



THE RESTAURANT GUIDE

This restaurant guide provides brief descriptions for a selection of restaurants in Washington, D.C. In addition to the descriptions of the restaurants, we have attempted to personalize the guide by occasionally including comments from your fellow law librarians who live and work in the Washington, D.C. area. These comments reflect each reviewer's personal choice of restaurant, and serve to highlight some of the more popular restaurants among the local law library community. Please note that the focus of this guide is on eating establishments located within an easy walk of the Convention Center.

For those of you who want to explore the city, we have also provided examples of select restaurants in a number of D.C.'s more popular neighborhoods. Although there are many very good restaurants in nearby Virginia and Maryland, we have limited the scope of the guide to restaurants located within the District of Columbia. Obviously, this cannot be a comprehensive guide to all the restaurants in Washington, D.C., so we have also listed a number of professional restaurant guides compiled by The Washington Post, The Washingtonian, and many others.

Please note that we are not responsible for the quality of food or service you might receive at any of the restaurants listed. Many of the restaurants listed are very popular with tourists and locals and they can fill up very quickly. When possible, we suggest that you make a reservation ahead of time. We hope you find this restaurant guide useful. If you have additional questions about dining in the city, please stop by the Hospitality Booth in the Convention Center.

*Jill Duffy & Steve Young,
Restaurant Guide Co-Chairs
Local Arrangements Committee 2009*

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KEY TO PRICE SYMBOLS

Symbol:	The average dinner entrée is:
\$	Under \$10
\$\$	\$10-20
\$\$\$	\$20-30
\$\$\$\$	Over \$30

RESTAURANT LISTINGS

Hours have been included in the descriptions below only when the restaurant offers hours outside of the normal lunch and dinner times. If a restaurant's description does not include the hours, it should be assumed that the restaurant adheres to conventional opening times. All restaurant information was accurate at time of compiling, but is subject to change. Please consult the individual restaurants for the latest hours, prices, specials, etc.

IN THE CONVENTION CENTER

[Chan's Mongolian Grill & Tokyo Sushi](#)

Located next door to the Old Dominion Brewhouse (owned by the same people), this combination of Mongolian and sushi has proven to be a popular option for those wanting to stay close to the Convention Center. The décor may be a little strange for an Asian restaurant, but the food has won over many conference attendees.

Price: \$-\$\$

1207 9th St. NW; 202-289-7266

[Chatman's D'Vine Bakery & Café](#)

Located on the east side of the Convention Center, this bakery and café provides convention attendees with a variety of baked goods (including delicious cupcakes) and sandwiches. Trivia: owner and head baker, Debra Chatman, was a paralegal for 20 years! Closed Mondays and Tuesdays.

Price: n/a

1239 9th St. NW; 202-249-3258

[Old Dominion Brewhouse](#)

This pub/sports bar is physically connected to the Convention Center's northwest end. A wide selection of house beers are offered on tap, together with a modest selection of bottled beers. The food menu includes traditional pub grub but also goes beyond bar food by offering crab cakes, steaks, skewers, etc. A large number of televisions tuned to the game ensures that you catch all the action.

Price: \$-\$\$

1219 9th St. NW; 202-289-8158

FRANCHISE COFFEEHOUSES & SANDWICH/SALAD SHOPS NEAR THE CONVENTION CENTER

[Au Bon Pain](#)

1100 13th St. NW (at L St.) & 700 13th St. NW (at G St.)

[Café Phillips](#)

650 Massachusetts Ave. NW (entrance on 7th St.)

[Camille's](#)

650 F St. NW & 1420 New York Ave. NW

[Chop't Creative Salad Company](#)

730 7th St. NW (at H St.) & 618 12th St. NW (at F St.)

[Cosi](#)

1275 K St. NW & 700 11th St. NW (at G St.)

[Potbelly](#)

726 7th St. NW (at H St.)

[Quizno's](#)

750 I St. NW

[Starbucks](#)

Inside the Convention Center, the Renaissance Hotel, the Grand Hyatt Hotel, the Marriott Hotel, & at 901 New York Ave. NW.

[Subway](#)

1127 7th St. NW (btwn L & M St.) & 1100 New York Ave. NW

SHORT WALK FROM THE CONVENTION CENTER

The area most immediately around the Convention Center may be referred to in guides as Chinatown, Gallery Place, Penn Quarter, or even Downtown, depending upon the guide. This can be confusing to visitors, so we have attempted to group those restaurants based upon their walking distance from the Convention Center. Listed below are restaurants that can likely be reached within a 15-minute walk.

[Acadiana](#)

Located just a short walk southwest of the Convention Center, Acadiana is a "contemporary interpretation of a Louisiana fish house." The various ethnic cuisines of Louisiana are well- represented on the diverse menu, and the restaurant's stylish decor offers an inviting location in which to sample them. In addition to their regular hours, they offer brunch on Sundays 11-2:30, and a Crawfish Broil on Fridays 4-6:30pm.

Price: \$\$\$

901 New York Ave. NW; 202-408-8848

"If you like oysters, start with the charbroiled oysters. It is a rare treat that they do as well as anyone in New Orleans." Kumar Jayasuriya, Georgetown University.

"Among the highlights are fried green tomatoes, oysters, shrimp and grits, and flaky biscuits with sweet and savory spreads." Pamela Mandel, Ballard, Spahr, Andrews & Ingersoll LLP

"Serves an upscale version of Cajun cuisine. Delicious, but a minefield for the calorie-conscious." Stephen Mellin, Jenner & Block LLP.

[Asian Spice](#)

Asian Spice, a Pan-Asian fusion restaurant, recently opened in the Chinatown/Gallery Place area of D.C. and it has quickly become a place to visit. Attractions include a very interesting and stylish interior, combined with a menu that offers dishes from Thailand, Laos, Korea, and many other countries.

Price: \$\$

717 H St. NW; 202-589-0900

[Bobby Van's](#)

Those looking for a traditional New York City-style chop house might want to take a look at Bobby Van's. The modern exterior belies the classic interior. Needless to say, steak features prominently on the menu, although a selection of seafood and pasta entrees are also available. Open for lunch and dinner on weekdays; open only for dinner on weekends.

Price: \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$

1201 New York Ave. NW; 202-589-1584

[Brasserie Beck](#)

This contemporary European-style brasserie is located just two blocks west of Mount Vernon Square. The emphasis is on Belgian food and drink served in a casual setting. Although a relative newcomer to the neighborhood, this restaurant has quickly become one of the landmark dining locations on K Street. In addition to their regular hours, Brasserie Beck is open for brunch on Sundays.

Price: \$\$\$

1101 K St. NW; 202-408-1717

"Great food and nice ambiance." Kate Martin, McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP.

[Burma](#)

Located in the heart of Chinatown, Burma adheres to its name and serves up a variety of traditional Burmese dishes. The non-pretentious surroundings coupled with the very reasonable prices make this a good place to try out a type of cuisine you won't find everywhere.

Price: \$-\$\$

740 6th St. NW (at H St.); 202-638-1280

"Unusual and excellent Burmese food." Margaret Weatherford, Department of Justice.

[Busboys and Poets](#)

This coffee shop/cafe/bookstore/political gathering place provides an interesting and stimulating environment in which to grab a sandwich or something more substantial. It's also one of the few dining options located southeast of the Convention Center. In addition to lunch and dinner, Busboys and Poets is open for breakfast and late-night dining.

Price: \$-\$\$

1025 5th St. NW (between K & L St.); 202-789-2227

[Capital Q](#)

Looking for authentic Texas-style BBQ in the heart of the nation's capital? Well, look no further. The folks at Capital Q are serious about their BBQ and want everyone to know that you'll get the real deal at their cozy Chinatown location.

Price: \$-\$\$

707 H St. NW; 202-347-8396

"Good choice for barbecue lovers." Shannon O'Connell, Williams & Connolly, LLP.

[Capitol City Brewing Co.](#)

Cap' City was the first brew pub in the city following the end of prohibition. Today, the downtown location is housed in an attractive art-deco building. The menu is standard pub fare, providing everything from pizzas and pasta to sandwiches and burgers. The homemade brews make a great accompaniment to any meal.

Price: \$\$

1100 New York Ave. NW; 202-628-2222

[Chinatown Express](#)

While it won't win any awards for ambiance, Chinatown Express does feature homemade noodles and large portions at a very reasonable price. In addition to the noodles, the soups and the dumplings are recommended by many locals.

