

# 2008 Berkshire Conference Twin Cities Restaurant Guide

## Part 1. Places to eat adjacent to the West Bank campus

### Seven Corners (intersection of Washington Ave and Cedar Ave; right by the Holiday Inn)

**Jewel of India:** Modest but just fine Indian restaurant. Lunch buffet (M-F) at reasonable prices. Full dinner menu. 1427 Washington Avenue So. (medium-priced)

**Quiznos Subs:** chain, sandwich and sub shop. (cheap)

**Noodles & Co:** chain, noodle-based entrees from many cuisines, salads. (cheap to moderate)

**Sergeant Preston's:** Bar and hangout. Burgers, soups and sandwiches. 221 Cedar Avenue So. (medium-priced).

**Town Hall Brewery:** A decent brew pub with pub food. 1430 Washington Ave. So. (medium priced)

### Cedar/Riverside (intersection of Cedar Ave and Riverside Ave)

**Acadia Café:** in the Riverside Building at corner of Riverside Ave and Cedar Ave; burgers, sandwiches, veggie options, great beer selection. (medium priced)

**Chai's Thai:** Great nouvelle Thai (?) but pretty small place so try to go off hours. 414 ½ Cedar Av. S., Minneapolis. 612-339-9385

**Hard Times Cafe:** Collectively run "alternative" style; good coffee and all vegetarian menu. 1821 Riverside Avenue (cheap)

**K-Wok:** Chinese buffet, decent noodles. 1813 Riverside Ave. (cheap)

**Keefer Court:** Chinese bakery and cafe (great steam buns), some food. 326 Cedar Ave. (cheap)

**Mapps:** Great for coffee and tea. Pastries, quiche, and packaged sandwiches. Free wireless internet. 1810 Riverside Avenue between Cedar Ave and 19<sup>th</sup> St.

**St. Martin's Table:** Cafe/progressive bookstore. Lunch only. Delicious home made soups, sandwiches and desserts are served by a volunteer staff, with tips going to charity. 2001 Riverside Avenue. (cheap).

**Tam Tam's:** Pan African restaurant. The restaurant has a wide selection of dishes from across the richly diverse African continent. 605 Cedar Ave S, (612) 339-0854

### Franklin Ave (10-15 min walk from campus, Franklin Ave between 26<sup>th</sup> St and Cedar Ave)

**Blue Nile Restaurant & Lounge:** Very good Ethiopian and Middle Eastern cuisine, featuring a full bar and live international music, spoken word etc. 2027 E Franklin Ave. (medium-priced)

**Pi:** woman-owned business; GLBT bar and grill. 2532 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue South. Another 15 min walk past Franklin Ave. 612 877 4640

**Pizza Luce:** pizza, pasta, wine and beer. 2200 East Franklin Avenue. 612 332 2535

**Second Moon Café:** woman-owned business; coffee and tea, pastries, packaged sandwiches; free wireless internet. 2225 East Franklin Avenue. 612 343 4255

**Seward Café:** collectively owned and operated; mostly vegetarian and vegan friendly. 2129 East Franklin Avenue. 612 332 1011

**True Thai:** Really great Thai curries and other dishes. 2627 E Franklin Ave, Mpls.; 612.375.9942

### **East Bank: Stadium Village (Washington Ave from the Radisson to University Ave)**

**Bruegger's Bagel Bakery:** Local chain, decent fresh bagels. Corner of Oak Street and Washington Avenue in Stadium Village. (cheap).

**Caspian Bistro and Deli:** Just east of campus on University Avenue – 10-min walk. Persian Bistro with very good food. 2418 University Avenue S. E. (medium-priced)

**Hong Kong Noodle Restaurant:** Good, cheap, ample portions. Great for late-night service. 901 Washington Ave. S.E. in Stadium Village, open from 4 p.m. - 1 a.m.

**The Lotus:** Reasonably good Vietnamese food. (medium-priced).

**Sally's:** Popular campus bar and grill. Nice place for beer and sandwiches. 712 Washington Avenue in Stadium Village. (medium-priced).

