

AUROMA

Eats

VOL 4 - 2025



A guide to the city's independent and globally inspired restaurants, bars and markets.





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“Welcome to Aurora! This is a city known for its cultural diversity, and our food scene reflects that diversity. I’ve lived here most of my life, and believe there’s no better place to go for authentic cuisine from around the globe. I hope you’ll use this guide to dive into Aurora’s world of flavors.”

Mayor Mike Coffman

GURSHA ETHIOPIAN RESTAURANT

15373 E. Sixth Ave., Unit B
303.600.8650

gurshaethiopianrestaurant.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Northeast

Rip into spongy injera to scoop up the traditional fare at one of the city's favorite Ethiopian spots. Don't know what to order? Try the Taste of Gursha for an excellent tour of the menu.

HIRA CAFE & PATISSERIE

10782 E. Iliff Ave.

720.949.1703

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$

Southwest

Though it is open into the evening, HiRa is focused on morning eats. Pair your organic Ethiopian coffee with scratch-made pastries and Ethiopian breakfast plates from pastry chef-owner Hiwot Solomon, who also crafts exquisite custom cakes.

NILE ETHIOPIAN RESTAURANT

1951 S. Havana St.

720.748.0239

Lunch, Dinner

\$

Southwest

Every visit here requires an order of Ethiopian coffee and spongy injera (a traditional flatbread). You'll use the latter to scoop up delicious bites, from beef simmered with berbere to the vegetarian combo plate.

ZULA CAFE & LOUNGE

1121 S. Peoria St.

303.635.6071

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

This neighborhood cafe takes you from morning till night. You can score Ethiopian dishes and coffees in the restaurant while the sun is up and get down - literally - after dark in the downstairs lounge.



Somali

BARWAAQO

10200 E. Mississippi Ave., Suite B
303.755.7699

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

Southwest

There's not much of a menu here, just skilled chefs cooking traditional dishes from Somalia. Trust them to bring you the chapati, ful, goat or whatever else they're cooking - you won't be disappointed.

IFKA CAFÉ

1535 S. Havana St., Unit M
303.745.3770

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

Southwest

Traditional Somali cuisine is on the menu here, from chicken shawarma to roasted goat with rice to cambuulo (red beans and corn) to malawah (a sweet pancake).

MAANDEEQ RESTAURANT AND CAFE

1535 S. Havana St., Unit C
303.745.2355

maandeeqrestaurantcafe.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

Southwest

From strong coffee to wake you up in the morning to sambusa and hilib ari (roasted goat) to fill you up at night, this Somali restaurant is always cooking.

Sudanese

SUDAN CAFÉ

10375 E. Illiff Ave
303.337.7409

Breakfast, Lunch
\$

Southwest

The go-to order at this Sudanese eatery is ful, a traditional fava bean-based dish with eggs. Ask your dining companion to order the shakshuka (poached eggs in a red sauce), so you can steal a bite.

West African

AKWABA RESTAURANT

16251 E. Colfax Ave.
720.467.2329

akwabarestaurant.com

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$\$

Northeast

This welcoming, family owned restaurant packs big flavors into West African dishes like peanut butter stew, Ivorian gumbo and yassa fish. Friendly staff help newcomers navigate the lengthy menu.

HOME STYLE FOODS COLORADO

12028 E. Mississippi Ave., F2
303.306.8614

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$-\$\$\$

Southwest

Comfort food is what this little restaurant does best, serving up soul-warming West African dishes that change by the day. Portions are large, so you may want to share.



INGREDIENT TO KNOW:

BERBERE

Every culture uses its own unique blends of spices and herbs—combinations that immediately tell your palate where in the world it is. In Ethiopia, that one-of-a-kind flavor comes from berbere. The versatile spice blend is composed primarily of chiles, ginger, fenugreek, allspice, cinnamon, coriander, cardamom, cumin, cloves, and peppercorns. It's often used to marinate meat and flavor stews (including doro wat, Ethiopia's national dish) or sprinkled on top of fruit. Make your own at home or find it at Megenagna Grocery and Restaurant or online at the Spice Guy.

Find a list of Aurora's independent Ethiopian restaurants on page 3.



DISH YOU'LL LOVE:

MOCHI

Mochi is kind of indescribable: It's chewy; it's sticky; it's creamy. But what actually is it? Mochi are small, round rice cakes that are made by pounding, molding, and then baking steamed, short-grain sticky rice. They are available in a wide variety of appealing colors and flavors (think: green tea, chocolate, strawberry). The Japanese dish is traditionally a special occasion treat consumed around the new year, but it's become a year-round offering here in the States where you'll often find it served as mochi ice cream.

For a list of Aurora's independent Japanese restaurants, turn to page 24.



2022
WINNER
OF THE
JAMES BEARD
AWARD FOR
BEST CHEF:
MOUNTAIN (CO,
ID, MT, UT, WY)

annette
SCRATCH TO TABLE

ANNETTE

2501 Dallas St.

720.710.9975

annettescratchtotable.com

Daily

\$\$\$\$

**Stanley Marketplace -
Northwest**

Elevated, scratch-made American cuisine is the focus at this celebrated eatery (chef-owner Caroline Glover now a James Beard award winner and named one of the 10 best new chefs in the country by Food & Wine). The menu rolls with the seasons, and many of the shareable plates are kissed by the wood-fire oven.

AURORA EATERY

14200 E. Alameda Ave.

auroraeatery.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

North Central - **Town Center
at Aurora**

Within this collection of more than a dozen virtual kitchens (takeout-and delivery-only spaces), taste global dishes like Momo Dumplings' traditional Nepalese-style pockets and Lechonera La Familia's Puerto Rican street food.

BLAZING BIRD

13700 E. Colfax Ave., Unit C

720.662.7222

aurora.theblazingbird.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northwest

Those that like it hot—like really scorching hot—will want to give this spicy chicken spot a try. The sandwiches, tacos and wings are customized with Nashville heat, ranging from mild to tastebud torching.

BOREALIS

13200 E. 14th Place

303.365.1234

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$\$

Northwest

This hotel restaurant inside the Hyatt Regency offers comfort food classics with a twist. Think: Beef stroganoff but make it a casserole, or meatloaf but made with wild game.

CHALLENGERS SPORTS BAR

12161 E. Iliff Ave.

303.750.5558

Lunch, Dinner

\$

Southwest

A good variety of beers on tap, pool tables, TVs and a menu of Chicago style pizza and wings are the draw at this neighborhood watering hole. If you're game, order one of their infusion shots.



CHESTER'S PHILLY GRILL

2195 S. Chambers Road
303.338.0690

Lunch, Dinner

\$

Southwest

Fill up on 8- or 12-inch takes on the Philly cheesesteak. Sure, you can go the classic route, or you can opt for one with jalapeños, mushrooms, or even marinara sauce. Fries, wings, and salads are available too.

COPPER TABLE

6700 N. Gaylord Rockies Blvd.
720.452.6900

marriott.com/en-us/hotels/dengr-gaylord-rockies-resort-and-convention-center/dining

Daily

\$\$

Northeast - *Gaylord Rockies Resort and Convention Center*

Experience authentic Colorado cuisine with a hearty menu inspired by local ingredients and traditional flavors. Copper Table features local trout, rotisserie free-run chicken, and bison prime rib eye.

DENVER BISCUIT COMPANY

2501 Dallas St.
303.377.7900

denbisco.com

Breakfast, Lunch

\$\$

Northwest - *Stanley Marketplace*

Find a dozen creative takes on the biscuit sandwich, like the Winona with buttermilk fried chicken and cheese or the breakfast-focused Tomahawk with sausage and egg. There's a small bar, too.

DOZENS RESTAURANT

2180 S. Havana St.
303.337.6627

dozensaurora.com

Breakfast, Lunch

\$\$

Southwest

This long-standing breakfast and lunch spot is certain to have whatever you're craving on the menu. Pastries—including the famous cinnamon roll—are baked fresh daily, and the pork green chili is always a hit.



ETAI'S GREEN HOUSE

12501 E. 17th Ave., Unit E

720.592.9825

etaisgreenhouse.com

Breakfast, Lunch

\$\$

Northwest - *Anschutz Medical Campus*

Get your day started on a healthy note with build-your-own breakfast bowls and burritos. (There are fresh baked pastries and coffee too.) Salads, wraps, and grain bowls comprise the lunchtime lineup at this quick-service eatery.

FIRE + SPICE

16455 E. 40th Circle

303.371.4333

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northeast

This sleek spot inside the Denver Airport Marriott is worth a stop for the Colorado beers, but it'll also quench your cravings for a burger or cheesesteak.

GARDEN + GRAIN SEASONAL KITCHEN

6700 N. Gaylord Rockies Blvd.

720.452.6900

marriott.com/en-us/hotels/dengr-gaylord-rockies-resort-and-convention-center/dining

Daily

\$\$

A Seasonal Kitchen showcasing fresh ingredients sourced from local farmers. Indulge in stone-fired pizzas, fresh garden bowls and savory entrées.

GOLDEN FLAME HOT WINGS

18757 E. Hampden Ave., Unit 156

303.690.1171

gfhwings.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

South Central

Stock up for game day with bone-in or boneless chicken wings tossed in your choice of 18 sauces, plus a variety of specialty fries, fried appetizers, and family-size meal combos. There's also a full bar and an outdoor patio.

HUNGRY BEAR FISH AND CHIPS CO.

14200 E. Alameda Ave.

720.903.6679

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

North Central

The laser-focused Hungry Bear does one thing - fried seafood and chips. Golden battered cod or shrimp are your options here, both paired with a mound of fresh cut fries.

JUS GRILL

17200 E. Iliff Ave. Ste 100

720.513.2979

jusgrillauroraco.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

South Central

Jus Grill serves traditional American fusion food and there is no lack menu items to choose from. This family friendly restaurant offers everything from Cajun catfish to Tex Mex.

LAZY DOG

24110 E. State Ave.

719.372.5724

lazydogrestaurants.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Southeast - *Southlands*

Lazy Dog Restaurant serves up comfort food classics like burgers, sandwiches, and wok-fired dishes with modern flair. Their hearty portions and flavorful options make it a cozy spot for any meal.



NGL BURGERS

382 S. Chambers Road

303.752.2521

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$

North Central

Don't be misled by the name:

This family owned spot is more than big burgers at an affordable price. You'll also find a lineup of Mexican bites, such as a breakfast burrito and carne asada plate.

OLD HICKORY STEAKHOUSE

6700 N. Gaylord Rockies Blvd.

720.574.1476

Dinner

\$\$\$\$

Northeast - *Gaylord Rockies Resort and Convention Center*

Sometimes you just need a big hunk of beef. Or a seafood tower full of king crab legs, shrimp, oysters and lobster. This steakhouse is the place to feast on both surf and turf.

PARKWAY BAR & GRILL

22775 E. Aurora Parkway

303.693.6200

parkwaybarandgrill.com

Breakfast (weekends), Lunch,

Dinner

\$\$\$

Southeast

When you're finished with your pick from the global menu at this family-owned eatery (think: Cobb salad, St. Louis ribs, fish and chips, pork carnitas), burn off the calories with a round of pool or shuffleboard.

ROSENBERG'S BAGELS & DELICATESSEN

2501 Dallas St.

303.955.0466

rosenbergsbagels.com/stanley

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northwest - *Stanley Marketplace*

New York-style bagel sandwiches for breakfast and lunch. Pizzas and Italian sandwiches at night.

ROSIE'S DINER

14061 E. Iliff Ave.

303.752.3663

rosiesdiner.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

Groove to old-school tunes (there are jukeboxes at each table) over an all-day menu of classic diner food at this 1950s-inspired eatery. Did we mention there are more than a dozen milkshake flavors?

SPORTS STATION BAR AND GRILL

850 N. Dayton St.

303.343.2950

Lunch, Dinner

\$

Northwest

This neighborhood dive bar knows how to entertain.

From poker nights to pool tournaments to a menu of cheap eats, there's always something to do here.

STANLEY BEER HALL

2501 Dallas St.

720.749.5098

thestanleybeerhall.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northwest - *Stanley Marketplace*

Find 51 pour-your-own beer taps filled with mostly local brews at this neighborhood hangout. Wash those down with a selection of American pub food (think: burgers, wings, salads). Sit inside or on the open-air, dog-friendly patio, which is heated in the winter.



THE COMMON GOOD

13025 E. Montview Blvd.

720.760.5760

eatatthecommongood.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$-\$\$\$\$

Northwest

This bright, locally sourced restaurant inside the Benson Hotel attracts neighbors and visitors alike. The globetrotting menu takes on everything from burgers to shakshuka to baked rigatoni.

TSTREET KITCHEN AND CAFE

1890 N. Revere Court

720.510.7993

tstreetkitchenandcafe.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northwest

Some diners venture to the Anschutz campus just for T Street's bacon onion apple jam-schmeared burger. The sunny cafe serves all day, from morning lattes to a bread pudding dessert.

WOODGRAIN BAGEL AND COFFEE

13120 E. 19th Ave.

303.724.2224

woodgrainbagels.com

Breakfast, Lunch

\$

Northwest

You know New York-style bagels, but do you know Montreal-style? The sweeter, denser bagels are boiled in honey water and baked in a wood-fired oven for extra crunch. Try one plain or loaded up as a sandwich.

WOOLLEY'S GRILL AND LOUNGE

16450 E. 40th Circle

720.599.3750

woolleysclassicsuites.com/dining

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$-\$\$\$\$

Northeast

Nibble on wings, a flatbread and other American classics inside Woolley's Classic Suites, nestled next to a koi pond. You may want to come back for the breakfast buffet, an all-you-can-eat feast of bacon, pastries, pancakes and made-to-order omelets.

Barbecue

BACKSTREET TAVERN & GRILL

1150 S. Galena St.

303.745.4003

Lunch, Dinner

\$

North Central

Backstreet is first and foremost a bar, with cold beer on tap, pool tables and live sports on the TVs. But there are also three patios and a menu full of American classics, like the staff favorite Reuben sandwich.

BOOKMAKERS BURGERS BOURBON BREWS

25791 E. Smoky Hill Road

303.353.8298

bookmakersbarandgrill.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southeast

With more than 150 bourbons, whiskeys, and ryes available—including plenty from local distillers—your drink choice is easy. Now you just need to decide which made-with-Colorado-beef burger (or sandwich or salad) to pair it with.

FAT BOYS SPORTS BAR & GRILL

10660 E. Alameda Ave.

303.344.1905

fatboysportsbarandgrill.com

Brunch, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

South Central

A friendly spot to catch the game, Fat Boys is known for its catfish, burgers, smoked ribs, and pulled pork, wings, and salads—plus sizable portions.

THE FRONTIER CLUB

18881 E. Colfax Ave.

303.367.8637

thefrontierclubaurora.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northeast

With live music on weekends and a handful of pool tables, this place is a hub of activity. Sustenance comes in the form of chicken wings, burgers, sandwiches, Mexican classics, pasta—and a full bar.

JJ'S PLACE

2340 S. Chambers Road

303.369.1704

jjsplaceaurora.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

South Central

This all-day sports bar has food to match whenever the game is on, from morning omelets to later-in-the-day salads, wings and burgers. Wash your pick down with a well-crafted Moscow mule.

LEGENDS OF AURORA SPORTS GRILL

13690 E. Iliff Ave

303.671.0560

legendsofaurora.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northwest / Southwest

A locals' favorite, Legends is a great neighborhood spot to watch a game, play trivia, have a drink and nosh on solid bar food (like award-winning pizzas, wings and salads).

MOUNTAIN PASS SPORTS BAR

6700 N. Gaylord Rockies Blvd.

720.574.1470

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Northeast - *Gaylord Rockies Resort and Convention Center*

This sports bar inside the Gaylord serves up standard pub food like burgers, nachos, loaded fries and ribs. Enjoy it all while watching the big game on the bigscreen - they've got a 75-foot TV.

OASIS BAR AND GRILL

15064 E. Mississippi Ave.

303.955.7251

oasisgrillaurora.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$-\$\$\$

Southwest

The happy hour at Oasis has to be the longest in town. It stretches from 11 a.m. all the way to 7 p.m., which means even cheaper beers to wash down your burgers and catfish nuggets.

PITCHER'S SPORTS BAR & RESTAURANT

1670 S. Chambers Road

303.751.7115

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

Fun is the theme at Pitcher's, where seven pool tables await and the karaoke machine runs on Friday and Saturday nights. Hungry? Load up on potato skins, wings, burgers or breakfast all day.



THE ROCK RESTAURANT & BAR

22934 E. Smoky Hill Road

303.690.7934

rockrestaurantandbar.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southeast

You'll find a little bit of everything at The Rock, including breakfast until 1 p.m. every day. Sit on the covered outdoor patio and enjoy a hearty sandwich or chile rellenos.

SCOOTERS SPORTS BAR & GRILL

13698 E. Alameda Ave.

303.366.0019

scooterssportsbarandgrill.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

North Central

Pair your pint of local beer with one of six burgers, the popular chicken fried steak or a shareable pub appetizer. Breakfast is served until 2 p.m.

THE ANGRY CLOVER

15350 E. Smoky Hill Road

303.693.4500

theangryclover.com

Brunch, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

South Central

This live music and sports destination offers all the American pub food you'd expect - burgers, wings, tots - plus across-the-pond fare like Irish nachos and corned beef and cabbage.

THE FAMOUS DOOR BAR & GRILL 2

15220 E. Hampden Ave.

720.870.3236

Lunch, Dinner

\$

South Central

Come for the myriad pool tables. Stay for the friendly staff and menu of burgers and shareable appetizers.

WOODYS WINGS N' BAR

700 S. Buckley Road, Unit G

303.696.7227

woodyswingsco.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$-\$\$

North Central

Wings get top billing at this longtime sports bar, and deservedly so. The flats and drums doused in one of their 20-plus sauces are a must - with or without a big game.



Southern

Q'S QUISINE

5428 S. Parker Road
720.476.8127

qsquisine.net

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

South Central

It doesn't get much better than a plate of pulled pork with sides of collard greens and mac and cheese. Unless you cap it off with peach cobbler or banana pudding, that is. You'll find it all at the family run Q's.

SWIRK SOUL FOOD

2205 S. Peoria St.
303.337.0549

swirksoulfoodtogo.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

Soul food classics are on the menu at Swirk: catfish, hot links, ribs (pork or beef) and fried chicken with all the fixings. Don't overlook the sides, with offerings like fried okra and mac and cheese.