Price: \$-\$\$

746 6th St. NW (at H St.); 202-638-0424

"Watch them make the fresh noodles in the window, then enjoy them with homemade green garlic relish in the chicken noodle soup." Margaret Weatherford, Department of Justice.

[Corduroy](#)

Located directly across the street from the Convention Center in a traditional D.C. rowhouse, this unassuming restaurant is one of the finest D.C. has to offer. The emphasis is on fresh ingredients presented in a simple yet elegant manner. Reservations strongly recommended. Closed on Sundays.

Price: \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$

1122 9th St. NW (between L & M St.); 202-589-0699

"Excellent service complements exceptional food - well worth a visit!" Steve Young, Catholic University.

[District Grill](#)

This traditional American grill keeps things simple by offering a basic selection of seafood and meat entrees. Breakfast is offered daily starting at 6:30am.

Price: \$\$\$

1201 K St. NW; 202-408-7771 (Inside the Four Points Hotel)

[Fado](#)

The D.C. location of this Irish pub chain is located just a few blocks south of the Convention Center, close to the Gallery Place metro station in Chinatown. Inside, the pub is decorated in a cozy Irish pub manner. Salads, sandwiches, and traditional "pub grub" feature on the menu alongside a decent selection of beers and whiskeys.

Price: \$-\$\$

808 7th St. NW (between H & I St.); 202-789-0066

[Fifteen Squares](#)

Fifteen Squares describes itself as an "upscale, casual restaurant featuring local artisan products." The menu certainly reflects a regional influence by offering everything from Maryland crab cakes to beef cooked in Virginia beer. Breakfast is offered daily starting at 6:30am.

Price: \$\$\$

999 9th St. NW (at K St.); 202-682-3424 (Inside the Renaissance Hotel)

[Finn & Porter](#)

There are only a few Finn & Porter locations in the country; the D.C. restaurant is located just southwest of the Convention Center. The main menu places a strong emphasis on high quality steaks, although their lunchtime and happy hour menus attract those seeking good value in their dining experience.

Price: \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$

900 10th St. NW (at K St.); 202-719-1600 (Inside the Embassy Suites Hotel)

[Five Guys](#)

This extremely popular and highly rated "burgers and fries" franchise has a number of locations in the Washington, D.C. metro area. The closest one to the Convention Center area is located just 3-4 blocks directly south on H street.

Price: \$

808 H St. NW; 202-393-2900

"The burgers are as close as you'll get to a backyard burger at a fast-food place." Jeffrey Berns, Spiegel & McDiarmid LLP.

"People on a budget (or for lunch) will like Five Guys Burgers in Chinatown." John Moore, United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

"Best burgers ever! Inexpensive, great burgers, with the fries and the burger topped your way." Michael Timpani, area law librarian

[Full Kee](#)

Located in the heart of Chinatown, the Full Kee has been rated one of the top 100 Chinese restaurants in America 3 years in a row. The lengthy menu and reasonable prices makes this a popular dining spot for those seeking everything from Hong Kong style soups to Cantonese noodles. Open late.

Price: \$-\$\$

509 H St. NW; 202-371-2233

Recommended by Judy Gaskell, Supreme Court of the United States.

[Irish Channel Restaurant & Pub](#)

The Irish Channel combines the spirit of the Irish Channel in New Orleans and the heart of County Cork. The menu offers traditional pub fare along with Cajun cuisine - choose from a selection ranging from Corned Beef on Rye to Cajun Catfish. The Irish Channel is conveniently located in the heart of Chinatown in the Red Roof Inn. Open late; also features a Sunday brunch buffet.

Price: \$-\$\$

500 H St. NW; 202-216-0046

"Good food at very reasonable prices." Lois Steinberg, McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP.

[Kanlaya](#)

Kanlaya was the first Thai restaurant to open in Chinatown. A wide-ranging menu that features traditional curries and noodle-based dishes, Kanlaya also offers a vegetarian and a non-vegetarian menu.

Price: \$\$

740 6th St. NW (at H St.); 202-393-0088

"Good, fairly authentic Thai food, especially if you like it hot; good service and ambience though tables are a bit close together." Jeff Bird, Latham & Watkins.

[Marrakesh](#)

For a unique dining experience practically next-door to the Convention Center, be transported to Morocco at Marrakesh. The prix fixe menu includes seven courses and also features vegetarian options. The festive atmosphere includes nightly belly dancing. Only open for dinner.

Price: call restaurant to confirm per person pricing

617 New York Ave. NW; 202-393-9393

[Matchbox](#)

Matchbox has quickly become one of the most popular restaurants in the Gallery Place/Chinatown part of town. The menu offers a variety of pizzas, sandwiches, and traditional entrees in a lively, comfortable setting. The place can get very busy around happy hour, however the decent food offered at reasonable prices makes the wait worthwhile. Offers late-night and Sunday brunch menus.

Price: \$\$

713 H St. NW; 202-289-4441

Recommended by Laura Burns, NASA Headquarters.

"The pizza and sliders are great and I think it would be a family-friendly place as well." Laurie Green, Bryan Cave.

"Guaranteed crowd-pleaser, great pizza, but always packed so you should be prepared to wait for a table." Shannon O'Connell, Williams & Connolly LLP.

[Metro Grill](#)

Seafood takes center stage at this hotel-based restaurant. The menu is rounded out by a selection of meat and poultry entrees and a variety of soups, salads and sandwiches. Open for breakfast daily at 6:30am.

Price: \$\$-\$\$\$

775 12th St. NW (at H St.); 202-824-6122 (Inside the Marriot @ Metro Center Hotel)

[Morrison-Clark Inn Restaurant](#)

Located a few short blocks west of the Convention Center in the elegant Morrison-Clark Inn, this timeless restaurant specializes in Southern-inspired cuisine. The 19th century Victorian surroundings complement a menu that focuses on classic American food. Breakfast is served daily starting at 7am, while a more formal brunch menu is offered on Sundays.

Price: \$\$\$

1015 L St. NW; 202-898-1200

[PS7's](#)

Contemporary American cuisine is represented at PS7's with a menu that is almost evenly divided between "aqua" (seafood) and "terra" (meats). The inside of the restaurant is certainly an eye-catcher, and the food does a good job of living up to its striking surroundings. Closed Sundays.

Price: \$\$\$

777 I St. NW; 202-742-8550

[RFD](#)

Beer lovers look no further – this is the place for you! Whether you like drinking beer, or eating food cooked in beer, RFD will keep you happy. Describing itself as “the world of beer in the heart of the city,” RFD's selection of draught and bottled beers is hard to beat. The food selection is pretty good too. These folks also own the world famous [Brickskeller](#) near Dupont Circle.

Price: \$\$

810 7th St. NW (between H & I St.); 202-289-2030

[Tony Cheng's Seafood & Mongolian Barbecue](#)

A Washington Post Editors' Pick, this Chinatown restaurant offers two different cuisines under the same roof. Dim Sum menu is available daily; carts are available on the weekends only.

Price: \$-\$\$

619 H St. NW; 202-371-8669

“The Mongolian barbeque is fresh and delicious. The chefs will help you choose sauces and always throw on some extra lamb, pork, or beef.” Frances Brillantine, Catholic University.

[Vegetate](#)

This vegetarian restaurant is one of the few dining options in the historic Shaw neighborhood located directly north of the Convention Center. The menu features locally grown fresh ingredients served in bite-size, small plates, and large plate serving sizes. Closed Sunday & Monday.

Price: \$\$

1414 9th St. NW; 202-232-4585

“They serve exclusively vegetarian fare and it is quite tasty. Great happy hour, local art exhibits and prix fixe dinner option. 3rd floor group dining room for parties of 6 or larger.” Charlotte Osborn-Bensaada, Thompson Coburn LLP.

LONGER WALK (OR VERY SHORT METRO/CAB RIDE)

Most of the following restaurants can be reached in 15-20 minutes if walking from the Convention Center. Most would be considered in Gallery Place, Penn Quarter or Downtown; however the use of these neighborhood designations is not consistent from one guide to the next.

[701](#)

The menu at 701 reflects contemporary Continental cuisine offering a balance of vegetarian, meat and seafood options. Located between the White House and Capitol Hill, the restaurant features a couple of bars and a stylish dining room.

