



Restaurant guide (interactive map):

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=13o6taYuNINt32Jm4qT3CuwwumXFJPUky&usp=sharing>

Breakfast and Brunch

Denver Biscuit Company

141 S Broadway, Denver, CO 80209 (several locations including a food truck)

<http://www.denbisco.com>

Cuisine: Biscuits/brunch (pizza during later hours)

Attire: Casual

Made famous by Diners, Drive-In and Dives, not to mention their oh-so-popular Biscuit Bus, DBC has become the place to be on Sunday mornings. If you're into chicken-biscuit sandwiches, a delicious strawberry shortcake, giant cinnamon rolls, and hand-tossed pizza (the eatery turns into Fat Sully's, a bar and pizza joint, in the afternoon/evening), this is your spot. Reservations not accepted, and generally busy.

Jelly U Café

1700 E Evans Ave; 600 E 13th Ave

www.eatmorejelly.com

Cuisine: American breakfast/lunch

Attire: Casual

Proximity to DU: the Evans location is around the corner!

With items like lavender blueberry pancakes, bananas foster French toast, chiliboules, and a salmon BLT - not to mention fresh and delicious donut holes in various flavors - you'll find something for every palate at this quaint eatery.

Lucile's Creole Café

999 E Evans Ave; 275 S Logan St

www.luciles.com

Cuisine: Cajun/Creole brunch

Attire: Casual

Proximity to DU: the Evans location is very close!

Lucile's has been a Colorado favorite since 1980, serving Cajun/Creole-inspired brunch dishes. They do not take reservations, so expect await.

Root Down

1600 W 33rd Ave

<https://www.ediblebeats.com/root-down>

Cuisine: American (new)

Attire: Casual

Proximity to DU: 7.8 miles

One of Denver's hidden Gems. Root Down follows a "field to fork" philosophy, and the globally influenced seasonal cuisine focuses on organic, natural, and local ingredients. Their brunch dishes are as stunning as their dinner dishes. Reservations recommended (it may be "hidden", but it is still very popular).

Snooze

Several locations in the Denver metro area

www.snoozeeatery.com

Cuisine: Breakfast and brunch

Attire: Casual

Founded by DU alums, Snooze is inarguably the most popular brunch spot in Denver. Everything here is phenomenal, but make absolutely sure you order the pancake of the day... y'know, 'for the table.' It has such a large following that 90-minute waits are not uncommon. They do not take reservations, so we recommend you arrive early (as in, as soon as they open!) to avoid the crowd.

Zaidy's Deli & Bakery

121 Adams St

<https://zaidysdeli.com>

Cuisine: NYC-style Deli

Attire: Casual

Proximity to DU: 3.4 miles

Traditional New York City style deli with generous portions (leftovers are common). An excellent choice for a casual sit-down breakfast or lunch. No reservations necessary.

Lunch

Biker Jim's

2148 Larimer St; inside Coors Field

<https://bikerjimsdogs.com>

Cuisine: Hot Dogs

Attire: Casual (street clothes)

Proximity to DU: 7.5 miles

Jim's offers a very unique spin on hot dogs. Options include Alaskan Reindeer, Elk Jalapeno Cheddar, Duck Cilantro, Rattlesnake and Pheasant. Biker Jim's has been featured on Travel Channel's "No Reservations" and Sundance Channel's "Ludo Bites" and was voted Westword's "Best Dinner Under \$10." Originally a street cart (which is still in operation), Jim's is a Denver culinary landmark.

Cherry Cricket

2641 E 2nd Ave; 2220 Blake St

<https://cherrycricket.com>

Cuisine: Hamburgers

Attire: Casual

Proximity to DU: closest location is 3 miles

A Denver landmark since 1950. The Cricket serves hamburgers with a variety of unique toppings. It has appeared on Food Network's "The Best Thing I Ever Ate" and "Man V Food." Expect a wait.

Park Burger

1890 S Pearl St (multiple locations)

<https://www.parkburger.com>

Cuisine: Burgers and shakes

Attire: Casual

Proximity to DU: 1.4 miles (nearby!)

The best burger in Denver... period. Get the popular truffle or sweet potato fries along with one of their many specialty shakes, and you'll leave stuffed and happy. Optional but recommended: upload your burger photos to social media to inspire envy.

Steuben's

523 E 17th Ave

<https://www.steubens.com>

Cuisine: American (regional classics)

Attire: Casual

Proximity to DU: 6 miles

Chicken pot pie, fish & chips, a classic French dip, boozy milkshakes... this is Americana recreated for the 21st century. You'll want to bring your appetite (no small portions here), and definitely indulge in one of their signature craft cocktails from their extensive and impressive list. Reservations not required, wait times can vary.