THE JUICY SEAFOOD

2727 S. Parker Road, Unit A
720.808.3138

thejuicyseafoodusaco.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$-\$\$\$

Southwest

You might get a little messy at this seafood boil restaurant, but the shrimp, sausage and crab dripping with Cajun garlic butter are worth the wet wipes. Stop in for happy hour before 6 p.m. for even better deals.

WALDO'S CHICKEN & BEER

24153 E. Prospect Ave.
303.974.9681

waldoschicken.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

South Central

Dipped into an overnight pickle brine and dredged in buttermilk and seasoned breading, Waldo's fried chicken is all crispy, golden goodness. If fried isn't your thing, they've also got rotisserie chicken, southern sides and that namesake beer.





Asian

FORTUNE KITCHEN

12120 E. Mississippi Ave.
303.369.2675

fortunekitchenonline.com

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

Southwest

You can't dine in, but you can carry out Asian cuisine mainstays, such as beef and broccoli, Mongolian pork, and lo mein. The menu also features an excellent selection of vegetarian dishes.

POKECITY CORNERSTAR

6750 S. Cornerstar Way
720.524.4111

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

South Central - *Cornerstar*

Indulge in fresh, vibrant poke bowls at PokeCity Cornerstar, where you can customize your meal with sashimi-grade fish, premium proteins, and colorful toppings. (Don't miss the spicy mayo tuna!) Enjoy a quick lunch or relaxed dinner, with online ordering available.

Afghan

WATAN RESTAURANT & BAKERY

2680 S. Havana St., Unit A
720.960.2226

watanrestaurantbakery.com
Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

Southwest

This is the place for Afghan specialties like kebabs and bolani (stuffed flatbread), plus Iranian sweets. Just don't leave without gulping down a rosewater lassi or saffron chai.

Burmese

URBAN BURMA

10180 E. Colfax Ave.
626.628.5430

urbanburma.co
Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

Northwest - *Mango House*

The first Burmese restaurant in Colorado, Urban Burma has been earning fans since 2019. Everyone comes back for more of the garlicky noodles, rich curries and bright salads, all of which are dished out of their Mango House kitchen.



Chinese

AKI ASIAN HOT POT RESTAURANT

12303 E. Mississippi Ave., #125
720.638.3193

akihotpot.com

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$\$

North Central

When one bowl just won't do, head to Aki for endless hot pot. Customize your bowl with tons of seafood, meats and veggies to choose from.

BIRD'S NEST

10605 E. Mississippi Ave.
917.893.0547

birdsnestaurora.com

Lunch, Dinner
\$

Southwest

Honey chicken is a favorite at this affordable by-the-scoop Chinese restaurant. While it might be light on ambiance, it's definitely heavy on value.

CHINA CAFE 4

16870 E. Iliff Ave.
303.369.0330

chinacafe4.com

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

South Central

Take your pick between the American-style Chinese food menu and the "real" Chinese cuisine options, like the array of pork dumplings, braised meat dishes, and spicy noodles.

CHINA CHEF

636 Peoria St., Suite A
303.363.7622

chinachefaurora.com

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

Northwest

It's helpful to know what you're craving when you place an order at takeout-only China Chef, where the menu has entire sections devoted to sweet-and-sour dishes, egg foo young, lo mein, fried rice...and more.

CHINA CHEF EXPRESS

980 S. Peoria St., Unit A
303.363.1111

chinachefexpressaurora.com

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

North Central

You'll find a lengthy roster of Chinese dishes at this classic establishment, plus Thai and Vietnamese options mixed in. The thick, wonton-wrapped egg rolls are a popular order.

DILLON'S DUMPLING HOUSE

3571 S. Tower Road
303.862.5728

dillonsdumplinghouse.com

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

Southeast

There are 10 types of soup dumplings alone at Dillon's, so yeah, they kind of know what they're doing when it comes to folding and pleating. They've also got a lengthy list of noodles, ramen and stir-fry.

EAST CAFE

15140 E. Mississippi Ave.
303.369.6103

east-cafe.com

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

Southwest

Generations of Aurorans have grown up eating the American Chinese dishes at East Cafe. Go with a big appetite, or, even better, pack up leftovers for lunch tomorrow.



FORMOSA GARDEN

16645 E. Smoky Hill Road
303.693.6290

auroraformosagarden.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

South Central

Formosa Garden is mostly known for its Szechuan eats, but you'll find some Thai influences too. The orange chicken and Cantonese wonton soup are favorites.

GOLDEN WOK ASIAN RESTAURANT

15282 E. Hampden Ave.
303.766.1489

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

South Central

A warm, contemporary space to dig into expertly prepared—and easily shareable—Chinese dishes, such as Hunan-style sliced duck, sesame chicken, and hot-and-spicy tofu.

HUANG'S YA TING

15622 E. Sixth Ave.
303.360.8989

huangyatingrestaurant.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

North Central

The menu is long and the service is quick at this family owned operation. Fill up on Chinese plates like sesame chicken, pork lo mein and Mongolian beef.

KP ASIAN CAFE

12201 E. Mississippi Ave., #111
720.456.7745

kpasiancafe.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

North Central

This is one of those barebones, mom-and-pop Chinese restaurants where the menu is full of more choices than you can shake a chopstick at. Start with the eggrolls and explore from there.

LITTLE PANDA

523 N. Havana St.
720.388.2021

littlepanda.menuxy.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$

North Central

Scoop, scoop, hurray at this by the scoop Chinese restaurant known for heaping portions of lo mein, sesame chicken, broccoli beef, fried rice and other Chinese go-tos.

LITTLE PANDA ASIAN CAFE

18121 E. Hampden Ave., Unit D
303.766.7783

littlepandaasiancafe.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

The spot for all your American Chinese cravings, like kung pao chicken, crab rangoon, sesame chicken and anything and everything sweet and sour.

MASON'S DUMPLING SHOP

9655 E. Montview Blvd.
303.600.8998

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Northwest

Whether you order your dumplings steamed, boiled or pan-fried, be assured they were handmade that very morning. Round out your meal with buns and a hot rice or noodle dish.



NANA'S DIM SUM & DUMPLINGS

2495 S. Havana St.

720.923.6145

nanasdumplingsaurora.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Southwest

Crab rangoons, truffle soup dumplings, bao and fried sesame balls are just some of the dim sum items you'll want crowding your table. Bonus: You get a show watching staff fold the dumplings.

NEW CANTON BBQ

2751 S. Parker Road

303.369.7500

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Southwest

This is the spot for those seeking bona fide, tasty Chinese barbecue. Expect an array of meats—the roast duck is a hands-down favorite—as well as rice and noodle dishes.

NEW CHINA CITY

10300 E. Colfax Ave.

303.341.0888

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$-\$\$

Northwest

Everything you'd expect from a classic Chinese takeout spot - kung pao chicken, crab cheese wontons, heaping portions and good prices. Just be sure you get it to-go, as seating is limited.

OLD TOWN HOT POT

2852 S. Havana St.

303.658.0870

oldtownhotpotco.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$\$

Southwest

Think of Chinese hot pot as an Asian spin on fondue: You add raw meats, seafood, vegetables, noodles and more into a pot of flavored broth to cook at your table. Old Town offers it as an all-you-can-eat.

SUNRISE ASIAN CUISINE RESTAURANT

7450 S. Gartrell Road, Unit A2-A4

303.617.8880

sunriseasiancuisine.com

kwickmenu.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southeast

Gobble up plates of kung pao chicken and roll after roll of fresh sushi at this strip mall restaurant. If you'd rather eat on your couch, they do a mean takeout business too.

TASTY POT

6330 S. Parker Road

720.222.0219

tastypotaurora.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

South Central

This beloved Taiwanese hotpot chain brings ready to eat soups and sizzling skillet to Aurora. Just as popular as the hot dishes might be the full menu of bubble teas and juices.

TEN SECONDS YUNNAN RICE NOODLES

2000 S. Havana St.

720.583.2839

tensecondsyunnanricenoodles.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Southwest

Known as crossing-the-bridge noodles thanks to an ancient tale, this traditional dish originated in the Yunnan province of China. Find about a dozen varieties at this comfortable spot.



TSAI SHEN GARDEN

15200 E. Sixth Ave., Unit 2-E
303.366.8818

Lunch, Dinner

\$

Northeast

Tsai Shen Garden is the kind of affordable neighborhood eatery—with quintessential American-Chinese dishes—that families love to frequent.

U&I BBQ KARAOKE BAR

1555 S. Havana St., Unit C
303.750.0059

renjianyanhuoui.com

Dinner

\$\$-\$\$\$

Southwest

Skewer out while singing your heart out at this Chinese barbecue karaoke joint. Eat and drink in the restaurant or in one of the private karaoke rooms, where you can unleash your inner Beyonce until 2 a.m.

VOLCANO TEA HOUSE

2781 S. Parker Road
720.536.5656

volcanoteahouseaurora.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$

Southwest

Tea—specifically, milk tea in a variety of creative flavors—is the specialty at this pastel-hued cafe.

Fusion

BANGKOK TOKYO ASIAN FUSION

6020 S. Gun Club Road, Unit E5
303.627.6328

Lunch, Dinner

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Southeast

Welcome to a greatest hits lineup of Thai, Japanese, and a hint of Chinese cookery. There are bento boxes, sushi, curries, teriyaki, and so much more. Pair your order with boba, a popular tea drink available in more than 20 flavors.

CHI LIN ASIAN EATERY

2501 Dallas St.
720.288.0011

chilindenver.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northwest - *Stanley Marketplace*

Enjoy Chinese and Japanese dishes—from egg drop soup to house-made dim sum dumplings to ramen to boba tea—in a lively, brightly decorated space.

DATING YUMY

12203 E. Iliff Ave., Unit D
303.755.8518

datingyumyco.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

You'd be forgiven if you didn't make it past the dumplings section of this Chinese/Japanese restaurant where the pork soup dumplings are among the very best in town.



DRAGON BOAT

13697 E. Pliff Ave., Unit 10
303.752.1050

dragonboataurora.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

This strip mall restaurant covers a lot of bases. With a menu full of Chinese, Japanese and Thai favorites, it's a crowd pleaser for all sorts of taste buds.

EAST CHINA ASIAN CUISINE

15510 E. Centretch Parkway
303.363.6689

eastchinaaurora.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

North Central

East China serves the best of Chinese, Thai, and Vietnamese cuisine. That means you can enjoy pad Thai while your dining date digs into a plate of kung pao chicken. Opt for a Thai iced tea or something stronger from the bar.

EGG ROLL KING EAST

4217 S. Buckley Road
303.699.2880

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southeast

Regulars appreciate the generous portions of Thai, Chinese, and Vietnamese dishes—and, of course, the namesake egg rolls, which are filled with either pork or vegetables. The beverage roster includes Thai iced tea and Vietnamese coffee as well as beer and wine.

HONEY BEE ASIAN BISTRO & SUSHI

18541 E. Hampden Ave., Suite 126
303.400.6117

honeybeasianbistro.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

South Central

Dine in, take out or have your meal delivered at this neighborhood Asian restaurant. The food lineup spans from classic Chinese dishes to Korean noodle bowls to Thai curries.

2025
Global
Flavors
Winner

LITTLE PANDA

18121 E. Hampden Ave.
303.766.7783

auroralittlepanda.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

South Central

It's takeout only at this Asian eatery, where the menu includes a broad mix of favorites, from miso soup to sweet and sour shrimp to udon noodles.

NEW NAGOYA

10761 E. Alameda Ave., Unit B
720.277.3539

nagoyahibachiexpressco.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

North Central

This Chinese-Japanese hybrid restaurant is known for its well-priced house hibachi specials, but real fans know to start with the chicken wings. The space is fairly bare-bones, so it's popular for takeout.

P & Y CAFE ASIAN BISTRO

2769 S. Parker Road
303.369.7147

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Southwest

Find Korean takes on Chinese food at this longtime restaurant, which is probably best known for its jajangmyeon, a noodle dish topped with protein and black bean sauce.



PAIK'S NOODLE AURORA

12101 E. Iliff Ave., Ste. K
303.284.7176

paiksnoodleaurora.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$-\$\$\$

Southwest

Mapo tofu rice and Jajangmyeon (noodles with black bean sauce) are the house specialties at this Korean-Chinese restaurant. Start with the Hong Kong wings and be prepared to take home leftovers—portions here are big.

POKE-MEN

23955 E. Plaza Ave., Unit G-103
720.274.5700

poke-men.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southeast - Southlands

Refuel from shopping with build-your-own poke bowls and belly-warming ramen. Looking for something light and refreshing? Opt for boba tea or taiyaki ice cream.

THE PORKLET

12201 E. Mississippi Ave., Unit 123B

303.364.1287

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Southeast

Order at the counter at this casual Japanese-Korean fusion spot, where the go-to meal is a crispy-skinned pork or chicken cutlet served with soup, macaroni salad and a swirl of cabbage.

SAIGON TOKYO ASIAN FUSION

700 S. Buckley Road, Units E and F
303.671.8888

saigontokyo.net

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

North Central

Can't decide between sushi, pho and lo mein? Head to Saigon Tokyo's lantern-lit space.

SPICY CHILI & PHO

1722 S. Chambers Road
720.744.6084

spicychilipho.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

A mix of Chinese, pho and Thai, the menu here is probably even longer than you'd expect. Lunch specials are a good deal and delivery is always speedy.

YONGGUNG

2040 S. Havana St.
720.748.3003

ygaurora.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Southwest

A fusion of Korean and Chinese cuisines, Yonggung is known for its noodles—specifically ja jang myeon (black bean sauce noodles), and jjam bong (spicy seafood noodle soup).



KOREAN FRIED CHICKEN

How is it different from American Southern fried chicken?

Unlike the thickly battered American version, authentic KFC (that's Korean fried chicken) isn't brined, has a very thin crust, and is double-fried for extra crispiness. Seasoning happens afterward, sometimes with a sweet garlic-soy glaze or a spicier pepper sauce. Pair your order with pickled radishes and beer or soju. Want to make your own KFC? Head to Midopa Market or Pacific Ocean Marketplace to gather all the necessary ingredients.

Turn to page 27 to find a list of Aurora's independent Korean restaurants and page 81 for area markets.



HOW TO ORDER:

BOBA TEA

Choose your base: black tea or the slightly less caffeinated green tea?

Decide if you want milk. Fruit flavors tend to be better sans dairy, so we've heard.

Iced or hot?

Go light on the toppings. These add-ons actually sit at the bottom of the cup and there are plenty to choose from. Pick just one or two that sound good to you.

Don't build-your-own. Most tea shops have a lineup of popular flavors. If this is your first time ordering, go with a tried-and-true option and experiment from there.



Indian

CHUTNEY INDIAN CUISINE RESTAURANT

2740 S. Havana St., Unit K
303.997.6202

chutneyindiancuisine.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Southwest

All your favorite Indian dishes are on the menu here—curry, tikka masala, saag, vindaloo, the list goes on. You'll also find a compelling selection of vegetarian options and plenty of appetizers to share.

HALDI INDIAN CUISINE & BAR

24223 E. Prospect Ave.
303.993.6658

haldiindiancuisine.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Southeast

Tables at this contemporary Indian restaurant are brimming with samosas, curries, kormas and masalas. While the entrees are great, start with the tomato coconut soup and thank us later.

MASALAA

3140 S. Parker Road, Unit 7 and 8
303.755.6272

Lunch, Dinner

\$

Southwest

Expand your Indian cuisine repertoire at this all-vegetarian restaurant. The dosas—pliable-yet-crispy crêpes made from rice and lentils—are abundant.

MOMO DUMPLINGS

14200 E. Alameda Ave., #1039B
303.359.4305

momo-dumplings.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

North Central

Billed as Colorado's first Indian fusion dumplings, Momo folds and pleats delicious little bundles filled with shrimp, veggies, pork, lamb and more. Be sure to grab some Himalayan sauce and a strawberry lassi.

MONSOON CUISINE OF INDIA

24107 E. Commons Ave.
303.627.5444

monsoonsouthlands.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Southeast - Southlands

At this contemporary Indian eatery, tradition reigns (aka, tandoor-fired meats, curry and vindaloo). But you'll also find inventive updates, like the baked-to-order, spicy bullet naan. Located at Southlands.

SMOKY HILL INDIAN RESTAURANT

22942 E. Smoky Hill Road, Unit A
303.627.9679

indiancuisineaurora.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Southeast

At dinnertime, you can choose among classics like paneer tikka masala, butter chicken and lamb vindaloo, but at lunch you don't have to choose. The buffet lets you try an array of dishes—just make sure you've got room for it all.



STAR OF INDIA RESTAURANT

3102 S. Parker Road, Unit A-10

303.755.1921

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Southwest

Family owned for more than two decades, this restaurant concentrates on Northern Indian cuisine. The most popular dishes are the masalas and kormas. There's also a full bar.

TAZ INDIAN RESTAURANT

10731 E. Alameda Ave., Unit G

303.366.3011

tazindianrestaurant.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

North Central

A cozy eatery focusing on north Indian dishes like curries, masalas and tandoors. Don't miss out on the homemade momo (Nepali-style dumplings), prayer wheels and decor.

Indian/Nepalese/Pakistani

BAJEKO SEKUWA

12191 E. Iliff Ave.

303.593.2775

bajekosekuwa.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Southwest

The vibe is just as good as the food at this Himalayan restaurant. Choose among curries, biryani, momo and tandoori-kissed proteins amidst beautiful copper prayer wheels and decor.

GARLIC NAAN - INDIAN RESTAURANT & BAR

1706 S. Chambers Road

720.722.2246

garlicnaanrestaurant.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

You could order chicken tikka masala, biryani or another Indian or Nepalese entree here for dinner, or you could visit at lunch and try it all at the well-priced lunch buffet. Don't forget the namesake naan.

NEPALI SPICE

10180 E. Colfax Ave., Ste. 115

720.507.6647

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northwest - *Mango House*

Find Nepali thali (a feast of rice, dal, saag and other small dishes), noodles, curries and momo at this Mango House stall. Grab a side of chatpate (spicy, tangy puffed rice) with whatever you pick.

MAKALU GROCERY & DELI

9355 E. Colfax Ave.

303.953.1784

makalurestaurant.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$

Northwest

For Nepalese dishes like thukpa (noodle soup) and momos, plus a side of grocery staples, Aurorans know to go to Makalu. The space and menu are small, but the flavors are huge.

