

The 50 Best Foodie Towns in America Gallery

With such an expansive country and so many different cultures, America is bound to have incredible food from coast to coast. Yes, there are the big cities like New York and San Francisco that consistently get accolades for their culinary offerings, but we can't forget about some of the smaller cities that are also food-lovers' paradises. We've rounded up the 50 best cities for food in America, and we bet some of them will surprise you.

While some towns on our list might only have a population of a few thousand, that's not stopping many nationally and internationally-recognized chefs from venturing to these hidden gems to test out new concepts or return to their roots. There are also quite a few local food masters that don't have name recognition (yet) but could easily whip up Michelin-quality meals.

While there are dozens of ways to judge a city or town for its food — and everyone has an opinion — the variety of restaurants, for one, is certainly an important factor. But equally important is the creativity of the dishes coming out of these eateries, the chefs being drawn to the area, and how they're pushing the culinary envelope. A great food city or town is not defined by just one flavor or a big name, but rather a combination of many different factors. These are America's 50 best towns for food.



Providence, Rhode Island

As the smallest state in the country, Rhode Island is often overlooked in the culinary world. Little known, this fun-sized state packs a punch in the culinary world, with one of the most famous culinary schools, Johnson & Wales University, right at the city center. New restaurants in Providence are popping up every day like Sarto, a Rhode Island-inspired Osteria & Salumeria offering a creative and modern take on rustic Italian fare. Recently opened O'Boy is a beautiful Asian/European restaurant led by chef Jae Choi, a graduate of Johnson & Wales. Yoleni's, which launched in May, offers visitors a complete experience of authentic Greek gastronomy with a restaurant and cooking classes. And Mare Rooftop opened summer 2018 as the second rooftop restaurant in Providence serving a variety of Mediterranean cuisine. Can't decide where to start? Book a Rhode Island Red Food Tour to taste the best of fresh local foods.