

Insider's Guide to

ORLANDO



Welcome to Orlando, Florida—also known as the Theme Park Capital of the World! You'll find plenty of family fun here, but there's more to O-town than the theme parks. From nightclubs to cozy pubs, there are all sorts of exciting destinations in and around the city.

That's where the Sonnhalter Insider's Guide to Orlando comes in. It's our way of helping you cut through the clutter to find the city's best restaurants, nightlife and sights.

We asked our friends in the Sunshine State for their recommendations on where to sample the best of Central Florida. You know, those secret locales where the locals do their winning and dining. After all, at Sonnhalter, we not only like to get our hands dirty...we like to get them nice and greasy too!

So, when you're not convening at the convention center, make sure you go out and get a taste of what really makes Orlando's magic!

Orlando/Multiple Locations

Beefy King

Classic American

407-894-2241

<https://beefykingorlando.com>

Family owned & operated for over 42 years, Beefy King is a true American classic. Known for their uniquely steamed hot roast beef, this is a true landmark in Orlando.

Bubbalou's Bodacious BBQ

BBQ

Multiple Locations

<http://bubbalous.com>

Since 1986, Orlando's consistently favorite BBQ. Five locations, each with their own menu, and catering available as well.

Chroma Modern Bar & Kitchen

Modern-American

407-955-4340

<http://www.chromalakenona.com>

Located in the Lake Nona neighborhood, and serving an eclectic mix of small plates, craft beers and garden-to-glass cocktails.

Hawkers Asian Street Fare

Asian

407-237-0606

<http://eathawkers.com>

Offering the best of traditional Asian street vendors, delivered in a hip, sharing-encouraged environment.

Highball & Harvest

Southern

407-393-4422

<http://www.ritzcarlton.com/en/hotels/florida/orlando/dining/highball-and-harvest>

Located inside the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, this innovative restaurant offers a southern culinary adventure with many ingredients harvested from the on-site garden.

Kabooki Sushi

Sushi

Multiple Locations

<http://kabookisushi.com>

Diligent details meet creative freedom for a one-of-a-kind sushi experience. Flavor and atmosphere meet in this critically acclaimed location.

Lazy Moon Pizza

Pizza

Multiple Locations

<http://www.lazymoonpizza.com>

"Eat, Drink & Be Lazy" with aged dough, homemade sauce and made-to-order pizzas, a wide beer selection and made-from-scratch cocktails and bocce courts.

The Osprey Tavern

New American

407-960-7700

<https://www.theospreyorlando.com>

This Baldwin Park mainstay offers classic dishes with the freshest of ingredients as well as creative spins on old favorites.

Pho 88

Vietnamese

Multiple Locations

<http://pho88orlando.com>

With two locations, this family owned restaurant offers a vast selection of authentic Vietnamese dishes. A multiple award-winning menu, with the best Pho in central Florida.

Orlando/Multiple Locations (continued)

Russell's

American

407-601-3508

<https://russellsorlando.com>

Located on historic Lake Ivanhoe, Russell's offers an upscale casual dining restaurant and bar, featuring an innovative and fresh menu, all with an amazing view and atmosphere!

Tabla Indian Chinese & Thai

Pan-Asian

407-248-9400

<http://www.tablacuisine.com>

Consistently voted Orlando's favorite Indian restaurant, this restaurant also features outstanding Chinese and exquisite Thai flavors as well.

Turci Pasta

Italian

407-985-2577

<https://www.turcipasta.com>

With just three simple steps to order you can create your own meal. Choose a homemade pasta flavor, choose how you want the pasta cut and choose one of their homemade sauces.

Orange County Convention Center

BR77 Brazilian Steakhouse

Steakhouse

321-384-5063

<https://www.br77steakhouse.com>

The first Brazilian steakhouse, this restaurant offers 14 or so different cuts of meat, all served at the grill station on large skewers. There's beef ribs, filet mignon, sausages, ribeye and yes, PICANHA. But it's not just steakhouse classics here; fresh options include seasonal salads, cheeses and hot dishes.