SYED'S KITCHEN

14200 E. Alameda Ave., Unit 1039B

773.742.6492

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

North Central

A roster of biryani and halal fried chicken tenders are just two of the specialties at this Pakistani and Indian restaurant that doubles down on flavor. Besides the good food, service is super friendly.



Japanese

ASUKA RAMEN & POKE

5580 S. Parker Road
720.542.8888

asukaaurora.com

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$\$

South Central

A lengthy list of poke bowls and ramen vie for your attention at this cozy counter restaurant serving big portions, but don't sleep on the boba milk teas, smoothies and juices.

FUYU RAMEN

6180 S. Gun Club Road
303.993.5986

fuyuramenco.com

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

Southeast

Be sure to slurp your way through Fuyu's ramen menu (the spicy Diablo is a favorite), but don't overlook the Japanese rice bowls. And maybe throw in a boba tea to reward yourself for getting through a Wednesday.

FUYU SUSHI

16911 E. Quincy Ave., Unit A4
303.997.5869

fuyusushi.com

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

South Central

It's hot and cold at Fuyu Sushi, where the namesake sashimi and rolls are just as much a hit as the steaming bowls of ramen. Grab a seat at the sushi bar to watch the pros in action.

GOKU HIBACHI EXPRESS

14107 E. Colfax Ave.
720.532.1091

gokuhibachiexpress.com

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$-\$\$\$

Northeast

Hibachi means "fire bowl," and that's what you'll get at Goku, which grills up ribeye, chicken, shrimp and veggies. You can bring the hibachi home, too, with their carryout and delivery options.

HARU SUSHI & POKE

12303 E. Mississippi Ave., Unit 137
303.284.7771

harusushipoke.com

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$-\$\$\$

North Central

Inside Great Wall Market, Haru offers affordable sushi rolls, poke bowls and musubi. While it's mostly takeout, there are a few tables if you want to stick around.

HIBACHI GRILL & SUPREME BUFFET

1026 S. Sable Blvd.
303.337.4264

hibachigrillcotogo.com

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

North Central

Hibachi Grill and Supreme Buffet offers a range of menu items ranging from sushi to traditional hibachi cuisine. Make sure to check out the buffet – its namesake won't disappoint!



HIRO JAPANESE BUFFET

2797 S. Parker Road
303.873.9999

hirojapanesebuffet.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$-\$\$\$

Southwest

Can't decide among sushi, broccoli beef or Mongolian BBQ? Get them all, plus a whole lot more, at this all-you-can-eat Japanese buffet.

KATSU RAMEN

1930 S. Havana St., Unit 4
303.751.2222

ramendenver.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

Katsu's chef hails from Osaka, Japan, bringing authenticity—and lots of flavor—to the seven varieties of ramen on the menu.

LEEZAKAYA

2710 S. Havana St.
720.769.6595

leezakaya.com

Dinner

\$\$\$-\$\$\$\$

Southwest

Leezakaya serves top-notch sushi and noodles in an equally stunning setting. This is the place to go to celebrate a birthday, anniversary or just making it through the week. Sake lovers will find lots to love, including premium bottles.

MIKAKU RAMEN & TEMAKI

14302 E. Cedar Ave., B
720.772.9999

mikakuramen.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

North Central

Move over PB&J, ramen and temaki is our new favorite pairing. The well-priced offerings are fresh and flavorful here, and the setting is straight out of Tokyo.

MISAKI AT STANLEY

2501 Dallas St.
720.400.1212

misakidenver.com

Lunch, Dinner

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Northwest - Stanley Marketplace

Sushi rolls lead the menu at this bustling restaurant, but don't overlook the variety of other Japanese bites, including karaage (fried chicken) and udon soup.

MT. FUJI SUSHI & HIBACHI

6100 S. Main St., Unit H-101
303.699.9388

Lunch, Dinner

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Southeast - Southlands

Satisfy all your Japanese food cravings here, where you can enjoy sushi, classic teriyaki or udon dinners, or a communal, hibachi-style dining experience. Pair your meal with sake.

SARKU JAPAN

14200 E. Alameda Ave., #2064A
720.492.1052

sarkujapan.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

North Central

This chain is known for their teriyaki bowls, which are cooked to order in front of you. Based around the quick, fresh lunches that are ubiquitous in Japan, Sarku brings that same style of cooking to the States.

SONODA'S SUSHI

3108 S. Parker Road, D1
303.337.3800

aurorasonodassushi.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$-\$\$\$\$

Southwest

Sushi might be in the name, but there's a lot more going on here than just rolls and sashimi. Feast on udon noodles, teriyaki steak, tempuras and teriyakis, and, yes, the fresh sushi.

SUGAMI HIBACHI EXPRESS

15434 E. Mississippi Ave.
303.745.2935

sugamihibachiexpress.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

It's hard to tell what people love more here—the huge portions or the great prices. While they have a full Chinese menu as well, the specialty is hibachi, and it's even better with the house extra yummy sauce.

SUSHI KATSU

2222 S. Havana St., Unit H
303.368.8778

sushikatsudenver.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Southwest

Sushi Katsu is an all-you-can-eat restaurant with 40-plus sushi rolls on the menu, plus pan-fried gyoza, octopus salad, chicken teriyaki and yaki soba.

SUSHI TOTORO

4243 S. Buckley Road
303.766.0045

sushitotoro.net

Lunch, Dinner

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Southeast

Cooked or uncooked? That is the question at Sushi Totoro, where the menu includes fried tempura proteins, grilled meats and seafood, nigiri, sashimi and rolls full of fresh fish.

Korean

ANGRY CHICKEN

1930 S. Havana St., Unit 13
303.353.2680

angrychickenco.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

Satisfy your Korean fried chicken craving. Choose from an array of sauces (spicy soy is popular). Two soups are also available and cooked hot pot-style at the table.

CUPBOP KOREAN BBQ IN A CUP

13700 E. Colfax Ave.
720.741.2409

cupbop.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northwest

If you like to play with your food, Cupbop is for you. The shakeable Korean BBQ cups, cheesy corn dogs and fish-shaped samanco ice cream are just plain fun. (And a hit on social media.)

DAE GEE

1910 S. Havana St., Unit 1
303.873.6800

daegee.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Southwest

At this classic Korean barbecue hot spot, cook your own galbee (beef short ribs), bulgogi (marinated chicken, pork or beef) or scallops at the table. Enjoy a plethora of traditional sides.

2025
Global
Flavors
Winner



DAGIYA

5612 S. Parker Road

720.630.7713

dagiyaofficial.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

South Central

Meaning “chicken darling,”

Dagiya comes from two locals wanting to bring a Korean chicken shop to Colorado.

Besides the fried bird, they also sling street food staples like ddukbokki (rice and fish cakes in a gochujang sauce).

DAN SUNG SA

2320 S. Parker Road

213.924.1697

Lunch, Dinner

Southwest

This Korean bar/restaurant has vibes for days. (You're encouraged to draw on the table and walls to add your own graffiti.) The menu is tight and the drinks are always flowing.

FUNNY PLUS

2779 S. Parker Road

303.745.3477

Dinner

\$\$-\$\$\$

Southwest

This Korean beer hall and restaurant is a lot of fun. The lively atmosphere and flavor-packed menu full of hibachi, barbecue, fried chicken and other Korean favorites make this a popular night out destination.

KPOT KOREAN BBQ & HOT POT

14180 E. Ellsworth Ave., Unit B

720.930.9804

thekpot.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$\$

North Central

Wear your best stretchy pants for this all-you-can-eat Korean barbecue and/or hot pot restaurant. (Yes, you can do both!) It's interactive, it's a ton of food and it's sure to please everyone with more than 50 items to grill and dip.

MOOBONGRI SOONDAE

2787 S. Parker Road

720.696.7188

moobongriusa.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Southwest

From fiery soups to classic bulgogi, this South Korean franchise has been feeding fans for 25 years. Pro tip: Whatever you order, load it up with the accompanying kimchi.

MR KIM KOREAN BBQ

12201 E. Mississippi Ave., Unit

113

303.367.4444

mrkimbbq.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$-\$\$\$\$

North Central

Go hungry to this all-you-can-eat destination, where you'll be greeted by the sizzling sounds and smells of Korean BBQ. A la carte dishes are available too, if you forgot your stretchy pants.



MR. TANG

2680 S. Havana St., Unit M
303.955.2273

mr-tang.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Southwest

Whether you're already acquainted with Korean dishes like wang galbi tang (beef short rib soup with noodles) and bibim naeng myeon (spicy cold buckwheat noodles), you'll feel welcome at this lovely restaurant.

MYUNGRANG KOREAN HOTDOG AURORA

2623 S. Parker Road
720.470.4776

myungrangamerica.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$

Southwest

Korean hot dogs have been gaining popularity, and this spot gives you all the options. From dipped in Flamin' Hot Cheeto flakes to rolled and fried with sweet potato cubes to a basic cheesy dog, these rice battered hot dogs are habit forming.

O BOK RICE CAKE

2720 S. Havana St., Suite H
303.369.3333

Lunch, Dinner

Southwest

Rice is steamed and pounded to create the chewy, traditional Korean rice cakes sold at this strip mall store. Flavors rotate, but the black sesame is a customer favorite.

SEOUL KOREAN BBQ & HOT POT

2080 S. Havana St.
303.632.7576

seoulkoreanbbq.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Southwest

It may say "BBQ" on the sign, but Seoul diners know that really means grilling—not smoking—your choice of meat or seafood over a cooker set into the table. Also enjoy cook-it-yourself hot pots.

SEOUL MANDOO

2222 S. Havana St., Unit J
303.953.9590

seoulmandoo.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

Dedicated to all things Korean dumplings - steamed, fried and giant - Seoul Mandoo is a must try for oversized pockets of goodness. Grab a pack of frozen dumplings to-go, as you're going to want more later.

SILLA KOREAN BARBECUE

3005 S. Peoria St.
303.338.5070

sillabbq.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Southwest

Silla specializes in traditional Korean cuisine, including tabletop BBQ, but many diners return for the restaurant's other regional specialties: hearty soups, pan-fried mackerel and buckwheat noodles.



SONMAT BANCHAN

2000 S. Havana St., #4749
720.840.0362

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

Southwest

If sides are your favorite part of every meal, then this is the spot for you. Sonmat Banchan specializes in Korean side dishes like noodles, pickled vegetables, pancakes and sushi.

THANK SOOL

2222 S. Havana St.
720.485.3682

thanksool.com

Dinner
\$\$\$

Southwest

Get a taste for Korean nightlife culture at this K-Pub, where you can sip on soju, taste specialties like spicy rice cakes and army stew and bop to K-Pop until 2 a.m.

TOFU STORY

2060 S. Havana St.
303.954.9372

thetofustory.com

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$\$-\$\$\$\$

Southwest

No surprise, it's all about the tofu here, and that dedication extends to a unique, in-house tofu program. Taste the difference in dishes like pork soon tofu and mapo tofu, but there are also plenty of options for carnivores, too.

WOO RI KOREAN RESTAURANT

2648 S. Parker Road, Unit 9
303.974.5425

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

Southwest

A mom-and-pop spot known for its tofu soup, bibimbap, and bulgogi (marinated and grilled beef or pork).

Thai

BUA TASTY THAI

950 S. Abilene St.
720.262.9923

buathai.mlpo.org

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

Northeast

This family owned restaurant invites you in with colorful decor and tableware imported straight from Thailand. Taste generations-old recipes throughout the extensive menu of savory soups, customer-favorite drunken noodles, curries, and more.

CHERRY THAI CAFE

13710 E. Quincy Ave.
303.693.0825

cherrythaicafeaurora.com

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

South Central

A spacious eatery with a standard lineup of curries, rice noodles, larb and papaya salads, and stir-fries. Save room: Mango sticky rice is on the dessert menu.

PEARL OF SIAM

18660 E. Hampden Ave.
303.617.7408

pearlofsiam.net

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

Southeast

Pearl of Siam is known for its eight varieties of curry. Tone down the spice with sips of creamy Thai iced tea or bites of house-made coconut ice cream.



REAL THAI MILE HIGH

12201 E. Mississippi Ave., #109

303.975.6417

realthaimilehighaurora.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

North Central

The menu runs deeper than your typical pad thais and curries at this neighborhood Thai restaurant. Try the crispy tamarind duck, whole fried fish or a dish off the street food menu for something different.

SPICY 9 THAI

1984 Nome St.

720.693.8972

spicy9thai.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northwest

Spicy 9 Thai is known for its khao mun kai, a dish of steamed chicken, rice and ginger sauce, but there's a lot to try at this neighborhood takeout spot with a lengthy menu.

THAI BITE OF FUSION

1155 S. Tower Road

303.755.7676

thaibitefusion.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

North Central

Yes, you'll find the drunken noodles and panang curry you already know and love, but Thai Bite Fusion does a whole lot more. From unique Thai dishes to pho to orange chicken, there's a lot to explore here.

THAI FLAVOR RESTAURANT

1014 S. Peoria St.

720.859.7648

thaiflavorrestaurants.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northeast

Fill up on classic Thai dishes—from tom kha soup to robust curries to drunken noodles to sweet sticky rice with mango—at this comfortable eatery.

Vietnamese

9 MILE PHO

12211 E. Dartmouth Ave., Ste.

100

720.500.7356

9milepho.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

While the 15 pho options are certainly slurp-worthy, don't overlook the rest of 9 Mile's menu, which includes a roster of banh mi, rice and noodle plates and boba-filled milk teas.

DÂN DÃ

9945 E. Colfax Ave.

720.476.7183

dandavn.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Northwest

From the daughters of longtime restaurant favorite New Saigon's owners, Dân Dã does Vietnamese comfort food with a modern twist. Don't miss the DIY rice paper rolls.

GOLDEN BANH MI

2648 S. Parker Road, #1

303.993.3693

goldenbanhmi.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

They do one thing at Golden Banh Mi, and they do it really, really well. Their Vietnamese sandwiches rank up there with the best in town, filled with crispy pork belly, lemongrass tofu, tempura shrimp and other top-notch ingredients.



GOLDEN SAIGON VIETNAMESE GRILL

2648 S. Parker Road, Unit 2

303.671.7100

goldensaigon.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

The yellow coconut curry is what brings most diners in the door. But they stick around for create-your-own spring rolls, warm bowls of pho, Vietnamese iced coffee, and a surprising number of pan-Asian dishes.

MR. PHO VIETNAMESE RESTAURANT

2719 S. Parker Road

303.750.3007

mrphoco.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

This Vietnamese noodle house serves the ingredient two ways: in pho and in noodle bowls. The familiar menu also lists steamed rice plates, Vietnamese egg rolls and boba.

PARIS BANH MI CAFE & BAKERY

475 Sable Blvd.

720.361.2531

parisbanhmi.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$-\$\$

North Central

You'll need multiple visits to fully explore all the sandwiches, corn dogs and huge range of sweets at Paris Banh Mi. They also make tasty Vietnamese coffees and teas.

PHO 75

13736 E. Quincy Ave.

303.699.7777

pho75quincy.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

South Central

It's like a greatest hits of Vietnamese favorites here, where you can pick from a bowl of pho, a loaded banh mi, a fried rice plate or a vermicelli noodle bowl. They also pour boba teas and Vietnamese coffees.

PHỞ 75

2050 S. Havana St.

303.671.8899

pho75havana.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

Pho 75 may be a contender for Aurora's best pho, but its menu goes beyond Vietnamese noodle soups. The banh mi, vermicelli bowls and rice plates are also popular orders.

PHO 777

562 S. Chambers Road

303.369.2220

pho777au.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

North Central

Whether you're Team Winter or Team Summer for when you prefer your steaming bowls of pho, this is the spot for giant bowls of the noodle soup. Grab a pickle lime lemonade for something different to drink.

PHO 888

539 Sable Blvd.

303.367.4180

pho888aurora.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

North Central

Families love this spot for the huge portions of grilled meat-topped noodle and rice bowls, the loads of pho options and rice paper—wrapped spring rolls. If you need a buzz, order an iced Vietnamese coffee - but don't say we didn't warn you.



PHO 90 SOUTHLANDS

23955 E. Plaza Ave., Unit G-115
and 117

303.627.5718

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southeast - *Southlands*

This Vietnamese eatery features pho and plenty of meats accompanied by noodle options like vermicelli, udon and lo mein, plus a variety of vegetarian choices.

PHO 99

1080 S. Havana St.

303.344.0752

pho99aurora.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

North Central

Local family run chain of sit-down soup shops serving the signature pho and Vietnamese specials. "Every dish achieves that elusive, balance of sweet, salty, and sour — even Boba drinks."

PHO DUY VIETNAMESE RESTAURANT

680 Peoria St.

303.367.9884

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northwest

A longtime pho favorite in the 303, the Aurora outpost of Pho Duy has everything the mini chain is known for - delicious, soul-warming bowls of soup in a sparse but friendly setting.

PHO KIM

12203 E. Iliff Ave., Unit H

303.481.8020

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

The dozen-plus varieties of pho served here are all built around house-made broth. Or try the vermicelli noodle plates and rice bowls.

PHO PEORIA

1695 Peoria St.

303.360.6688

phopeoria.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northwest

This spot has been feeding Aurora since the '90s, so yes, they definitely know their way around noodle soups. The broth takes 12 hours to simmer its way to perfection and is served with all the fresh fixings.

PHO VY

6770 S. Cornerstar Way

303.699.1668

phovyrestaurant.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

South Central - *Cornerstar*

Besides all the typical meaty phos - like rare steak, brisket and chicken—Pho Vy offers vegetarian pho with tofu and veggies. Cool things down with a fruit smoothie or boba tea.

SAIGON BISTRO

12303 E. Mississippi Ave., Ste. 145

303.745.1637

saigonbistro.co

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

North Central

Go beyond the world of pho here - although they have that, too - with a menu bursting with Vietnamese specialties. Try the whole fried fish with mango papaya salad, or maybe Dungeness crab stir fried with tamarind sauce.

TOP PHO

11697 E. Colfax Ave.

303.341.0566

topphoaurora.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northwest

Top Pho is known for its homestyle pho soup, fresh spring rolls, noodle bowls and—to drink—an extensive menu of boba shakes in creative flavors.