Tocabe

3536 W 44th Ave

<http://www.tocabe.com/>

Cuisine: Native American

Attire: Casual

Proximity to DU: 9.8 miles

Founded by two DU alumni, Tocabe is the only American Indian owned and operated restaurant in Metro Denver which serves primarily Native American cuisine. Serving food using traditional Native American recipes and sourcing from local farmers, Tocabe is a delicious option where you are also "helping represent American Indian culture in the 21st Century."

Uno Mas

1585 South Pearl St. (multiple locations)

<https://unomastaqueria.com/>

Cuisine: Mexican

Attire: Casual

Proximity to DU: 1.7 miles (nearby!)

A family-owned restaurant with locally sourced food and generally fast service, Uno Mas is the place to go for street tacos and margaritas (made with their homemade mix). There is an outdoor patio at the Pearl Street location perfect for a nice day.

Dinner

Avanti Food & Beverage

3200 N Pecos St

<https://avantifandb.com>

Cuisine: "Food hall" - 7 different concepts



Attire: Casual, with 'snappy' Friday and Saturday nights

Proximity to DU: 8 miles

Mirroring the very popular food halls of Europe, Avanti houses and eclectic mix of chef-inspired cuisine in a refurbished, modern and airy two-story space. Pizza and arepas, sushi and Mediterranean, classic cocktails and craft beer... there is something for everyone in this "perfect for indecisive groups" locale. You won't find a better view of downtown Denver (ideal for pre-gaming if you're heading to see the Rockies or Broncos). No reservations necessary.

Bistro Vendome

1424 Larimer St

<http://www.bistrovendome.com>

Cuisine: French

Attire: Snappy (casual, but respectable)

Nestled in an alley off Larimer Square, this Zagat-rated French bistro boasts one of the best patios in town, and it is the second collaboration between owners Beth Gruitch and Jennifer Jasinski. Indeed, the food matches the atmosphere in quality. Voted Westword's "Best French Restaurant" in Denver. Reservations recommended.

Buckhorn Exchange

1000 Osage St

<https://www.buckhorn.com>

Cuisine: Steakhouse

Attire: Snappy

Proximity to DU: 6.7 miles

The oldest restaurant and liquor license in Denver, this steakhouse serves beef, ribs, buffalo, lamb, duck, quail, Cornish game hen, elk, yak, alligator, rattlesnake, and the renowned Rocky Mountain Oysters. The taxidermy motif is prevalent. Reservations recommended.

City, O' City

206 E 16th Ave

<http://cityocitydenver.com>

Attire: Casual

Cuisine: Vegetarian

A fully vegetarian restaurant which serves everything from morning coffee to evening cocktails. They also have monthly in-house gallery shows.

Elway's

2500 E 1st Ave (three additional locations, including an outpost in Denver Airport)

www.elways.com

Cuisine: Steakhouse

Attire: Dressy (more formal than not)

Proximity to DU: 2.9 miles (nearby!)

The traditional steakhouse is a staple of Colorado, much like the Legend himself. Voted Westword's "Best French Fries" in Denver (but the onion rings are where it's at) with a lively bar scene. Reservations recommended

Frasca Food and Wine

1738 Pearl St in Boulder

<https://www.frascafoodandwine.com>

Cuisine: Italian (Northern)

Attire: Dressy

Address: 1738 Pearl St in Boulder

Proximity to DU: 34.3 miles

Rated No. 1 by 5280 Magazine's "25 Best Restaurants in the Denver Area" and No. 2 by Zagat's "10 Best Colorado Restaurants," Frasca is not only one of the two best restaurants in the area, but arguably one of the best in the region overall. The wine menu is outstanding, and the dishes are inspired by the cuisine from the northern Italian region of Friuli. Reservations recommended.

Fruition

1313 E 6th Ave

www.fruitionrestaurant.com

Cuisine: American (new)

Attire: Dressy

Proximity to DU: 3.9 miles (nearby!)

Fruition rivals Frasca as one of the two best restaurants in the state. It was rated No. 1 in Zagat's "10 Best Colorado Restaurants," No. 2 in 5280 Magazine's "25 Best Restaurants in the Denver Area," and was voted Westword's "Best New American Restaurant" in Denver. Chef Alex Seidel's sophisticated comfort food is truly exquisite. Reservations recommended.