Café Tu Tu Tango

Tapas

407-248-2222

<http://cafetututango.com>

Artists paint as you eat (all for sale) at this funky tapas spot with live entertainment plus a patio & bar. It's action packed with music and performers. Or you can relax with cajun chicken egg rolls and a plate of alligator bites, washed down with a pitcher of sangria or one of the share plates which are inspired with Asian and Mediterranean influences. Great for Sunday brunch.

Christini's Ristorante Italiano

Italian

407-345-8770

<https://www.christinis.com>

Five star dining for over 30 years, Christini's has earned its reputation as Orlando's premier restaurant.

Cuba Libre

Cuban

407-226-1600

<https://www.cubalibrerestaurant.com/en/orlando>

Cuban cuisine & a vast rum bar accented by Caribbean decor & late-night salsa dancing.

Del Frisco's Double Eagle Steak House

Steak House

407-351-5074

<https://delfriscos.com/steakhouse/orlando>
With two floors, private dining areas and an expansive patio, Del Frisco's has the perfect fine dining atmosphere. Add to that the finest steaks, entrees and a 1,200 label wine list, and the experience is complete.

Dragonfly Robata Grill & Sushi

Japanese

407-370-3359

<http://www.dragonflyrestaurants.com/orlando-florida>

Fresh selections from farm & sea, prepared in the traditional Japanese royatayaki method. Also featuring sushi and seafood flown in fresh from Japan.

The Hampton Social

Seafood

689-800-6760

<https://www.thehamptonsocial.com>
Breezy hangout serving seafood & beach-themed cocktails in stylish, nautical surroundings.

Jack's Place

Fine Dining

407-996-1787

<https://www.jacksplacorestaurant.com>

Specializing in prime steaks and fresh seafood.

The Oceanaire Seafood Room

Seafood

407-363-4801

<https://www.theoceanaire.com/location/orlando-fl>

Oceanaire provides the perfect setting to enjoy the freshest seafood flown in daily from around the world.

Thai Thani

Thai

407-239-9733

<http://thaithani.net>

Welcoming, warm-hued spot features carved wood decor, traditional artwork & classic Thai fare.

Yard House

American

407-351-8220

<https://www.yardhouse.com/home>

High-end sports-bar chain with a huge menu of New American fare & an extensive list of draft beers.



Downtown

Black Rooster Taqueria

Mexican

407-601-0994

<http://www.blackroostertaqueria.com>

Contemporary Mexican tacos, bowls and ceviches are served with coffee & drinks amid colorful décor.

The Boheme

American

407-581-4700

<https://www.kesslercollection.com/bohemian-orlando/dining>

Swanky spot adorned with sophisticated art features New American cuisine & a Sunday jazz brunch.

Edoboy

Sushi

<https://www.edoboyssushi.com>

Casual standing bar featuring a relaxed atmosphere and a menu of sake-paired sushi.

Harp & Celt Irish Pub & Restaurant

Irish Pub

407-481-2928

<https://www.harpandceltpub.com>

A lively, 2-story space with cozy wood booths provides an Irish-pub setting for classic eats and a wide variety of brews and spirits.

Linda's La Cantina

Steak House

407-894-4491

<https://www.lindaslacantina.com>

Locally owned, and open since 1947, Linda's has been a constant in central Florida, and has set the bar for delicious, hand cut, fire pit grilled steaks.

Moa Kai Hawaiian Diner

Hawaiian

407-270-7916

<https://www.moakaidiner.com>

From hearty Plate Lunches, soul-warming Saimin, fresh Poke and Acai bowls, Moa Kai has all your island cravings covered.

The Stubborn Mule

American

407-730-3400

<https://www.thestubbornmuleorlando.com>

The Stubborn Mule is a fun new American restaurant. Their food menu sources locally and they partner with local farmers, fisheries and small businesses to create playful food and cocktail menus.

Disney/Buena Vista

The Boathouse

Seafood

407-939-2628

www.theboathouseorlando.com

Sophisticated waterfront choice for steak & seafood, plus tours in vintage amphibious automobiles.

Bull & Bear

Fine Dining

407-597-5500

<https://bullandbearorlando.com>

The Waldorf Astoria's high-end steak destination with clubby quarters lit by chandeliers.

