

Insider's Guide to

Welcome to Hot-Lanta! The unofficial capital of the "New South" is a sprawling metropolis that's constantly being reinvented. So where to start? Don't worry; the Sonnhalter Insider's Guide to Atlanta is here to help.

We asked some of our friends in the ATL for their suggestions on where to go and what to do to get a feel for the "real" city. Sure, there's legendary soul food and good old southern hospitality, but with so many people flocking to The A, there's a true melting pot of cuisine, sounds and sights. After all, at Sonnhalter, we not only like to get our hands dirty, we like to make our stomachs happy too!

So, when you're not busy with business, make sure you get out and enjoy all this Olympic city has to offer. With so many vibrant neighborhoods, things are always jumping.

Buckhead

Aria

New American
(404) 233-7673
www.aria-atl.com

A chef-driven enterprise from Gerry Klaskala. Visually stunning takes on modern American cuisine that makes this a consistent "Best of" list staple. Ask about the "secret" wine cellar table.

Atlanta Fish Market

Seafood
(404) 262-3165
www.buckheadrestaurants.com/restaurant/atlanta-fish-market/

With the widest selection of fresh fish in the southeast, this casual, urban loft-like location has an ever-changing menu sure to please any kind of seafood lover.

Atlas

Upscale American
(404) 600-6471
www.atlasrestaurant.com

Celebrating the best in seasonal American cuisine with fresh ingredients, inspired flavor pairings and attentive staff. Located inside the elegant St. Regis Hotel.

Bones

Steakhouse
(404) 237-2663
www.bonesrestaurant.com

A Zagat Survey top choice, this Atlanta tradition has 40 years of providing the finest service and best steaks, leading to local, regional and national recognition.

Hal's, The Steakhouse

Steak/New Orleans
(404) 261-0025
www.hals.net

For more than 20 years, Hal's has created award-winning steaks and "Big Easy" favorites, all in a welcoming atmosphere.

Le Bilboquet

French
(404) 869-9944
www.lebilboquetatlanta.com

Upscale, light-filled cafe & white-tablecloth restaurant featuring traditional French cuisine. The Cajun chicken is one of their signature dishes and a must try!

Restaurant Eugene

Farm-to-Table
(404) 355-0321
www.restauranteeugene.com

A James Beard Award winner with an overriding philosophy of respect for the region and ingredients. Add an expertly curated wine list and you have a one-of-a-kind experience.

10 Degrees South

South African
(404) 705-8870
www.10degreesouth.com

An intimate, secluded spot in the midst of Buckhead's bustle, with inspired South African cuisine.

Tomo

Japanese
(404) 835-2708
www.tomorestaurant.com

With a chef from the legendary Nobu, and a sophisticated location inside the Ritz-Carlton, this is a must-visit location for any fan of sushi, sake and Japanese cuisine.

Umi

Sushi
(404) 841-0040
www.umiatlanta.com

Airy and contemporary, with the highest quality sushi and other Japanese flavors. Also features exclusive craft sake and handmade cocktails.

Decatur

Brick Store Pub

Belgian Pub
(404) 687-0990
www.brickstorepub.com/

Sure, the beer list is longer than the menu, and a cable news network named them the best beer bar in America, but the creative spins on traditional pub food are just as great.

Brush Sushi Izakaya

Japanese
(678) 949-9412
www.brushat1.com

"Japanese Gastropub," with small plates, sushi and more, including an omakase, or chef's tasting menu, one of the ATL's hardest-to-get reservations.

Cakes & Ale

Café and Bakery
(404) 377-7994
www.cakesandalerestaurant.com/details

Cooking down-to-earth food using the highest quality ingredients, served in a comfortable and welcoming setting.

Chai Pani

Indian
(404) 378-4030
www.chaipanidecatur.com

This hip Decatur spot offers the best in Indian street food. A departure from the traditional Indian restaurant, but with flavors and ingredients sure to please.

