

2017 SMU Dining Guide



DINING GUIDE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Burgers & Shakes	4
Dessert Destinations & Caffeination Stations	7
Kickshaws Fast Gastro	6
Make time for Tex-Mex	5
New Around Town	6
Siciliano's, A Taste of Italy.	8
Treat yourself to something special	3

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Treat yourself to something special

by Andrew Appleby, Emmy Berg and Olivia Pitten

Uchi

2817 Maple Ave. Dallas, TX

Uchi quickly became one of the hottest restaurants in Dallas when it opened in the summer of 2015 on Maple Ave. A menu that merges experimental ingredients and innovative Japanese cooking with classic style sushi and sashimi offerings fills the restaurant with diners each night. Reservations are required well in advance. Even the pickiest of eaters leaves Uchi happy and full. Take your pick from ordering brisket that is aged 72 hours and rests on balls of rice, like a Texas take on nigiri; or settle down at the gorgeous marbled sushi bar and order the chef's choice omakase.

Flora Street Cafe

2330 Flora St. #150 Dallas, TX 75201

As the most recent restaurant in Dallas to receive a 5-star review from Leslie Brenner, food critic

at the Dallas Morning News, this establishment is doing so many things right. Known as a founding father of Southwestern cuisine, Chef/Author Stephan Pyles hit a home run with this Texas approach to fine dining. The food coming from the kitchen at Flora Street Cafe is in a league entirely on its own; dishes like kumquat-crusted scallops placed next to aged Serrano ham and eggplant purée. With a seven-course tasting menu, romantic dining room and extensive wine list it is perfect for special occasions, but a toned-down bar menu also offers diners more affordable options.

The Rustic

3656 Howell St., Dallas, TX 75204

The Rustic is located in the heart of Dallas, a popular spot for all ages. With both indoor and outdoor family-style seating, The Rustic is the perfect spot to grab some drinks and appetizers with friends. The Rustic boasts a star-studded performance lineup of outdoor music, with appearances by country stars Brothers Osbourne. Home of

the Summer Beer, The Rustic's bar takes a twist on the classics. The bar has a variety of 40 Texas beers on tap, including 35 local craft beers. Whether you're visiting Dallas for the first time, or a local, be sure to stop by The Rustic for a drink.

Honor Bar

**26A Highland Park Village
Dallas, TX 75205**

The newest addition to Highland Park Village was the much-anticipated Honor Bar restaurant. Sister restaurant to R+D Kitchen and Hillstone, Honor Bar offers a similar menu and atmosphere. For the best snacks and appetizers like deviled eggs and a variety of dips and spreads, this restaurant takes the prize. Another popular menu item is the Ahi Tuna Tartare salad for all tuna fanatics out there.

Dimly lit and beautifully decorated, Honor Bar provides the coziest of environments perfect for small dinner outings. Their outdoor patio is also strung with lights, making for the perfect after-dusk spot.

Burgers & Shakes

by Andrew Appleby, Olivia Pitten, Alexis Kopp and Riley Coven

Burger House

6319 Hillcrest Ave. Dallas, TX 75206

Burger House is the go-to burger place in Snider Plaza. If you're on campus and need a quick bite between classes on your lunch break, Burger House is an easy walk down Hillcrest Avenue. You won't want to skip out on fries or tots when you visit Burger House; it's famous for the seasoning salt, which adds a garlic taste to anything it is shaken upon. The menu has a wide variety of American classics from burgers, chili dogs, chicken sandwiches, corny dogs and grilled cheeses. Burger House has a relaxed atmosphere with picnic tables indoors and a small patio outside.

Hopdoddy Burger Bar

6030 Luther Lane #100, Dallas, TX 75225

Hopdoddy Burger Bar is often cited as the best burger in Dallas, and for good reason. The burger combinations at Hopdoddy are nothing short of amazing. The combinations of flavors and unexpected toppings are not only unique but also delicious. The menu has plenty of choices so it's easy to pick a favorite but it's also easy to find a new choice every time. Hopdoddy offers more than just burgers too. The shakes are so thick they have their own style of straw and it's nearly impossible not to order the truffle fries. If you're looking for a choice burger, Hopdoddy is the place to go.

Keller's Burgers

6537 Northwest Highway Dallas, TX 75231

It's hard to say whether or not the Daily Campus had a dining guide in 1968, but if they did, it would be safe to assume Keller's took the title as "Best Burger" back then too. That's because Keller's has hardly changed in the 50 years since Jack Keller opened it with the intention of providing SMU students beer and burgers. This cash-only classic drive-in off Abrams still has the original menu and the prices are reflective of its perfect simplicity, \$2.45 for a burger with gooey American cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickles and onions on a poppy seed bun, \$4 for the meal. Root-beer floats, mountains of fries and hamburgers are brought out on trays to patrons in classic cars who still gather in the parking lot for a beer on weekdays. It is Keller's commitment to tradition that makes this Dallas staple one of the best places in town to still get a burger after 50 years.

