**DIVES**

**IN OMAHA, BEING A DIVE IS A BADGE OF HONOR.**

Foodies can answer the call of the wild at **Alpine Inn**, where the fried chicken is loved by *everyone*. Evening diners (okay, raccoons) sit outside the restaurant’s windows feasting on chicken scraps – now that’s what we call entertainment.

**California Tacos and More** is a beloved college joint featured on the Food Network’s Diners, Drive-ins and Dives. “Cali Taco” is known for its signature tacos (housemade fried, puffy taco shells stuffed with meet and fixings) and entrees with Mexican flair.

**Big Mama’s Kitchen** is another Diners, Drive-ins and Dives alumnus and was featured on the Travel Channel’s 101 Tastiest Places to Chow Down. Omaha’s soul food queen, Big Mama, is known for her signature dishes like the Afro Burger, Pig Ear Sandwich, oven-fried chicken, and sweet potato pie ice cream.

**Food trucks are sprinkled throughout the city and offer a variety of portable eats, from casual to chef-driven, to keep you fueled and energized.**

Quick and convenient is great, but some dishes need to be conquered. **Stella’s Bar & Grill’s** Stellanator, weighing in at 4.5 lbs. and 4,900 calories, includes six burger patties, six fried eggs, six pieces of cheese, 12 pieces of bacon, lettuce, tomato, fried onions, pickles, jalapeños, and peanut butter. Defeat the Stellanator in 45 minutes, and it’s yours – for free. Stella’s has only seen 28 successful takedowns (587 have lost) – that’s a 4 percent success rate. Bring on the meat sweats!

A saucy challenge awaits at **Fat BBQ Shack**. “The Shack” is known for a variety of smoked and barbecued meats, but perhaps the most challenging dish is the Shack Attack: layers of fresh cut fries loaded with nacho cheese and your choice of meats and toppings.

A less challenging but equally delicious meal can be found at **The Surfside Club**. Here’s the short and sweet menu: chicken, pork tenderloin, catfish, and corn fritters – all fried, and all delicious. Located 25 ft. from the Missouri River, Surfside offers a relaxing atmosphere fit for casual food feasting.

Stop for a cozy and portable runza, aka “a meal in a bunza” at **Runza**. A local favorite and Nebraska invention, the runza is a pocket of dough filled with beef, cabbage, seasonings, and sometimes cheese. They’re so popular, out-of-towners order them by the case, freeze them, and take them home.

**Bronco’s**, another Omaha fast-food tradition, opened nearly 60 years ago when “fast food” was still a new concept. Known for its 100% ground beef burgers, Bronco’s still makes its French fries daily from fresh whole potatoes.