Price: \$\$\$

701 Pennsylvania Ave. NW; 202-393-0701

[Austin Grill](#)

This local chain offers traditional Tex-Mex fare at a reasonable price. In addition to the usual lunch and dinner time offerings, the restaurant also provides a gluten-free menu and a brunch menu on weekends. Brunch is served 11am to 3pm.

Price: \$

750 E St. NW; 202-393-3776

Recommended by Susan Pries, Van Ness Feldman, P.C.

"If you enjoy a casual and fun atmosphere, yummy chips and salsa, and excellent frozen margaritas...this is the place to go. Although I'm partial to the marinated skirt steak tacos, there are a lot of other tasty options on the menu." Dawn Sobol, Catholic University.

[Bar Louie](#)

Located in Gallery Place, this Chicago-based restaurant and bar specializes in oversized signature sandwiches and handcrafted specialty cocktails in addition to an extensive selection of small and large plates. Bar Louie is a convenient place for those seeking a sports bar.

Price: \$-\$\$

701 7th St. NW (between G & H St.); 202-638-2460

"Very reasonably priced food – you won't leave hungry!" Denise Stewart, Thomson Reuters.

[Bistro D'oc](#)

Bistro D'oc is a casual French restaurant located across the street from Ford's Theatre. The restaurant specializes in cuisine from the Languedoc region of southern France and also offers a selection of typical French bistro fare. Offers a fixed price theatre menu and Sunday brunch from 11:30am to 4pm.

Price: \$\$-\$\$\$

518 10th St. NW (between E & F St.); 202-393-5444

"French, but not pretentious. I've never been disappointed." Janet Oberla, Department of Justice.

[Café Atlantico](#)

Inspired by the cuisines of Central and South America, Café Atlantico offers two distinct dining experiences; a traditional restaurant setting in the main Café's dining room, and the more intimate (and far more expensive!) experience in the Minibar. This is one of the most critically acclaimed restaurants in the city. Closed on Mondays. Brunch offered on Saturdays and Sundays from 11:30am to 2:30pm.

Price: \$\$\$ (\$\$\$\$ for the Minibar)

405 8th St. NW (at D St.); 202-393-0812.

[Cedar](#)

This self-described new American cuisine restaurant may well be the most recent addition to the Penn Quarter neighborhood having just opened in May. Don't let the underground location fool you, because the inside of Cedar evokes the great outside, with a strong emphasis on nature and its bounty. The menu reflects this natural theme with a seasonal focus on fresh seafood and meat dishes. Brunch is also served on Saturdays and Sundays.

Price: \$\$\$

822 E St. NW; 202-637-0012

[Ceiba](#)

Ceiba specializes in contemporary Latin-American cuisine, placing a strong emphasis on food from the Yucatan, Brazil, Cuba and Peru. The interior of the restaurant is attractively decorated with stone, tile and wood originating from Central and South America. A simpler bar menu provides a good opportunity to sample the cuisine while enjoying one of their famous cocktails. Closed Sundays.

Price: \$\$\$

701 14th St. NW (at G St.); 202-393-3983

[Central Michel Richard](#)

From the owner of Citronelle comes this modern take on some familiar American classics. The contemporary surroundings complement a menu that at first glance appears traditional, but is surprisingly adventurous. A whimsical French flare contributes to the dining experience. Open weekdays for lunch; daily for dinner.

Price: \$\$-\$\$\$

1001 Pennsylvania Ave. NW; 202-626-0015

"Comfort food taken to a new level." Steve Young, Catholic University.

[Clyde's of Gallery Place](#)

Adjacent to the Verizon Center and Gallery Place, Clyde's is a popular bar and restaurant among tourists and locals. The menu includes seafood and meat options, together with sandwiches and egg dishes. The extensive interior is comprised of 3 bars and 5 dining rooms. Clyde's features a late-night menu and Saturday and Sunday brunch from 10am to 4pm.

Price: \$\$

707 7th St. NW (at G St.); 202-349-3700

[Co Co. Sala](#)

Describing itself as a "chocolate lounge and boutique," Co Co. Sala aims to please those looking for small savory plates, fine chocolate desserts, and a trendy late night lounge. The modern decor combined with the exotic selection of desserts and drinks, makes this a popular venue for hipsters and chocoholics alike. Also features Sunday brunch from 11am to 3pm.

Price: \$\$-\$\$\$ (based on multiple small plates)

929 F St. NW; 202-347-4265

"Definitely for chocolate lovers, you should also try their wonderful savory dishes (small plates). Recommended: Tandoori Chicken Slider and the Shrimp Mac & Cheese." Marvin Lewis, Jones Day.

[Coeur de Lion](#)

Available for breakfast, lunch, dinner, and Sunday brunch, this French influenced restaurant combines formal dining with a warm ambience. The menu offers a variety of meat and seafood options, including sea bass, lamb, and crab cakes. The prix fixe Sunday Champagne brunch is a notable feature of this hotel-based restaurant.

Price: \$\$\$

926 Massachusetts Ave NW; 202-638-5200 (Inside the Henley Park Hotel)

[Cowgirl Creamery](#)

Downtown D.C.'s only cheese monger. Although the emphasis is definitely on artisan cheeses made by Cowgirl and cheese makers around the country, the store also sells freshly made sandwiches. Some of the cheeses for sale might induce sticker-shock, but the selection is varied and the staff is knowledgeable. Closed Sundays.

Price: n/a

919 F St. NW; 202-393-6880

"For lunch, the sandwiches are great." Shannon O'Connell, Williams & Connolly LLP

[Cure Bar & Bistro](#)

Taking its name from the process of curing foods and pairing beverages to create a "taste profile," Cure provides a wide selection of artisan cheeses, stone oven fired entrees, and original appetizers. The interior of the restaurant offers a comfortable, rustic setting for getting together with colleagues and friends over a glass of wine paired with just the right cheese.

Price: \$\$

1000 H St. NW; 202-637-4906 (Inside the Grand Hyatt Hotel)

[District Chophouse](#)

Although a national chain, the D.C. branch is located in a distinctive old bank building just south of the Verizon Center. The focus of the menu is obviously steak, but there are seafood options and a selection of "Brewery fare" items. Offers Saturday and Sunday brunch from 11am to 3pm.

Price: \$\$\$

509 7th St. NW (between E & F St.); 202-347-3434

[Ella's Pizza](#)

Traditional, Neapolitan-style, thin crust pizza baked in a blistering-hot, wood-fired pizza oven. Small plate menu is also available. Happy hour specials available at the bar from 4-7pm include 7" pizzas for \$5.

Price: \$\$

901 F St. NW (between F & G St.); 202-638-3434

*"Ella's has a good happy hour, with cheap & tasty pizza and sangria." Shannon O'Connell, Williams & Connolly LLP.
"Reminiscent of pizza in Europe...simple and delicious." Dawn Sobol, Catholic University.*

[ESPN Zone](#)

This very popular sports-themed bar and restaurant serves up a variety of traditional appetizers, sandwiches and entrees. The restaurant can get busy, particularly if there's a big game on TV, but the atmosphere is always laid back.

Price: \$\$

555 12th St. NW (at E St.); 202-783-3776

[Fire & Sage](#)

With an American inspired "all day" menu, Fire & Sage is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Featured on the menu are bacon-wrapped scallops, brick-oven flatbreads, and the whimsical "hot bag o' doughnuts."

Price: \$\$

775 12th St. NW (at H St.); 202-661-8925 (Inside the Marriott Metro Center)

[Gifford's Ice Cream & Candy Co.](#)

A Washington area institution, Gifford's has been offering its tasty ice cream, cakes, and candies for nearly 70 years. Loyal fans have included Dwight D. Eisenhower, Jackie Kennedy, and actress Goldie Hawn.

Price: n/a

555 11th Street, NW (at E St.); 202-347-7755

[Gordon Biersch](#)

The D.C. location of this brewpub franchise is located across the street from the Spy Museum in the old Riggs Bank building. The menu features a selection of house beers together with everything from pizza to steaks. The interesting surroundings coupled with the reasonable prices make this a popular destination for locals and tourists alike. Brunch menu available.

Price: \$\$

900 F St. NW; 202-783-5454

"Fun atmosphere, wide selection of good food." Lois Steinberg, McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP.

[Haagen-Daazs](#)

If you're not ducking into the Gallery Place movie theater to get out of the heat, you may want to seek some relief at nearby Haagen Daazs. Offers ice creams, sorbets, frozen drinks, and other sweet treats.

