

POPULAR CUISINE

Tex-Mex has only been a household word in Texas since the mid-1900s, but this cuisine took shape many years ago as Anglo settlers and Texas ranchers attempted to recreate northern Mexican cuisine with their ingredients of choice. Dishes are heavy on the starch but provide pure bliss with a heavy mix of shredded cheeses, meat (vegetarian options too), beans, peppers, spices and flour tortillas. Austin has no shortage of Tex-Mex restaurants, and a crowd favorite dish is queso — melted cheese, seasoned and served warm as a dip for tortilla chips.



Traditionally, Texas barbecue (BBQ) involves slow cooking various meats for extended periods of time. Here in central Texas, the typical style of preparation is to rub the preferred meat with spices, then cook over indirect heat with pecan or oak wood

in a pit. Annual competitions determine the top barbeque here in Texas, and many award-winning pit masters can be found right here in Austin. In fact, in 2015, Aaron Franklin of Franklin Barbecue broke ground as the first ever pit master awarded a James Beard Award. At many of these restaurants, visitors will experience laid back, cafeteria-style vibes and should expect to get a little messy. Locals seem to know what's best.



Explore Austin's vibrant mobile food vendor scene (food trucks) — an inexpensive, popular way to dine with locals. Many food trucks and trailers have stationary locations around the city, but be sure to check each truck's calendar for special pop-up dates

and places. All over town, chefs are eschewing brick-and-mortar establishments and instead serving inexpensive, unpretentious cuisine whipped up in the back of refurbished Airstreams and concession trailers. The trend is so hot that officials estimate more than 1,200 mobile food vendors are in Austin. For more info, check out: www.austintexas.org/visit/food-and-drink/food-trucks.

CHEFS TO WATCH

- Barley Swine's Bryce Gilmore
- Emmer & Rye's Kevin Fink
- Olamaie's Michael Fojtasek
- Snow's BBQ Pitmaster Tootsie Tomanetz
- Oseyo's Laura Sawicki

FOOD TOURS

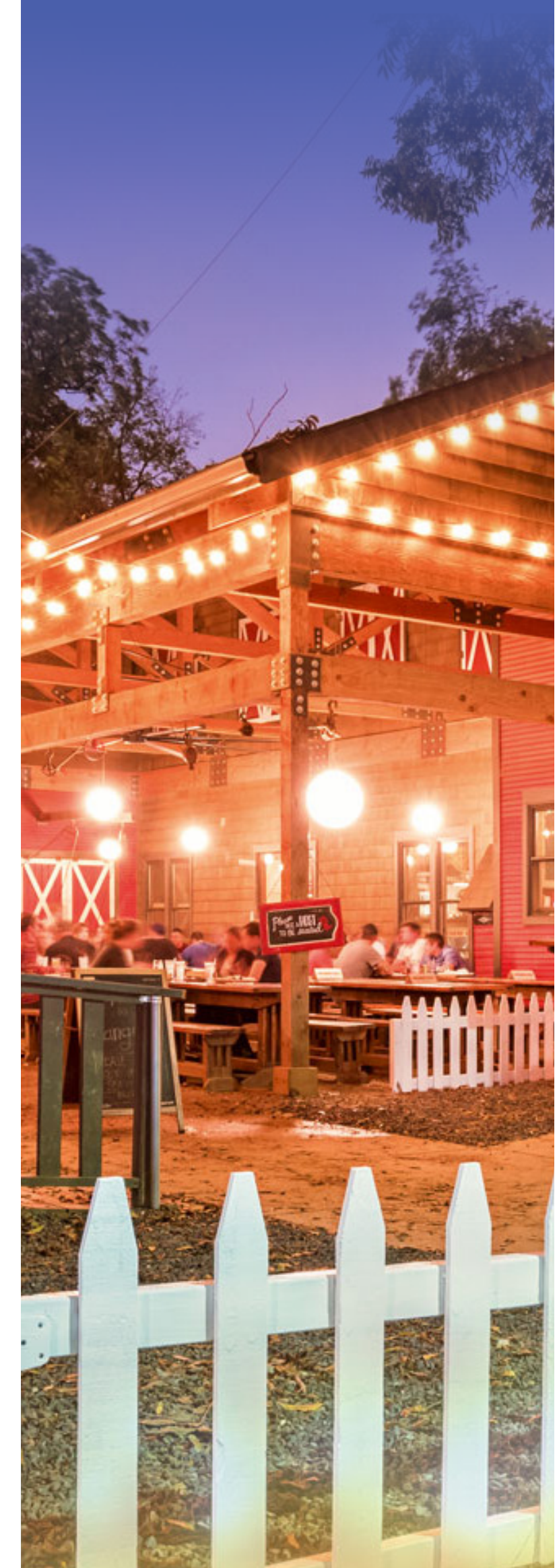
For a fun and unique dining experience, check out a food tour from one of Austin's many local tour companies, such as Austin Eats Food Tours or Secret Food Tour: Austin. Both companies showcase the best of Austin's culinary scene and are guided by knowledgeable foodies.

