscale has never tasted so delightful or fresh. Counter seating and take out option available. Try any of the tortas and your tastebuds will be screaming “Ole!”

✂ PIZZA ✂

LOU MALNATI'S 439 N. Wells 312-828-9800 (\$\$) Lou's doesn't limit itself to only deep-dish. Feel free to get creative with your toppings. Pizzas are built to accommodate, but make sure to add the fresh tomatoes – delicious every time.

ORIGINAL GINO'S EAST 633 N. Wells 312-943-1124 (\$\$) The ultimate “Chicago” pizza place featuring the famous deep-dish pizza. Owners allow patrons to “graffiti” the walls so every square inch of the place is covered.

PIZZERIA UNO 29 E. Ohio 312-321-1000 (\$)

PIZZERIA DUE 619 N. Wabash 312-943-2400 (\$) Originator of Chicago's deep-dish pizza. Uno has the charm, Due has the space. You can't come to Chicago and not try their pizza at least once.

✂ SEAFOOD ✂

C-HOUSE 166 E. Superior 312-523-0923 (\$\$\$\$) Located in the Affinia Chicago hotel, this restaurant will have you looking no further for the freshest seafood in town. The create-your-own meal allows you to choose from all the fantastic options to fit your taste buds. “C” you there!

CATCH 35 35 N. Wacker 312-346-3500 (\$\$) Comfortable for the corporate crowd who can't resist fresh seafood in a festive atmosphere. Excellent lobster and crab legs.

MCCORMICK & SCHMICK'S 41 E. Chestnut 312-397-9500 (\$\$\$) Undisputed best happy hour in town! Daily menu changes keep customers on the edge of their seats, but always with an excellent seafood option.

ROY'S 720 N. State 312-787-7599 (\$\$) From the “Hawaiian Martini” to the fabulous seafood, Roy Yamaguchi's Chicago location offers his signature Hawaiian Fusion delights. For a reasonably priced dinner, try the Seasonal Prix Fixe Menu, a four course meal that changes with the season.

SHAW'S CRAB HOUSE 21 E. Hubbard 312-527-2722 (\$\$) Arguably the best and freshest seafood in town. Complete with fresh seafood flown in daily, Shaw's popcorn shrimp is phenomenal.

✂ SPANISH ✂

1492 TAPAS BAR 42 E. Superior 312-867-1492 (\$\$) For the ultimate Spanish eating experience, choose multiple dishes from the extensive selection of tapas. Top off the tapas with a margarita or sangria!

CAFÉ BA-BA-REEBA 2024 N. Halsted 773-935-5000 (\$\$) The younger crowd does its tapas dining in this upbeat Lincoln Park restaurant. The sangria is delicious and the prices are right.

✂ STEAKHOUSE ✂

GIBSONS STEAK HOUSE 1028 N. Rush 312-266-8999 (\$\$\$\$) A local favorite with great food. Big portions, big drinks and big crowds. Keep an eye out for celebs.

JOE'S SEAFOOD, PRIME STEAK & STONE CRAB 60 E. Grand 312-379-5637 (\$\$\$) Ideal corner location with delicious fresh seafood flown in daily and signature dishes such as the Stone Crab Claws with Mustard Sauce.

KINZIE CHOP HOUSE 400 N. Wells 312-822-0191 (\$\$) The seasonal menu changes regularly and in nice weather, French doors are open to Kinzie Street. Mingle with professionals from the nearby Merchandise Mart and Apparel Center.

LAWRY'S THE PRIME RIB 100 E. Ontario 312-787-5000 (\$\$\$) This well-known Chicago restaurant, located in a Renaissance-inspired mansion, is famous for its prime rib and spinning bowl salad and also offers fresh seafood.

MIKE DITKA'S 100 E. Chestnut 312-587-8989 (\$\$) With classy sports bar décor, Ditka's specialties include the "Duck Cigar" and "Da Coach's Pork Chop." Steaks, fish and pasta also grace the menu, while the excellent food and service score extra points for comfort.

MORTON'S OF CHICAGO 1050 N. State 312-266-4820 (\$\$\$) Morton's boasts an award-winning menu and wine collection. Enjoy huge portions of beef, great steaks, veal chops and elegant desserts.

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAKHOUSE 431 N. Dearborn 312-321-2725 (\$\$) Though a chain restaurant originating in New Orleans, some of the highest quality beef can be found at this steakhouse. Paired with excellent service, it's tough to beat.

✂ THAI ✂

ARUN'S RESTAURANT 4156 N. Kedzie 773-539-1909 (\$\$\$\$) Food to "thai" you over: with dinners that come in one form only – the Chef's Special Menu, a 12-course "dining adventure." Each course tastes better than the one that precedes it.

BAISI THAI 900 N. Michigan, 6th Floor 312-664-9200 (\$\$) Prides itself in being Chicago's "best kept secret." Sneak away for delicious Thai options at an ideal location.

STAR OF SIAM 11 E. Illinois 312-670-0100 (\$) Claims to be the first Thai restaurant in Chicago. Authentic raised benches for seating blend well with the Asian décor. Service is friendly and fast with delicious food. Try the Thai Iced Tea and you're in for a treat. Great for group settings.

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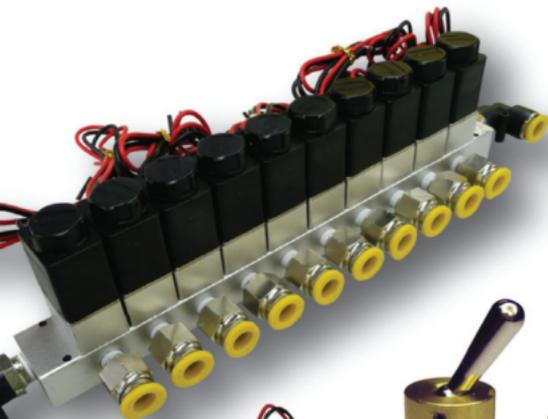


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