Price: n/a

703 7th St. NW (at G St.); (202) 783-4711

[Inde Bleu](#)

Describing itself as a restaurant that offers modern American cuisine accented with exotic spices from around the world, Inde Bleu's menu focuses on seafood. The contemporary decor together with Indian-inspired accents provides an interesting dining experience.

Price: \$\$-\$\$\$\$

707 G St. NW; 202-333-2538

[Jaleo](#)

Spanish tapas menu allows diners to share several small dishes. Choose from over 60 different hot and cold tapas items. Reservations suggested. Saturday and Sunday brunch from 11:30am to 3pm.

Price: \$\$-\$\$\$\$

480 7th St. NW (at E St.); 202-628-7949

"The original and still the best tapas place in D.C. Fabulous fried calamari and compelling spinach combination." Linda Corbelli, Supreme Court of the United States.

"Jaleo is always fun. Have the sangria and the bacon-date fritters." Shannon O'Connell, Williams & Connolly LLP.

"Jaleo is a great tapas restaurant." Olesya Zaremba, World Bank Law Resource Center.

[La Tasca](#)

This Spanish tapas and paella restaurant occupies a prominent spot on busy 7th Street. The wide ranging menu offers something for everyone including vegetarians, seafood lovers, and those looking for a cool glass of sangria.

Price: \$\$-\$\$\$ (based on multiple small plates)

722 7th St. NW (between G & H St.); 202-347-9190

[Legal Seafood](#)

This popular seafood restaurant has a location just a few blocks down the street from the Convention Center. The menu features "surf, turf & beyond," as well as selections for those seeking gluten-free options.

Price: \$\$\$

704 7th St. NW (at G St.); 202-347-0007

[McCormick & Schmick's](#)

There are 3 McCormick & Schmick's locations in downtown D.C. The closest one to the Convention Center is located near the Gallery Place Metro station. This nationally known seafood franchise places a strong emphasis on providing a very fresh selection of fish and shellfish which changes on a daily basis. Those willing to walk just a little further can find another M&S restaurant located a couple of blocks north of the White House, and an M&S Grill located on 13th, between F & G Streets.

Price: \$\$-\$\$\$

901 F St. NW; 202-639-9330

"They have a great happy hour food list - dirt cheap." Cameron Gowan, Groom Law Group.

"I can recommend the M&S Grill. Great seafood, but you need to make a reservation." Robert Oszakiewski, Porter Wright Morris & Arthur LLP.

[Nando's Peri-Peri](#)

This South African chain of Portugese chicken restaurants opened its first location in the US here in DC's Chinatown. At Nando's the customer gets to choose how spicy the food is cooked, and they also get to apply their choice of sauce. Although chicken definitely takes center stage on the menu, the various sides and desserts are also very popular.

Price: \$

819 7th St. NW (between H & I St.); 202-898-1225

[Old Ebbitt Grill](#)

Established in 1856, this restaurant was a favorite of many Presidents and is a quintessential Washington restaurant. It is located within an easy stroll of the White House. The Oyster Bar is particularly popular here. Dress code is "anything goes." Weekday breakfast 7:30am to 11am; weekend brunch 8:30am to 4pm.

Price: \$\$

675 15th St. NW (at G St.); 202-347-4800

[Oya](#)

The cuisine at Oya is often described as Asian fusion, while its decor is described as trendy and exciting. The menu presents sushi alongside a variety of other Asian dishes such as Pad Thai. Small plates and large plates are offered as options on the menu.

Price: \$\$\$

777 9th St. NW (between G & H St.); 202-393-1400

Recommended by Jami Kempf, Wolters Kluwer Law & Business.

[Oyamel](#)

Drawing on pre-Hispanic, colonial and modern traditions, Oyamel's menu features a variety of antojitos, traditional Mexican snacks or small plates. Open for weekend brunch on both Saturday and Sunday, 11:30am to 3pm.

Price: \$\$-\$\$\$

401 7th St. NW (at D St.); 202-628-1005

"Lots of variety – the small plates are great for sharing. You can't go wrong by ordering anything that includes their excellent mole. Although a bit pricey, the guacamole, made fresh at your table, is not to be missed." Frances Brillantine, Catholic University.

[Poste](#)

Describing itself as an upscale contemporary brasserie in downtown D.C., this restaurant is located in a stylish setting inside the Hotel Monaco. Poste features modern American cuisine with a strong emphasis on locally grown ingredients, including some from its own back garden. Open for weekday breakfast, 7am to 10am and weekend brunch, 8am to 2pm.

Price: \$\$-\$\$\$

555 8th St. NW (between E & F St.); 202-783-6060

"Classic old DC hotel location; excellent, inventive food; nice ambience; bathrooms a long walk and elevator ride from the dining room." Jeff Bird, Latham & Watkins.

[Proof](#)

Located in the heart of the Penn Quarter, Proof combines rustic warmth and urban chic in a restaurant with a strong focus on wine. The menu is best described as modern cuisine which includes a charcuterie and extensive cheese selections alongside traditional entrees.

Price: \$\$\$

775 G St. NW; 202-737-7663

"Begin your meal with one of the fabulous cheese and charcuterie selections. Helpful wait staff can offer suggestions for the extensive wine list, as well as reading lights if you find the lighting too dim to read it." Jill Duffy, Supreme Court of the United States.

[Rasika](#)

Modern Indian cuisine is served up in a very contemporary surrounding at Rasika. The menu features selections from the Tawa (griddle) and sigri (BBQ) paired with an extensive wine selection. Closed Sundays.

Price: \$\$-\$\$\$

633 D St. NW; 202-637-1222

"Very lovely and engaging Indian restaurant...also great for cocktails - interesting martinis and margaritas. Legendary crispy spinach appetizer." Linda Corbelli, Supreme Court of the United States.

[Red Velvet Cupcakery](#)

D.C. has firmly embraced the cupcake trend, as evidenced by a series of articles in the Washington Post dedicated solely to reviews of cupcake shops. Red Velvet Cupcakery is the latest to join the craze. Enjoy your cupcake in the seating area next door at TangySweet, which is owned by the same people.

Price: n/a

675 E St. NW; 202-347-7895

[Ristorante Tosca](#)

This upscale Italian restaurant serves many of the traditional pasta dishes alongside a selection of seafood and meat entrees. For those who want to experiment a little, Tosca offers a couple of interesting, and more expensive, tasting menus: the Tuscan Style Tasting Menu and the Menu Gran Degustazione. Closed Sundays.

Price: \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$

1112 F St. NW; 202-367-1990

"I recommend the ravioli filled with roasted veal, prosciutto and mortadella with red wine reduction, butter, fresh sage and Parmesan Cheese." Marvin Lewis, Jones Day.

[Rosa Mexicano](#)

This NYC-based restaurant is located in an attractive large facility directly across from the Verizon Center. The menu features traditional Oaxacan cuisine although the star of the show is the guacamole prepared tableside. Weekend brunch, 11am to 4pm.

Price: \$\$

575 7th St. NW (at F St.); 202-783-5522

Recommended by Laura Burns, NASA Headquarters.

"Definitely try the Guacamole en Molcajete (made fresh at your table) and the Pomegranate Margaritas." Sara Sampson, Georgetown University.

[Royal Thai Cuisine & Bar](#)

Almost too new to mention, the Royal Thai opened its doors to customers in May. With an obvious emphasis on traditional Thai dishes, this Chinatown based restaurant is already starting to receive some good reviews.

Price: \$-\$\$

507 H St. NW; 202-842-1405

[Ruth's Chris Steak House](#)

This popular national chain of steak houses has a restaurant located just south of the Convention Center. Needless to say, the menu focuses on steak; however there is also a range of seafood options as well.

Open daily for dinner.

Price: \$\$\$

724 9th St. NW (between G & H St.); 202-393-4488

[Sei Restaurant & Lounge](#)

Another very recent addition to the Penn Quarter area, this Japanese restaurant and lounge adds a new twist to the traditional sushi bar theme. Sei (pronounced "say") competes with some of the coolest lounges in town by offering a wide selection of cocktails to accompany its innovative cuisine. Even fish and chips are reinvented in a Japanese-inspired presentation. The interior of the restaurant is also worth a gander, with its dramatic "cool" look.