Kimball House

French
(404) 378-3502
www.kimball-house.com

Located in an old train depot, this French (with a southern flair) restaurant is also justifiably famous for their raw bar.

Revival

Southern
(470) 225-6770
www.revivaldecatur.com

With a nod to southern traditions of a family-style Sunday dinner, Revival focuses on farm-fresh ingredients and precise execution.

Downtown Atlanta/Convention Center

Busy Bee Café

Soul Food
(404) 525-9212
www.thebusybeecafe.com

Open since 1947, this downtown classic is a staple of the community, with southern soul classics made right.

Der Biergarten

German
(404) 521-2728
www.derbiergarten.com

A spacious biergarten tucked away minutes from the Convention Center. Offers a true taste of German hospitality and dining.

Meehan's Public House

Irish Pub
(404) 214-9821
www.meehanspublichouse.com/location/downtown

Classic Irish dishes elevated to the gourmet level, with the service and good-hearted ambiance you'd expect from a classic Irish Pub.

Poor Calvin's

Asian Fusion, Southern, Comfort Food
(404) 254-4051
www.poorcalvins.com

Modern, intimate eatery featuring an Asian fusion menu, plus both classic & creative cocktails.

Ray's in the City

Steak & Seafood
(404) 524-9224
www.raysrestaurants.com/raysinthecity/home

Amazing steaks, seafood flown in daily and regular live jazz make this the place in downtown for fine dining.

Stats Brewpub

Brewpub
(404) 885-1472
www.statsatl.com

Occupying the space that was Nike's hospitality suite for the Olympics, this is the ultimate location for a casual meeting, private event or tasty meal. Many tables feature built-in beer taps.

Thrive

American & Sushi
(404) 389-1000
www.thriveatl.com

An upscale, casual restaurant where food, drink & lounge all intersect. American favorites meet inventive sushi, with a tremendous beer, wine and sake list.

Little Five Points/Old Fourth Ward

8Arm

New American
(470) 875-5856
www.8armatl.com

Part coffee shop, part hip, airy new American nighttime destination. Add a tiki-themed outdoor patio with creative cocktails, and you have a recipe for success.

El Super Pan

Pan-Latin
(404) 600-2465
www.elsuperpan.com

A highlight of the Ponce City Market, this stand offers up Latin-inspired sandwiches, soups, entrees and cocktails.

Fox Bros. Bar-B-Q

Barbecue
(404) 577-4030
www.foxbrosbbq.com/fox-bros-home.html

Texas transplants in Atlanta with a keen interest in Kansas City style leads to a wonderful collision of traditions. Consistently mentioned in national listings of the best BBQ.

Little Five Points/ Old Fourth Ward (cont.)

Nine Mile Station

Beer Garden
(770) 999-1532
www.9milestation.com

An experience like no other in Atlanta sits atop the Ponce City Market, with food and beer as stunning as the views, featuring a seasonal menu prepared in an open kitchen.

Staplehouse

New American
(404) 524-5005
www.staplehouse.com

The for-profit subsidiary of The Giving Kitchen Charity, this one-of-a-kind concept combines a love for locally sourced, fantastic cooking with a cause to help the local food industry workers.

Ticonderoga Club

American
(404) 458-4534
www.ticonderogaclub.com

A casual spot that refuses to take itself too seriously, all while creating some of the best cocktails and food around.

Wrecking Bar Brewpub

Brewpub
(404) 221-2600
www.wreckingbarbrewpub.com

Set in the basement of a Victorian mansion, and growing out of an architectural salvage store, the beer and food are as unique as the backstory at this brewpub.

OTHER

Briarcliff Heights

Desta Ethiopian Restaurant

Ethiopian
(404) 929-0011
www.destaethiopiankitchen.com

Popular with vegetarians, but also featuring mouth-watering Ethiopian staples like marinated lamb tips, this authentic spot offers a plethora of exotic dishes.