HOW TO MAKE:

CHICKEN TIKKA MASALA

- Chicken breasts or thighs
- Garlic
- Ginger
- Onion
- Tomato paste
- Can of whole, peeled tomatoes
- Spices: Turmeric, garam masala, coriander, cumin, cardamom, red chili flakes, salt
- Coconut milk, heavy cream or Greek yogurt
- Ghee or vegetable oil
- Rice (for serving)

You can pick up many of these ingredients at Arash International Market or World Food Bazaar. Then, you marinate the chicken; cook it in a pot with the onion, tomatoes, and more spices; and let the sauce simmer and thicken. Scoop it over rice, and it's time to eat.

Not in a cooking mood? Turn to page 23 to find a list of Aurora's independent Indian restaurants.





Bars, Breweries & Tasting Rooms

BENT BARLEY BREWING COMPANY

6200 S. Main St., #110
303.627.5799

bentbarley.com

Daily

\$

Southeast - *Southlands*

After a day of shopping, sip on a refreshing brew or a nonalcoholic beverage at this award-winning brewery with patio.

A BIT TWISTED BREW PUB AND BBQ

3095 S. Peoria St.
720.350.4905

twistedbrewpub.com

Daily

\$\$

Southwest

If you love Central Texas-style barbecue and Colorado craft brews, this is your place.

CEREBRAL BREWING

9990 E. Colfax Ave.
720.508.1984

cerebralbrewing.com

Daily

\$\$\$

Northwest

Cerebral Brewing offers a rotating selection of craft beers that blend creativity with scientific precision. Known for hazy IPAs, lagers, and innovative brews, it's a laid-back spot to enjoy fresh, experimental flavors.

CHELUNA BREWING

2501 Dallas St.
720.600.0020

cheluna.com

Daily

\$

Northwest - *Stanley Marketplace*

Colorado's first Latin-owned Mexican craft brewery serves a wide array of chelas (that's slang for "beer").

DAINTY'S COCKTAIL AND SMOKE LOUNGE

2295 S. Chambers Road
303.337.6242

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

First and foremost this is a cigar and hookah bar, but you'll also find Rocky Mountain pizza and a full bar to wash down your smokes.



DRY DOCK BREWING CO

15120 E. Hampden Ave.
303.400.5606

drydockbrewing.com

Daily

\$

South Central

As Aurora's first craft brewery, this spot serves up a rotating lineup of award-winning beers, from hop-forward IPAs to crisp lagers. It's the perfect place to enjoy inventive, local brews in a laid-back setting.

EMBERS LODGE BAR

6700 N. Gaylord Rockies Blvd.
720.452.6900

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Northeast - *Gaylord Rockies Resort and Convention Center*

Part of the Gaylord's redesign, Embers is a massive gathering spot, offering a 360-degree wraparound bar, two fireplaces and a menu of light snacks and Colorado-inspired cocktails.

G'DUCKS BAR

15420 E. Hampden Ave.
303.766.5052

Daily

\$

Southeast

G'Ducks bills itself as having the cheapest prices in town. Find out for yourself during Friday night karaoke or during the twice-a-week pool leagues.

HAYKIN FAMILY CIDER

12001 E. 33rd Ave., Unit D
720.242.7292

haykinfamilycider.com

Thursday-Sunday

\$

Northwest

This award-winning small batch cidery features a different kind of bubbly, with a sparkling wine-like cider in a variety of sweetness levels.

JUST BILLS TAVERN

15355 E. Colfax Ave., Unit E-3
303.344.2023

Daily

\$

North Central

At this neighborhood watering hole, the bartenders greet regulars by name. Play a game of darts or virtual bowling.

LAUNCH PAD BREWERY

884 S. Buckley Road
303.745.4599

launchpadbrewery.com

Daily

\$

Northeast

This funky microbrewery specializes in offbeat craft beers served in a rocket-themed taproom.

MAJESTIC SALOON

3140 S. Parker Road
303.695.4478

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

Regulars know that this neighborhood bar is more than just pool and shuffleboard. The burgers, sandwiches and nachos will fuel you up for whatever your night brings.



MILIEU FERMENTATION

2101 N. Ursula St.
303.955.1035

milieufc.com

Daily

\$

Northwest - *Anschutz Medical Campus*

Showing off the art of fermentation, this modern brewery goes beyond your typical beers. Sip on hard teas, hop waters and kombucha, but there are also plenty of brews, too.

PARKSIDE CENTRAL BAR

14515 E. Alameda Ave., Suite D
parkside-eatery.com/bar

Daily

\$-\$\$

North Central - *Parkside Eatery*

The bar inside Parkside Eatery is often a first stop; pick up a beer, wine or cocktail before heading to one of the food stalls. Get there during the daily happy hour and knock a couple bucks off your drink.

SEAN'S TAVERN

10395 E. Iliff Ave.
303.369.9819

Lunch, Dinner

\$-\$\$

Southwest

There's always something going on at Sean's - whether it's live music, trivia or karaoke - and while this is mostly a beer spot, they also serve a food menu with nachos, pretzels and more.

SECOND DAWN BREWING COMPANY

2302 Dayton St.

seconddawnbrewing.com

Tuesday-Sunday

\$

Northwest

Innovative brews and other creative libations are served in a former auto body repair shop just down the street from the Stanley Marketplace. Did we mention it's dog-friendly?

SHEABEENS IRISH PUB

2300 S. Chambers Road, Unit A&B
303.696.6131

sheabeenirishpub.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

South Central

The oldest Irish pub in the metro area, Sheabeen is more than just a rollicking St. Patty's Day destination. (Although it's that too.) With a full menu, live music and huge TVs, it's a good time year-round.

SIX CAPITAL BREWING

16701 E. Iliff Ave.
720.598.6816

sixcapitalbrewing.com

Daily

\$\$

South Central

Colorado craft beer and Texas barbecue come together under one roof, with a scratch kitchen, wine and cocktails also.

STAMPEDE

2430 S. Havana St.
303.696.7686

stampedeclub.net

Friday and Saturday

\$

Southwest

Work up a sweat line-dancing to hits on the dance floor at Aurora's signature country music bar. Lessons are offered on Wednesday evenings if your two-step needs some work.

STEEL TIPS BAR

15162 E. Hampden Ave.
303.699.2222

steeltipsbar.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

South Central

Named after the steel-tip darts used to play on the numerous dart boards that line the walls, this bar serves a familiar lineup of eats that pair well with a boozy drink.

THE Q POOL AND DART BAR

16961 E. Quincy Ave., Unit C-1
303.693.1915

Daily

\$\$

Southeast

A dive bar with free pool and eight taps of mostly local beer.

TRAVELING MERCIES

2501 Dallas St., #311

970.445.7239

travelingmerciesbar.com

Dinner

\$\$-\$\$\$

Northwest - *Stanley Marketplace*

What comes after winning a coveted James Beard Award? For chef Caroline Glover, who earned the title of best chef in the Mountain region, it's opening a dream oyster and cocktail bar. Traveling Mercies is a bright, cheery destination for coastal wines, rum- and aperitivo-heavy cocktails and seafood specialties like oysters and shrimp cocktail.

VANISHING WEST

9735 E Colfax Ave.

619.309.5100

vanishingwestciders.com

Dinner

\$\$

Northwest

Serving up dry, crisp ciders with bold, unique blends inspired by the American West. This inviting cidery offers refreshing flavors perfect for both seasoned cider fans and newcomers alike.

Asian

MUSE NORAEBANG AND CAFE

2222 S. Havana St., Unit D
720.389.7807

museнораebang.com

Dinner

\$

Southwest

Snack on fries, wings and other fried guilty pleasures while you belt out your favorite songs in one of Muse Noraebang's nine private karaoke rooms. Their full bar and menu can be delivered right to your room.

Mexican

EL MATADOR BAR

15200 E. Colfax Ave., Suite B
720.767.4417

laplazacolorado.com/el-matador-bar

Daily

\$-\$\$

Northwest

El Matador is on a mission to build the state's largest collection of tequilas, and with 500-plus and counting, they might hold the title. Besides the agave drinks, they have a good selection of beers, wines and seltzers.

SI AMIGOS

9500 E. Colfax Ave.

303.341.7702

Dinner

\$-\$\$

Northwest

Like the name implies, this is a friendly, south of the border-frequented bar, where you'll find stiff drinks, pool tables, live music and Mexican fare.



DRINK LIKE A LOCAL

Make your meal even more authentic by pairing it with a local cocktail or spirit.



If you're eating **Brazilian**,
order a **Caipirinha**

If you're eating **Peruvian**,
order a **pisco sour**

If you're eating **Mexican**,
order **tequila**

If you're eating **Korean**,
order **soju**

If you're eating **Cuban**,
order a **mojito**

If you're eating **Greek**,
order **ouzo**

If you're eating
Ethiopian, order **tej**

If you're eating **Italian**,
order **grappa**



Breakfast, Brunch, Coffee & Tea Shops

1040 CAFE

12455 E. Mississippi Ave., Suite 101
720.401.8137

Daily

\$

Northeast

This international coffee and pastry shop doubles as a nonprofit benefiting mission trips around the world. Sip the Vietnamese, Ethiopian and Yemeni coffees knowing your dollars go to a good cause.

AMMAN HOOKAH LOUNGE AND CAFÉ

16050 E. Dartmouth Ave., Unit 2
720.951.0786

ammanhookahlounge.com

Daily

\$

South Central

Pair your hookah with Turkish coffees, specialty teas and fresh juices at Amman. For even more entertainment, settle in with one of the lounge's provided games, or just kick back in the comfy space.

BEANTREE COFFEE

12101 E. Iliff Ave.
303.396.6178

Daily

\$

Southwest

A no-frills coffee shop with something for everyone: espresso drinks, blended iced coffees, boba, and slushies, plus a selection of pastries and Korean snacks like rice cakes.

BOSS TEA

14101 E. Exposition Ave.
303.593.2029

thebossteashop.com

Daily

\$

North Central

You definitely won't want to spill the tea at this next-level bubble tea shop. With choices spanning cheese slushies to pure teas to flavored brown sugar lattes, you can try something new every day.



CAFÉ MERA

3190 S. Vaughn Way, Ste. 110

720.592.0785

Breakfast, Lunch

\$

South Central

This family owned Greek cafe kicks avocado toast up a notch with feta and grape tomatoes, and its gyro wrap practically has its own fan club. Stop in for a cheery breakfast or lunch.

CARBON COFFEE

12230 E. Colfax Ave.

303.725.1155

carboncoffeebar.com

Daily

\$

Northwest

Carbon is more “Can we move in here?” than run-of-the-mill coffee chain. With outlets at every table, a sleek space and both ube lattes and coconut pandan matcha, you’ll never want to leave.

CHANGE PLEASE COFFEE

2115 N. Scranton St.

changeplease-us.org

Daily

\$

Northwest

Literally life-changing coffee, all profits go to help people experiencing homelessness. Besides being good for the world, the coffees and teas are also good for your tastebuds.

COCO LOCO JUICE & EATS

2353 S. Havana St., Unit D14

303.284.2959

cocolocolorado.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$

Southwest

At this family owned health food restaurant, fill up on raw juices, smoothies (more than three dozen options!), wraps, and salads. Vegans and vegetarians will find plenty to enjoy here.

COFFEE STORY

2222 S. Havana St., Unit A-1

720.609.2971

coffeestoryco.com

Daily

\$

Southwest

This spacious coffee shop serves a robust menu of coffee and other caffeinated beverages, smoothies, lemonades, and shaved ice. Pair yours with a sweet treat: The venue is known for its “croffles”—a combination of croissants and waffles, available in six flavors.

ENDLESS GRIND COFFEE

17070 E. Quincy Ave.

303.284.5359

endlessgrindcoffee.com

Breakfast, Lunch

\$

Southeast

This cozy, Ethiopian-owned coffee shop micro-roasts its beans—sourced from around the world—on-site and serves only fair-trade and organic coffee. A small menu of pastries and sandwiches is also available.

FOREST COFFEE

15285 E. Smoky Hill Road

303.945.4798

Breakfast, Lunch

\$

South Central

Lattes get wild at Forest, where flavor combinations can include peanut butter and raspberry or white mocha with chocolate chip cookie dough. You’ll also find breakfast pastries and sandwiches.



THE FRENCH PRESS CAFÉ AND BAKERY

15290 E. Iliff Ave.

303.369.3111

myfrenchpress.com

Breakfast, Lunch

\$\$

Southwest

Wake up with coffee drinks made with beans from Denver's own Pablo's Coffee. In the morning, dig into the lox Benedict, seasonal French toast, or a reliable breakfast burrito. The turkey melt is a customer favorite on the equally expansive lunch menu.

GLISSADE COFFEE COMPANY

2520 Galena St., Unit C-3

303.955.7807

glissadecoffee.com

Daily

\$

Northwest

Designed to caffeinate your outdoor adventures, Glissade is an independently owned shop serving house-roasted beans and a small menu of beer and wine. (And no upcharge for alternative milks.)

GONG CHA

15405 Briarwood Circle, B-20

720.767.3333

gongchacolorado.com

Daily

\$

South Central - *Cornerstar*

The tagline is "brewing happiness" at this boba chain. And really, how could you be anything but happy while sipping the creative milk teas, slushies, milk foams and lattes that have made this Taiwan-based shop famous?



HERITAGE CAFE

22691 E. Aurora Parkway, Unit

8 and 9

720.726.4549

heritagecafe-hc.com

Breakfast, Lunch

\$\$

Southeast

A scratch-made meal awaits at this welcoming eatery where classic dishes get a deluxe twist, like chicken and waffles topped with jalapeño gravy. There's no bar, but you will find alcohol-free, CBD mimosas.

LEGENDS COFFEE

24100 E. Commons Ave., Unit 103

720.297.9396

legendscoffeeco.com

Breakfast, Lunch

\$

Southeast - *Southlands*

This contemporary cafe serves locally roasted java, while the scratch kitchen churns out toasts, breakfast sandwiches and burritos until noon. Later, fill up on paninis, parfaits and other treats.

LOGAN HOUSE COFFEE CO.

2501 Dallas St.

720.515.7752

loganhousecoffee.com

Breakfast, Lunch

\$

Northwest - *Stanley Marketplace*

Logan House's rustic-chic cafe is a comfy place to sip a cappuccino or pour-over made from house-roasted beans and nibble on house-made goodies, like coffee cake and muffins.



LUCY COFFEE HOUSE

14048 E. Mississippi Ave.
720.313.3856

lucycoffeehouse.com

Daily

\$-\$\$

Southwest

Perk up at this relaxing coffee house, where all the coffee beans come from local farms in Ethiopia. The coffee drinks might bring you in, but be sure to give the sandwiches, waffles and pastries a try.

MILLY'S COMMUNITY CAFÉ

15600 E. Alameda Parkway
720.830.5166

millycommunitycafe.com

Breakfast, Lunch

\$

North Central

A home-away-from-home for your morning (or afternoon) caffeine needs. Milly's serves coffee and tea drink favorites, plus breakfast burritos, biscuit sandwiches, soups, pastries, and a tempting array of house-made, beautifully decorated cookies.

MOCHINUT

2222 S. Havana St.
720.879.0611

mochinutco.com

Daily

\$

Southwest

Sticky sweet rice flour is the secret ingredient behind this chain's crispy on the outside, chewy on the inside doughnuts. But Mochinut goes beyond sweets with a full menu of rice hot dogs when you're craving something savory.

NATOLI CAFÉ

10180 E. Colfax Ave.
720.987.2757

Daily

\$

Northwest - Mango House

This coffee shop is almost as well known for its baked goods and breads as for the Ethiopian coffee. Service is always friendly.

PRESOTEA AURORA

18662 E. Hampden Ave.
720.550.6920

presoteaus.com

Daily

\$

Southeast

From Taiwan to Aurora, Presotea uses a special drink-making process where they extract the tea's essence via an espresso machine. Taste the difference in their fruit and milk teas, and grab a bubble waffle while you're there.

PROTEIN FACTORY NUTRITION

9741 Montview Blvd.

720.843.4934

Daily

\$

Northwest

Protein loading is super delicious at this bright cafe. Palate pleasing smoothies, shakes, waffles, acai bowls, juices and teas are all at the ready to rev you up.

RARETEA AURORA

14535 E. Alameda Ave., Unit B
720.995.5985

rareteausa.com

Daily

\$

North Central

Mango coconut and noodle, strawberry snow cream and caramelized brown sugar boba milk are just a few of the rare teas you'll find here. Even more rare? Their tea-spresso.

TEA CITY CAFE

12303 E. Mississippi Ave., Unit 141
303.362.0512

Daily

\$

North Central

For a refreshing pick me up, it doesn't get much better than bubble tea. This shop inside GW Market serves the fresh made boba-packed fruit teas and milk teas that very well could be the highlight of your day.

THE ALLEY

24107 E. Commons Ave., #102

720.274.5345

the-alley.us

Daily

\$

Southeast - *Southlands*

From handmade tapioca pearls to freshly prepared sugar cane syrups, this bubble tea shop wows fans with combos like brown sugar deerioca creme brulee milk and passionfruit green tea.

THREE LITTLE GRIDDLES

6040 S. Gun Club Road, Unit F2

303.693.4100

threelittlegriddles.com

Breakfast, Lunch

\$\$

Southeast

This brunchy nook is a neighborhood favorite for ebelskivers (Danish-style pancake holes), corned pork hash and savory griddle cakes. The space is small, so join the online waitlist before you head out.

TWISTED EGG

5001 S. Parker Road, Unit 115

720.630.8285

twistedegg.com

Breakfast, Lunch

\$\$

South Central

Breakfast will definitely be your most important meal if you're eating bread pudding French toast, Italian eggs Benedict or a chile relleno omelet. The Twisted Egg puts a spin on a.m. classics, plus salads and sandwiches.

URBAN PLAZA CAFÉ

1074 S. Ironton St., Unit C

303.537.7731

Breakfast, Lunch

\$\$

North Central

Slow down with jebena buna, an Ethiopian coffee ceremony that makes sipping the piping-hot coffee a special experience. This community coffee shop also serves smoothies, egg sandwiches and Ethiopian dishes.

WAKE & TAKE COFFEE SHOP

2337 S. Blackhawk St.

720.999.5448

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$

Southwest

This local cafe offers a global selection of coffees, teas and specialty drinks (espresso juice!), as well as pastries, Italian cakes and sandwiches.

WEETEA AURORA

13700 E. Colfax Ave., Ste. N

303.923.3113

weeteattogether.online

Daily

\$

Northwest

Celebrate the day with bubble waffles and bubble teas, because everyone knows that skewered waffles and cherry blossom tea with popping boba make for the best celebrations. The slush drinks, coffees and sparkling fruit-aides are just as fun.

