

Welcome to Indianapolis, Indiana—home of

the greatest spectacle in racing, the Indianapolis 500. Known as "the Crossroads of America," Indianapolis is where you'll find the best of the Midwest. There's something for everyone here!

The Sonnhalter Insider's Guide to Indianapolis will get you on the right track. It's our way of helping you cut through the clutter to find the city's best restaurants, nightlife and sights.

We asked our Indy insiders for their recommendations on where to sample Hoosier cuisine and entertainment. You know, those secret locales only the locals know about. From comfort food to fine dining, it's all here. After all, at Sonnhalter, we not only like to get our hands dirty, we like to get them greasy too!

When you're not convening at the convention center, make sure you check out the city's many sights—from downtown out to the Speedway—and see why Indy runs circles around other cities!

Downtown/State Capitol/Convention Center

Bluebeard

New American 317-686-1580

http://www.bluebeardindy.com/

This trendy foodie hot spot serves sharing plates & craft cocktails in a renovated warehouse.

lozzo's Garden of Italy

Italian

317-974-1100

http://iozzos.com/

This storied eatery serves Italian classics and wine in a sophisticated dining room and quaint garden courtyard.

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood & Steaks

Seafood/Steaks

317-631-9500

www.mccormickandschmicks.com

From fresh seafood and shellfish to aged steaks and garden fresh salads, their goal is to exceed your dining expectations.

Milktooth

Modern Brunch 317-986-5131

http://www.milktoothindy.com/#

Inventive breakfast & brunch items in a family atmosphere. The best coffee and espresso in Indianapolis.

Shapiro's Delicatessen

Delicatessen

317-631-4041

http://shapiros.com/

Open for 110 years, this Indianapolis institution is steeped in tradition, with only the freshest ingredients making for the highest quality food.

Spoke & Steele

American Contemporary

317-737-1616

http://spokeandsteele.com/

Cuisine partnered with the best of what Indiana's growers, ranchers and craft vendors have to offer.

St. Elmo Steak House

Steak House

317-635-0636

http://www.stelmos.com/

Historic and stately dining destination known for their steaks, shrimp cocktails, seafood and the 1933 Lounge.

St. Joseph Brewery

Microbrewery

317-602-5670

http://www.saintjoseph.beer/

Located in a converted church, this microbrewery & restaurant features great beer, excellent food and the best Sunday brunch in the city.

The Rathskeller

German Beer Hall

317-636-0396

http://www.rathskeller.com/

Bavarian flair in downtown Indy. With an indoor/outdoor beer hall, live music and the best German food.



Broad Ripple

3 Sisters Cafe

Café

317-257-5556

http://3sisters.in/site/

A breakfast & lunch institution in Broad Ripple for 20 years.

Canal Bistro

Mediterranean

(317) 254-8700

https://www.canal-bistro.com/

Lavishly decorated restaurant & bar with a varied Mediterranean menu & a canalside patio.

Flatwater

American

(317) 257-5466

https://www.flatwaterbroadripple.com/

Mellow American eatery offers a prominent, waterside patio bar & build-your-own Bloody Mary Sundays.

Gallery Pastry Shop

Breakfast

(317) 820-5526

https://sobro.gallerypastry.com/

Gallery Pastry Shop brings brunch, lunch, and European pastries to Indianapolis.

Hibachi Bar

Sushi

317-257-7289

http://www.sushibarindy.net/

Located on Broad Ripple Avenue, this restaurant sits up high overlooking the busy street. Their extensive menu includes noodle dishes, meat, and of course, sushi.

Joella's Hot Chicken

Chicken

(317) 259-7161

https://joellas.com/

At Joella's we spice our 100% antibiotic-free, hormone-free, all-natural chicken just the way you like - from just enough heat to bring out the flavors and warm your heart, to Fire-In Da-Hole, bless your heart.

Petite Chou Bistro & Champagne Bar

French

(317) 259-0765

https://www.petitechoubistro.com/

Snug French bistro pairs bubbly & crêpes alongside an upscale dinner menu & premium cocktails.

Shalimar

Indian

317-465-1100

https://www.facebook.com/1043broadripple/ Featuring the finest Northern Indian entrees and specialty tandoori (clay oven) dishes.

Tony's of Indianapolis

Steakhouse

(317) 638-8669

https://tonysofindianapolis.com/

Choice steaks & seafood presented in a roomy, sophisticated setting with an extensive wine list.