Brookhaven

Kaleidoscope

Pub
(404) 474-9600
www.k-pub.com

Taking the traditional concept of a pub, and turning it on its ear with an international, eclectic menu.

The One Sushi +

Sushi
(404) 869-6988
www.theonesushiplus.com

Fresh sushi and a modern take on traditional Japanese food, in a hip, industrial location.

There, a Bar & Eatery

Gastropub
(404) 949-9677
www.therebrookhaven.com

Local food, fresh cuisine and craft cocktails make for an outstanding experience.

Brookwood Hills

Watershed on Peachtree

Southern
(404) 809-3561
www.watershedrestaurant.com

A James Beard award-winning restaurant that pioneered the farm-to-table concept constantly stays at the top of the list in Atlanta dining destinations. Their Sunday Jazz brunch is a must.

Castleberry Hill

Paschal's

Soul Food
(404) 525-2023
www.paschalsatlanta.com

Open for more than six decades, this historic meeting place is an icon in Atlanta, with signature soul dishes, and world-famous fried chicken.

East Lake

Poor Hendrix Bar or Restaurant

Gastropub
(404) 549-8756
www.poorhendrix.com

Small plates, American classics and amazing selections of beer, wine and spirits make for the definition of a neighborhood hang-out.

Emory

Slice & Pint

Gastropub
(404) 883-3406
www.sliceandpint.info

Pizzas made with traditional bread and Trappist ale yeasts, and inventive toppings, plus a beer and cocktail list to be envied.

The General Muir

Contemporary New York Deli
(678) 927-9131
www.thegeneralmuir.com

A modern take of the traditional Jewish deli, The General Muir has won accolades for their inventive blending of the familiar with the new, and focusing on fresh ingredients and simple preparations.

Glenwood Park

Gunshow

Eclectic
(404) 380-1886
www.gunshowatl.com

Rolling carts combining Brazilian Churrascaria with Chinese Dim Sum is only the start of the eclectic mix at this fun hotspot.

Grant Park

Six Feet Under Pub & Fish House

Seafood
(404) 523-6664
www.sixfeetunder.net/locations-hours/grant-park

Seafood leads the way at this fun, funky pub. Almost as special is the view from the rooftop bar, not only of the Atlanta skyline, but of the historic Oakland Cemetery that inspires the restaurant name.

Inman Park

Beetlecat

Oyster Bar
(678) 732-0360
www.beetlecatatl.com

This retro-themed raw bar is justifiably popular for their seafood and cocktails, as well as the décor and surroundings.

BoccaLupo

Italian
(404) 577-2332
www.boccalupoatl.com

With hand-cut pastas and years of experience at the best Italian restaurants, BoccaLupo makes delicious and inventive additions to homemade classic recipes.

Bread & Butterfly

European
(678) 515-4536
www.bread-and-butterfly.com/details

All-day café & bistro, offering everything from cappuccino & croissant to charcuterie & duck à l'orange in an authentic European locale complete with one of the best porches in Atlanta.

Kevin Rathbun Steak

Steakhouse
(404) 524-5600
www.kevinrathbunsteak.com/menu.html

A converted warehouse makes for a creative backdrop to an equally creative take on the traditional steakhouse.

One Eared Stag

American
(404) 525-4479
www.oneearedstagatl.com

House-cured meats and pickled vegetables lead the way at this popular spot. Quirky is key, from décor to an award-winning hamburger called "The Meatstick."

Sotto Sotto

Italian
(404) 523-6678
www.sottosottoatl.com

Fresh, simple and traditional are the driving force at this cozy eatery. Named by the New York Post as one of the 20 best Italian restaurants in America.

Marietta

Seed Kitchen & Bar

American Fusion
(678) 214-6888
www.eatatseed.com/

Inventive and locally sourced American fare meets Asian, Latin and European influences in a sleek space. The menu varies by season, but never fails to impress.

Spring

New American
(678) 540-2777
www.springmarietta.com

Nestled in historic Marietta Square, and serving a small, ever-changing menu that's dictated by seasonality and sustainability.

