



CINCINNATI'S CULINARY, BREWING & COCKTAIL SCENE

Described by *USA Today* as a “true smorgasbord of new and old, decadent and healthful, elegant and indiscriminating.” The entrepreneurial spirit of the city feeds a steady and increasingly more expansive stream of local chefs, brewers and innovators.

Every neighborhood offers a vast array of locally-owned restaurants, markets, bakeries, and cafés—plus more than 60 breweries, the country’s only underground beer tunnel system, and the gateway to the Bourbon Trail.

SIGNATURE FLAVORS & ICONIC SPOTS

Cincinnati Chili as an Institution

Whether you enjoy this Mediterranean-inspired dish in a coney or over spaghetti, you get a real taste of Cincinnati with each bite. A taste of the local favorites:

- Skyline Chili
- Gold Star Chili
- Blue Ash Chili
- Camp Washington Chili
- Price Hill Chili Family Restaurant
- Empress Chili

Montgomery Inn Boathouse

Montgomery Inn is world-famous for ribs, and the Montgomery Inn Boathouse is the best place to try them. From its ideal location on the Ohio Riverfront between TM Berry International Friendship Park and Sawyer Point Park to the striking view of the Ohio River to its upstairs sports lounge and incomparable service, it offers everyone a memorable dining experience.

Jeff Ruby's The Precinct

Named one of America's Top 10 Steakhouses by *USA Today* and *Gayot.com*, The Precinct is frequently recognized as having Cincinnati's best steaks, seafood, and service. Former Cincinnati Police Patrol House Number 60 has been home to The Precinct since it opened its doors in 1981. As the city's longest, continuously running white-tablecloth restaurant, customers enjoy unmatched ambiance in the turn-of-the-century, Romanesque-style building.

Jeff Ruby Entertainment's other restaurants, Carlo & Johnny and Jeff Ruby's Steakhouse, are also places to write home about.

Ice Cream

As well as Cincinnati's chili, visitors should try some of the city's can't-miss ice cream:

- Graeter's Ice Cream: founded in 1870, uses unique French Pot method
- United Dairy Farmers: opened in 1940, offering hand-dipped ice cream made with fresh cream, fruits and quality ingredients
- Aglamesis Brothers: started in 1908, step back in time in their authentic ice cream parlors

More classics worth a taste:

- LaRosa's Pizza
- Primavista
- Scotti's Italian Restaurant
- Incline Public House
- The BonBonerie
- Servatii Pastry Shop & Deli
- Busken Bakery

CELEBRATED TRENDSETTERS

New restaurants are continuously popping up in our foodie town. Some of the most recent exciting ones, include:

- Nolia: Cincinnati's newest Southern-style restaurant, serving unique dishes inspired by Chef Jeff Harris' upbringing in New Orleans
- Alcove: MadTree Brewing's multi-level Over-the-Rhine bar, restaurant and event space
- La Cantina: a modern take on traditional Mexican cuisine
- Soul Secrets: Southern-style soul featuring family recipes
- Decibel Korean Fried Chicken: the city's first Korean fried chicken joint
- Heyday: offering flat-top-smashed burgers and unique hand-cut, dry-cured fries
- Sacred Beast: Enjoy elegant twists on shareable small plates and eclectic entrées
- Red Feather: farm-to-table using classic techniques and slow, careful preparations
- Agave and Rye: traditional Mexican street favorites, epic tacos and 90+ tequilas
- Losanti: laid-back steakhouse with a folksy, kitschy ambiance
- Pepp & Dolores: a casual Italian restaurant featuring house-made pastas
- Good Plates Eatery: simple dishes with big flavors and plenty of vegetarian options
- Ivory House: an approachable yet upscale modern steakhouse experience
- Boomtown Biscuits & Whiskey: contemporary take on classic American frontier food

INSTANT CLASSICS

Metropole

Located in Cincinnati's 21c Museum Hotel, Metropole offers a contemporary take on old-world fireplace cooking techniques. Featuring dishes that showcase the region's sustainable farmers and producers, Metropole's ever-changing menu is just as colorful and unique as the architecture that surrounds it. Signature staples include hearth roasted meats and vegetables, grains, house-made charcuterie, craft beers and signature cocktails.

Sotto

Quickly becoming a regular on OpenTable's Annual Top 100 Restaurant in America list, Sotto is tucked in the basement of the renowned Boca Restaurant with rooms directly beneath the busy city streets. The vibe is a contemporary and stylish take on Italian dining. As a traditional Italian trattoria, it offers casual intimacy in the heart of Cincinnati's business district.

Salazar

At Salazar, the star is the ingredient-driven menu; packed with homemade pastas, hand-pickled vegetables, and meats cured and potted in house. Opened in January 2014 by James Beard nominated Chef Jose Salazar, the restaurant's goal was to reflect both the diversity of Cincinnati's developing Over-the-Rhine neighborhood.

Taste of Belgium

With multiple appearances on *Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives*, Taste of Belgium has become a Cincinnati staple ever since Jean-François Flechet brought back a 120-pound cast iron waffle maker from his native Belgium to start selling Belgian waffles at Findlay Market. Drawing on his heritage, guests can enjoy its one-of-a-kind, Belgian-inspired, locally infused culinary experience at any of the restaurant's multiple locations throughout the region.

Moerlein Lager House

Located in one of Cincinnati's picturesque Smale Riverfront Park, Moerlein Lager House boasts a working microbrewery. With a full line of Moerlein craft brews, grain spent bread, and hand-carved sandwiches to indulge in, the design of the restaurant takes full advantage of its location with sweeping views of the Ohio River.