FOOD RESOURCES

The city is home to a variety of other excellent dining guide resources, such as below:

- Austin Monthly's Best New Restaurants
- Austin American-Statesman's Best New Restaurants in Austin
- Austin Chronicle's First Plates
- Do512's Best Food Trucks in Austin
- Eater Austin
- Austin Food Blogger Alliance

DINING & ENTERTAINMENT



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THE PIT

La Barbecue
2401 E. César Chávez
labarbecue.com

Louie Mueller Barbecue
206 W. 2nd St., Taylor
louiemuellerbarbecue.com

Stiles Switch BBQ & Brew
6610 N. Lamar Blvd.
stileswitchbbq.com

Stubb's Bar-B-Q
801 Red River
stubbasaustin.com

FANCY FARE

Jacoby's Mercantile
3235 E. César Chávez St.
jacobysaustin.com

Lenoir
1807 S. 1st St.
lenoirrestaurant.com

Parkside
301 E. 6th St.
parkside-austin.com

Vespaio
1610 S. Congress Ave.
austinvespaio.com

MEXICAN WITH A TWIST

Chuy's
Various locations
chuys.com

Maudie's
Various locations
maudies.com

El Arroyo
1624 W. 5th St.
elarroyo.com

El Mercado
Various locations
elmercadorestaurant.com

Trudy's
Various locations
trudys.com

Matt's El Rancho
2613 S. Lamar Blvd.
mattselrancho.com

Fonda San Miguel
2330 W. N. Loop Blvd.
fondasanmiguel.com

Curra's Grill
614 E. Oltorf St.
currasgrill.com

El Chile Café y Cantina
1900 Manor Rd.
elchilecafe.com

Juan in a Million
2300 E. César Chávez St.
juaninamillion.com

La Condesa
400A W. 2nd St.
lacondesa.com

Polvos
Various locations
polvosAustin.com

ASIAN-INSPIRED EATERIES

Top Chef: Texas winner chef Paul Qui owns the popular East Side King (eastsideking.com), with trailers around East Austin and brick-and-mortar locations near The University of Texas campus and on South Lamar.

Elizabeth Street Café
1501 S. 1st St.
elizabethstreetcafe.com

Ramen Tatsu-Ya
Various locations
ramen-tatsuya.com

Komé
5301 Airport Blvd. #100
kome-austin.com

Shanghai Chinese Restaurant
6718 Middle Fiskville Rd.
dimsumshanghai.com

Sway
3437 Bee Cave Rd.,
West Lake Hills
swaythai.com

The Clay Pit (Indian)
1601 Guadalupe St.
claypit.com

Koriente
621 E. 7th St.
koriente.com

Korea House Restaurant & Sushi Bar
2700 W. Anderson Ln., Ste. 501
koreahouseaustin.com