Asian

BUBBLY TEA

4247 S. Buckley Road

720.590.1252

Daily

\$

Southeast

Made with real fruit and homemade taro puree and yogurts, the bubble teas and smoothies at this cute shop are among the best in town. Toppings like popping boba are made fresh too.





European

Armenian

CASCADE EASTERN EUROPEAN CUISINE

15264 E. Hampden Ave.
303.619.6858

Lunch, Dinner
North Central

Options abound at this sleek Eastern European restaurant. Choose from twisty, deep fried xinkali (Georgian dumplings), kabobs, boat-shaped breads filled with cheese and egg and more.

English Pub

THE FORTUNATE PROSPECTOR

6700 N. Gaylord Rockies Blvd.
720.452.6900

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
\$\$\$

Northeast - *Gaylord Rockies Resort and Convention Center*

Taking inspiration from English pubs, this restaurant serves bangers and mash, fish and chips and, of course, a healthy selection of beers. (Even beer cocktails!)

German

HELGA'S GERMAN RESTAURANT & DELI

14197 E. Exposition Ave.
303.344.5488

helgadeli.com

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$\$

North Central

German comfort fare is on the menu at Helga's: schnitzel, rouladen, beef sauerbraten, spätzle, apple strudel...we could go on. Stop by on the last Friday of the month for live music and polka.

Irish

JACKDAW RESTAURANT

13696 E. Liff Pl.
303.368.3460

jackdawrestaurant.com/

aurora-colorado

Dinner

\$\$\$

Southwest

Bold, adventurous flavors define this Irish fusion restaurant, where a welcoming atmosphere meets dishes inspired by the Jackdaw's curious spirit. Enjoy generous hospitality and a fresh take on traditional Irish fare.



Italian

BETTOLA BISTRO

10253 E. Iliff Ave.

303.750.1580

bettolabistro.com

Dinner

\$\$\$\$

Southwest

Reservations are required for this small northern Italian eatery where everything is scratch-made. The menu changes regularly, but if the blistered Brussels sprouts, scallops, or rigatoni arrabiata are available, order them.

BIG DADDY'S PIZZA

1155 S. Havana St.

303.696.2199

bigdaddyspizzaaurora.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

Choices abound at Big Daddy's - hand-tossed, thin or thick crust? A specialty pie or choose your own adventure? Whatever you choose, grab a slice of New York style cheesecake for dessert.

COLORADOUGH PIZZA

15430 E. Smoky Hill Road

303.997.5424

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

South Central

This pizzeria is all about staying local, starting with the house-made dough. Build your own pie or throw in a side of wings or chocolate-dipped cannoli.

HERO'S PIZZERIA & TAVERN

16070 E. Dartmouth Ave.

303.680.6424

herospizzeriatavern.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

South Central

There's a lot going on at Hero's besides pizza. Depending on the time of day, you'll find folks chowing down on breakfast, throwing darts, drinking a cold one and, yes, eating Italian favorites that include the hand-tossed pizzas.

IL FORNO DI TUTTI

1627 S. Havana St.

303.868.8210

ilfornoditutti.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$-\$\$\$

Southwest

Meaning "everyone's oven," this new Italian restaurant has also become everyone's favorite. Tables fill up fast for the handmade pastas and giant grinders, so make a reservation or be ready to wait.

MA MA OLIVIA'S PIZZERIA

477 Sable Blvd.

303.366.1605

mamaoliviaspizza.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$

North Central

Scratch-made doughs are the foundation of these pizzas, but it's the sauce selection that really stands out: barbecue, Buffalo, Alfredo and picante, among them.



MAMA ALVINO'S PIZZERIA

15179 E. Colfax Ave.

303.364.1894

mamaalvinos.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$

Northeast

This is true Italian pizza—not too thin, not too thick. But, really, you're here for the calzones; pick from the seven ready-made combinations.

MASSINO'S PIZZA AND PASTA

1250 S. Buckley Road, Unit A

303.671.0652

massinospizza.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northeast

The specialty at this family-owned eatery is New York-style, thin-crust pizza. Strombolis, calzones, pastas, subs and salads round out the menu.

MONDO'S PIZZA PASTA

3751 Tower Road, Unit G

303.375.7834

mondospizzaco.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northeast

Mondo's artisan, New York-style pizzas are built with house-made dough and cheese shredded right in the kitchen. Fill up on calzones, pastas (the baked ziti is a favorite), wings and salads.

PIZZA 72

15220 E. Iliff Ave., F

303.498.0528

pizzaseventytwo.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$-\$\$

Southwest

Pizza 72 was born in New York, and it's that Brooklyn style of pizza dough and mozzarella-provolone cheese blend that you'll find here. They also do a Sicilian style pie when you want something a little heartier.

POMODORO PIZZA PASTA

576 Dayton St.

303.360.5200

pomodoropizzapastallc.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

North Central

It's all about straightforward New York-style pizzas and traditional Italian pasta here... and calzones, sandwiches, wings, and sweet desserts, too.

QUE' PIZZA

693 Peoria St.

303.340.5849

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northwest

For more than a decade, this made-to-order pizza has been feeding Aurora families. They also make tacos and wings for when you're feeling not-so-doughy.

T-MAMA'S PIZZA

15270 E. 6th Ave., Unit 12

303.341.7545

ordertmamas.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$-\$\$\$

North Central

Half of the menu is plant-based and vegan here, which means everyone can enjoy the fresh-made pies. Toppings range from Beyond and Impossible "meats" to gyro and Buffalo chicken.



WOOD PADDLE PIZZA & TAP

17060 E. Quincy Ave.
720.398.8118

woodpaddlepizza.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southeast

You can choose your toppings, but not the size of your pie: All the pizzas here are 12-inch, Neapolitan-style with hand-stretched dough. Pair your pick with a pint from the local tap list.

Pizzeria

AMERICAN DENVER PIZZA

3112 S. Parker Road
303.743.7575

americandeverpizzaco.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$-\$\$

Southwest

Papa Rick's goes well beyond pizza. Besides the large menu of cheesy pies, they also dish out burgers, subs, lasagna, enchiladas and even samosas.

LA PLAZA PIZZA

15200 E. Colfax Ave., Suite B
303.917.8093

laplazorcolorado.com/la-plaza-pizza

Lunch, Dinner

\$

Northwest

Pizza at La Plaza? If you can resist the fantastic Mexican eats, La Plaza's wood fired pizzas are legit. They've got the standard pepperoni and sausage, as well as the not-so-sta

MILE HIGH PIZZA & GRILL

1010 S. Peoria St.
303.343.0022

milehighpizzaandgrill.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$

North Central

Don't be fooled by the name: Mile High doesn't only serve creative pizzas. You'll also find chicken wings, salads, pastas and Mexican dishes.

PEPPINO'S PIZZA

14200 E. Alameda Ave., Unit
139A

303.343.9833

peppinospizzeria.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$

North Central

If pizza is your perfect food, Peppino's is worth a try. The New York style pies are the silky-cheesed, crisp-crusting carb creations of your pizza dreams.

Russian

MASHA & THE BEAR RUSSIAN CAFE

12101 E. Iliff Ave.
720.209.4748

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

Get a taste of Russia with the from-scratch dishes at Masha's. Top bites include the borscht and solyanka (beef-based soups), potato dumplings and beef stroganoff.





Golf Course **RESTAURANTS**

DUFFER'S BAR AND GRILLE

3609 S. Dawson St.
303.326.8452

duffersbarandgrille.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

Central South - *Meadow Hills
Golf Course*

It's an all-day affair at this American-Mexican golf course eatery. Start the day with an American breakfast (eggs your way, hash browns, and a choice of meat). Later, opt for a sandwich, burger, chicken chili, or chile rellenos.

MURPHY CREEK TAVERN

1700 S. Old Tom Morris Road
303.739.1510

murphy-creek-tavern.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

North Central - *Murphy Creek
Golf Course*

Find something for everyone—for every meal of the day—at this tavern. Corned beef hash or pancakes in the morning. A Cobb salad or quesadilla for lunch. And a lengthy list of between-the-bread options in the evening.

SADDLE ROCK GRILL

21705 E. Arapahoe Road
303.326.8462

saddlerockgrill.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

Southeast - *Saddle Rock
Golf Course*

Tee up for a day on the links or unwind afterward with a menu of quintessential breakfast dishes, shareable appetizers, salads, sandwiches, and burgers. Don't miss the prime rib special on Friday nights.

TIN CUP BAR & GRILL

50 S. Peoria St.
303.739.1566

tincupbarandgrill-catering.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

Northeast - *Aurora Hills
Golf Course*

Fuel up in the morning with an award-winning breakfast burrito or stop by the tavern later in the day for bar appetizers (think: wings and nachos), salads, burgers, and Mexican classics.



International Fusion

CODY'S CAFE AND BAR

10203 E. Iliff Ave.

303.751.1288

codysdenver.com

Dinner

\$\$\$

Southwest

Southern Italian and Asian cuisine share space on Cody's concise menu. That means you can enjoy both a (house-made) lemongrass sausage penne and a tempura-fried crab bowl. There's a full bar, too, with a focus on wine.

EL COCO PIRATA

10600 E. Iliff Ave.

303.954.9530

elcocopirata.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Southwest

Try sushi like you've never had it - several of the rolls are breaded, and fillings include mozzarella, BBQ chicken and chipotle dressing. There's also more traditional Mexican food and a bar full of frozen drinks.

THAI GARDEN

16911 E. Quincy Ave., Unit A7

303.400.1173

thaigardenasiagarden.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southeast

Thai might be in the name, but they also cook up American Chinese dishes like crispy orange beef and hot and sour soup. Portions are so big that you could have enough leftover for lunch tomorrow.



Bakeries

BÁNH AND BUTTER BAKERY CAFÉ

9935 E. Colfax Ave.

720.513.9313

banhandbutter.com

Breakfast, Lunch

\$\$

Northwest

Delectable treats await at this Asian-French-inspired bakery featuring breads, sweet and savory pastries and sandwiches.

Caribbean

MAMA JOSIE CAFE CREOLE

4266 S. Chambers Road

303.690.6246

mamajosiecafecreole.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

South Central

Whether you stop by the pastry case for pates and cream cheese-filled croissants or dine in for jerk chicken and goat with plantains, this Haitian cafe will bring you all the Caribbean vibes.

Hawaiian

NO KE ALOHA

854 S. Buckley Road

720.492.4321

nokealoha.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

North Central

From spam musubi to kalua pig to loco moco, this is the place for a taste of aloha. This family owned Hawaiian restaurant is also a catering operation and mobile food truck.

Indian

CHAI AND CHAI

12501 E. 17th Ave., Unit G

720.588.0343

chaiandchai.com

Lunch

\$-\$\$

Northwesteast - *Anschutz
Medical Campus*

Each weekday, Chai and Chai stirs up large vats of vindaloo and rolls up falafel for the Indian and Mediterranean lunches they serve at Anschutz. Oddly, they don't actually serve chai.



Latin American

LOS CUATES MEXICAN RESTAURANT

1124 Yosemite St.
303.340.5897

loscuateseats.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$-\$\$

Northwest

This family owned restaurant serves Mexican, Tex-Mex and Salvadoran fare at not-going-to-break-the-bank prices. Locals flock to it for breakfast burritos, pupusas and menudo.

Karaoke

FAMILY KARAOKE RESTAURANT

2760 S. Havana St., Unit R&S
303.755.5658

Daily

\$\$

South Central

Everyone has a blast at this karaoke bar, where they'll bring you food and drink to the decked-out private rooms. English, Japanese and Korean songs are all on the karaoke menu.

GANGNAM GT LOUNGE & KARAOKE

1930 S. Havana St.
303.953.8776

gangnamgt.com

Dinner

\$\$-\$\$\$

Southwest

For scream-singing Blackpink with a side of cheese pork cutlet, Gangnam GT is the place to be. The karaoke lounge has all sizes of private rooms, plus a stocked bar and Korean menu.

K POCHA

2648 S. Parker Road, Unit 11
720.328.9328

kpochaco.com

Dinner

\$\$\$

Southwest

After filling up on bulgogi, kimchi pancakes, pork belly skewers and soju, get loud in one of K Pocha's private karaoke rooms. Open till 2 a.m., this is the spot for late-night cravings.

WHISPERS ON HAVANA

1535 S. Havana St., Unit A
720.949.1760

whisperonhavana.com

Daily

\$

Southwest

Fun is the theme at Whispers, a retro bar where karaoke takes over the stage every night and happy hour runs from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.



A GLOBAL GUIDE TO FLATBREADS

Injera/Ethiopia: A spongy, sour flatbread that's traditionally made from teff flour. (Tip: Use it to scoop up your meat or veggie stew.)



Paratha/Myanmar (Burma): Common throughout southeast Asia, paratha—a flaky, buttery, layered flatbread—is often enjoyed, in Myanmar, with eggs at breakfast or as dessert, when it's sprinkled with sugar.



Naan/India: Another classic southeast Asian dish, naan is a leavened flatbread that's usually baked inside a very hot tandoor oven.



Frybread/North America: Invented by American Indians out of necessity, the simple, flat dough bread is fried (or deep-fried) in oil or lard and then eaten plain, topped with honey or jam, or layered with a tangle of taco-like fillings.



Focaccia/Italy: This centuries-old, yeasted flatbread—you'll recognize it by its dimpled top, the result of indentations made before the baking process—was originally cooked over a hearth. Today, sweet and savory versions abound.

Lavash/Middle East: Made with just flour, water, and salt, this classic Middle Eastern dish—popular in Turkey, Iran, Armenia, and elsewhere—is thin and soft and great for dipping.



Latin American

OREJANO RESTAURANT

800 S. Havana St.
720.971.1389

orejanoco.com

Daily
\$\$

North Central

Handmade empanadas stuffed with chicken chipotle, sausage and spicy mushrooms are the go-tos at this cloud kitchen-turned-brick-and-mortar.



Argentinian

LA COCINA DE LUCHO, COLORADO

2430 S. Havana St.
720.587.5515

orderlacocinadelucho.com

Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

Argentinian burritos, empanadas and sandwiches are the draw here, where chorizo and bondiola (rich, marbled pork) light up the handheld eats.

Brazilian

AROMA DO BRAZIL

10722 E. Iliff Ave.
720.242.6562

aromaofbrazil.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Southwest

Carnivores love this Brazilian barbecue restaurant, where on weekends churrasco meats like steak and Brazilian sausage are carved tableside until you say when. Weekdays feature those same meats in combos and sandwiches.

Colombian

JEEPAAO CAFE SHOP

15200 E. Colfax Ave., Suite B-F5
720.716.0448

fioranto.com

Lunch, Dinner

Northwest

This Colombian cafe inside La Plaza does it all. They serve up crispy empanadas, banana leaf wrapped tamales and brownie sundaes, plus a range of coffee drinks.

LA SAZON DE IRENE

1155 S. Havana St., Unit 35

Daily

\$\$

Southwest

Colombian proteins and sides are the draw here, where South American transplants get a taste of home via carne sudada, pechuga a la plancha and sweet plantains.

LOS PARCEROS COLOMBIAN RESTAURANT

15473 E. Hampden Ave.
303.862.7039

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$-\$\$\$

South Central

Colombian-style empanadas and arepas are popular at this colorful restaurant, as is the bandeja paisa, the national dish of Colombia. The huge platter of rice, beans, meats, fried plantain and egg will definitely be enough for leftovers.

Cuban

CUBA BAKERY AND CAFÉ

15028 E. Mississippi Ave.
303.752.2822

cubabakeryandcafe.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

Southwest

This casual eatery serves up Caribbean eats. Try one of the meat plates paired with congri, a traditional Cuban rice, but don't leave without ordering a guava-and-cream-cheese pastry.

Health Food

INTA JUICE

18852 E. Hampden Ave.
25531 E. Smoky Hill Road, Unit C
303.111.2222 and 303.872.3901

intajuice.com

Daily

\$\$-\$\$\$

Southeast

Get your five fruits and veggies a day here, where the smoothies, bowls and juices are packed with real produce. Add a shot of wheatgrass when you're feeling extra virtuous.



Honduran

COPA

11707 E. Colfax Ave.
720.364.6395

restaurantecopabar.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
\$

Northwest

After you choose among the pupusas, baleadas, tacos and other Honduran fare, make sure you hit the drink menu. The horchata and fruit juices alone are worth a stop.

EL RINCONCITO HONDUREÑO

106 E. Del Mar Circle
720.524.4953

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

Northwest

Discover Honduran dishes like pastelitos (meat pies) and pollo con tajadas (a pile of fried chicken, green plantains and vegetables) at this flower-filled restaurant. They also serve spaghetti, enchiladas and pupusas.

HONDURAS BREEZE RESTAURANT

1443 Chester St.
303.360.8888

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

Northwest

You might have to wait a bit for your baleada or pollo con tajadas, but that's because good food takes time, and everything at Honduras Breeze is made fresh to order. Order an horchata and the wait will fly by.

POLLO LA CASITA

1981 Clinton St.
303.856.3413

pollolacasitaaurora.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
\$-\$\$

Northwest

There's way more than just chicken at this little house. They've got tacos, pupusas and soups filled with everything from cow tongue to pork to snails. (And, yes, chicken.)

RESTAURANTE ANTOJITOS HONDUREÑOS - AURORA

11703 E. Colfax Ave.
720.641.9044

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
\$\$\$

Northwest

With a menu that goes beyond pupusas (but don't worry; they've got those too) Antojitos gives us a tour of Honduran food via pastelitos, carne asada and baleadas (homemade tortillas filled with beans, sour cream and cheese).

Honduran and Mexican Fusion

LA FAMILIA RESTAURANT

14440 E. Sixth Ave.
720.524.3411

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
\$

North Central

With a name like La Familia, of course you're going to feel like family. This is the spot for well-priced Honduran tacos, baleadas, pupusas and sopas, all in a welcoming setting.



Mexican

AJUUA! MEXICAN RESTAURANT

6020 S. Gun Club Road, E-2

720.747.0764

ajuua.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Southeast

Taco Tuesday will never be the same - it's all-you-can-eat taco night! Ajuua is just as good the rest of the week, too, with a full menu of burritos, alambre, carnitas and more.

BOTANAS LOKAS

2271 S. Peoria St.

720.708.5991

Lunch, Dinner

\$

Southwest

Botanas Lokas translates to "crazy snacks," and this spot delivers on its name with ice creams, chocolate-dipped bananas, shakes, and more. Beyond sweet treats, you'll find a menu of street tacos, smothered burritos, and tortas.