Linger

2030 W 30th Ave

www.lingerdenver.com

Cuisine: Upscale street food

Attire: Casual

Proximity to DU: 7.5 miles

Linger opened in June 2011 and made the list of 5280 Magazine's "25 Best Restaurants in the Denver Area." The diverse menu takes its inspiration from global "street food." Voted both Westword's "Best Restaurant Patio with a View" and "Best Martini" in Denver. Reservations recommended.

Native Foods

680 S Colorado Blvd, Glendale, CO

<https://nativefoods.com/locations/colorado/glendale/>

Cuisine: Vegetarian

Attire: Casual

A 100% vegetarian restaurant dining option. Enjoy their flavorful burgers and sandwiches without meat!

Osteria Marco

1453 Larimer St

www.osteriamarco.com

Cuisine: Italian

Attire: Casual/'snappy-lite'

Proximity to DU: 7.3 miles

One of "Denver's most popular and critically acclaimed restaurants" argues time.com. It was also featured in Westword's "Best Gourmet Pizza" (don't miss the chile-spiced Marcona almonds as well as their happy hour specials).

Pho 95

1401 S Federal Blvd

<http://www.pho95noodlehouse.com>

Cuisine: Vietnamese

Attire: Casual

Proximity to DU: 4.9 miles

Pho 95 has one of the most ardent followings of pho-natics in Denver. Though there are many alternatives, don't be misled - 95 is the best pho in town.

Rioja

1431 Larimer St

<http://www.riojadenver.com>

Cuisine: Mediterranean

Attire: Dressy

Proximity to DU: 7.3 miles

The first collaboration between Beth Gruitch and Jennifer Jasinski, Rioja is one of the most acclaimed restaurants in Colorado. The menu is inspired by Mediterranean ingredients, and the restaurant was one of 5280 Magazine's "25 Best Restaurants in the Denver Area," as well as rated No. 8 on Zagat's "10 Best Colorado Restaurants." Reservations recommended.

The Source

3350 Brighton Blvd

<https://thesourcehotel.com/hotel>

Cuisine: Artisan food market/several restaurants

Attire: Casual to snappy (depends on why you're visiting!)

Proximity to DU: 7.5 miles

Whether you're in the mood for a freshly baked chocolate croissant from Babettes, or a chef-prepared meal straight from an oak-fired oven, The Source is considered one of the hippest places in town. At the heart of this renovated warehouse is Acorn, Steve Redzikowski's New American restaurant which has won accolades too numerous to name. Have a cocktail at the Yacht Club, the central, open-air bar before your reservation time (and yes, reservations are recommended).

Sushi Den

1487 S Pearl St

<https://www.sushiden.net>

Cuisine: Japanese, sushi bar

Attire: Casual

Proximity to DU: 2 miles (nearby!)

We'll say "arguably" to be nice, but it's more fact than opinion... this is where you'll find the best sushi in the Denver metro area. It was rated No. 4 in 5280 Magazine's "25 Best Restaurants in the Denver Area" and No. 7 in Zagat's "10 Best Colorado Restaurants." Their reservation policy varies, so you may experience a wait.

Table 6

609 Corona St

<https://www.table6denver.com>

Cuisine: American Bistro

Attire: Snappy

Proximity to DU: 4.1 miles

A “classic American Bistro” with one of the best wine menus in Denver, Table 6 was named one of Esquire Magazine’s “Best New Restaurants in the Nation”, 5280 Magazine’s “25 Best Restaurants in the Denver Area,” and Westword’s “Best American Restaurant” in Denver, and was featured on Food Network’s “The Best Thing I Ever Ate.”

Tamayo

1400 Larimer St

<https://www.eattamayo.com>

Cuisine: Mexican

Attire: Snappy

Proximity to DU: 7.3 miles

A modern take on Mexican cuisine, Tamayo is a self-proclaimed “benchmark against which fine Mexican food is measured.” Their non-traditional, delicious guacamoles and upstairs outdoor patio make for an excellent night in downtown Denver. Reservations recommended, but not required.

True Food Kitchen

2800 E 2nd Ave

<https://www.eattamayo.com>

Cuisine: Mexican

Attire: Snappy

True Food Kitchen is a health-focused restaurant with lots of allergen friendly options including vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free offerings. Their paninis and burgers are so full of flavor and make you feel healthy!