Shake Shack

2500 N Pearl St., Dallas, TX 75201

With plenty of seating inside and outside, in the courtyard, Shake Shack is the perfect place to grab a burger and fries with friends. The unique "ShackSauce" upgrades a traditional burger to a crave-worthy delight. On the side, try crispy, salty classic fries or mix it up with bacon cheese fries. For dessert, Shake Shack offers a new shake every week. The frozen custard is spun fresh daily and features locally-infused favorites depending on your location. The Shack also offers treats for your furry pals, such as the Pooch-ini, Shackburger dog treats, peanut butter sauce and vanilla custard. Hang outside for hours with your dog and your friends over some delicious burgers and fries.

Make time for Tex-Mex

by Andrew Appleby, Kylie Madry,
Lisa Salinas and Olivia Pitten

Banditos

6615 Snider Plaza, Dallas, TX 75205

Known for its margaritas, Banditos knows how to pack a punch. Grab some enchiladas or even an Ice House cheeseburger (the owners of Banditos also own Katy Trail Ice House) while downing some drinks. Be sure to grab some chips and queso on the side to start things off.

Torchy's Tacos

5600 SMU Blvd. Dallas, TX 75206

This Austin staple has now established itself as a favorite among Dallasites. You can't go wrong by starting off with Torchy's famous chips and queso. If you're feeling adventurous, drown your tacos in it too – that's even an option with the Trailer Park taco (order it “trashy”). Also not to miss: the Brushfire, the Democrat and the Republican.

Mi Cocina

3699 McKinney Ave. #200, Dallas, TX 75204

In the mood for great Tex-Mex food paired with a cold margarita? Mi Cocina is the spot! Mi Cocina offers an array of Tex-Mex options including enchiladas, mole, tamales and tacos. They even have a build-your-own option where you can create personalized enchiladas. Oh, and for the margarita pick the Mambo Taxi — it's definitely a winner and one of Mi Cocina's coveted drinks. And, if you're not

into tequila, mojitos are also on the menu. Pick Mi Cocina for a late-night weekend dinner or even lunch in the middle of your work day.

Velvet Taco

3012 N Henderson Ave., Dallas, TX 75206

Velvet Taco takes a spin on the classic taco. With over 20 different varieties, there's a taco for every taste. The menu offers chicken, pork, fish, beef and vegetarian taco options. Velvet Taco is known for its side of tater tots with an over-easy egg on top and legendary red velvet cake for dessert. This street-style taco vendor is far from typical. Open late until 2 a.m. Sunday-Thursday and until 5 a.m. on weekends, this spot is perfect for late night cravings.

El Come Taco

2513 N Fitzhugh Ave.

The only spot on this list that doesn't serve queso, which will surely upset many of our readers, we promise their tacos make up for it. El Come Taco is as traditional as Mexican food gets in North Texas with street-inspired menu items like elotes-style Mexican corn, bite-sized tacos served in warm house-made corn tortillas, and horchata, a refreshing beverage made with rice milk and cinnamon. This little taco shop on N. Fitzhugh packs a punch of flavor with its spicy salsas, but is kind to the wallets of college students, three tacos and a horchata will set you back less than \$6. For prices like that, we'll skip queso more often.

New Around Town

by Katie Williams and Marisol Leiva

Ask any first-year what they're excited about in Dallas and food will undoubtedly make the list. Upperclassmen are sure to agree Dallas's dining scene is unparalleled. During the summer, a few new hot spots opened their doors close to campus, so make sure to add them to your list of eateries this semester.

Sumo Shack

5629 SMU Blvd. #120, Dallas, TX 75206

Opening just as SMU students headed home for summer, Sumo Shack is the newest addition on SMU Boulevard. The restaurant serves bao, steamed buns packed with tons of fillings, as well as Asian-inspired hot dogs and ramen. The best part? They stay open until 4 a.m. Thursday through Saturday and are close to SMU hotspots like Barley House and The Green Elephant.

Jose

4931 W Lovers Lane, Dallas, TX 75209

This new Lover's Lane hot spot was the talk of the town this summer. Jose is shaking up Tex-Mex with unique menu items like soft-shell crab tacos. Complete with a fun patio, brightly colored décor and beautiful artwork, the restaurant claims it is for "Mexican lovers. Art lovers. Culture lovers. Tequila lovers." Its grand opening proved to be mysterious to most Dallas foodies, including Dallas Observer, who says it's the perfect spot for Park Cities socialites. Sounds like SMU students to us.

Slater's 50/50

2817 Greenville Ave., Dallas, TX 75206

A bacon-obsessed concept that's made its way from California,

Slater's 50/50 is serving up burgers with a twist. They're known for patties that are 50 percent beef and 50 percent bacon, hence the name. You can build your own burger with just about every topping imaginable, and they serve chicken and turkey patties, too. Oh, and did we mention the adult milkshakes and extensive beer list for the crowd over 21? On Greenville, next to Terelli's, Slater's 50/50 is a must try.