Pho Van
8557 Research Blvd., Ste. 120

Uchiko
4200 N. Lamar Blvd.
uchikoaustin.com

PIZZA PIES
Home Slice Pizza
Various locations
homeslicepizza.com

Bufalina
2215 E. César Chávez St.
bufalinapizza.com

East Side Pies
Various locations
eastsidepies.com

The Backspace
Various locations
thebackspace-austin.com

Pieous
166 Hargraves Dr., Bldg. H
Pieous.com

Little Deli & Pizzeria
Various locations
littledeliandpizza.com

Mangia
12001 Burnet Rd., Ste. D
mangiapizza.com

Southside Flying Pizza
Various locations
southsideflyingpizza.com

Via 313 Pizza
Various locations
via313.com



PRESERVE
TITLE COMPANY

DINING & ENTERTAINMENT

UNBEATABLE BURGERS

Hopdoddy Burger Bar

Various locations
hopdoddy.com

Casino El Camino

517 E. 6th St.
casinoelcamino.net

Sandy's

603 Barton Springs Rd.
sandysaustin.com

P. Terry's Burger Stand

Various locations
pterrys.com

Counter Café

Various locations
countercafe.com

24 Diner

600 N. Lamar Blvd.
24diner.com

Gourdough's Public House

Various locations
gourdoughs.com

Dan's Hamburgers

Various locations
dans-hamburgers.com

Dirty Martin's

2808 Guadalupe St.
dirtymartins.com

Top Notch Hamburgers

7525 Burnet Rd.
topnotchaustin.com

Hat Creek Burger Co.

Various locations
hatcreekburgers.com

ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICTS

Across Austin there are many neighborhoods and entertainment districts, each with their own unique character and filled with many things to do, eat and drink.

South Congress (SoCo) District

Just south of Lady Bird Lake, "SoCo" is a vibrant and walkable Austin neighborhood packed with eclectic boutiques, murals, eateries and music venues. Pick up a pair of boots at Allens, or discover something new at Parts & Labour.

Sixth Street District

For nightlife stroll down Austin's most famous street for more than a dozen blocks of restaurants, bars and live music venues including Maggie Mae's, Parish, Midnight Cowboy and Shakespeare's Pub.

West Sixth Street Entertainment District

Head west on Sixth Street from Lavaca to Lamar to shop and dine at Austin's most iconic home-grown retailers, eateries and dives including the flagship Whole Foods Market, Waterloo Records, Ranch 616, Dirty Bill's, BookPeople and more.

Red River Cultural District

From big-name acts to local icons, Red River Street rocks with the sounds of the Live Music Capital of the World®. Stroll from venue to venue to tune into a diverse showcase of sounds. Dance the night away at Empire Control Room, dive into the local scene at the Swan Dive, see your favorite touring band at Mohawk or party it up at Cheer Up Charlies.

Rainey Street Historic District

Rainey Street has a laid-back vibe and is home to a row of converted bungalows that provide an only-in-Austin live music and bar experience. Roam the district to find local craft beers at Craft Pride, top shelf cocktails at Half Step, award-winning cuisine at Emmer & Rye, artisan sausages at Banger's and food trucks of every flavor.

Warehouse District

The industrial Warehouse District rests in the heart of downtown Austin. Sip on craft cocktails at upscale bars such as Pêche and Garage, dance the night away on Rainbow Row at Oilcan Harry's or Rain, and relax with some local music at Cedar Street Courtyard or Speakeasy.

2nd Street District

Keep things local at some of Austin's newest retail shops and boutiques in the 2nd Street District. Upscale coffee-houses, wine bars and restaurants rest between favorites including Violet Crown Cinema, Eliza Page and Luxe Apothetique.

South Austin

South Austin is a fresh taste of old Waterloo. A mix of quaint and contemporary houses, long-running vintage shops and eateries by some of the city's top up-and-comers populate this lively nook of town. Visit expansive Zilker Park, stop by the Long Center or ZACH Theatre for a performance or explore everything from coffee shops to art galleries on South First Street.

East Austin

Head to East Austin to experience one of the fastest-growing and most alternative areas in town. Roam East Sixth Street for quirky bars and graffiti-style murals, taste some of the biggest flavors in town on East César Chávez and don't miss Six Square, the city's African American Cultural District, for a tour of the city's most historic cultural attractions.

Central Austin

Just ten minutes north of downtown, near the sprawling University of Texas at Austin campus, Central Austin is quickly becoming home to some of Austin's best local eateries and shops. Cafes and vintage thrift stores rest comfortably between quaint neighborhood homes and bars along the North Loop and Burnet Road.