**Village Wok/Village Wok Express:** Really good Cantonese, always crowded, not expensive. Good fish and other dishes. Late-night service. 610 Washington Avenue directly across from the Radisson.

### **East Bank: Dinkytown**

**Al's Breakfast:** 413 14th Avenue, in Dinkytown, 612-331-9911. Hours 6 a.m.-1:00 p.m., M-Saturday, 9-1 p.m. on Sunday. Small, historic, good food, eccentric service.

**Annie's Parlour:** 315 14th Avenue in Dinkytown, 612-379-0744. An old-fashioned soda fountain, with burgers, really BIG salads and milkshakes. I once saw even a dour Danish visitor break into a beatific smile when he first sipped a milkshake at Annie's. (medium-priced)

**Camdi Chinese-Vietnamese Cuisine:** 1325 SE. 4th Street, 612-331-4194. Don't know this one personally but according to the Math Dept website, it's "quite popular with physicists." (cheap)

**Dinkydome:** The Dinkydome is on the corner of University and 15th. The Dinkydome is a weird old building now a food court where you can get coffee and fast food of various sorts. (cheap)

**Kafé 421:** 421 14th Avenue SE., 612-623-4900. Good food; varied menu (medium priced)

**Loring Pasta Bar:** 327 14th Avenue, SE. 612-378-4849. Good food; varied menu (medium to expensive)

**Restaurant Alma.** Good, well-prepared and well presented food. Nice but expensive wine list. Good place for conversations with a small group. 528 University Ave. SE, Minneapolis; 612-379-4909. (pricey)

**Shuang Cheng:** 1320 SE. 4th Street, 612-378-0208. Good, cheap, fast Chinese food. Great seafood specials.

## Part 2. Places to eat off campus

*NB: This is a quirky list, owing much to local food critic Dara Moskowitz and the [City Pages](http://citypages.com/dish/summary.asp) (<http://citypages.com/dish/summary.asp>) but also reflecting the local arrangement committee's personal favorites. Not all neighborhoods are included.*

### Downtown Minneapolis

**20.21:** Wolfgang Puck's restaurant in the Walker Art Center. 1750 Hennepin Ave. 612-253-3410. (expensive)

**Brasa:** Minnesota-farmed rotisserie meats with soul food fixings. 600 E. Hennepin Ave, Mpls. 612.379.3030 (medium-priced)

**Café Brenda:** Good food for vegetarians, though the menu includes great fish and poultry dishes as well. Brenda has a few vegan options too. Uses local suppliers and organic ingredients. 300 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue North (expensive) (612) 342-9230.

**Chambers Kitchen.** Founded by New York's Jean-Georges Vongerichten. Great and mostly carefully prepared food. Cool architecture and art – there's a gallery and a great courtyard bar. 901 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis; 612-767-6999 (very expensive)

**Dakota Jazz Club and Restaurant:** The best jazz in Minneapolis and good food too. 1010 Nicollet Mall. (612) 332-1010. (expensive)

**The Local.** Irish bar with Irish bar food. 931 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis; 612-904-1000.

**Nicollet Island Inn Restaurant:** Special setting on an island in the Mississippi River. Nice menu. 95 Merriam St, Mpls. 612.331.1800 (very expensive)

**Oceanaire Seafood Room:** Great seafood. 1300 Nicollet Mall (Walking distance or short cab). Phone: (612) 333-2277 (very expensive)

**Origami:** Great sushi; nice setting. But it's small. 30 1<sup>st</sup> Street North (612) 333-8430. (moderate to expensive)

**Solera:** Spanish tapas - 900 Hennepin Avenue (Walking distance). Phone: (612) 338-0062 (it can get very expensive quickly since the tapas are tempting)