Thaicoon

Thai & Japanese
(678) 766-0641
www.thaicoonsushiatlanta.com
Authentic Thai mixed with sushi and Japanese classics.

Midtown

Campagnolo

Italian
(404) 343-2446
www.campagnoloatl.com

This modern space with rustic accents and a patio offers a seasonal Italian menu of pastas and mains.

Nan Thai

Thai
(404) 870-9933
www.nanfinedining.com

Upscale Thai eats, and a modern, zenlike atmosphere make this a Midtown staple.

South City Kitchen

Southern
(404) 873-7358
midtown.southcitykitchen.com

Situated in a 1920s bungalow, with Southern classics being given a sophisticated spin.

Riverside

B's Cracklin Barbeque

BBQ
(912) 330-6921
www.bscracklinbbq.com

Raising their own heritage hogs and making sides featuring local produce, this newer restaurant firmly established itself as one of the best barbeque joints in the region.

Smyrna

Porch Light Latin Kitchen

Pan-Latin
(678) 309-9858
www.porchlightlatinkitchen.com

Part restaurant, part lunch counter and part Latin Quarter Deli, this unique destination offers up favorites and inventive departures from the norm, in a busy, friendly atmosphere.

West Paces Ferry/Northside

Local Three

New American
(404) 968-2700
www.localthree.com

Handcrafted furniture, a fun vibe, creative cocktails and a stunning New American menu.

Westside

Bacchanalia

New American
(404) 365-0410
www.starprovisions.com/bacchanalia/

A top spot since 1993, with contemporary American cuisine, Bacchanalia features light and creative plates, white-tablecloth attentive service and seasonal menus.

JCT. Kitchen & Bar

Southern
(404) 355-2252
www.jctkitchen.com

Not your Grandmother's southern restaurant, with updated classics, late live music and a rooftop patio.

Miller Union

Southern
(678) 733-8550
www.millerunion.com

"Simple, sustainable, southern fare with an authentic but modern approach to farmstead inspired cooking" – Wine Enthusiast Magazine

Cooks & Soldiers

Basque
(404) 996-2623
www.cooksandsoldiers.com

More than the average tapas bar, with a wood-fired grill and a focus on the people and cuisine of the region straddling Spain and France.

Le Fat

Vietnamese
(404) 439-9850
www.lefatatl.com

Bold flavors and a deep understanding of traditional Vietnamese dishes, combining French colonial and Asian influences.

Multiple Locations

Antico Pizza

www.centrostorico.it/#benvenuto
Brick-oven pizza and more.

The Big Ketch Saltwater Grill

www.thebigketch.com
Fresh seafood delivered daily, in a casual "Beach House in the middle of the city."

Café Sunflower

www.cafesunflower.com
Serving Atlanta vegans and vegetarians for over 20 years.

Hudson Grille

www.hudsongrille.com
More than a sports bar, with multiple Atlanta-area locations. The popular downtown location is steps from the CNN & Convention Centers.

Muss & Turners

www.mussandturners.com
Creative sandwiches and southern favorites.

Superica

www.superica.com
Tex-Mex at 2 locations; an Atlanta favorite.

Taqueria del Sol

www.taqueriadelsol.com
Amazing from-scratch Mexican, southern and southwestern favorites.

The Flying Biscuit

www.flyingbiscuit.com
A favorite breakfast spot, with southern favorites served in a funky atmosphere.

The Varsity

www.thevarsity.com
Truly an Atlanta institution. The original location is a must-visit.

Verde Taqueria

www.verdetacos.com/tacos/
Originally in Brookhaven, now with 3 locations in metro Atlanta.

Vortex

www.thevortexatl.com/
Consistently named Atlanta's best burgers, with attitude to spare and a beer list to be envied.