Bar Stellar

2810 N. Henderson Ave., Dallas, TX 75206

What you may remember as the newest addition to Knox-Henderson, Stellar has transformed over the summer to become Bar Stellar. According to PaperCity, 21-year-old SMU student Francois Reihani purchased the failing Stellar and has transformed it into an L.A.-inspired, Instagram-worthy bar, just minutes from campus. He plans to feature exciting, craft cocktails and small bites while bringing a little bit of Hollywood glamour to our backyard.

Hudson House

4448 Lovers Lane, Dallas, TX 75225

Another addition to Lover's Lane, Hudson House features American classics with a New England-inspired raw bar. According to D Magazine, Hudson House shares owners with an SMU student favorite, East Hampton Sandwich Company. The light and airy space is perfect for breakfast, lunch or dinner. Grab some friends and get adventurous with their oysters and tartare.

Flower Child

5450 W Lovers Lane Suite 133, Dallas, TX 75209

Flower Child on Lovers Lane has become the ultimate healthy boho, healthy and Instagram favorite restaurant. This nutritious and delicious staple offers vegan, vegetarian and gluten-free cuisine that are sure to please foodies! This exquisite spot is sure to offer something for everyone looking for a good, affordable meal.

Sweet Daze Dessert Bar

581 W. Campbell Road #127, Richardson, TX 75080

This dessert favorite offers unique unicorn donuts and black ice cream among many other creative menu options. This trendy dessert shop has become an Instagram sensation with the coolest donuts which are apparently just as tasty as they are visually appealing. The matcha ice cream seems to be a crowd favorite by leaving consumer's teeth black for those snapchat selfies!

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Dessert & Caffeination Destinations

by Andrew Appleby, Kylie Madry and Lisa Salinas

Lake Highland Creamery

9960 Audelia Road Suite #121

Summer-time temperatures in Dallas require a cold snack, and at Lake Highland Creamery frozen snacks are their specialty. This old-fashioned-style ice cream shop opened in July 2016, but has already attracted the masses thanks to owner Sean Brockette's commitment to quality. The menu boasts 12 homemade flavors of ice cream, five types of soda floats and a myriad of toppings. However, the true star of the show at LHC is what they call "The Motherlode," an ice-cream bar made from bourbon vanilla bean ice cream, dipped in chocolate, then coated in pretzels, potato chips, pecans, sprinkles, peanuts and toffee. This frozen treat has everything but the kitchen sink and is worthy of our top spot for dessert all on its own.

SusieCakes

6100 Luther Lane, Dallas, TX 75225

Looking for a sweet treat or something for a celebration? Look no further than SusieCakes, just off Preston Road. For those of us on a budget, be sure to download the Susiecakes app – start off with two free cupcakes, and then enjoy other seasonal perks! Don't miss the treats for four-legged friends just outside the door.

Hypnotic Donuts

9007 Garland Road Dallas, TX 75218

Hypnotic Donuts is not your typical donut shop by any means with names such as the "Evil Elvis," "Blueberry Cake," "Peace' statio," and "Canadian healthcare," to name a few. Hypnotic Donuts is every donut lover's dream come true, offering mixed flavors such as a toasted glazed donut and chicken, a donut stuffed with bananas and bacon ("Evil Elvis") and a cake donut with a made in-house brown butter glaze and pistachio ("Peace' statio"). So, the next time you're in the mood for something sweet and salty, stop by Hypnotic Donuts.

by Emmy Berg, Lisa Salinas and Kylie Madry

Royal Blue Grocery

1 Highland Park Village, Dallas, TX 75205

The chicest place to grab a coffee, meet a friend for a glass of wine, or even study, Royal Blue Grocery is one of the newer hot spots in the glamorous Highland Park Village. Opened in October 2015, Royal Blue is a popular place among the Highland Park community and SMU students.

Many students frequent Royal Blue for the perfect casual-yet-trendy study spot. The two-story building allows for plenty of tables and space to sprawl out and focus on those upcoming tests. With soothing background music, calming blue tile hues and delicious snacks, who wouldn't want to spend time here?

It is also a great spot for downtime. Whether you want to grab a quick latte to go, relax and read a book, or sit outside on the patio and enjoy a charcuterie board, Royal Blue is the perfect location for any scenario.

Starbucks

5331 E Mockingbird Lane, Dallas TX 75206

Oh, good 'ole Starbucks: with the cool weather just around the corner, nothing can compare to the original Pumpkin Spice Latte or the Salted Caramel and Mocha Frappuccino. Starbucks is also conveniently located on almost every corner of the Dallas area. Recently, Starbucks has added paninis and protein boxes to the menu, in addition to their array of pastries and breakfast sandwiches. Get your favorite drink, and now lunch, the next time you pass by a Starbucks. My go-to drink (and secret) is a grande iced coffee in a venti cup with extra ice, soy milk and cinnamon — gets me through class and rush hour every time.

Mudsmith

2114 Greenville Ave. Dallas, TX 75206

Need somewhere to grab a coffee, settle in and get to work? Mudsmith is the perfect place, while still feeling like you're at home. The cozy, dimly lit atmosphere is also the perfect place to catch up with a friend or go on a first date. Need a bite? Grab one of Mudsmith's delicious cheese melts.

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