



# Omaha Restaurant Guide

*Top recommendations  
from the Admissions Team*

*select photos provided by Visit Omaha*

**Hello!**

We're excited to have you on campus and in our wonderful city of Omaha. We have so much to show you, and one of our favorite things to do is explore the diverse, delicious, and numerous restaurants within a couple of miles of campus. Omaha has been ranked a top foodie city and we want to help you narrow down your choices.

Whether you're looking for steak or sushi, we've got you covered. Want somewhere with a patio to enjoy a beautiful day? Looking for somewhere that is kid-friendly? Ask us to help you pick out your best options. Trust us – we love to talk to you about our favorite places to eat.

**Bon appétit!**

**Admissions Team**

## OLD MARKET



photo provided by Visit Omaha

### Block 16

*home-spun street food, sandwiches, burgers, gyros*

Tour guide favorite. Check their Facebook page for the daily special, which is guaranteed to knock your socks off.

### Blue Sushi Sake Grill

*traditional sushi with an American attitude*

Fun atmosphere, great sushi, and frequent happy hour specials.

### Craft Sliders

*mix and match creative sliders, including vegetarian options.*

Be sure to try the fried cauliflower.

### Hardy Coffee Co.

*locally-roasted coffee and fresh baked goods*

Sweets galore, plus savory calzones and scrumptious coffee.

### Hiro88

*sushi, Asian fusion cuisine & tapas*

Delicious bento boxes, tuna poke, and sesame chicken.

### Kitchen Table

*inventive sandwiches made with fresh ingredients*

Check their Facebook page for daily specials. Consistent vegetarian options.

### M's Pub

*new American hub serving creative & classic items in a modern setting*

M's Pub was resurrected after a 2016 fire, much to Omaha's relief.

Reservations recommended.

### Nicola's Italian Wine & Faire

*laid-back osteria featuring familiar pasta, meat, and fish dishes*

Delicious, classic Italian food with a gorgeous outdoor garden-style patio.

### Omaha Tap House

*gourmet burgers & other elevated pub grub, plus craft beers on tap*

More than a dozen burgers on the menu. Enough said.

### Orsi's

*authentic Italian pizza and grocery*

In business for over 100 years, stop in for pizza or pack a picnic to enjoy in a nearby park or on the road.

### Plank Seafood Provisions

*oyster bar & restaurant with a broad seafood menu*

Great if you like oysters or not. Variety of seafood & delicious options without.

### Roja Mexican Grill

*contemporary Tex-Mex kitchen & lounge*

Patio seating and happy hour offerings make this a perfect choice on a nice day.

### Ted & Wally's

*old-fashioned, homemade ice cream*

Daily specials and unique flavor combinations. Sometimes has a long line, but well worth the wait.

### The Boiler Room

*American/French cuisine. Old building + new cuisine = local favorite*

Showcasing both the history of the Old Market and talents of local growers, TBR is a treat on multiple levels.

## Twisted Fork Bar & Grill

*contemporary American food with a cowboy twist*

"I love the chicken pot pie and chili relleno dishes. Also, try the white truffle risotto as a side."

## Upstream Brewing Company

*local brewery featuring American varieties*  
Plenty of options for everyone. Try their homemade root beer!

## V. Mertz

*contemporary American restaurant emphasizing the use of local food*  
Located in the Old Market Passageway so you can't see it from the street.  
(Dinner only).

## Zio's Pizzeria

*New York-style pizza, by the slice*  
Great lunch specials. Excellent Thai pizza and calzones.

## NORTH DOWNTOWN



## Blatt Beer & Table

*elevated bar food, on-tap craft beers, and a seasonal rooftop beer garden*  
Named after Rosenblatt Stadium, where College World Series was previously held.

## Hook & Lime

*seafood-centric, Mexican-inspired tacos, small plates and tequila*  
Fantastic carnitas and mahi mahi tacos.

## Lighthouse Pizza & Fries

*custom & specialty pies*  
This pizza joint serves up 9" slices and fries piled with toppings.

## Pettit's Pastry

*premier supplier of fresh-baked donuts, pastries, cakes, and cookies*  
What may be lacking in flair is more than made up for as soon as a fresh doughnut melts in your mouth.

## Rally Coffee Co.

*coffees, teas, and assorted menu items*  
This small batch coffee classic makes their own flavorings in house. Stop by for terrific seasonal options all year round.

## MIDTOWN CROSSING



### Culprit Café

*relaxed cafe and bakery serving artisan bread, coffee, breakfast, sandwiches & other light eats*

Delicious breakfast sandwiches and a great place to study, too!

### Leadbelly

*gourmet burgers and local beer*

Numerous options can satisfy any craving and hunger level.

### Modern Love

*swanky vegan comfort foods, made with love and a modern twist*

It's a vegan restaurant, but there is something for everyone.

