

5 places to buy King Cake for Mardi Gras in metro Atlanta



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If you're hosting a Mardi Gras celebration next week, chances are you're on the hunt for a King Cake to serve as part of the festivities. Circular in shape (like a king's crown), the King Cake is concoction that is part French pastry

and part coffee cake, sometimes filled with cream or fruit, and often topped with icing and colored sugar (like the Louisiana-style versions decorated in purple, green and gold).

The tradition, which was brought over from France to New Orleans in the late-1800s, kicks off the Mardi Gras or Carnival season on Jan. 6—also known as the “Twelfth Night,” “Three King’s Day” or the Christian feast day of Epiphany. In a nod to the story of the three wise men/kings delivering gifts to baby Jesus on this day, the tradition of a small plastic baby hidden inside the King Cake emerged (other trinkets can be hidden inside, but the baby is by far the most popular nowadays). Whoever finds the baby inside their slice of cake gets to be “king” for the day—and is the host of next year’s celebration.

King Cake is typically available at bakeries until Ash Wednesday and the start of Lent. So indulge in sweets, sugar and libations this Mardi Gras—Feb. 28—and don’t forget the King Cake. Here are a few spots around town to grab yours.

1. **Henri’s Bakery**

With a French focus, Henri’s Bakery in Sandy Springs specializes in cakes and pastries. They are offering King Cakes with cream cheese, cinnamon and almond fillings in three sizes: small (\$17.95), medium (\$27.95) and large (\$40.95). The small cake serves approximately 10 people, while the medium serves 16 and the large serves 24. To place an order, call 404-256-7934.

6289 Roswell Rd. NE, Atlanta, 404-256-7934, henrisbakery.com.

2. **Dutch Monkey Doughnuts**

Dutch Monkey Doughnuts’ giant doughnut king cakes are made to serve eight to 12 people. This tasty version is twisted with nutmeg and cinnamon, then deep fried, glazed, coated in salted butter and topped with cream cheese icing and sprinkles. And yes, there’s a baby hidden inside each one. The cake is \$25. Ordering details are online under the “Advance Orders” tab. Dutch Monkey sells them assembled by pre-order at their shop, and they also ship a “kit” nationwide through Goldbely.com.

3075 Ronald Reagan Blvd. #502, Cumming, 404-482- 3650, dutchmonkeydoughnuts.com.

3. **McEntyre’s Bakery**

Made from scratch and baked fresh, King Cakes from McEntyre’s Bakery in Smyrna can be picked up from their store or delivered to you in metro Atlanta (call for a delivery quote). The cake, which includes the prize baby to hide inside, is available in two flavors: cherry, cream cheese and pecan-filled; and a cinnamon pecan-filled. The cake costs \$32.99 and serves 15-20. Be sure to call at least 24 hours in advance to place your order. Note: they’re closed on Sundays and Mondays, so you need to order by 5 p.m. the Saturday before a Tuesday pick-up or delivery.

1184 Concord Rd. SE, Ste. 1, Smyrna, 770-434-3115,
mcentyresbakery.com.

4. **Douceur de France**

With locations in Marietta and Roswell, French bakery and café Douceur de France offers a host of different authentic King Cakes for your Mardi Gras party. The *galette des rois* is made with flaky dough and almond vanilla cream, while the *gateau des rois* is made with brioche (challah bread). Their New Orleans-style King Cake is brioche with cinnamon drops and cream cheese-covered with fondant and sugar. For more info, call your local bakery.

277 S. Marietta Pkwy. SW, Marietta, 770-425-5050; 1173 Alpharetta St., Roswell, 770-650-1173; com.

5. **You local grocery stores**

Several local supermarkets and grocery stores throughout Atlanta will be offering King Cake just in time for Mardi Gras. You'll want to call ahead to your local store's bakery department to make sure they have some in stock first, and you may want to ask what flavors they're offering and the size, as this differs from store to store. At Publix King Plaza in Roswell, you'll find two flavor options: cinnamon and cream cheese. Their cake feeds about eight people. At Kroger off Crabapple Road in Alpharetta, they're offering a bear claw version in one size, while Whole Foods in Buckhead offers a cream cheese flavor that feeds four to eight. And The Fresh Market has three flavors to choose from—cream cheese, strawberry and cinnamon—for \$5.99.

Various locations, publix.com, kroger.com, wholefoodsmarket.com, thefreshmarket.com.

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