Capa

Tapas & Steak

407-313-7777

<http://www.fourseasons.com/orlando/dining/restaurants/capa>

This rooftop Spanish steak house, part of the Four Seasons Resort, features the best Spanish-influenced cuisine in a romantic setting like no other.

Chef Art Smith's Homecomin'

Southern

407-560-0100

www.homecominkitchen.com

Spacious, down-home Southern-Floridian restaurant & bar by celebrity chef Art Smith.

Frontera Cocina

Mexican

407-560-9197

www.fronteracocina.com

Mexican fare by celebrity chef Rick Bayless served in a modern space with a patio & a to-go window.

Morimoto Asia

Pan-Asian

407-939-6686

[https://www.patinagroup.com](http://www.patinagroup.com)

morimoto-asia

From creative mind of Iron Chef Masaharu Morimoto comes this unique culinary destination. Lounges, private dining spaces and an exhibition glass-encased kitchen bring the inspired pan-Asian menu to life.

Celebration/Kissimmee

Bruno's Italian Restaurant

Italian
407-397-7577

<http://brunos192.com>

Pizzas and home-cooked Italian favorites are the course at Bruno's, a family-friendly, owner operated eatery.

Charley's Steak House

Steaks
407-396-6055

<http://www.charleyssteakhouse.com>
Using only USDA Prime & Choice, grain-fed beef from the Midwest, aging on site for 4-6 weeks and cooking over a 1,200-degree open wood pit has made Charley's the ultimate steak house experience.

Columbia

Spanish-Cuban
407-566-1505

<https://www.columbiarestaurant.com>
The Orlando location of this regional favorite, family owned for over 110 years. Overlooking Celebration's picturesque lake, offering classic elegance and award-winning Spanish and Cuban cuisine.

Winter Park

Black Bean Deli

Cuban
407-628-0294

<http://blackbeandeli.com>

An authentic Cuban deli serving traditional fare for over 15 years.

Bosphorous Turkish Cuisine

Turkish
407-352-6766

<https://www.bosphorousrestaurant.com>

Family owned and rooted in tradition, Bosphorous offers the best, fresh, home-made Turkish dishes in central Florida. Come enjoy a taste of Turkey in the vibrant heart of Winter Park.

Chayote Barrio

Latin
321-343-3003

<https://chayotewinterpark.com>

Latin culinary traditions and reinventing the dining experience. Amazing food transformation from traditional dishes into fresh, bold, Latin-forward culinary statements.

Cocina 214

Tex-Mex
407-790-7997

<http://cocina214.com>

Fresh, quality Mexican & Tex-Mex dining utilizing local ingredients and a clean, modern design. Voted best in its class 5 years in a row by Orlando Magazine.

Coro

American
407-629-5005

<https://www.cororestaurant.com>

Coro is a chef driven restaurant with a creative, evolving menu. Enjoy small plates and a curated beer and wine menu in a relaxed atmosphere.

Domu

Asian
Multiple Locations
<https://domufl.squarespace.com>
Modern restaurant/bar serving ramen & Asian small plates, plus cocktails, sake, wine & beer.

The Hangry Bison

Burgers and Bourbon
407-677-5000
<https://www.thehangrybison.com>
Hand-crafted burgers cure even the biggest Hanger Issues. Celebrate this barrel-aged beauty with one of their world-class delights, treat yourself to their signature Smoked Bison, or sample a hand-crafted concoction that will help chase the hanger away and let the happiness stay.

Hillstone Restaurant

American
407-740-4005

<https://hillstonerestaurant.com/locations/winterpark>
Upscale chain eatery serving burgers, steaks & other American fare in a stylish, spacious surrounds.

Kadence

Sushi
<https://kadenceorlando.com>
Snug reservations-only Japanese restaurant featuring multi-course sushi meals plus sake. Reservations required.

Ômo by Jônt

Japanese
321-972-5225
<https://www.omobyjont.com>
Ômo offers two distinct experiences to choose from. Both experiences celebrate simple, refined ingredients from around the world, elevated through the elegance of Japanese and French cuisine. Reservation required.