Indianapolis

Ale Emporium/Honest Pizza

Pub/Pizza

(317) 842-1333

https://aleemporium.securetree.com/

Ale Emporium, home of Honest Pizza and World Famous Hermanaki® Wings since 1982. We offer pizza, wings, paninis, burgers, chicken, salads, beer, wine, cocktails and much more.

Bakersfield

Mexican

317-635-6962

www.bakersfieldtacos.com

Serving up authentic Mexican street food, as well as over 100 tequilas and American whiskeys.

Bazbeaux Pizza

Pizza

Multiple Locations

http://bazbeaux.com/

Consistently named Indy's best restaurant & best pizza, this local chain serves fresh-made pizzas with style.

Bru Burger

Hamburgers (317) 635-4278

https://www.bruburgerbar.com/Locations/ Bru-Indy/

Gourmet burgers, creative bar snacks & craft beers in a modern yet cozy space with a patio.

Cafe Patachou

American

(317) 632-0765

https://www.cafepatachou.com/

Cafe Patachou is an award-winning restaurant offering a world class breakfast.

Dawsons on Main

Steakhouse

(317) 247-7000

https://www.dawsonsonmain.com/

Dawson's on Main, not your typical neighborhood restaurant. We offer bold flavors, fresh ingredients and a warm atmosphere. A menu of steaks, seafood, pastas, sandwiches and other specialties make Dawson's perfect for family gatherings.

Delicia

Latin-American 317-925-0677

http://www.deliciaindy.com/

Successfully melding traditional and modern approaches to Latin cuisine, while staying true to the style flavors and history of each dish.

Goose the Market

Gourmet Grocery & Prepared Foods 317-924-4944

http://www.goosethemarket.com/

Daily selections of sandwiches, small plates, soups, gelato, as well as cut to order butcher, artisanal cheeses, slow cured and smoked meats and craft beer & wine.

Harry & Izzy's

Steak House

Multiple Locations

http://www.harryandizzys.com/

Named after the founders of the legendary St. Elmo, this more casual and updated concept offers steaks, seafood and service.

Indianapolis (continued)

Hollyhock Hill

Family Style 317-251-2294

www.hollyhockhill.com

Since 1928, this revered institution has offered up a quality dining experience in a location that feels like a county homestead, featuring Hoosier pan-fried chicken.

The Inferno Room

Caribbean/Filipino/Asian 317-426-2343

https://theinfernoroom.com

The menu is a fantasia of classic Tiki cuisine — everything from sliders made with Filipino pork meatloaf to that old Chinese carryout standby, crab rangoon. The cocktails are on point, with classic renditions of the Mai Tai and Zombie.

Livery

Latin

317-383-0330

https://www.livery-restaurant.com/ Indianapolis/

A neighborhood gathering place with a Latin influenced menu. Explore the flavors of Latin America in each and every taste.

Long's Bakery

Bakery

Multiple Locations

https://www.facebook.com/longsbakery A long-running institution, this cash-only pastry shop serves up a variety of tasty treats, including donuts, danishes & cakes.

Mama Carolla's

Italian

317-259-9412

http://mamacarollas.com/

The best of Italy in a one-of-a-kind Mediterranean style villa, complete with garden seating.

Mesh

American Contemporary 317-955-9600

https://www.meshrestaurants.com/#loc3

Blending contemporary elegance with innovative cuisine and excellent service for inspired farm-to-table cuisine.

Nada

Mexican

(317) 638-6232

https://www.eatdrinknada.com/

Live in the moment at a taco and cocktail joint dishing up a traditional and inspired taco menu, margaritas and bold energy.

Napolese

Pizza

Multiple Locations

http://napolesepizzeria.com/

Artfully made pizzas and stone hearth baking, using the freshest ingredients available, including produce especially grown for the restaurant. Also featuring an excellent wine and cocktail list.

Punch Burger

Burgers

317-426-5280

http://www.punchburger.com/

Made with local, grass fed, pure Angus beef from a single farm in Jasper, Indiana. One of the best burgers you'll ever have, plus fries, shakes, local brews and more.

Rick's Cafe Boatyard

Seafood

(317) 290-9300

https://ricksboatyard.com/

Bright, breezy eatery & jazz club on Eagle Creek Reservoir with a diverse menu emphasizing seafood.