Price: \$\$-\$\$\$

444 7th St. NW (at E St.); 202-783-7007

[The Source](#)

Chef Wolfgang Puck's latest restaurant, The Source, features "modern interpretations of Asian dishes." The restaurant is located in a very contemporary setting inside the Newseum. Reservations strongly recommended. Closed Sundays.

Price: \$\$\$

575 Pennsylvania Ave. NW; 202-637-6100

[Sushi AOI](#)

This is one of the closest Sushi restaurants to the Convention Center. Sushi AOI provides a wide ranging menu that includes such favorites as Nigiri and Maki sushi, alongside various versions of Tempura. A simple dining room makes for a pleasant and relaxing experience.

Price: \$\$

1100 New York Ave. NW; 202-408-7770

[TangySweet](#)

For those seeking a cool treat on a hot day, the TangySweet menu features smoothies and frozen yogurt. The owner of this shop declares that he is bringing the tart frozen yogurt taste from California to the nation's capital.

Price: n/a

675 E St. NW; 202-347-7895

[Teaism](#)

Tea restaurant and shop prepares simple foods from the cuisines of tea, Bento boxes from Japan, curries from Thailand, and tandoor breads from India. Open for weekday breakfast starting at 7:30am. Weekend brunch is available from 9:30am–2:30pm.

Price: \$

400 8th St. NW (at D St.); 202-638-6010

[Ten Penh](#)

Contemporary Asian-Pacific cuisine which celebrates Asian culture with silk wall coverings, a life size Buddha and an open Pagoda centering on the exposed kitchen. Reservations are strongly recommended. Closed Sundays.

Price: \$\$\$

1001 Pennsylvania Ave. NW; 202-393-4500

[Urfa Tomato Kabob](#)

This recent addition to the Chinatown scene offers good value for money. A variety of traditional Turkish fare, including kabob platters, salads, sandwiches, and of course falafel, is available for under \$10, with most items priced around \$6.

Price: \$

740 6th St NW (at H St.); 202-347-1178

[Vapiano](#)

A new outpost of this very popular Italian mini-chain opened in Chinatown at the beginning of the year, and already its low prices and quality food has been attracting quite a following. The menu features traditional Italian fare; pizzas, antipasta, pasta, and gourmet salads.

Price: \$-\$\$

623-625 H St. NW; 202-621-7636

[Zaytinya](#)

Often described as offering authentic mezze, Zaytinya's extensive menu reflects modern and traditional cuisine from Greece, Turkey and Lebanon. A comfortable atmosphere combined with exciting dishes from the eastern Mediterranean create a restaurant that's become a firm favorite among food critics and locals. Weekend brunch from 11:30am to 2:30pm.

Price: \$\$\$ (based on multiple small plates)

701 9th St. NW (at G St.); 202-638-0800

"Nice atmosphere and unusual food that tastes fabulous." Cameron Gowan, Groom Law Group.

"Offers vegetarian and vegan options [as part of their] classical and contemporary Greek, Turkish and Lebanese cuisine." Wendy Maines, Thomson Reuters.

"Have a glass of Retsina with dinner." John Moore, United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

[Zengo](#)

Located close to the Chinatown exit of the Gallery Place Metro station, Zengo offers diners the unique fusion of Latin American and Asian cuisines. The menu includes Mexican, Thai, and Japanese influences, among others, offered in small plate and large plate servings. Whether you're looking for a Bento Box or a plate of ceviche, Zengo provides a casual atmosphere in which to dine.

Price: \$\$-\$\$\$

781 7th St. NW (at H St.); 202-393-2929

[Zola](#)

Zola's "straightforward American cuisine" highlights regional dishes from across the country. The contemporary décor is accented by restored architectural details in a building located adjacent to the International Spy Museum. The "Pre-Event" Menu offers a three course dinner for just \$30 between 5pm and 7pm.

Price: \$\$\$

800 F St. NW; 202-654-0999

FARTHER AFIELD

For each of these popular D.C. neighborhoods we have selected a few representative restaurants that reflect the variety in cuisine and prices available in that area. We encourage convention attendees to explore the city and discover the diversity that epitomizes dining in D.C. The Metro rail system provides a convenient way for visitors to reach most of these and other Washington, D.C. neighborhoods.

ADAMS MORGAN

Although there is no Metro station actually in Adams Morgan, both the Woodley Park (to the west) and U Street (to the east) Metro stations are located just a short 10-minute walk from this trendy neighborhood.

[Cashion's Eat Place](#)

Described by the New York Times as "funky-elegant," Cashion's is certainly one of the premier restaurants in the neighborhood and possibly in the city. The menu reflects seasonal American cuisine prepared with subtle Mediterranean influences. Seafood and meat dishes sit side by side on the menu, while an extensive wine list is available for those wishing to pair their food with just the right wine. Open for Sunday brunch 11:30am to 2:30pm. Closed Mondays.

Price: \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$

1819 Columbia Rd. NW (at Biltmore St.); 202-797-1819

[Little Fountain Café](#)

Tucked underneath a row house in the heart of bustling Adams Morgan, this atmospheric, some might say romantic, restaurant seems like a world away from all the activity on the street. Defining itself as "modern international cuisine," the Little Fountain Café feels like one of those great finds you might stumble upon in New York City. The menu offers a variety of very reasonably priced entrees. Open only for dinner.

Price: \$\$

2339 18th St. NW (at Belmont Rd.); 202-462-8100

[Meskerem](#)

D.C. is home to one of the world's largest concentrations of Ethiopians outside of Ethiopia, therefore it's no surprise that the city boasts so many fine Ethiopian restaurants. Of those, Meskerem is one of the most critically acclaimed in the District. The menu is both ambitious and likely to appeal to those looking for good value for their money.

Price: \$-\$\$

2434 18th St. NW (between Belmont Rd. and Columbia Rd.); 202-462-4100

CAPITOL HILL
Northside/Massachusetts Avenue NE
(near Union Station Metro)

[Café Berlin](#)

Traditional German dining includes entrees such as wiener schnitzel, sauerbraten, and goulash, and desserts such as apple strudel and black forest cake. Also offers a wide selection of German beers and wines. Outdoor seating is available on the front patio at tables with umbrellas.

Price: \$\$

322 Massachusetts Ave. NE; 202-543-7656

[Kyoto Sushi](#)

In addition to a variety of sushi options, this restaurant offers a \$7 "Maniac" special from the grill (entrée changes each day). Select sushi pieces are 99 cents each during sushi happy hour from 5–7 pm.

Price: \$–\$\$

201 Massachusetts Ave. NE; 202-546-2597

[White Tiger](#)

Indian restaurant offers outdoor seating in its spacious courtyard. The White Tiger offers a fixed price weekday buffet as well as a fixed price Sunday brunch.

Price: \$–\$\$

301 Massachusetts Ave. NE; 202-546-5900

CAPITOL HILL
Southside/Pennsylvania Avenue SE
(near Library of Congress & Capitol South Metro)

[La Lomita Dos](#)

This hole-in-the-wall restaurant features Mexican cuisine served in a festive environment. Look for the green awning with "308" on the side.

Price: \$–\$\$

308 Pennsylvania Ave. SE; 202-544-0616

[Sonoma](#)

Restaurant and wine bar offers meats, seafood, pizzas, small plates, and artisanal cheeses as well as 40+ wines by the glass. Exposed brick, communal tables, and modern décor make this an interesting dining spot on the Hill. Outdoor tables are available on Pennsylvania Ave.

Price: \$\$–\$\$\$

223 Pennsylvania Ave. SE; 202-544-8088

"A perfect spot for anyone who loves cheese and wine and fine food. The burgers are gourmet and the cheese plate appetizer is a treat. Do yourself a favor and go there when you can have a glass of wine." Kumar Jayasuriya, Georgetown University.

[Taverna – The Greek Islands](#)

Mediterranean restaurant features Greek cuisine including vegetarian, seafood, chicken, and lamb entrees and a variety of items from the grill. Outdoor dining is available on the adjacent patio.

Price: \$\$

305 Pennsylvania Ave. SE; 202-547-8360

CLEVELAND PARK/WOODLEY PARK

[Dino](#)

This great neighborhood restaurant serves up an interesting selection of antipasti, pastas, meats and cheeses in a comfortable, although busy setting. The various pricing specials, including year-round "Restaurant Week" (Sundays-Thursdays), make it an affordable and tasty option in one of D.C.'s most desirable residential neighborhoods. Just steps from the Cleveland Park Metro station (east exit). Only open for dinner.