Prato

Italian
407-262-0050
<http://www.prato-wp.com>
Celebrating cuisine from Italy's rich culinary landscape, blending the traditional with the modern utilizing seasonal ingredients.

Winter Park (continued)

The Ravenous Pig

Gastropub
407-628-2333
<http://www.theravenouspig.com/>
Orlando's locavore gastropub with a menu that features the best that central Florida's farmers, fishermen and artisanal purveyors have to offer as well as rotating taps and creative cocktails.

Soseki Omakase

Japanese
407-619-3952
<https://www.sosekifl.com/>
Upscale restaurant (also sushi-focused) for omakase sushi, Wagyu beef and sake.



Nightlife and Bars

Aero – www.theblockorlando.com/aero

Alfie's Hi-Fi – <https://www.alfieshifi.com>

Cowboys – <http://www.cowboysorlando.com>

Cuba Libre Rum Bar –
<http://cubalibrerestaurant.com/en/orlando>

The Courtesy Bar – <https://www.thecourtesybar.com>

d.b.a. Orlando – <https://www.strandorlando.com/d-b-a>

Death in the Afternoon –
https://www.instagram.com/death.in.the.afternoon_

Gnarly Barley – <https://www.thegnarlybarley.com>

Gravity Taproom – <https://www.gravitytaproom.com>

Lamp & Shade Craft Kitchen & Cocktails –
<https://throwsomeshadeorl.com/>

Hanson's Shoe Repair –

<https://www.facebook.com/hansonsshoerepair>

Icebar & Fire Lounge – <http://www.icebarorlando.com>

Kings Bowl Orlando –
<https://www.playatkings.com/location/orlando>

The Moderne – <https://www.themodernebar.com>

Otto's High-Dive – <https://www.ottoshd.com>

Raglan Road – <http://www.raglanroad.com>

Sportstown Billiards - <https://www.facebook.com/sptstown>

Sunroom – <https://www.sunroomcocktails.com>

Tori Tori – <https://www.toritoripub.com>

Wall Street Plaza – <https://www.wallstplaza.net>

Orlando Area Sightseeing

Arcade Time Entertainment – <https://arcadetimeusa.com>

Boat Tours of Winter Park – <http://www.scenicboattours.com>

Boggy Creek Airboat Rides – <http://bcairboats.com>

Charles Homer Morse Museum of American Art –
<http://www.morse museum.org>

Harry P. Leu Gardens – <http://www.leugardens.org>

iFly indoor Skydiving – <https://www.iflyworld.com/orlando>

Kayak, Mountain Bike & Eco Tours – <http://bkadventure.com>

Orlando Museum of Art – <http://omart.org>

The Orlando Science Center – <http://www.osc.org/>

The Orlando Watersports Complex –

<http://www.aktionparks.com/orlando-watersports-complex>

The Wheel at ICON Park – <https://iconparkorlando.com>

Tibet-Butler Nature Preserve –

<http://www.ocfl.net/CultureParks/Parks.aspx?m=dtlvw&d=39#.WDXCLNUrKUI>

Wekiwa Springs State Park –

<https://www.floridastateparks.org/parks-and-trails/wekiwa-springs-state-park>

WonderWorks – <http://www.wonderworksonline.com/orlando>

Transportation

EagleRider Motorcycle Rentals – <http://www.eaglerider.com>
I Ride Trolley – <http://www.iridetrolley.com>
Lyft – <https://www.lyft.com/rider>
MCA Transportation – <http://mcatransportation.com/>
Mears Transportation – <http://www.mearstransportation.com/>
Orlando Shuttle Service –
<https://www.orlandoshuttleservice.com/>

Orlando Transportation Services –
<http://orlandotransportationservice.com/>
SuperShuttle –
<https://www.supershuttle.com/locations/orlando-mco-sfb/>
Uber – <https://www.uber.com/>

FOR INSIDER'S GUIDES TO OTHER CITIES:

sonnhalter.com/insiders-guides



sonnhalter
Not Afraid To Get Our Hands Dirty™