Union Station

1701 Wynkoop St

<https://unionstationindenver.com>

Cuisine: Refurbished train station with many different eatery options

Attire: Casual to snappy

Proximity to DU: 7 miles

You don’t often get to visit a historic landmark, much less an exquisitely beautiful and *fun* historic landmark. If you’re going to be in downtown, do yourself a favor and at least walk around this gorgeous space. Plenty of options for eating and drinking (Mercantile is a favorite dining spot), and if you have time, see if you can get a spot at the bar at the well-hidden Cooper Lounge on the top floor.

Work & Class

2500 Larimer St

<https://workandclassdenver.com>

Cuisine: American/Latin fusion

Attire: Casual/fun

Proximity to DU: 6.6 miles

There is an actual list of rules for eating here, but don’t be scared off... this place is as light and lovely in spirit as it is serious about its food. No fuss, no frills, just really quality dishes which come in several sizes for individual tasting or sharing with a group, The roasted goat and coriander lamb are two favorites, but don’t leave without ordering the butterscotch pudding... ooh, the butterscotch pudding. Reservations aren’t taken here, so head over on the early side.

D Bar Denver

1475 E 17th Ave

<https://www.dbardenver.com>

Cuisine: American with an emphasis on desserts

Attire: Casual

Proximity to DU: 6 miles

Focusing on the sweeter things in life, D Bar was created by Keegan Gerhard, who is “One of the Nation’s Top 10 Pastry Chefs,” according to both Chocolatier and Pastry Art & Design magazines. He has also often appeared on Food Network’s “Food Network Challenge.” The treats here are simply divine. Reservations recommended; sit at the dessert bar if possible.

Little Man Ice Cream

2620 16th St

<https://www.littlemanicecream.com>

Cuisine: Ice cream

Attire: Casual

Proximity to DU: 8 miles

Known for its iconic milk-jug exterior and long (but fast-moving) lines, Little Man is now a Denver staple. There are always interesting as well as classic flavors to choose from (salted caramel peanut butter cup, vegan horchata, or earl grey tea & cookies, anyone?), and they even offer a wide variety of sorbets and ice cream sammies.

Sweet Cow Ice Cream

1822 S. Pearl St

<https://www.sweetcowicecream.com/platt/>

Cuisine: Ice cream

Attire: Casual

Made fresh daily and using recyclable and compostable products, Sweet Cow’s ice cream is a DU student local favorite.

University of Denver Neighborhood Locations

Anthony’s Pizza and Pasta

Cuisine: Pizza

Attire: Casual

Address: 1628 E Evans Ave

Website: <https://www.anthonypizzaandpasta.com>

Asbury Provisions

Cuisine: Small plates/sandwiches/cocktails

Attire: Casual

Address: 2043 S University Blvd

Ben and Jerry’s

Cuisine: Ice cream

Attire: Casual

Address: 2339 E Evans Ave

Website: <http://www.benjerry.com/uofdenver>

Birdcall

Cuisine: All things chicken



- Attire: Casual
Address: 1535 E Evans Ave
Website: www.eatbirdcall.com
- Bruegger's Bagels
Cuisine: Bagels
Attire: Casual
Address: 2000 S University Blvd
Website: www.brueggers.com
- Chipotle (the original!)
Cuisine: Mexican
Attire: Casual
Address: 1644 E Evans Ave
Website: www.chipotle.com
- Crimson and Gold Tavern
Cuisine: American sports bar
Attire: Casual
Address: 2017 S University Blvd
Website: <http://www.candgdenver.com/>
- Devour the 303
Cuisine: American
Attire: Casual
Address: 1135 E Evans Ave
Website: www.devourthe303.com
- Donut House
Cuisine: Donuts
Attire: Casual
Address: 2075 S University Blvd
Website: www.thedonuthouse.com
- Einstein Bros. Bagels
Cuisine: Bagels
Attire: Casual
Address: 1213 E Evans Ave
Website: www.einsteinbros.com
- Ginza Sushi & Grill
Cuisine: Japanese
Attire: Casual
Address: 2104 S University Blvd
Website: <https://www.ginzasushi888.com>
- Illegal Pete's
Cuisine: Mexican
Attire: Casual
Address: 1744 E Evans Ave
Website: <https://www.illegalpetes.com>
- Jelly Cafe
Cuisine: American breakfast & brunch
Attire: Casual
Address: 1700 E Evans Ave
Website: www.eatmorejelly.com
- Jerusalem
Cuisine: Middle Eastern
Attire: Casual
Address: 1890 E Evans Ave