## BLACKSTONE

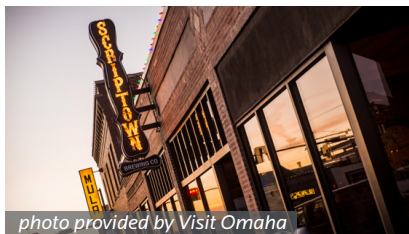


photo provided by Visit Omaha

### Archetype Coffee

*craft coffee shop with an industrial feel, emphasizes natural flavors*

"Best espresso I've ever had. I highly recommend this spot."

### The Blackstone Meatball

*industrial bar/eatery with creative meatball dishes & handmade sides*

A menu that revolves around meatballs. Yes, please.

### Cheeseburgers

*guess what they specialize in?*

Burgers – hot dogs – chicken fingers rounded off with fries and a shake or malt.

### Coneflower Creamery

*handmade ice cream from local ingredients*  
Tour guide favorite & a staple for local ice cream.

### Crescent Moon Alehouse

*burgers, wings, local & regional beers*

Order a Reuben, just blocks from where it originated (Blackstone Hotel).

### Early Bird

*elevated breakfast, brunch, and cocktails 7 days a week*

Get brunch every day of the week.  
Recommended to call ahead.

### Mula

*street-style Mexican cuisine, handmade tortillas*

Fresh, updated twist on Mexican reminiscent of tapas.



## Noli's Pizzeria

*combining traditional and artisan into a New York style slice*

Great authentic Italian ingredients. Get the garlic knots!

## Stirnella

*stylish gastropub with exposed brick & communal tables, serving elevated American & global cuisine*

Menu is designed to be ordered family-style, but can be eaten separately.

## The Switch Beer & Food Hall

*small but unique spot worth finding*

Diverse offerings from local chefs and food entrepreneurs including a NY deli, authentic Venezuelan street food and pickled fried chicken (trust us, it's good!)

## DUNDEE



## Amsterdam Falafel & Kabob

*snug sandwich counter serving Middle Eastern specialties*

You can't go wrong with anything from here, but make sure to get curry fries too.

## Avoli Osteria

*simple, thoughtful dishes indigenous to Northern Italy*

Outstanding cuisine - moderate to high end. Great special date night or special occasion.

## Dario's Brasserie

*European-style restaurant serving simple, hearty food with a French flavor*

One of the best Sunday brunches in Omaha. Limited hours, but worth looking up.

## Good Lookin'

*"Best part of your day café"*

Great breakfast sandwiches and homemade pastries. Breakfast, brunch and lunch on Wed – Sun.

## eCreamery

*ice cream, gelato, and sorbet shop*

Featured on the TV Show "Shark Tank." They do 80% of their business online!

## Pitch Pizzeria

*coal-fired pizza, & Italian cuisine*

From pizza to pasta to brunch, you can't go wrong with anything from Pitch. Reservations recommended.

## AKSARBEN



### Herbe Sainte

*Cajun and Creole fare and drinks*  
Delicious jambalaya, étouffée, and grits. Weekend Brunch.

### Inner Rail Food Hall

*the place to go when no one can make up their mind on what to have.*

Nine vendors ranging from authentic Nepalese street cuisine to sushi to New York pizza to bobo. Good spot for vegetarian and vegan options with both indoor and outdoor seating.

### Jones Bros Cupcakes

*bakery & café featuring baked treats, sandwiches, and coffee*

Two-time Cupcake Wars participants (1st and 2nd place)!

### Mai Thai

*straightforward cuisine from Vietnam and Thailand*

Home of the Original Chicken Mango.

### Voodoo Taco

*wicked good tacos with exotic, fresh ingredients*

"Smoked Brisket Taco! To die for. If nothing is ever spicy enough, get the Habanero Lightning sauce."

## OTHER SPOTS AROUND OMAHA

### Acadian Grill

*Southern kitchen serving comfort food with a variety of influences*  
Expand your palate with a blend of French and soul food.

### J. Coco

*seasonal menus rooted in tradition, showcasing natural ingredients with a modern twist*

The building used to be a beloved neighborhood grocery.

### Jacobo's Mexican Grocery, Bakery, and Tortilleria

*this deli counter serves up some of the best tamales & enchiladas around*  
To go orders only - no seating in the grocery store. Cash only. Be sure to get some tamales, and extra chips & salsa!

### J. Gilbert's

*wood-fired steaks and seafood.*

Serves Midwestern raised, USDA Prime Black Angus beef cooked over an open wood-fire grill. Delivers a fine-dining meal in a down-to-earth atmosphere.

### Greek Islands

*you know you want to shout it. OPA!*  
An Omaha favorite for over 30 years, this is THE place in town for Greek cuisine, including beverages and desserts.

### La Casa Pizzeria

*legendary pizza and pasta since 1953*  
Run by the third generation of Patane family members, still at the original location.