Price: \$\$-\$\$\$

3435 Connecticut Ave. NW (at Ordway St.); 202-686-2966

"Excellent Italian food; outstanding, diversely-priced wine list; Dean Gold will treat you right." Jeff Bird, Latham & Watkins.

[Lebanese Taverna](#)

Located just across Connecticut Avenue from the Woodley Park Metro station, Lebanese Taverna's original location is always busy, and for good reason. The reasonable prices combined with a menu that includes kabobs, mezza, and Lebanese style pizza makes this a popular destination for locals and tourists alike.

Price: \$\$

2641 Connecticut Ave. NW (between Calvert St. & Woodley Rd.); 202-265-8681

[Palena](#)

A favorite of food critics, this new American cuisine restaurant owned by former White House chef Frank Ruta offers customers two types of dining experiences; the more formal multi-course meal in the main dining room, and the more relaxed (and cheaper!) "Cafe" experience in the bar area. Both highlight the strengths of this very popular restaurant located on the same block as the Cleveland Park Metro station (east exit). Only open for dinner. Closed Sundays.

Price: \$\$\$

3529 Connecticut Ave. NW (between Ordway St. & Porter St.); 202-537-9250

"Great food and cocktails; sit in the bar area; best cheeseburger and fries (including fried potatoes, onion rings, and lemons) in DC." Jeff Bird, Latham & Watkins.

DUPONT CIRCLE

[Al Tiramisu](#)

Consistently one of the most popular Italian restaurants in the city, Al Tiramisu has been serving celebrities, politicians, and locals for over 10 years. Inside the restaurant is cozy to the point of being snug, while the food is plentiful and well-presented. Needless to say, the desserts are worth an indulgence. Al Tiramisu is located a couple of blocks northwest of the Dupont Circle Metro (19th Street exit). Open weekdays for lunch; daily for dinner. Reservations required.

Price: \$\$-\$\$\$

2014 P St. NW; 202-467-4466

"As expected, the tiramisu is divine, both in flavor and presentation. The celebrity patrons range from D.C. powerhouses to Hollywood glitterati." Jill Duffy, Supreme Court of the United States.

[Raku](#)

This Asian fusion restaurant offers good food at reasonable prices. Sushi features highly on the menu, however a variety of other options are available. Its proximity to the Dupont Circle Metro station (1 block east of the Q Street exit) makes for a busy atmosphere, but it's also a great place for people-watching.

Price: \$\$

1900 Q St. NW; 202-265-7258

"The sushi is tasty. The extensive menu makes it easy for those who love sushi to share a meal with those who don't." Jill Duffy, Supreme Court of the United States.

[Tabard Inn](#)

Located inside the atmospheric Hotel Tabard Inn, the restaurant provides one of the coziest settings to dine in the city. Contemporary American fare dominates the menu, with a subtle emphasis on seafood. If the weather permits, the back garden offers a tranquil setting for dinner. A popular location for weekend brunch, the Tabard Inn is situated a couple of blocks southeast of the Dupont Circle Metro station's 19th Street exit. Breakfast served daily; brunch on the weekends beginning at 11am.

Price: \$\$\$

1739 N St. NW; 202-833-2668

GEORGETOWN / FOGGY BOTTOM

Please note that there are no Metro stations in Georgetown. The closest station is Foggy Bottom, about a 10-minute walk from the eastern edge of Georgetown.

[Citronelle](#)

Among the finest restaurants in the D.C. metro area, Citronelle is the flagship location for chef Michel Richard. Reservations (and deep wallets!) are an essential for the full dining experience, however a simpler "Lounge" menu is available for walk-ins.

Price: \$\$\$\$

3000 M St. NW; 202-625-2150

"Chef Michel Richard's exquisite trompe l'oeil culinary creations remind you high-end dining can bring a smile to your face and your palate. Arguably D.C.'s finest restaurant." Greg Stack, Catholic University.

[Founding Farmers](#)

With a strong emphasis on environmentally friendly practices, this Foggy Bottom restaurant has carved out a loyal following among D.C. residents. The menu offers everything from flatbreads to steaks to fresh fish and homemade pasta. The restaurant partners only with farmers who commit to follow sustainable farming guidelines. Breakfast 8am-11am weekdays; Sunday brunch from 10am to 2pm.

Price: \$\$

1924 Pennsylvania Ave. NW; 202-822-8783

[Martin's Tavern](#)

Located in the heart of Georgetown, Martin's Tavern is a D.C. institution and a must-visit restaurant for those wanting to soak up a little political history. JFK, Richard Nixon, and even Supreme Court Justices are a part of this tavern's history, while the contemporary menu offers traditional pub food in a cozy atmosphere.

Price: \$\$

1264 Wisconsin Ave. NW (at N St.); 202-333-7370

Recommended by Kimberley Wilson, Zuckerman Spaeder LLP.

[Pizzeria Paradiso](#)

Arguably one of the best pizza joints in town, Pizzeria Paradiso actually has two locations: this one on busy M Street in Georgetown and the original Dupont Circle location on P Street. The Georgetown location also includes Birreria Paradiso, a mecca for those craving handcrafted or microbrew beers to wash down their pizza.

Price: \$-\$\$

3282 M St. NW (202-337-1245) and 2029 P St. NW (202-223-1245)

U STREET

[Ben's Chili Bowl](#)

This Washington landmark serves up the famous "Chili Half-Smoke" (a D.C. original) alongside a variety of other hotdogs and burgers. Be prepared to wait in line, but don't be surprised if you find the Mayor of D.C. or even the President of the United States sitting inside enjoying a chili dog. Directly across the street from the U Street Metro station (13th Street exit). Breakfast offered Monday through Saturday, starting as early as 6am (7am on Saturdays). Open very late most days, even until 4am on Friday and Saturday nights.

Price: \$

1213 U St. NW; 202-667-0909

Recommended by Susan Pries, Van Ness Feldman, P.C.

"It was terrific." Barack Obama, President of the United States.

[Coppi's Organic Restaurant](#)

This cycling-themed restaurant serves some of the best pizza in town. The menu also offers a selection of antipasti and entrees, and all the food emphasizes fresh, organic ingredients. It can get busy so reservations are recommended. Coppi's is located a couple of blocks west of the U Street Metro station (13th Street exit). Open only for dinner.

Price: \$\$

1414 U St. NW; 202-319-7773

[Marvin](#)

A tribute restaurant/bistro to former D.C. native Marvin Gaye, Marvin's menu focuses on an interesting combination of Belgian cuisine and food from the American South. Moules frites sit alongside shrimp and grits on the menu, while a rooftop bar serving Belgian ales complements the classy lounge and bistro on the main floors. Marvin is located a couple of blocks west of the U Street Metro station (13th Street exit). Brunch offered on Sundays, starting at 11am.

Price: \$\$-\$\$\$

2007 14th St. NW (at U St.); 202-797-7171

[Art & Soul](#)

Since opening in the fall of 2008, this southern cuisine inspired restaurant has created quite a stir. Chef Art Smith, former personal chef to Oprah Winfrey, brings his own unique style of southern cooking to Washington, and in the process has attracted great reviews and the elite of the Washington establishment. The restaurant is open for breakfast, lunch, dinner and brunch.

Price: \$\$\$

415 New Jersey Ave. NW (btwn D & E); 202-393-7777 (Inside the Liaison Capitol Hill Hotel)

[Bistro Bis](#)

This modern French bistro is a popular “power lunch” spot for Capitol Hill. Be sure to order pommes frites for the table (served in an attractive cone) while people-watching. Reservations are suggested. Breakfast daily 7am to 10am; weekend brunch from 11:30am to 2:30pm.

Price: \$\$\$

15 E St. NW (near North Capitol St.); 202-661-2700 (Inside the Hotel George)

[Charlie Palmer Steak DC](#)

This proudly American steakhouse is home to many a power lunch or dinner. Bring your appetite for well-aged steaks and wonderfully prepared seafood, along with a healthy expense account. Charlie Palmer Steak DC asserts that their rooftop terrace offers the city’s most impressive view of the Capitol. Closed Sundays.

Price: \$\$\$\$

101 Constitution Ave. NW (at Louisiana & 1st St. NW); 202-547-8100

“One of the best steakhouses I’ve ever experienced. Start with the Foie Gras and consider getting a second helping, if your table wants to share it with you. They have a great wine selection.” Kumar Jayasuriya, Georgetown University.