CASA VALLARTA RESTAURANT

4002 S. Parker Road

303.617.4957

casavallartarestaurant.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$-\$\$\$

South Central

Straight from Chihuahua, Mexico, to Aurora, Casa Vallarta delivers a lengthy, delicious menu. You're sure to find what you're hungry for here, but know that the carne asada and chile Colorado are house specialties.

CANTINA MONTANA

6700 N. Gaylord Rockies Blvd.

720.574.1470

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northeast - *Gaylord Rockies Resort & Convention Center*

Come for the tacos and margaritas at this Mexican spot, and stay for the 75-foot TV at the sports bar below.

DELICIAS DEL BARRIO

3133 Peoria St., Unit 202

720.756.5378

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northeast

This little spot specializes in tacos acorados ("armored" tacos), but they also cook up alambres, gorditas and more traditional asada and pastor tacos.

EL CAMARON LOCO

513 Havana St.

303.326.6644

elcamaronlococolorado.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

North Central

Mexican seafood is on the menu at this nautical-themed eatery, where ceviche, tacos, enchiladas, and the always popular camarones fiesta (a trio of shrimp) pair perfectly with homemade tortillas and margaritas. Breakfast burritos are now available.

EL CAMINO

15355 E. Colfax Ave.

303.340.1496

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$

Northeast

Menudo is a favorite at this small, family run restaurant, but they've also got an impressive selection of tacos, burritos, tortas, enchiladas and more. Service is always fast and friendly.



EL CHUBBY'S FRESH MEXICAN RESTAURANT

1191 S. Abilene St.

303.755.1414

elchubbys.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$

Southwest

Fresh-made Mexican eats for every meal? Yes, please. El Chubby's signature dish is the carne asada fries, but you can't go wrong with a breakfast burrito, grilled-to-order chicken tacos, or sopapillas.

EL LUCERITO JR.

3751 Tower Road, Ste. A

303.375.7916

elluceritojr.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$-\$\$\$

Northeast

You can't fake 40 years of history, which is how long this second-generation family restaurant has been feeding the neighborhood. Don't forget to grab some tamales to go on your way out.

EL MESON DE LIZ

2101 N. Ursula St., Unit 25

720.645.1590

el-meson-de-liz.square.site

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northwest

Great food in a warm, welcoming space has quickly earned El Meson de Liz local fans. You can't go wrong with their margaritas and guac, which you'll see on most every table.

EL NOPAL NEVARIA AND CAFÉ

1702 S. Chambers Road

303.862.6517

nopalneveria.com

Dessert

\$

Southwest

From paletas to chamoyadas to ice cream, this charming shop gives you lots of options for sweet treats. The agua frescas and lattes are perfect for when you want to drink your dessert.

EL PELICANO RESTAURANT AND LOUNGE

15355 E. Colfax Ave.

303.344.0488

elpelicanoco.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Northeast

Pretend you're in the Mexican Riviera at this beachy eatery specializing in ceviches, lobster and fresh fish. Stop by on the weekends when mariachi bands roam the restaurant.

EL SINALOENSE TAQUERIA

11075 E. Colfax Ave.

303.736.8352

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northwest

The tacos here are really good - like you stop in for lunch and end up bringing home dinner level of good. You'll find all the usual suspect taco fillings (asada, pastor, barbacoa, tripe and lengua) and you'll want to try them all.

EL TAMALERO

14155 E. Colfax Ave., Ste. A3

720.475.1166

Breakfast, Lunch

\$

Northeast

Fans line up early for the fresh-made tamales here, and it's not just savory tamales they're filling. They also specialize in fruit tamales, and once they're gone for the day, they're gone.

EL TEQUILEÑO FAMILY MEXICAN RESTAURANT

2790 S. Havana St.

720.748.1260

tequilasmexrest.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Southwest

Besides the lengthy menu of traditional Mexican dishes, this local chain is known for its jumbo margaritas. They also boast a pretty good collection of tequilas.

EN EL PUERTO VALLARTA MEXICAN RESTAURANT

9538 E. Montview Blvd.
303.364.5770

enelpuertovallarta.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
\$

Northwest

If giant margaritas and seafood specialties are your jam, then this hole-in-the-wall Mexican spot is where you'll want to be channeling beachy vibes. Prices are even better during the daily happy hour.

EN FUEGO CANTINA

6105 S. Main St., F103
720.973.8226

enfuegocantina.net

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

South Central - *Southlands*

This family owned spot that focuses on fresh, clean ingredients is all about the tacos. From chicken fried chicken to carnitas, they do Mexican food with a twist.

FRITANGAS MEXICAN RESTAURANT

15099 E. Hampden Ave.
303.766.0859

fritangas.net

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
\$\$-\$\$\$

South Central

Fritangas has kept the Front Range full of tortas, huaraches, burritos and enchiladas for nearly 20 years. Don't miss the fruity licuados and aguas naturales.

GUADALAJARA BUFFET

11385 E. Colfax Ave.
303.344.3862

guadalajara-buffet.foodjoy.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
\$\$-\$\$\$

Northwest

Stuff yourself silly on enchiladas, tamales, pozole and a slew of other tasty Mexican dishes at this longtime buffet. Its variety makes it a favorite for families.

GUADALAJARA FAMILY MEXICAN RESTAURANT

1001 S. Abilene St.
303.696.0903

guadalajaramexfood.com

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$\$

North Central

This brightly decorated cantina serves an expansive menu of south-of-the-border favorites. One unique offering: the soft chiles rellenos (which are still stuffed with cheese).

JABANERO'S MEXICAN GRILL

5584 S. Parker Road
303.400.0235

Breakfast, Lunch
\$-\$\$

South Central

Breakfast burritos are the draw here, and for good reason - the handheld bundles of eggs, potatoes, cheese and green chile are tops. They have a regular menu, too, but those breakfast burritos are popular all day.

JALAPEÑO DELUXE RESTAURANTE

15490 E. Colfax Ave.
303.366.2228

jalapenodeluxe.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

Northeast

It's an all-day affair at Jalapeno Deluxe, which starts serving breakfast burritos and chilaquiles early in the morning and goes until molcajete and beer o'clock. They also have a dedicated kids menu.



JESUS MEXICAN TAQUERIA

1710 S. Buckley Road
303.632.7123

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
\$\$-\$\$\$

Northeast

Street tacos and cold beers crowd the tables at this colorful counter service spot, but you'll want to save room for dessert. The warm, filled churros are the perfect way to cap off your meal.

JUAN'S SUPER POLLO

1593 Peoria St.
303.276.2602

juanssuperpolloaurora.com

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

Northwest

The chicken is the star of the show here, where you can order a whole rotisserie bird Mexican style, plus sides like rice, beans, pico, tortillas and potato salad.

JUAREZLAND

15343 E. Sixth Ave., Unit F
720.641.5548

Breakfast, Lunch
\$

Northeast

For Mexican snack lovers, Juarezland could be the happiest place on earth. Feast on elote covered in smashed Takis, chamoyadas, papas con carne seca and fresas con crema.

LA BOMBA

1082 Havana St.
720.535.1041

labombacolorado.com

Daily

\$-\$\$

Southwest

What's not to love about a restaurant specializing in snacks? La Bomba offers a range of Mexican botanas, including ice creams, burgers, crepes and elote.

LA CATRINA TEQUILA & TACOS

12131 Iliff Ave., D
303.755.1822

lacatrinatequilaandtacos.com

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$-\$\$\$

Southwest

Filled with bright colors, hanging flowers and vibrant murals, the vibe is as lively as the food at La Catrina. Go equally bold with a molcajete, sizzling shrimp fajitas or a fruity margarita.

LA COSTA AUTHENTIC MEXICAN FOOD

15037 E. Colfax Ave., Unit L
303.341.1685

lacostamexicanfood.com

Breakfast, Lunch
\$\$-\$\$\$

Northeast

Breakfast is served all day at this family eatery, where you'll be hard-pressed to choose among the skillet, enchiladas and pozole. Just make sure you go early - they close at 3 p.m.

LA COSTERA GRILLED CHICKEN

9755 E. Montview Blvd.
720.210.6657

auroramexicanrestaurant.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

Northwest

You'll smell the Sinaloan style charcoal-grilled chicken before you see it, which is what they do best at this food truck-turned-brick-and-mortar. Order a whole chicken or get it in a taco, torta or burrito.

LA CUEVA

9742 E. Colfax Ave.
303.367.1422

lacuevacolfax.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

Northwest

The Nuñez family has satisfied the bellies of more than one generation of diners: They've been sharing their homestyle Mexican recipes since 1974.

LA HOYA MEXICAN FOOD

596 Dayton St.

303.363.0606

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

North Central

It's all about traditional Mexican food here, which means cactus gorditas, al pastor tacos, enchiladas and tamales. They also sell birria by the half pound and pound.

LA MACHACA DE MI AMA

11809 E. Colfax Ave.

303.366.1913

Breakfast, Lunch

\$\$\$

Northwest

Inspired by the food of Culiacan in northwestern Mexico, this restaurant from the El Coco Pirata team is known for its birria tacos and mango margaritas. Definitely start with the guacamole.

LA MICHOACANA CO

14200 E. Alameda Ave., Unit 2047A

Daily

\$

North Central

Shopping Town Center is even better when you stop in for a snack at La Michoacana. From homemade ice cream to popsicles to Tostilocos, every bite is a party here.

LA MICHOACANA SABOR A MEXICO

14105 E. Exposition Ave., Unit B
720.625.0663

Daily

\$

North Central

This is the type of place that tops Hot Cheetos with nacho cheese, corn and cayenne, so yeah, it's not for the timid. Other snacks include mangoneada, ice creams and elote.

LA MORENA MEXICAN RESTAURANT

9650 E. Colfax Ave. and 13800 E.

Mississippi Ave.

720.324.8435

lamorenamexrest.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$-\$\$\$

Northwest, Southwest

Two generations of the Ramirez-Ozuna family run this restaurant that combines the type of food their Mexican grandmothers made them served alongside international fare like sushi.

LAS FAJITAS MEXICAN RESTAURANT

7450 S. Gartrell Road, Unit B7
and 2680 S. Havana St., Unit A

303.766.3016 and 303.755.3366

lasfajitascolorado.net

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southeast / Southwest

The menu is lengthy at both Aurora outposts of Las Fajitas - they've got everything from crispy rellenos to green chile fries to spicy shrimp - but don't get so caught up in the food that you neglect the margaritas, available by the pitcher.

LAS FRESAS

489 Sable Blvd.

303.367.0312

Daily

\$

North Central

Las Fresas is all about satiating your cravings for fruity Mexican treats like mangonadas, chamoyadas, pepinadas and fresadas. They also sell more savory snacks, like nachos and elotes.



LAS TORTUGAS DE AURORA

712 Peoria St.
3140 S. Parker Road
303.367.1123 and 720.639.4937
lastortugas.com

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

Northwest, Southwest

This local chain started as a food truck in 2004, but high demand for their killer tortas - made with freshly baked bread - meant they needed more space. Now those same tortas, along with shakes and agua frescas, are available at two Aurora locations.

LECHE Y MIEL

12415 E. Mississippi Ave.
720.859.6200

Daily
\$-\$\$

North Central

A smorgasbord of Mexican treats, you'll have a hard time choosing among the ice creams, crepes and raspados (Mexican shaved ice). If that's not sweet overload, grab a juice or agua fresca.

LOS ALCATRACES MEXICAN RESTAURANT

2295 S. Chambers Road
303.369.1564
losalcotrases.com

mexicanrestaurant.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

Southwest

The huevos rancheros is a smart way to start your day, and the camarones rellenos (shrimp stuffed with cheese and wrapped in bacon) is a great way to finish it. They also have a full bar and weekday happy hour.

LOS CARBONCITOS

15210 E. Sixth Ave.
303.364.2606
loscarboncitoscolorado.com

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

North Central

Los Carboncitos always comes up in the best taco conversation, but they're also pretty darn good at huaraches, gorditas and sopes. Wash it all down with a margarita and toast your good decisions.

LOS CARBONCITOS

15210 E. Sixth Ave.
303.364.2606
loscarboncitoscolorado.com

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

North Central

Los Carboncitos always comes up in the best taco conversation, but they're also pretty darn good at huaraches, gorditas and sopes. Wash it all down with a margarita and toast your good decisions..

LOS COMPITAS MEXICAN RESTAURANT

12507 E. Mississippi Ave., Unit 302
303.343.2059

loscompitasco.com

Dinner
\$\$

North Central

The menu is extensive at this food truck-turned-brick-and-mortar restaurant. From breakfast burritos to menudo to molcajete, they have the Mexican food for all your hankering.

LOS TORITOS MEXICAN RESTAURANT

9405 E. Colfax Ave.
303.366.6381

Lunch, Dinner
\$\$-\$\$\$

Northwest

This Mexican watering hole has large portions and cheap margaritas. If night owls need another reason to give it a go, they're open late on weekends (until 2 a.m.).



DRINK UP:

MANGONADA

Fend off the summer heat with this ubiquitous Mexican drink. The frozen beverage is made from a combination of mango sorbet, chopped mango, or mango puree blended with Tajín (a chile-lime seasoning), chamoy (a sour, fermented fruit spiked with chiles, sugar, and salt), and lime. For the grown-ups: Mix in a bit of tequila or rum.

Discover Aurora's Mexican eateries on page 57 or find the ingredients to blend your own mangonada at home at El Jakalito Market.



DISH YOU'LL LOVE:

PUPUSAS

Pupusas have a long history in their homeland of El Salvador: Historians believe they were first made by the Indigenous Pipil tribe more than 2,000 years ago. So what is this enduring dish? Thick corn tortillas stuffed with an array of fillings (meat, beans, and/or cheese) and then cooked on a grill called a comal. (In Venezuela, you'll find a similar version known as arepas.) You can craft the pouches at home too; swing by Mi Pueblo Market or El Jakalito Market to pick up the short list of necessary ingredients.

For a list of Aurora's independent Latin American restaurants, go to page 54.



MARIO'S TACOS

10857 E. Colfax Ave.

720.364.9426

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northwest

This little food truck has its fans, but they still put out the street tacos, tortas and quesadillas in a jiffy. You won't find much of a place to sit, but you will find great food.

MARISCOS EL AGUACHILES

15470 E. 40th Ave.

303.847.6492

mariscoselaguachiles.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Northeast

Get a taste of the sea here, where the ceviche is cool and the shrimp platters are hot. If you're feeling more turf than surf, they've also got killer tacos de asada.

MARISCOS EL MUCHACHO ALEGRE

3113 Peoria St.

720.573.8834

muchachoalegrecolorado.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Northeast

The pages-long menu might be hard to sort through, but that just means you can come back to try even more seafood-centric dishes like sopa de mariscos, gilled octopus fajitas, whole grilled fish and coconut shrimp.

MARISCOS EL REY

820 Dayton St. & 10293 E. Iliff

Ave.

720.858.1479 and 720.379.5821

mariscoselreyco.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Northwest and Southwest

It's almost always a party at this beachy restaurant, where the margaritas flow like the Caribbean and the seafood specialties come fresh from the sea. The thatched roof and mariachi bands add to the festive atmosphere.

MARISCOS LOS 3 RIOS

921 S. Havana St.

303.997.6290

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

North Central

Crazy cocktails, live music and tons of seafood dishes—what more could you want out of a restaurant housed in a former Village Inn? Night owls will appreciate they're open late (until 1 a.m.) on weekends.

MARISCOS URUAPAN

1465 N. Dayton St. 303.344.0022

mariscosuruapan.net

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$-\$\$\$\$

Northwest

This sustainable Mexican seafood restaurant brings you dishes like fried fish, ceviches, lobster and seafood fajitas - all while trying to keep our oceans healthy. The drinks are just as tropical and fun as you'd expect.



METRO BALDERAS AZTEK FOOD

13697 E. Iliff Ave., Ste. 6
303.368.0085

metrobalderasaztekfood.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

Southwest

There's a lot to love here, but the salsa bar - where you can gussy up your tacos, tortas, machetes and huaraches with different flavor and spice levels - has got to be tops. Grab an horchata in case things get too hot.

MI RANCHITO NEVERIA

14360 E. 28th Ave.
303.923.3101

Daily
\$\$

Northeast

There's more than just ice cream at Mi Ranchito. They're doing crazy things with Takis, Flamin' Hot Cheetos and Purple Tostitos, but there's also more basic nachos, paletas and yogurts, too.

NEVERIA FIESTA

15270 E. Sixth Ave., #3
303.364.3146

Daily
\$\$

North Central

Kids and kids at heart will both fall in love with the ice creams, churros, banana splits and papas locas at Neveria Fiesta, where every meal can be a party.

NEVERIA JADANY'S

12132 E. Mississippi Ave.
720.583.1880

Daily
\$\$

S

NEVERIA LAS MARIPOSAS

2300 S. Chambers Road
303.745.3382

auroraicecreamshop.com

Daily
\$

South Central

Ice cream is the main draw here, but they also serve fresh crepes, candy, fruit cups and other snacks. If it's available, grab a scoop of the horchata ice cream.

NEVERIA LOS NIETOS

10231 E. Colfax Ave.
720.596.4324

Daily
\$

Northwest

Treat yourself to the slew of snacks tempting you at Neveria Los Nietos. And if you have trouble picking among all the variations of ice cream, manganadas and elotes? Go big and try 'em all.

NEVERIA MICHIS

564 S. Chambers Road
720.328.4534

Daily
\$\$

North Central

There may be no better way to get your daily fruit than via a cup full of mangos topped with chamoy sauce and chili lime salt. You can get your fruit fill at this cute modern shop, along with ice cream and savory snacks.

NEVERIA SABOR LATINO

1462 Iola St.
720.859.6777

Daily
\$\$

Northwest

Besides the oh-so-scoopable flavors of ice cream, this spot cools you down with paletas, shaved ice, smoothies, fruit cups and aguas frescas. Bonus: They're open until 10 p.m.

OSITOS ICE CREAM

15450 E. Hampden Ave.
303.993.3291

Daily
\$-\$\$

Southeast

This ice cream, coffee and Mexican/Salvadoran snack parlor offers 32 scoopable flavors. If you're not feeling creamy, the fresh fruit treats are super refreshing.

PALETERIA LA MICHOCACANA

697 Peoria St.
303.363.4056

michoacana.com

Daily

\$

Northwest

Cold sweets and spicy treats are the house specialties at Paleteria, where the elotes and salty snacks bump up against a range of ice cream and popsicle flavors.