Siam Square

Thai

317-636-8424

http://www.siamsquareindy.com/ Familiar & some lesser-known, but amazingly executed, Thai specialties.

Slapfish

Seafood

(317) 686-9713

https://www.slapfishrestaurant.com/ Slapfish is a modern seafood shack that

serves the quality of fine dining at the cost and convenience of fast "er" food.

Steer-In

Classic Diner

317-356-0996

http://www.steerin.net/

An American classic, open since 1960, with dine in and car hop service available.

Union 50

American

(317) 610-0234

https://www.union-50.com/

Buzzy bar providing an innovative American menu & local beers in industrial-chic atmosphere. Our dinner menu features innovative dishes that change seasonally. Union 50 also hosts live music multiple nights a week.

Vida

Contemporary

317-420-2323

www.vida-restaurant.com

The menu is an innovative theme, with immaculately presented modern creations such as their homemade whitefish kielbasa, skinned shrimp dumplings in pork consomme and short rib tartare with fried sweetbread.

The Workingman's Friend

Diner

317-636-2067

https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100045842066302

One of Indy's best burgers, from a bustling diner that's been a fixture in west Indy for almost as long as the 500.

Yats

Cajun

Multiple Locations

http://www.yatscajuncreole.com/

A laid back, counter-service Cajun restaurant with hearty plates and a Louisiana vibe.





Nightlife and Bars

Alley Cat Lounge -

https://www.facebook.com/Alley-Cat-Lounge-335484029808689/

Aristocrat Pub - http://aristocratpub.com/

Broad Ripple Brewpub - http://broadripplebrewpub.com/

Chatterbox Jazz Club - https://chatterboxjazz.com

Forty Five Degrees - http://fortyfiveindy.com/

HI-FI - http://www.hifiindy.com/

Ike & Jonesy's - http://ikeandjonesys.com/

Nicky Blaine's - http://nickyblaines.com/

Plat 99 Mixology Lounge -

https://www.thealexander.com/dining/plat-99-mixology-lounge

Red Key Tavern - http://www.redkeytavern.com/

Severin Bar

https://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/indianapolis-severin/dining/severin-bar

Shallos - http://www.shallos.com/

Slippery Noodle Inn - http://www.slipperynoodle.com/

The Ball & Biscuit - http://www.ballandbiscuit.com/

The Jazz Kitchen - http://www.thejazzkitchen.com/

Tini - http://tiniontheave.com/

Union 50 - http://www.union-50.com/

White Rabbit Cabaret - http://www.whiterabbitcabaret.com/

Indianapolis Area Sightseeing

Bankers Life Fieldhouse - www.bankerslifefieldhouse.com

Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site -

http://www.presidentbenjaminharrison.org/

Children's Museum of Indianapolis -

https://www.childrensmuseum.org/

Conner Prairie - http://www.connerprairie.org/

Eagle Creek Park & Nature Preserve - http://eaglecreekpark.org/

Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians & Western Art -

http://www.eiteljorg.org/

Hook's Drug Store Museum - http://hooksmuseum.org/

Indiana State Capitol -

https://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/indianapolis/indianastatehouse.htm

Indiana War Memorial - http://www.in.gov/iwm/

Indianapolis Indians Baseball - www.indyindians.com

Indianapolis Motor Speedway -

http://www.indianapolismotorspeedway.com/

Indianapolis Museum of Art - http://www.imamuseum.org/

Indianapolis Zoo - http://www.indianapoliszoo.com/SitePages/Home.aspx

Lucas Oil Stadium - http://www.lucasoilstadium.com/

Monument Circle/Soldiers & Sailors War Memorial -

http://www.downtownindy.org/venue/1363/monument-circle/

Rhythm! Discovery Center - http://rhythmdiscoverycenter.org/

White River State Park - http://inwhiteriver.wrsp.in.gov/

Transportation

AAA Hoosier Cab - 317-683-3333

Blue Indy - https://www.blue-indy.com/

Blue Line Taxi - 317-444-1444

Go Express Travel - 800-589-6004

Indianapolis International Airport - 317-487-7243

Indy Airport Taxi - 317-381-1111

Katherine's Transportation - 317-444-1092 OnCabs Indianapolis - 317-666-4411 Pacers Bikeshare - 317-653-1948 Tim's Limosine - 317-431-6257

Yellow Cab - 317-487-7777



FOR INSIDER'S GUIDES TO OTHER CITIES:

sonnhalter.com/insiders-guides