[The Dubliner](#)

Traditional Irish pub serves Guinness burgers, shepherd’s pie, and fish & chips, as well as lighter fare like salads and sandwiches. Outdoor seating is available on the adjacent patio. Breakfast offered daily, starting at 7am (7:30am on weekends); weekend brunch from 11am to 3pm.

Price: \$\$

4 F St. NW (near North Capitol St.); 202-737-3773 (Inside the Phoenix Park Hotel)

[Johnny’s Half Shell](#)

The kitchen focuses on renditions of Chesapeake and Gulf Coast Seafood. Oysters and clams are available singly, by the half dozen, or dozen. Menu includes Maryland crab cakes, seafood gumbo, fritto misto, crab imperial, and more. Open for breakfast from 7:30am to 9:30am weekdays. Happy hours are from 4:30pm to 7:30pm weekdays; live jazz on Saturday evenings. Also features an outdoor terrace.

Price: \$\$\$

400 North Capitol St. NW (between E & Louisiana Ave.); 202-737-0400

“A great spot for anyone who loves seafood made with a New Orleans flare. They may have the best oyster and shrimp poboy in the District. Their gumbo is a symphony of flavors.” Kumar Jayasuriya, Georgetown University.

[The Monocle](#)

A Capitol Hill institution, the Monocle is a favorite spot to look for Members of Congress and other Washington movers-and-shakers. The Monocle is divided into two areas: the restaurant and the pub. The restaurant’s lunch and dinner menus feature various cuts of steak, seafood, soups, and salads. In the pub, choose from a variety of small plates. Open for lunch and dinner Mon–Fri; dinner only on Saturday.

Price: \$\$–\$\$\$

107 D St. NE; 202-546-4488

[Union Station](#)

Union Station itself offers a wide variety of dining options, from the Food Court on the lower level, to small cafes, to the following sit-down restaurants:

[America](#)—broad sampling of American fare. Price: \$\$–\$\$\$\$. 202-682-9555

[B. Smith’s](#)—Cajun, Creole, and Southern. Price: \$\$\$\$. 202-289-6188

[Center Café](#)—American; in Great Hall. Price: \$\$–\$\$\$\$. 202-682-0143

[East Street Café](#)—East Asian; on upper level. Price: \$\$\$. 202-371-6787

[The Station Grill](#)—American cuisine. Price: \$\$–\$\$\$\$. 202-898-4745

[Thunder Grill](#)—American Southwestern. Price: \$\$–\$\$\$\$. 202-898-0051

BITES AND BOOKS

We know librarians enjoy shopping for books almost as much as they enjoy eating out! Here are a few of the places in the city that allow you to do both.

[Barnes & Noble](#)

The downtown location of this national chain also includes a large Starbucks café. Barnes & Noble is about a 15-minute walk southwest from the Convention Center.

Price: n/a

555 12th St. NW (at E St.); 202-347-0176

[Busboys and Poets](#)

This coffee shop/café/bookstore/political gathering place provides an interesting and stimulating environment in which to grab a sandwich or something more substantial. It's also one of the few dining options located southeast of the Convention Center. In addition to lunch and dinner, Busboys and Poets is open for breakfast and late-night dining.

Price: \$-\$\$

1025 5th St. NW (between K & L St.); 202-789-2227

[Kramerbooks & Afterwords Café](#)

Located in the heart of Dupont Circle, across the street from the Q Street exit of the Dupont Circle Metro Station, this bookstore/café has been a D.C. institution for over 30 years. Open late for night owls. The cafe offers a daily breakfast, starting at 7:30am, as well as weekend brunch. Outdoor seating is available.

Price: \$\$

1517 Connecticut Ave. NW (at Q St.); 202-837-1400

[Politics & Prose Bookstore and Modern Times Coffeehouse](#)

The quintessential Washington, D.C. bookstore! The list of author events is simply astonishing, as is their selection of books on politics, policy and current events. The downstairs café offers a selection of sandwiches, etc. Please note that the store is not located near a Metro station. The nearest is the Van Ness station, located 15 minutes south of the store.

Price: n/a

5015 Connecticut Ave. NW (between Fessenden St. & Nebraska Ave.); 202-364-1919

CROSS-LISTING BY CUISINE

Not all restaurants are easily categorized and therefore this is not an exhaustive list of cross-references. For additional suggestions, including databases that allow you to limit your searches by type, try the *Additional Restaurant Guides* section.

American

701 (longer walk)

America (in Union Station)

Bar Louie (longer walk)

Cashion's Eat Place (Adams Morgan)

Cedar (longer walk)

Center Café (in Union Station)

Central Michel Richard (longer walk)

Citronelle (Georgetown)

Clyde's of Gallery Place (longer walk)

Corduroy (short walk)

Cure (longer walk)

District Chophouse (longer walk)

District Grill (short walk)

Fifteen Squares (short walk)

Fire & Sage (longer walk)

Founding Farmers (longer walk)

Inde Bleu (longer walk)

Martin's Tavern (Georgetown)
The Monocle (Union Station / Georgetown Law Center)
Old Ebbitt Grill (longer walk)
Palena (Cleveland Park)
Poste (longer walk)
Proof (longer walk)
PS7's (short walk)
The Station Grill (in Union Station)
Tabard Inn (Dupont)
Zola (longer walk)

Asian

Asian Spice (short walk)
Chan's Mongolian Grill & Tokyo Sushi (in the Convention Center)
Chinatown Express (short walk)
East Street Café (in Union Station)
Full Kee (short walk)
Kyoto Sushi (Capitol Hill North)
Oya (longer walk)
Raku (Dupont)
Sei (longer walk)
The Source (longer walk)
Sushi AOI (longer walk)
Teaism (longer walk)
Ten Penh (longer walk)
Tony Cheng's Seafood & Mongolian Barbecue (short walk)
Zengo (longer walk) – also under *Fusion*

Belgian

Brasserie Beck (short walk)
Marvin (U Street) – also under *Fusion*

Breakfast/Brunch

Acadiana (short walk) – Sunday brunch
Art & Soul (Union Station/Georgetown Law) – daily breakfast; weekend brunch
Austin Grill (longer walk) – weekend brunch
Ben's Chili Bowl (U Street) – breakfast
Bistro Bis (Union Station/Georgetown Law) – daily breakfast; weekend brunch
Bistro D'oc (longer walk) – Sunday brunch
Brasserie Beck (short walk) – Sunday brunch
Busboys and Poets (short walk) – breakfast (after 10am)
Café Atlantico (longer walk) – weekend brunch
Cashion's Eat Place (Adams Morgan) – Sunday brunch
Cedar (longer walk) – weekend brunch
Clyde's of Gallery Place (longer walk) – weekend brunch
Co Co. Sala (longer walk) – Sunday brunch
Coeur de Lion (longer walk) – breakfast; Sunday brunch
District Chophouse (longer walk) – weekend brunch
District Grill (short walk) – daily breakfast
The Dubliner (Union Station/Georgetown Law) – daily breakfast; weekend brunch
Fifteen Squares (short walk) – daily breakfast
Fire & Sage (longer walk) – daily breakfast
Founding Farmers (Foggy Bottom) – weekday breakfast; Sunday brunch
Gordon Biersch (longer walk) – brunch menu available
Irish Channel Restaurant & Pub (short walk) – Sunday brunch
Jaleo (longer walk) – weekend brunch
Johnny's Half Shell (Union Station / Georgetown Law) – weekday breakfast
Kramerbooks & Afterwords Café (Bites & Books, Dupont) – daily breakfast; weekend brunch
Marvin (U Street) – Sunday brunch

Matchbox (short walk) – Sunday brunch
Metro Grill (short walk) – daily breakfast
Morrison-Clark Inn (short walk) – daily breakfast; Sunday brunch
Old Ebbitt Grill (longer walk) – weekday breakfast; weekend brunch
Oyamel (longer walk) – weekend brunch
Poste (longer walk) – weekday breakfast; weekend brunch
Rosa Mexicano (longer walk) – weekend brunch
Tabard Inn (Dupont) – weekend brunch
Teaism (longer walk) – weekday breakfast; weekend brunch
White Tiger (Capitol Hill North) – Sunday brunch
Zaytinya (longer walk) – weekend brunch

Brewery Restaurants

Capitol City Brewing Co. (short walk)
Gordon Biersch (longer walk)
Old Dominion Brewhouse (in the Convention Center)
RFD (short walk)