Nightlife and Bars

Amer – www.ameratlanta.com

Barcelona Wine Bar – www.barcelonawinebar.com

Blind Willie's – www.blindwilliesblues.com

Brick Store – www.brickstorepub.com

Buckhead Theatre – www.thebuckheadtheatreatl.com

Center Stage – www.centerstage-atlanta.com

Cobb Energy Performing Arts Center – www.cobbenergycentre.com

Eddie's Attic – www.eddiesattic.com

Euclid Avenue Yacht Club – www.theeayc.com

Five Paces Inn – www.thefivepacesinn.com

Fox Theatre – www.foxtheatre.org

Glen Hotel Sky Lounge – www.glennskylounge.com

Himitsu – www.puraimeto.com/himitsu/

Holeman & Finch Public House – www.holeman-finch.com

Johnny's Hideaway – www.johnnyshideaway.com

Jonnie MacCracken's Celtic Pub – www.johnniemaccrackens.com

Leon's Full Service – www.leonsfullservice.com

Manuel's Tavern – www.facebook.com/ManuelsTavern

Midway Pub – www.themidwaypub.com

Music Room – www.atlmusicroom.com

Northside Tavern – www.northsidetavern.com

O-Ku – www.o-kusushiatl.com

Pinewood Tippling Room – www.pinewoodtr.com

Sister Louisa's Church of the Living Room & Ping Pong Emporium – www.facebook.com/SisterLouisasChurch

SOS Tiki Bar – www.facebook.com/paperplaneatl

The Earl – www.badearl.com

The Local – www.facebook.com/pages/The-Local/120785347935395

The Regent Cocktail Club – www.ldvhospitality.com/brands/the-regent-cocktail-club/

The Sound Table – www.thesoundtable.com

The Tabernacle – www.tabernacleatl.com

Variety Playhouse – www.variety-playhouse.com

Wrecking Bar Brewpub – www.wreckingbarbrewpub.com

Atlanta Sightseeing

Atlanta Botanical Garden – www.atlantabg.org
Atlantic Station – www.atlanticstation.com
Bobby Dodd Stadium –
www.ramblinwreck.com/genrel/071001aaa.html
Centennial Olympic Park – www.gwcca.org/park/
Center for Puppetry Arts – www.puppet.org
Children’s Museum of Atlanta –
www.childrensmuseumatlanta.org
CNN Center – tours.cnn.com
College Football Hall of Fame – www.cfbhall.com
Ebenezer Baptist Church – www.historicebenezer.org
Freedom Park – www.freedompark.org
Georgia Aquarium – www.georgiaaquarium.org
High Museum of Art – www.high.org

Jimmy Carter Library and Museum – www.jimmycarterlibrary.gov
Krog Street Market – www.krogstreetmarket.com
Margaret Mitchell House & Museum – www.atlantahistorycenter.com/explore/destinations/margaret-mitchell-house
Martin Luther King National Historic Site –
www.nps.gov/malu/index.htm
Mercedes-Benz Stadium – www.mercedesbenzstadium.com
Philips Arena – www.philipsarena.com
Ponce City Market – www.poncecitymarket.com
Sky View Atlanta – www.skyviewatlanta.com
SunTrust Park – www.atlanta.braves.mlb.com/atl/ballpark/
World of Coca-Cola – www.worldofcoca-cola.com
Zoo Atlanta – www.zooatlanta.org

Taxis & Ground Transportation

Atlanta Car Service – (404) 992-9988
Atlanta Checker Cab – (404) 351-1111
Atlanta Royal Cabbies – (404) 584-6655
Atlanta Taxi Cab – (404) 935-9555
Best Atlanta – (404) 436-0147
Buckhead Safety Cab – (404) 875-3777

Cascade Cab Co. – (404) 758-5521
Cowry Classic Limo & Car Service – (404) 740-3037
Downtown Atlanta Taxi – (404) 850-1475
Greene Worldwide Transportation – (404) 875-3866
Lyft – www.lyft.com
Uber – www.uber.com

FOR INSIDER'S GUIDES TO OTHER CITIES:

sonnhalter.com/insiders-guides