**Vincent.** Reliably fine French food. 1100 Nicollet Ave., Minneapolis; 612-630-1189 (expensive)

### Uptown Minneapolis

**Café Barbette:** French bistro. Good food; nice atmosphere. Always busy. 1600 West Lake Street. (612) 827-5710. (Medium-priced)

**Chiang Mai Thai:** Good Thai food. 3001 Hennepin Ave. South, in Calhoun Square. (612) 827-1606. (moderate to expensive)

**French Meadow Bakery & Cafe:** Cool place with great breads and deserts and a nice menu and wine list featuring organic and vegetarian and vegan specialties. Breakfast through dinner. 2610 Lyndale Ave S, Mpls.; 612.870.7855 (moderate prices)

**Passage to India:** Great North Indian food. Buffet lunch; dinner. 1401 West Lake Street. (612) 827-7518. (medium-priced)

**Tum Rup Thai:** good northern Thai specialties; good curries. 1221 W Lake St, Mpls.; 612.824.1378 (medium-priced)

## **Midtown Minneapolis**

**Midtown Global Market:** renovated historic Sears Tower at the intersection of Lake Street and Chicago Ave, now filled with small shops and eateries offering cuisine from many of the Twin Cities' global communities. 920 E. Lake Street. (cheap to moderate)

**Mercado Central:** in the heart of Minneapolis' Latin American community, offering great Mexican food (mostly from stalls) and shopping. Try the tamales. 1515 E. Lake Street. (cheap)

## **"Eat Street" – Nicollet Ave. in South Minneapolis**

**Azia:** Upscale Asian fusion cuisine. 2550 Nicollet Ave., Minneapolis; 612-813-1200 (moderate to expensive).

**Black Forest Inn.** A long-established German restaurant, with good food and drinks. 1 E. 26th St., Minneapolis; 612-872-0812. (moderate to expensive)

**Christos.** Good Greek restaurant. 2632 Nicollet Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-871-2111 (moderate)

**Market Bar-B-Que: Good barbecue from the old days.** 1414 Nicollet Ave, Mpls.; 612.872.1111 (moderate)

**Peninsula:** really tasty Malaysian dishes. Noisy but very friendly place. Can accommodate largish groups. 2608 Nicollet Ave S, Mpls.; 612.871.8282 (moderate)

**Rainbow Chinese Restaurant and Bar:** Good Chinese restaurant. 2739 Nicollet Avenue South. (612) 870-7084. (moderate)

**Salsa a la Salsa:** great Mexican grill. [1420 Nicollet Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55403](https://www.google.com/maps/place/1420+Nicollet+Ave,+Minneapolis,+MN+55403) (612) 813-1970 (moderate)

**Yummy:** One of the better Chinese restaurants in the Twin Cities. Good fish and seafood. 2450 Nicollet Avenue. Phone: (612) 870-8000. (moderate)

## **St. Paul (Harder to get to but worth visiting!)**

**Babani's Kurdish Restaurant.** Kurdish food? yes! 544 St. Peter St., St. Paul; 651-602-9964. (moderate)

**Everest on Grand:** Great Nepali food. 1278 Grand Ave, St. Paul; 651.696.1666 (moderate)

**Heartland.** Outstanding food billed as "Midwestern haute cuisine." May sound like an oxymoron, but it's not. Part of the "eat local" movement. Very nice place for a small group. 1806 St. Clair Ave., St. Paul; 651-699-3536. (expensive)

**Ngon:** Great Vietnamese cuisine! Broken rice, pho, appetizers. 799 University Ave, St. Paul; 651.222.3301 (cheap to moderate)

**Khyber Pass Cafe:** Good Afghan food near Macalester College 1571 Grand Ave, St. Paul; 651.690.0505 (moderate)

**Little Szechuan Chinese Cuisine:** Currently one of my favorite Chinese restaurants in town. Worth the trip. 422 University Ave W, St. Paul; 651.222.1333 (moderate)

**Sakura.** Excellent Japanese food of all kinds; great appetizers and sushi. 350 St. Peter St., St. Paul; 651-224-0185. (moderate to expensive)