Burmese

Burma (short walk)

Desserts & Sweets

Co Co. Sala (longer walk)
Gifford's Ice Cream & Candy Co. (longer walk)
Haagen-Dazs (longer walk)
Red Velvet Cupcakery (longer walk)
TangySweet (longer walk)

Ethiopian

Meskerem (Adams Morgan)

French

Bistro Bis (Union Station/Georgetown Law)
Bistro D'oc (short walk)
Coeur de Lion (longer walk)

Fusion

Café Atlantico (longer walk) (Latin American & South American)
Ceiba (longer walk) (Latin American & South American)
Irish Channel Restaurant & Pub (short walk) (Irish & Cajun)
Marvin (U Street) (Belgian & Southern)
Oyamel (longer walk) (Mexican & South American)
Zaytinya (longer walk) (Mediterranean & Middle Eastern)
Zengo (longer walk) (Latin American & Asian)

German

Café Berlin (Capitol Hill North)

Indian

Rasika (longer walk)
White Tiger (Capitol Hill North)

Irish Pub

The Dubliner (Union Station/Georgetown Law)
Fado (short walk)
Irish Channel Restaurant & Pub (short walk) – also under *Fusion*

Italian

Al Tiramisu (Dupont)
Coppi's Organic Restaurant (U Street)
Dino (Cleveland Park)
Ella's Pizza (short walk)
Little Fountain Café (Adams Morgan)
Matchbox (short walk)
Pizzeria Paradiso (Georgetown & Dupont)
Ristorante Tosca (longer walk)
Sonoma (Capitol Hill South)
Vapiano (longer walk)

Kid-Friendly

Austin Grill (longer walk)
Ben's Chili Bowl (U Street)
Capital Q (short walk)
Chinatown restaurants, btwn H & I St. NW and 5th & 8th St. NW
Clyde's of Gallery Place (longer walk)
Ella's Pizza (longer walk)
ESPN Zone (longer walk)
Five Guys (short walk)
Kramerbooks & Afterwords Café (Bites & Books, Dupont)
La Lomita Dos (Capitol Hill South)
La Tasca (longer walk)
Lebanese Taverna (Woodley Park)
Martin's Tavern (Georgetown)
Matchbox (short walk)
Old Ebbitt Grill (longer walk)
Pizzeria Paradiso (Georgetown and Dupont)
Politics & Prose (Bites & Books, Van Ness)
[Smithsonian: Dining](#) (see *Additional Restaurant Guides* section)
Union Station restaurants (in Union Station)

Latin American

Café Atlantico (longer walk) – also under *Fusion*
Ceiba (longer walk) – also under *Fusion*
Zengo (longer walk) – also under *Fusion*

Mediterranean

Taverna – The Greek Islands (Capitol Hill South)
Zaytinya (longer walk) – also under *Fusion*

Mexican

La Lomita Dos (Capitol Hill South)
Oyamel (longer walk) – also under *Fusion*
Rosa Mexicano (longer walk)

Middle Eastern

Lebanese Taverna (Woodley Park)
Zaytinya (longer walk) – also under *Fusion*

Moroccan

Marrakesh (short walk)

Portuguese

Nando's Peri-Peri (longer walk)

Sandwiches - also see *Coffeehouses/Sandwich & Salad Shops* section

Barnes & Noble (Bites and Books, 15-min. walk)
Ben's Chili Bowl (half-smokes, hotdogs, burgers)
Busboys and Poets (short walk)
Chatman's D'Vine Bakery & Café (in the Convention Center)
Cowgirl Creamery (longer walk)
Five Guys (short walk) (burgers and fries)
Kramerbooks & Afterwords Café (Bites and Books, Dupont)
Politics & Prose (Bites and Books, Van Ness)

Seafood

Johnny's Half Shell (Union Station/Georgetown Law)
Legal Seafood (longer walk)
McCormick & Schmick's (longer walk)
Metro Grill (short walk)
Old Ebbitt Grill (longer walk)
Tony Cheng's Seafood & Mongolian Barbecue (short walk)

South American

Café Atlantico (longer walk) – also under *Fusion*
Ceiba (longer walk) – also under *Fusion*
Oyamel (longer walk) – also under *Fusion*

Southern

Acadiana (short walk)
B. Smith's (in Union Station)
Irish Channel Restaurant & Pub (short walk) – also under *Fusion*
Marvin (U Street) – also under *Fusion*
Morrison-Clark Inn Restaurant (short walk)

Southwest

Austin Grill (longer walk)
Capital Q (short walk)
Thunder Grill (in Union Station)

Spanish

Jaleo (longer walk)
La Tasca (longer walk)

Sports

Bar Louie (longer walk)
ESPN Zone (longer walk)
Gordon Biersch (longer walk)
Old Dominion Brewhouse (in the Convention Center)

Steakhouse

Bobby Van's (short walk)
Charlie Palmer Steak DC (Union Station/Georgetown Law)
District Chophouse (longer walk)
Finn & Porter (short walk)
Ruth's Chris Steakhouse (longer walk)

Tapas / Small Plates

Co Co. Sala (short walk)
Jaleo (longer walk)
La Tasca (longer walk)
Oyamel (longer walk) – also under *Fusion*
Zaytinya (longer walk) – also under *Fusion*

Thai

Kanlaya (short walk)

Royal Thai Cuisine & Bar (longer walk)

Turkish

Urfa Tomato Kabob (longer walk)

Vegetarian; *also see* <http://www.vegdc.com>

Busboys and Poets (short walk)

Ella's (longer walk)

Kanlaya (short walk)

Marrakesh (short walk)

Pizzeria Paradiso (Georgetown & Dupont)

Teasm (longer walk)

Vegetate (short walk)

Zaytinya (longer walk)

Washington, D.C.

Ben's Chili Bowl

Wine-Centric

Proof (longer walk)

Sonoma (Capitol Hill South)

ADDITIONAL RESTAURANT GUIDES

There are a large number of online guides to dining in Washington, D.C.; the following are some of the guides we found more useful in compiling this guide.

[Convention Center - Neighborhood Restaurants](#)

This listing of restaurants in the area is maintained by the Walter E. Washington Convention Center. The listing provides contact information, opening times, and a rough guide to prices.

[Destination D.C. – Dining](#)

A fairly comprehensive database of D.C. restaurants listed by cuisine, price, and location.

[Downtown D.C. - Dining](#)

A fairly comprehensive listing of downtown restaurants and cafes. The site provides brief descriptions together with handy maps.

[OpenTable Restaurants and Restaurant Reservations](#)

Not a guide per se, but a reservation service. Register with this site and book your table in advance at many Washington, D.C. eateries. Reservations are free and can be made around the clock. Diners earn points for each booking. Search by location, cuisine, or restaurant name. Also browse the diners' choice lists, such as "most booked" or "neighborhood gem."

[Smithsonian: Dining](#)

Check this list to see the many museums in the area that feature cafes, like the Air & Space, American Art and Portraiture, American History, American Indian, and Natural History museums, among others.

[VegDC.com](#)

This site provides a listing of veggie-friendly restaurants in the D.C. Metro area.

[Washington City Paper](#)

D.C.'s alternative newspaper provides a very useful database of restaurants. The listings include professional reviews, as well as reviews by readers. To search for restaurants near the Convention Center area limit your search to either "downtown" or "chinatown."

[Washington Post Restaurant Guide](#)

The Washington Post offers a searchable database that allows you to search by cuisine, price, location, keyword, as well as Editors' Pick restaurants. Find Washington Post restaurant reviews as well as reader comments.

[Washingtonian Food & Dining](#)

This site provides numerous dining lists, from the Very Best Restaurants to Dirt Cheap Eats and everything in between. Also use the Restaurant Finder to locate a restaurant by neighborhood, cuisine, price, star rating, as well as categories such as Late Night or Kid Friendly. Also highly useful is the "noise level" category assigned to each restaurant.

[Yelp](#)

Find out what other people think of a restaurant (or a hotel, a shop, a service, etc.). Reviews are written by just about anybody on just about anything, therefore providing an honest community voice on whether something is good, bad or indifferent.

[Zagat](#)

Although you need to subscribe to read the full reviews and see the official ratings, the website does provide quite a bit of free information about each restaurant.

CONVENTION CENTER AREA MAP

The shaded part of the map shows the approximate boundaries of the area referred to in this guide as a "Short Walk."