Tom + Chee

"Kitchen slang" for Tomato Soup & Grilled Cheese, Tom + Chee features fresh-made creations — including the unforgettable "Grilled Cheese Donut." This sandwich stop is a Cincinnati original, winner of ABC's *Shark Tank*; and has appeared on *Man vs. Food Nation*, *The Chew*, *Amazing Eats*, and more.

Maplewood Kitchen & Bar

Located in downtown Cincinnati's central business district, Maplewood Kitchen & Bar serves up California-inspired brunch with delectable breakfast dishes and an assortment of salads and sandwiches. Using the freshest of ingredients, the restaurant features locally roasted coffee, grass-fed butter, cold-pressed juice; and organic, cage-free eggs.

The Eagle Food & Beer Hall

In a historic post office building on Vine Street, The Eagle Food & Beer Hall celebrates straightforward American fare alongside authentic blues music. Known for its all-natural fried chicken, the classic dish has reached legend status in Cincinnati and beyond with a glowing review from the *Huffington Post*. The spoonbread, mac and cheese, and brown sugar bacon come in at a close second.

Nada

Situated in the heart of downtown Cincinnati across from the Contemporary Arts Center and 21c Cincinnati, the newly reimagined Nada is one of Chef David Falk's family of renowned restaurants. Known for its soulful, Latin-inspired small plates, Nada was an instant favorite when it first opened in 2007.

Nicola's Ristorante Italiano

Bringing Northern Italy to Cincinnati, Nicola's Ristorante Italiano has been a AAA Four-Star award winner for more than a decade. It has developed an unwavering reputation for its highly acclaimed contemporary Italian menu, extensive wine list, variety of unique dining spaces, and warm hospitality.

Boca

Chef David Falk opened Boca in 2001 and has earned AAA Four Diamond recognition for well over a decade. The menu showcases flavors from Italy and France. It's been recognized as one of the top French Restaurants in the United States by *Travel and Leisure Magazine* and an OpenTable's Top 100 Restaurant in the United States.

Buzzed Bull Creamery

This fast-growing ice cream shop combines has ice cream for everyone! From made-to-order alcoholic and non-alcoholic desserts, Buzzed Bull Creamery harnesses the power of liquid nitrogen to serve up fresh, premium ice creams and milkshakes while offering a one-of-a-kind-experience. Specializing in alcohol-infused ice cream and milkshakes that start at a 5% ABV, guests are encourage to get creative with over 30 available flavors.

SIP & SOCIALIZE

Rhinegeist Brewery

Literally translated to mean "Ghost of the Rhine," Rhinegeist Brewery is a Cincinnati microbrewery. It opened in 2013 within the walls of a historic and once-abandoned Christian Moerlein bottling facility in the revitalized historic neighborhood of Over-the-Rhine. The building was originally constructed in 1898 with arched ceilings and high windows making the airy space truly a cathedral to beer.

MadTree Brewery

As the first brewery in Ohio to sell its beer in a can format, MadTree Brewery opened its doors in 2013 — and it hasn't stopped expanding since. Its large taproom in a converted manufacturing facility is in Cincinnati's Oakley neighborhood. The \$18 million production brewery, taproom and event center, which opened in early 2017, is a 50,000-square-foot facility, which includes an expanded taproom, a beer garden, Catch-A-Fire Pizza Café and private event spaces.

Taft's Ale House

Cincinnati's once oldest protestant church, constructed in 1850, is now an homage to the Queen City's saint of fine fare, Big Billy Taft. This three-level and award-winning microbrewery, bar and restaurant is located just north of Washington Park.

Sundry and Vice

Located the heart of Over-the-Rhine, Sundry and Vice is a turn-of-the-century apothecary-themed cocktail bar and gathering place.

Braxton Brewing Co.

Located just over the river in Northern Kentucky, freshly renovated Braxton Brewery is the Taproom of the Future "where dreams are made." Not only does Braxton brew inventive craft beers, but it is also a morning hub for startups. Their large open taproom celebrates the fond notion of the Midwestern garage as an icon of American invention & innovation.

New Riff Distillery

The northernmost stop on the Kentucky Bourbon Trail is officially located in Newport, Kentucky. Founded in 2014, New Riff Distillery is “a new riff on an old tradition.” A double-digit award winner at the San Francisco World Spirits Competition, guests have the option to take advantage of different tours that offer a firsthand look at the distillery — topped off with complimentary tastings.

Gorilla Cinema

Inspired by film, Gorilla Cinema specializes in immersive eating, drinking and entertainment experiences, including pop-up bars. With uniquely different hangouts, the company offers something for everyone: Tiki, *Lost in Translation*-inspired Tokyo Kitty, Day of the Dead-themed Ofrenda Tequila, The Shining-inspired Overlook; and pop-up experiences based on Pan Am and Quidditch.

Knox Joseph Distillery at OTR Stillhouse

One of the first distilleries to open in Cincinnati since Prohibition, Knox Joseph Distillery at OTR Stillhouse is a rare combination public house, entertainment venue and an award-winning distillery, crafting clean gin, spicy whiskey, and smooth bourbon. Also, a certified winery and small craft brewery.

Hofbräuhaus

House-brewed beer, hearty German fare & staff in traditional garb in sprawling indoor/outdoor space.

MORE CAN'T MISS STOPS

- Eli's BBQ
- Dewey's Pizza
- Mazunte
- Sleepy Bee Café
- Coffee Emporium
- Deeper Roots Coffee
- Dojo Gelato
- Holtman's Donut Shop
- Yagööt
- Brown Bear Bakery
- Blue Oven Bakery