PIRAMIDES MEXICAN RESTAURANT

1911 S. Havana St.
303.752.0555

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

It's a Mexican smorgasbord at Piramides: Enchiladas. Chiles rellenos. Molcajete. Carne asada. Fajitas. Tortas. Breakfast burritos. It's all here. Wash it down with a margarita or cerveza.

POLLO PICANTE

10498 E. Colfax Ave.
303.364.8312

Lunch, Dinner

\$

Northwest

Pollo picante translates to "spicy chicken." Order the meat in tacos, quesadillas or nachos. Or go with the customer-favorite grilled chicken plate.

Q'RICO CRAVINGS

14200 E. Alameda Ave., #2015-D
303.955.1812

Daily
\$-\$\$

North Central

This family owned Mexican snack shop serves pretty much everything you want to be eating, like tortas, tacos, chamoyadas and churro sundaes.

RANCHO ALEGRE

420 S. Chambers Road
720.748.2571

ranchoalegreaurora.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

North Central

When you need a giant molcajete, sizzling fajitas or a plate of Mexican barbecue, this is the move. They've got killer deals each night, too, like Mojito Mondays and Taco Tuesdays.

REAL DE MINAS MEXICAN RESTAURANT

11101 E. Colfax Ave.

14035 E. Evans Ave.

15795 E. Briarwood Circle
303.367.1504

303.745.3098

303.766.2207

realdeminasrestaurants.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northwest / Southwest / South Central - *Cornerstar*

You won't go hungry at this colorful Mexican eatery with three Aurora locations. The parrillada (barbecue) platters are popular, but the menu is chock-full of south-of-the-border favorites—margaritas included. and churro sundaes.



RICO POLLO 2

9075 E. Colfax Ave.

303.364.4401

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northwest

Feed a family (or just a very hungry person) with the whole chicken meals packed with rice, beans, tortillas and salsas. If you don't need a whole meal, they've got burritos and quesadillas on the fly.

SANTIAGO'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT

10400 E. Sixth Ave.

303.343.7040

eatatsantiagos.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$

North Central

Locals know this Centennial State chain as the place to go for affordable breakfast burritos; the meat (ham, sausage, bacon, chorizo) changes depending on the day of the week. Drive-thru available.

SEÑOR CHICKEN MEXICAN ROTISSERIE

6780 S. Liverpool St.

303.955.5529

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$

Southeast

This eatery serves a little of everything—quesadillas, enchiladas, tacos, smothered burritos, wings, you name it. But the specialty, as you might have guessed, is the rotisserie chicken.

SEÑOR MIGUELS

894 S. Buckley Road

303.360.7784

Breakfast, Lunch

\$

North Central

Perhaps the three best words to hear in the AM: Cheap breakfast burritos. The handheld breakfasts might be the most popular order here, but don't overlook the tacos, enchiladas, rellenos and other Mexican fare.

SEÑOR RIC'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT

13200 E. Mississippi Ave.

303.750.9000

senorrics.net

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

The cerveza-friendly favorite at Señor Ric's—an Aurora institution since 1986—is the "pollo magnifico," a chimichanga filled with spicy chicken and smothered with cheese. A gluten-free roster is available.

SUPREME CHICKEN

2295 S. Chambers Road

303.752.6389

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

Make a meal out of the huge, charcoal-grilled chickens with sides of Mexican rice and macaroni salad, or grab a couple quesabirria tacos and tortas. This friendly strip mall spot does it all well.

TACO RIVER

1685 Peoria St.

303.364.9275

aurora.taco-river.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northwest

Early birds can grab a breakfast burrito as early as 6 a.m. at this local chain, and the convenience continues with fast service and lots of choices. The menu includes typical Mexican favorites like tacos, burritos and gorditas.



TACO STAR

1760 S. Havana St.
720.734.7793

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
\$

Southwest

This fast food restaurant's menu is chock full of quintessential Mexican bites, which you can order on their own or on combination plates. Always get the carne asada fries. Drive-thru available.

TACOMEX

2210 S. Chambers Road
303.751.0627

tacomexco.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$

South Central

Taco Mex has you covered when you need food fast. From chilaquiles or a breakfast burrito in the morning to chile cheese fries and enchiladas with ice cream for dessert, they open early and keep the lights on late.

TACOMEX MEXICAN RESTAURANT

10909 E. Colfax Ave.
303.364.1544

tacomexcolfaxco.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$-\$\$

Northwest

TacoMex is known for its affordable tacos and casual vibe, and the drive-thru outpost on Colfax is no exception. Bonus: it's open until 4 a.m. on weekends for latenight cravings.

TACOS EL BELICON AURORA

14515 E. Alameda Ave.
720.355.5703

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

North Central - *Parkside Eatery*

For quesabirria tacos oozing with cheese and the freshest al pastor you'll ever eat, check out Tacos El Belicon inside Parkside Eatery. The Jalisco-style street tacos are quickly gaining a following.

TACOS EL METATE

1742 S. Chambers Road
720.353.4095

tacoselmetateco.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$

South Central

Tacos, burritos, tortas and quesadillas are all on the menu (for breakfast, too), but this spot is best known for its fried fish tacos and nacho-like carne asada fries.

TACOS JALPA

11417 E. Colfax Ave.
303.344.1881

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northwest

This bright restaurant will meet all your Mexican cravings - from loaded quesabirria tacos to tortas to quesadillas. They also have an extensive breakfast menu of pancakes, eggs and more.

TACOS JUNIOR INC.

11505 E. Colfax Ave.
720.710.8723

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northwest

A brightly decorated Mexican fast-casual spot serving a sizable menu of authentic dishes, including tacos, tortas, burritos, and sopes. Wash your pick down with a refreshing agua fresca.

TACOS LA MORENITA

15493 E. Hampden Ave., Unit D
720.379.3058

tacoslamorenita.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$-\$\$

South Central

With a 50-plus strong menu, Tacos La Morenita has all the south of the border specialties you could ask for, but pay special attention to the Mexican hamburger smothered with green chile and cheese.

TACOS SELENE

15343 E. Sixth Ave., Unit A
303.343.7879

tacosselenecolorado.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$

Northeast

Would it be weird to move into Tacos Selene? You'd feast on some of the state's best al pastor and lengua, bathe in menudo (but only on weekends!) and rest your head on a stack of sopes. Yes, it would be weird, but also glorious.

TACOS TIJUANA

1430 Chambers Road
303.367.4998

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northeast

Day or night, Tacos Tijuana is there for you. This little restaurant opens at 7 a.m. and serves until midnight (1 a.m. on weekends), which means anytime tacos, tostadas, tortas and rellenos.

TACOS Y POLLOS ZA-ZA-ZA

15900 E. Sixth Ave
720.416.3920

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Northeast

You can grab the charcoal-grilled chickens on their own or get their delicious meat in tacos, burritos and quesadillas. Besides chicken, they're known for their quesabirria tacos and birria ramen.

TACOS Y TORTAS VALENTIN

9698 Montview Blvd.
720.633.4503

tacosytortasvalentin.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$-\$\$

Northwest

Green chile-drenched breakfast burritos could be the unofficial food of Colorado, and Valentin makes one of the best. You can grab the handheld bundles of joy all day, or opt for equally good tacos and gorditas.

TAKERO MUCHO MEXICAN RESTAURANT

12028 E. Mississippi Ave.
303.758.8888

takeromucho.eatintakeout.net

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

For a full roster of Mexican dishes and fruity margaritas so big you might need two hands, locals know that Takero Mucho is where to go. The verde enchiladas are a favorite.

TAQUERIA CORONA

2222 S. Havana St.
303.755.1034

ordertaqueriacorona.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$

Southwest

Dive into the tacos, tostadas, gorditas and sopes (thick corn tortillas topped with meat and beans) at this family restaurant. Tacos are super popular, but the ceviche tostada is also a good pick.



TAQUERIA EL VALLE

3133 Peoria St., #206

303.366.5144

Lunch, Dinner

\$

Northeast

Traditional tacos like al pastor, asada and lengua share the menu with steamed tacos, tortas and menudo at this family owned restaurant. Grab a cold Mexican beer and you've got a perfect meal.

TAQUERIA HERMANOS HERNANDEZ

14103 E. Exposition Ave.

720.757.1019

Breakfast, Lunch

\$\$

North Central

Steamed tacos (al vapor) are the specialty here, where fans line up for the lengua, tripa and other meats. Just watch the hours - they are only open weekends and close in the afternoon.

TAQUERIA JALISCO MEXICAN GRILL

18581 E. Hampden Ave.

720.870.5980

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

South Central

A small, family owned restaurant where the plates nearly overflow with freshly made Mexican dishes. The smothered breakfast burrito and tacos al carbon (diced steak) are favorites.

TAQUERIA LOS GORDOS

1034 S. Sable Blvd.

303.750.0502

losgordosonline.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$-\$\$\$

North Central

There are a lot of decisions to be made here - do you want tacos or a torta? Will your tablemates share a parrillada (grilled meat platter)? Heck, the molcajete menu alone is five deep. They've also got a full breakfast menu for morning cravings.

THE LITTLE MICHOACANA

10777 E. Colfax Ave.

Daily

\$

Northwest

Antojitos is the Spanish word for little cravings, the kinds of snacks sold by street food vendors. The Little Michoacana specializes in these sorts of snacks, like ice cream, nachos and even mini pancakes.



TORTAS Y TACOS EL CHINO

796 Peoria St.

303.360.8765

Breakfast, Lunch

\$\$

Northwest

A modest eatery focused on classic flavors. Customer favorites include the smothered burritos and birria (marinated beef) tacos.

TORTISIMAS

15021 E. Mississippi Ave.

303.750.2224

Lunch, Dinner

\$

North Central

This bright, family-owned restaurant specializes in tortas, or Mexican-style sandwiches. There are at least two dozen versions to choose from, as well as fresh-squeezed drinks and homemade desserts.

YO MOMMAS CANTINA

18648 E. Hampden Ave.

720.512.2767

yomommascantina.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$-\$\$\$

Southeast

Proudly Tex-Mex, Yo Mommas knows its queso and chimichangas. Chef Matthew Robertson stuffs his tacos with everything from battered cod and mango crema to achiote marinated pork and red tomatillo salsa.

Peruvian

ALPACA CHASQUI CHARBROILED CHICKEN

17200 E. Iliff Ave., Suite A5

303.955.5611

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$-\$\$\$

Northeast

Peruvian specialties like lomo saltado, charbroiled chicken and chimichurri marinated steak are favorites at this small shop. Stop in early for coffee and breakfast empanadas.

MARIA EMPANADA

2501 Dallas St.

720.484.5927

mariaempanada.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$

Northwest - Stanley Marketplace

At this casa de empanadas, the Argentine-style pastries are made fresh daily. There are four breakfast flavors and around a dozen other savory options.

PISCO SOUR

RESTAURANT & LOUNGE

14050 E. Evans Ave.

303.671.4437

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Southwest

Take your taste buds on a trip with scratch-made Peruvian cuisine. Two favorites: sea bass-based ceviche and bisteck a lo pobre (rib-eye served with fried eggs, rice, fried plantains and a pisco sour sauce).



Salvadoran

ANTOJITOS SALVADORENOS ANITA

700 Dayton St.
720.216.4940

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
\$\$

Northwest

Salvadoran favorites like pupusas, tortas, tamales and sopa de pata are the specialties at this food truck-turned-brick-and-mortar spot.

IZOTE KITCHEN

14200 E. Alameda Ave., Unit
1024
720.910.1952

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
North Central - *Town Center at
Aurora*

For a hit of big flavors at Town Center, this friendly Salvadoran restaurant knows its steaming beef soups and cheesy pupusas. Extra touches like hot sauces and pickled cabbage make it taste even better.

PUPUSAS HOUSE

2284 S. Chambers Road
303.368.4578

pupusas-house.res-menu.com/
Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$

South Central

The scratch-made pupusas attract lots of fans, but if you're indecisive, try the combo plate, where the tamales, plantains, pupusas, pastelito and empanda will easily feed a couple.

PUPUSAS LA SALVADOREÑA

304 Havana St.
720.868.9295

pupusaslasalvadorenaco.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
\$-\$\$

North Central

There are more than a dozen pupusa options here - from stuffing the griddled corn cakes with chicken and cheese to chicharron. They also do Salvadoran breakfasts in the morning.

PUPUSAS PARADISE

15462 E. Hampden Ave.
303.862.8652

pupusasparadise.com
Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
\$-\$\$

Southeast

Bringing their native Salvadoran recipes to Aurora, the two owners of Pupusas Paradise cook up the kind of enchiladas, meat plates and pupusas they grew up eating. They also open early for breakfast.





Mediterranean

BOYCHIK

2501 Dallas St.

303.997.8402

boychikkitchen.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$-\$\$\$

Northwest - Stanley Marketplace

Bring friends to share all the dips, spreads and shawarma plates at this Mediterranean spot. Wine lovers will appreciate the plethora of thoughtful options.

GRAPE LEAVES RESTAURANT

12405 E. Mississippi Ave., Unit 200

720.815.9367

mediterraneanrestaurant

aurora.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$-\$\$\$

North Central

Known as much for their appetizers and desserts as for their beef shawarma and falafel, be sure to bookend your meal here with the spicy grape leaves and pistachio baklava.

Armenian

OCHAG BAR AND GRILL

2627 S. Parker Road

720.400.5254

ochagbargrill.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

Southwest

The recipes might be handed down over generations, but the vibe is modern and warm at this new Armenian and Mediterranean restaurant. Dolmas and jarko are house specialties.



Greek

GYROZ

13698 E. Iliff Ave., Suite A
720.748.7650

Lunch, Dinner

\$

Southwest

You don't even have to get out of the car to enjoy the meaty gyro pitas and creamy hummus at this drive-thru Greek restaurant. Don't forget a baklava for dessert.

SAJ FRESH GRILL

2300 S. Parker Road
720.612.7422

sajfresh.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

Build a plate or a wrap (made with pita or saj, a flatbread) with your choice of protein—chicken, beef, gyro meat, or falafel—fillings/sides, and sauces.

THE ATHENIAN RESTAURANT

15350 E. Iliff Ave.
720.449.0224

theathenianrestaurant.com

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

\$\$\$

South Central

The pitas at this cozy bistro are flown in from Greece, and the menu is filled with classic dishes, from spanakopita to gyros to souvlaki.

Moroccan

CAFE PAPRIKA

13160 E. Mississippi Ave.
303.755.4150

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

Southwest

Cafe Paprika has dished up classic Moroccan specialties—lamb shanks, tagines, kebabs, couscous, and more—since 1993. The saffron-infused chicken bastilla (a savory meat pie) is a longstanding favorite.



Middle Eastern

JASMINE SYRIAN FOOD

10180 E. Colfax Ave., Unit 186
720.418.1776

jasminesyrian.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$

Northwest - *Mango House*

Traditional family recipes are the inspiration at this immigrant-founded restaurant. Dig into lentil soup, kebab (deep-fried meat croquettes) and muhallabia, a Syrian milk pudding. Located inside Mango House.

SHAHRAZAD BAKERY

2603 S. Parker Road
303.671.2911

Daily

\$

Southwest

A clay oven bakes up the traditional Iraqi breads served here. This is the spot for giant flatbreads, loaves of samoon (shorter, fatter baguettes), Middle Eastern pizzas and puff-pastry treats.



YEMEN GRILL

2353 S. Havana St., Unit D#15A
303.369.1998

yemengrilldenver.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$-\$\$\$

Southwest

Try Yemeni dishes like chicken Mandi (spiced chicken with fragrant basmati rice) and Middle Eastern favorites like shawarma, kebabs and gyros at this friendly neighborhood spot. Be sure to order a jug of the fresh-squeezed mango juice for the table.

Pizzeria

GYROS KING & PIZZERIA

15102 E. Hampden Ave., Suite B
303.627.6070

gyrokingco.com

Lunch, Dinner

\$\$

South Central

Order gyros, pizza or the best of both worlds, a gyro-topped pizza. Fans tend to stick to the gyro sandwiches - soft pita overflowing with meat, creamy tzatziki and feta.



GO AHEAD EAT WITH YOUR HANDS



You don't always need silverware when dining out: In many countries around the world, it's commonplace to eat with your hands—places like South America, Africa, the Middle East, and South Asia. That doesn't mean you need to grab pieces of hot chicken with your hands. Rather, in some cases, you'll be using a tortilla or other traditional bread as a utensil.



Specialty Markets

African

ACCRA KUMASI AFRICAN MARKET

306 S. Ironton St., Unit E
(inside 7-Eleven)
347.748.2862
Daily
Northeast

AFRICAINES MARKET

10004 E. Colfax Ave.
Daily
Northwest

AFRICAN INTERNATIONAL MARKET

18801 E. Hampden Ave., Suite 170
303.523.9310
Monday-Saturday
South Central

AMBYA AFRICAN MARKET

10180 E Colfax Ave., Suite 215
Daily
Northwest

CAMEL INTERNATIONAL MARKET

810 S Havana St., Unit B
720.492.2906
Daily
North Central

DIA INTERNATIONAL MARKET

1408 Del Mar Parkway
303.537.5554
Daily
North Central

DOLLAR GROCERIES

12028 E. Mississippi Ave., Unit F-1
303.353.4527
Daily
Southwest

IWACU AFRICAN GROCERY

1480 Lima St., Unit C
720.757.1272
Daily
Northwest

KANTOMANTO AFRICAN MARKET

495 N. Havana St.
303.360.7200
Daily
Northeast

LAGOS INTERNATIONAL MARKET

15343 E. Sixth Ave.
303.360.7837
Monday-Saturday (Google
listing indicates daily hours)
North Central

**MAKOLA
AFRICAN MARKET**

2032 Clinton St.
303.341.4771
makolaaffrican49.weebly.com
Daily
Northwest

**MUGISHA AFRICAN
STORE**

10180 E. Colfax Ave., Suite 215
Daily
Northwest

**NANA AFRICAN
MARKET**

10223 E. Iliff Ave.
303.755.7985
Daily
Southwest

PRAISE MARKET

719 Billings St.
720.249.8127
Monday-Saturday
North Central

SHEBELLE MARKET

10731 E. Alameda Ave., Unit D
303.364.8587
shebellemarket.com

Daily
Northeast

SM GROCERY

12203 E. Iliff Ave., Unit W
303.597.0048
Daily
Southwest

**SUPER MARCHE LA
PROMESSE**

576 Hanover Way, Unit A
720.435.3601
Daily
Northeast

Asian

ASIA MART

1481 Chester St.
720.621.6859
asiamartllp.com
Daily
Northwest

**ASIAN AMERICAN
SUPER MARKET**

11201 E. Colfax Ave.
303.366.3003
Daily
Northwest

GW SUPERMARKET

12303 E. Mississippi Ave.
720.858.8818
Daily
Northeast

H MART

2751 S. Parker Road
303.745.4592
myhmart.com
Daily
Southwest

HAAT BAZAR

2648 S. Parker Road, Unit 6b
303.750.1200
Tuesday-Sunday
Southwest

LAXMI FOODS

2705 S. Parker Road
303.751.5050
Daily
Southwest

LOTUS ASIAN MARKET

844 S. Buckley Road
303.752.3235
Daily
Northeast

**ROHINGYA ASIAN
GROCERY**

10180 E. Colfax Ave., Suite 101
Daily
Northwest



WHAT IS: **TEFF?**

Teff is the smallest grain in the world. It's a gluten-free seed, but it acts like a whole grain (similar to quinoa). The protein-packed brown seeds are a diet staple for people from the Horn of Africa, who often grind it into flour and use it to make injera, a traditional flatbread. Fun fact: Ethiopian distance runners say it's the secret behind their superhuman endurance.