## **Lisa's Radial Café**

*classic breakfast & lunch diner close to campus*

Great place for breakfast. Open early morning to 2 pm every day. breakfast.

Open early morning to 2:00 pm every day.

## **Lo Sole Mio Ristorante**

*family-run kitchen with traditional Italian plates in a low-key location*

No reservations, so plan ahead. Roasted garlic and bread served before each meal is amazing!

## **Salween Thai**

*some like it hot – go for a level 5 or above.*

A favorite of CU students for the great food at good prices and generous portions. Choose your spice level, 1-10. The Pad Thai is always a winner.

## **Stella's**

*down-to-earth staple known for hand-pressed burgers served on napkins*  
Frequently listed as Omaha's best burger.

## **Sweet Magnolias Bake Shop**

*made-from-scratch bakery*  
Order the scones. Baked fresh daily - and they sell out quickly so don't wait!

## **Taco Co**

*las recitas son de su abuela.*  
On the main street in the Benson neighborhood. Puffy shell tacos and sides that you can order family style.



## OMAHA STEAKS

We frequently get asked where to go for the best steak in Omaha. Let's start off by saying that there are essentially two types of Omaha steakhouses.

The classic steakhouses in Omaha are typically family-owned and were centered around the Stockyards, or in Little Italy, and could be categorized as Italian steakhouses.

As Omaha's culinary scene evolved, so did the steakhouses. You will now find several new venues, especially close to campus and downtown Omaha. These steakhouses have a more formal ambiance than their older counterparts.

Ask an Omahan which is better and spark a debate. Here are some of our favorites, but know that wherever you choose, you won't be disappointed with the taste of an Omaha steak.

### 801 Grill

*steaks, burgers & comfort foods abound in a neighborhood atmosphere*

A casual spin-off from 801 Chophouse. Dinner hours only.

### 801 Chophouse

*sharp, white-tablecloth spot serving a menu of upscale steakhouse classics including fresh seafood*

Yes, you can find an 801 Chophouse in cities other than Omaha, but only in five, so we've included it on the list as it is a recurring favorite in the Big O.

### Brother Sebastian's Steak House & Winery\*

*choice cuts delivered by staff dressed as monks in cozy digs*

Early California mission decor with great steaks. Perfect spot for a special dinner. Reservations recommended.

### Cascio's Steakhouse\*

*storied family-owned bar & grill offering steaks, pizza & Italian fare*

Old-school place that never fails to deliver. Generations of the Cascio family have kept this steakhouse a perennial favorite in Omaha. Open Wed.-Sun.

## The Committee (Blackstone)

*A return to the art of the chophouse*  
High-end, contemporary dining in historical digs. Memorable dishes combined with Blackstone district history. You'll want to take your time and really enjoy all this place has to offer. Reservations recommended.

## The Drover\*

*landmark chophouse specializing in steaks marinated in whiskey then grilled to order in rustic digs*

Well-known for their whiskey filet and old-school salad bar, it's worth the short drive from campus to find The Drover. Reservations recommended.

## Gorat's Steak House\*

*local fixture offering steaks, salads & sandwiches in an old-school environment*

Warren Buffet's choice for steaks in Omaha - do you need more than that? Some gluten-free options are available.

## Johnny's Café\*

*1922 chophouse with a throwback feel highlighting Midwest beef, including steaks aged on-site*

Local, family-run steakhouse. The décor is a treat (Not to be confused with Johnny's Italian Steakhouse.)

## Mahogany Prime Steakhouse

*upscale chophouse chain branch presenting prime beef & seafood in a white-tablecloth dining room*

Often listed as one of the top fine dining experiences in Omaha. Dinner hours only, closed Sunday. Reservations recommended.

## OTHER NOTABLE COFFEE HOUSES

### 13th Street Coffee

*espresso beverages, baked goods & gelato in an airy cafe setup featuring rotating art on the walls.*

Much like Central Perk, this hang out spot right off Old Market is a favorite. 100 percent have to try the cannolis.

### Bad Seed

*relaxed coffee shop offering choice espresso drinks & pastries in a lofty space with hanging plants.*

An indoor jungle-this plant/coffee shop combo is a popular study spot for Creighton students. Make sure to try their shaken espresso and perhaps get a moss ball too.

### Myrtle and Cypress

*coffee, teas, and pastries made with care for you using natural sweeteners and locally sourced ingredients.*

This homey coffee shop nestled in the Gifford Park neighborhood feels like home. With comfy couches and a large patio, you can't go wrong.

### Zen Coffee

*"good vibes, great coffee, amazing community"*

Zen is a Creighton staple. There's nothing better than here with a Honey Bee Latte in hand.

*Explore this list & more to do in Omaha on Google Maps:  
<https://goo.gl/yPneab>*



# Nearby Neighborhoods