Website: www.jerusalemrestaurant.com

Jimmy John's

Cuisine: Sandwiches

Attire: Casual

Address: 2075 S University Blvd

Website: www.jimmyjohns.com

Kaladi Coffee Roasters

Cuisine: Coffee

Attire: Casual

Address: 1730 E Evans Ave

Website: www.kaladicoffee.com

Mustard's Last Stand

Cuisine: Chicago-style hot dogs

Attire: Casual

Address: 2081 S University Blvd

Website: www.mustardslaststandcolorado.com

Nixon's Coffee House

Cuisine: Coffee

Attire: Casual

Address: 695 East Louisiana Ave

Website: <http://www.nixonscoffeehouse.com/>

Pete's University Park Café

Cuisine: American (diner)

Attire: Casual

Address: 2345 E Evans Ave

Website: <https://www.petesrestaurants.com/university-park-cafe>

Pho Saigon Star

Cuisine: Vietnamese & Thai

Attire: Casual

Address: 2045 S University Blvd

Website: <https://www.yelp.com/biz/pho-saigon-star-denver>



The Pioneer

Cuisine: American Sports Bar
Attire: Casual
Address: 2401 S University Blvd
Website: www.thepioneerbar.com

Serene Cuisine of India

Cuisine: Indian
Attire: Casual
Address: 2070 S University Blvd
Website: www.serenecuisineofindia.com

Snarf's

Cuisine: Sandwiches
Attire: Casual
Address: 1729 E Evans Ave
Website: www.eatsnarfs.com

Spanky's Urban Roadhouse

Cuisine: American (Traditional)
Attire: Casual
Address: 1800 E Evans Ave
Website: www.spankysur.com

Starbucks (also a weekday location in the Community Commons)

Cuisine: Coffee
Attire: Casual
Address: 2000 S University Blvd
Website: www.starbucks.com

Stella's Gourmet Coffee and Such

Cuisine: Coffee
Attire: Casual
Address: 1476 S Pearl St
Website: www.stellascOFFEE.com

Tatsu Sushi Ramen

Cuisine: Sushi and ramen
Attire: Casual
Address: 2022 S University Blvd
Website: www.tatusushiramen.com

Tokyo Bowl

Cuisine: Japanese
Attire: Casual
Address: 2337 E Evans Ave
Website: <https://www.tokyobowldENVER.com>

Chicago, Hong Kong, Istanbul, Kyoto, London, Lyon, Marrakech, New York City, Paris, Rome, San Francisco, Tokyo... known as traditional foodie hotspots, these cities host some of the most internationally acclaimed eating establishments in the world. While Denver does not (yet) boast a Michelin star, its ever-expanding dining scene and always-insatiable appetite for new and unique is finally bringing it prominence in the restaurant world.

To be sure, the Denver metro area's culinary scene is newer to the map, as many of its most exciting restaurants have opened in more recent years. However, exciting they truly are. Frasca and Fruition are two of the most highly acclaimed restaurants in the entire region. Osteria Marco continues to entice customers because of award-winning Chef Frank Bonnano's talents. Chef Keegan Gerhard has brought both celebrity and baking genius to 19th Avenue with the dessert-themed D Bar (not-to-miss: the famous "Cake & Shake" combo). And old-world cuisine never tasted so fresh with both Bistro Vendome and Rioja.

Root Down, Sushi Den, and Table 6 are part of a growing hub of restaurants combining warm, neighborhood atmospheres with elegant and succulent dishes. Places like Biker Jim's and Steuben's are changing people's perspectives on stereotypical cuisines.

Brunch is a major part of any Denverite's weekend, and both Snooze and Denver Biscuit Company lead the pack in Sunday morning wait times.

Classic Denver staples such as The Buckhorn Exchange, Cherry Cricket, Elway's, Barolo Grill, and Zaidy's remain beloved, but new places to frequent have emerged as well, with multiple eateries available in food hall-like settings within Union Station, Avanti Food & Beverage, and The Source. Many ethnic cuisines have also become local favorites, with El TacoDe Mexico leading the way with their popular street tacos.

Even the fast food industry has been strongly influenced by Denver, as Chipotle, Qdoba, Noodles & Co., Quiznos, Einstein Bros. Bagels, Garbanzo, Boston Market, and Smashburger were all founded in the Denver metro area.

Truly special, truly innovative restaurants continue to open their doors every week (the number of new ice cream establishments alone is mind-blowing!). There are plenty of wonderful options to appease any hardcore foodie's palate. Personally... we doubt that Michelin star remains elusive for much longer. We hope you enjoy Denver's culinary offerings as much as we do.