Generally, you cook the nutty flavored ingredient by simmering it (more liquid for creamier dishes, less for more al dente ones), but you can also purchase teff flour for use in baked goods.

Try teff at home by stopping in at one of Aurora's African grocers, like Harar Market. Find a full list of Markets on page 77.



DRIED VS. FRESH CHILES

So your recipe calls for chiles—but should you use fresh or dried? Mexican supermarkets like El Jakalito and Mi Pueblo usually have plenty of both. The experts at Bon Appétit explain it this way:

- **Fresh chiles** add pops of heat, so they work well in quick-cook dishes such as salads, salsas, and stir-fries.
- **Dried chiles** are all about the slow burn. They're good for infusions (think: creams or stocks). Also consider rehydrating them for extra-hot salsas. Pro tip: Toast them first to bring out the flavor.

Find the full lineup of Aurora's specialty markets on page 77.



Caribbean

KINGSTON INTERNATIONAL MARKET

13697 E. Iliff Ave., Unit 7
303.873.7035
Monday–Friday, Sunday
\$\$
Southwest

Ethiopian

GIHON INTERNATIONAL MARKET

16761 E. Iliff Ave.
303.750.1600
Daily
South Central

HARAR MARKET

16251 E. Colfax Ave., Suite 111
720.859.7533
Daily
North Central

KOLFE MARKET

15091 E. Mississippi Ave., Unit B
303.953.9271
Daily
Northeast

L & A MARKET

3095 S. Peoria St., Unit G
720.213.0240
Daily
Southwest

MEGENAGNA

4325 S. Buckley Road
Daily
South Central

MEGENAGNA GROCERY AND RESTAURANT

306 S. Ironton St., Unit C
720.532.0266
Daily
Northeast

PIASSA

601 Salida Way, Unit B5
12028 E. Mississippi Ave., Unit A
720.765.3693
Daily
North Central / Southwest

ZEMBI MARKET

10774 E. Iliff Ave.
303.974.5232
Daily
Southwest

European

EUROPA DELI

13728 E. Quincy Ave.
303.699.1530
Daily
South Central

ROYAL GOURMET

15413 E. Hampden Ave.
303.766.9291
Daily
South Central

TRADISHN MARKET & CAFE

15380 E. Smoky Hill Road
303.974.5528
tradishn.com
Daily
South Central

SOLOMON'S EUROPEAN GROCERY & DELI

1939 S. Havana St.
303.337.6454
Daily
Southwest



Halal

DENVER HALAL MINI MARKET

10200 E. Mississippi Ave., Unit D
303.751.6661
Daily
Southwest

GULZAR HALAL MARKET

10315 E. Iliff Ave.
Daily
Southwest

HALAL MART

15442 E. Hampden Ave.
Daily
South Central

HAVANA HALAL MARKET

868 S. Havana St.
Daily
North Central

TAAZA MART

15405 E. Briarwood Circle, Suite A
Daily
North Central

TANDOORI DELI HALAL

4034 S. Parker Road
Daily
North Central

Indian

BOMBAY BAZAAR

3140 S. Parker Road, Unit 4
303.369.1010
Daily
Southwest

INDIA'S HARVEST

3095 S. Peoria St., Unit D
303.751.8571
Daily
Southwest

Japanese

EBISU JAPANESE LIFESTYLE STORE

2727 S. Parker Road, Unit C
303.524.9908
Daily
Southwest

Korean

KW GLOBAL MARKET

10180 E. Colfax Ave., Suite 111
Daily
Northwest

M MART KOREAN MARKET

2000 S. Havana St., Unit 4749
303.695.4676
Daily
\$\$
Southwest



Latin American

ABARROTES LA BENDICION

104 E. Del Mar Circle, Building 104
303.593.2661
Daily
Northeast

CARNECERIA AURORA

465 N. Havana St.
303.366.9851
Daily
North Central

CARNICERIA COMPARE

541 Sable Blvd.
720.532.0119
carniceriacompare.com
Daily
Northeast

CARNICERIA DARIANA

12028 E. Mississippi Ave., Unit B
303.750.2302
Daily
Southwest

CARNICERIA GUADALAJARA

1544 Lima St.
303.343.0390
Daily
Northwest

CARNICERIA JEREZANA

1148 Yosemite St.
720.859.9442
Daily
Northwest

CARNICERIA LATINA

2272 S. Chambers Road
303.283.6844
Daily
South Central

CARNICERIA LA SUPERIOR

1020 S. Peoria St.
303.341.0044
Daily
Northeast

CARNICERIA MEXICANA

9508 E. Montview Blvd.
720.859.2404
Daily
Northwest

CARNICERIA MI MEXICO

3102 S. Parker Road, Unit A8-A9
Daily
Southwest

CARNICERIA TAQUERIA LA CONSENTIDA

11651 Montview Blvd., Unit B
303.577.1011
Daily
Northwest

CUJI FOODS

12124 E. Mississippi Ave.
303.862.5589
cujifoods.com
Daily
South Central

EL ANGEL MARKET

3133 Peoria St.
303.364.3236
Daily
Northeast

EL JAKALITO MARKET

15401 E. Mississippi Ave., Unit A
12203 E. Iliff Ave., Unit F
303.751.6053
720.598.6540
Daily
Northeast / Southwest

EL MERCADO DE COLORADO

11505 E. Colfax Ave.
720.343.2195
Daily
Northwest

ELITA SPECIALTY MARKET & KITCHEN

2501 Dallas St.
720.328.8930
elitafoods.com
Lunch, Dinner
Northwest - *Stanley Marketplace*

LA GUATEMALTECA

10329 E. Colfax Ave.
303.343.2838
laguatemaltecarestaurant.com
Daily
Northwest

LA TIENDA

700 S. Buckley Road, Unit L
303.658.0936
Daily
North Central

LATIN VALLEY MARKET

116981 E. Quincy Ave., Unit D7
Daily
South Central

LA VICTORIA CARNICERIA Y RESTAURANT

1436 Jamaica St., Unit B
303.341.0611
Daily
Northwest

MERCADO AZTECA

9701 E. Montview Blvd.
303.344.0043
Daily
Northwest

MI PUEBLO MARKET

15355 E. Colfax Ave.
303.361.6123
mipueblomarketco.com/aurora
Daily
North Central

SUPERMERCADO SAN JOSE

12124 E. 14th Ave.
720.750.5874
Daily
Northwest

VICTORIA'S MARKET & RESTAURANT

1650 Tower Road
303.363.4131
Daily
North Central

Middle Eastern

AFGHAN & INDIAN MARKET

3102 S. Parker Road, Unit A6
303.862.4753
Daily
Southwest

ARASH INTERNATIONAL MARKET

2720 S. Parker Road
303.752.9272
Daily
Southwest

KABUL HALAL MARKET

14088 E. Mississippi Ave.
720.707.6824
Daily
Southwest

MADINAH MARKET

3126 S. Parker Road
720.763.0786
denverhalal.com
Lunch, Dinner
\$-\$\$
Southwest

ZEMEN MARKET

1660 S. Chambers Road
303.755.1903
zemenmarket.com
Monday-Saturday
Southwest

Thai

TAW WIN MART

1130 N. Yosemite St.
Daily
Northwest



THREE THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT

COOKING GOAT

The lean protein is a mainstay in diets around the globe, particularly in African, Middle Eastern, Indian, Latin, and Caribbean cuisines. But you don't want to cook it just like chicken. Here are three things to keep in mind:

1. Because it's naturally lean, goat dries out easily. Help it retain its moisture by braising or stewing it with a liquid. Abide by the low and slow method for the best results.
2. Goat can taste gamey. Tame it down by pairing the meat with bold flavors or by marinating it.
3. Need recipe ideas? Try goat curry, slow-roasted goat shoulder, or goat barbacoa tacos.

Pick up your main ingredient at venues such as Nana African Market and Kingston International Market. View the full lineup of Aurora's specialty markets on page 77.





Sweets

CITY DONUTS

746 N. Peoria St.

303.367.4603

citydonuts.net

Daily

\$

Northwest

This family owned donut shop fries up 32 variations of ringed treats a day. Favorites include the bear claw, maple and cinnamon crunch.

GERA COFFEE & ICE CREAM

14515 E. Alameda Ave., Unit B

720.492.3811

parksideside-eatery.com/gera-coffee-and-ice-cream

Daily

\$

North Central - *Parkside Eatery*

Serving the soon-to-be iconic combination of Ethiopian coffee and ice cream (they source from local Heaven Creamery), this is a great place to both start and end your day.

HAZ TU LOCO

10 S. Havana St., #119

720.298.3217

Daily

\$

North Central

Cool down with the over-the-top ice cream and fruit concoctions coming out of this Mexican treat shop. With "loco" in the name, you know the sweets are going to be bonkers.

MIETTE ET CHOCOLAT

2501 Dallas St., Suite 176

303.658.0861

mietteetchocolat.com

Dessert

Monday-Friday

\$\$

Northwest - *Stanley Marketplace*

Sweet scents draw you in the doors of this French patisserie and chocolate shop. Having trouble deciding between the bonbons, caramels, chocolate bars, and seasonal confections? The sea salt-chocolate chip cookies are always a good idea.

MILKROLL CREAMERY

2712 S. Havana St.

720.750.7973

Daily

\$

Northwest

Yes, rolling ice cream is a thing, and it's delicious. Creations coming out of this Thai-style ice cream parlor include rolled sweet cream topped with your favorite cereal and a pandan base mixed with coconut jelly, mochi and koala cookies.



MOCHA

2713 S. Parker Road

303.362.1431

mochausa.com

Daily

\$

Southwest

Mochi doughnuts, matcha lattes, soft serve ice cream and freshly made boba all vie for your attention at this minimalist spot. Whether you come for the coffee or a dessert, you're bound to leave happy.

MR. DONUTS

1704 S. Chambers Road

303.745.0255

Dessert: Breakfast, Lunch

\$

Southwest

Cake doughnuts, filled, fritters, glazed cronuts—who knew there were this many types of doughnuts? But that's not all that's coming out of the ovens here: Texas-style sausage kolaches are a breakfast must.

NEVERIA LA MEXICANA

9509 E. Colfax Ave.

720.858.7127

Daily

\$-\$\$

Northwest

Go to town on made-to-order Mexican sweets like fresas con crema, manganadas and bionicos, plus tortas, elote and nachos for the savory cravers. Warning: lines can get long on hot summer afternoons.

SNOWL

1930 S. Havana St., Unit 5 and 6

720.542.9902

snowlcafe.com

Dessert

\$

Southwest

Snowl is known for taiyaki: fish-shaped waffle cake cones that originated in Tokyo. Fill yours with sweet red bean paste or Nutella, milk tea or matcha soft-serve ice cream and your choice of toppings.

SUGAR PLACE LLC

15200 E. Colfax Ave., Unit B

720.829.5733

Daily

\$

Northwest

For indulgent smoothies, hand-dipped paletas, fruity creations and everything else you wish you had in your hands right now, this La Plaza ice cream shop is a riot of colors and sweetness.

SWEET COW ICE CREAM

2501 Dallas St.

303.484.1573

sweetcowicecream.com

Dessert

\$

Northwest - Stanley Marketplace

Sweet Cow churns out handcrafted, small-batch, creative ice cream flavors (think: oatmeal cookie or vegan Thai iced tea) on-site every day using locally sourced ingredients.



THE DONUT HOUSE

3124 S. Parker Road
25791 E. Smoky Hill Road, Unit 20
303.337.2771
303.680.8505

thedonuthouse.com

Dessert; Breakfast, Lunch

\$

Southwest / Southeast

Since 2009, Omar Dieyleh and his family have been satisfying sugar cravings with scratch-made doughnuts at three Aurora locations. Cinnamon rolls, fritters and coffee are also available.

WE KNEAD DONUT

4213 S. Buckley Road
303.953.8055

wekneaddonut.com

Daily

\$

Southeast

Indulge your inner Homer Simpson at this doughnut shop, where the offerings go beyond classic Long Johns and chocolate glazed. Go wild with a maple bacon or croissant doughnut hybrid.



Bakeries

CAKES BY KAREN

16873 E. Iliff Ave.
303.693.7454

cakesbykarencolorado.com

Dessert

\$

South Central

If you're on the move, opt for the cupcakes, cookies, or brownies (did someone say German chocolate?). But Cakes By Karen is known for its customized, full-size cakes. Mix-and-match the 18 flavors, six icings, and 13 fillings to make the perfect bite.

THE COOKIE COMPANY

6150 S. Main St., Unit I-108
303.928.7592

auroracookieco.com

Dessert

\$

Southeast - Southlands

Indulge in 20 flavors of house-made cookies, ranging from sugar with sprinkles to snickerdoodle to O.D. (a chocolate cookie with chocolate chips and chocolate frosting). Order individually or get two free cookies with every 10 purchased.

DANIEL'S OF PARIS BAKERY

12253 E. Iliff Ave
303.751.6084

places.singleplatform.com/daniels-of-paris/menu?ref=google

Daily

\$\$\$

Southwest

This long-standing bakery specializes in French pastries and morning favorites like sticky pecan rolls and Danish. Their custom cakes, made with light genoise and flavored syrup, offer the perfect balance of sweetness for any occasion.

DEVIL AND ANGEL DESSERTS

2727 S. Parker Road
303.997.5350

devilnangel.com

Dessert

\$\$

Southwest

Whether your sweet tooth is craving soft serve, mochi doughnuts or even a croissant-waffle hybrid (dubbed a "croffle"), you'll find it at this cute corner shop.

LALA'S BAKERY

1427 Elmira St.

springflingatlalasbakery.com

Daily

\$\$

Northwest

Started by former bakers at Larimer Square's iconic The Market, Lala's specializes in spring fling cakes - zucchini flecked, cream cheese frosted, fruit topped works of art. Bakery is pre-order only.

PANADERIA EL MOLINO

1545 N. Macon St.

303.364.3729

Daily

\$

Northwest

Sticky-sweet tres leches cakes, custard-filled conchas and horchata-stuffed donuts taste like they came out of your abuela's kitchen, assuming you were lucky enough to have an abuela who stuffed horchata into donuts.

PANADERIA EL PAISA

9541 E. Colfax Ave.

720.768.8603

Daily

\$

Northwest

If your sweet tooth is craving tres leches cake, pan dulce or conchas, head to this Mexican bakery. From sweet to savory, everything is baked fresh daily and reasonably priced.

PANADERIA LUNA

4132 S. Parker Road

720.751.9037

Daily

\$

South Central

A locals' favorite panaderia, it's not just the orejas (elephant ears), cakes and cookies that fans love. It's the festive music, bright colors and friendly service that keep Aurorans returning for more conchas.

PANADERIA TLAQUEPAQUE

2300 S. Chambers Road, Suite L

720.748.3967

Daily

\$

South Central

If it wasn't for the Rockies to the west, you might swear you were in Jalisco after biting into the pan dulce and conchas. This regional Mexican bakery also specializes in cakes.

PASTELES CISNE CAKES & PASTRIES

648 Peoria St.

720.877.1329

[pastelescisnecakesand](http://pastelescisnecakesandpastriescolorado.com)

[pastriescolorado.com](http://pastelescisnecakesandpastriescolorado.com)

Daily

\$\$

Northwest

This special occasion cake bakery does it all - birthdays, baby showers, Dia de los Muertos and more. For a real treat, order a Spring Fling cake with zucchini-flecked batter, cream cheese frosting and loads of fresh fruit.



SC BAKERY

15200 E. Iliff Ave.
720.772.0251

Daily

\$

Southwest

Blink and you might miss this little bakery, but it's worth a trip for the sweet and savory baked goods coming out of their kitchen. In addition to the cinnamon rolls, tarts and other people sweets, they make treats for dogs.

THE BAKING ROOM

11690 E. Montview Blvd.
303.393.8269

thebakingroom.net

Daily

\$\$

Northwest

This family owned bakery offers a delightful selection of fresh baked breads, locally roasted coffee and in-house sweets. They specialize in sourdough country loaves, crispy baguettes, and roman-style pinsa flatbread, all made from simple ingredients (no preservatives or artificial additives) and baked fresh daily.

THE NEW YORK BAKERY

10720 E. Iliff Ave.
303.743.0001

Daily

\$

Southwest

Cakes here are light, balanced and just sweet enough, in a range of flavors that include green tea and Oreo chocolate. While the cakes are the big draw, they also serve Korean pastries and shave ice.

TOUS LES JOURS

2892 S. Havana St.
303.755.7014

tljus.com

Daily

\$

Southwest

Delighting carb lovers of both the sweet and savory variety, this bakery chain is known for their breads, cakes and pastries. (Don't leave without trying their stuffed strawberry croissant.) They also pour a full menu of coffees and teas.





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AURORA Eats



The Aurora Eats guide is the ultimate roundup of eateries, specialty markets, and dining spots in Aurora! Every venue listed met the city's tax and licensing requirements at the time of publication. While we strive for accuracy, venues may have made changes post-publication. For the latest hours and menus, we recommend contacting restaurants directly or online.

Need the scoop on health inspection info? Contact the relevant county health department for details.



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Happy dining!