

Insider's Guide to

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.

College Park Café

Breakfast & Lunch
407-420-9892

<https://www.collegeparkcafe.com/>

Located in the heart of College Park, this old-school diner is the definition of good food, great service and a neighborhood feel.

Graffiti Junktion

Burgers
Multiple Locations
<https://graffitijunktion.com/>
100% Angus, hormone and antibiotic-free burgers. Nachos, wings, salads and more, and all of it fresh, never frozen.

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.

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.

Le Coq au Vin Restaurant

French
407-851-6980
<http://www.lecoquauvinrestaurant.com/>
World-renowned Executive Chef Reimund Pitz prepares classic French favorites in a charming historic Orlando location, complete with a garden patio for al fresco dining.

Orlando/Multiple Locations (continued)

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.

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.

Orange County Convention Center

B-Line Diner

Diner

(407) 345-4460

<https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/hotel/florida/hyatt-regency-orlando/mcoro/dining>

Swanky yet classic Hyatt Regency hotel spot serving upmarket comfort food with late-night hours.

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.

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.

Fiorenzo at Hyatt Regency Orlando

Steakhouse

407-345-4570

www.hyatt.com/en-US/hotel/florida/hyatt-regency-orlando/mcoro/dining

Within the Hyatt Regency hotel, this elegant steakhouse serves up new & traditional Italian dishes.

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.jacksplacerestaurant.com/>

Specializing in prime steaks and fresh seafood.

Nagoya Sushi & Hibachi

Sushi

(407) 778-1115

<https://www.nagoyasushihibachi.com/>

Nagoya Sushi & Hibachi is a Japanese style restaurant that serves sushi, hibachi, ramen, as well as boba teas. Nagoya strives to provide high-quality and fresh food with top ingredients.

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.

Spencer's For Steak & Chops

Steakhouse

(407) 313-4300

<https://thehiltonorlando.com/dine/>

Prime steaks are the highlight, with innovative preparations and contemporary twists. Spencer's features a signature raw bar, the Prime Spencer's Cut, natural grass-fed beef dry-aged 21 to 28 days, local seafood, and local organic produce.

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.

DoveCote

Brasserie & Raw Bar
407-930-1700

<http://dovecoteorlando.com/>

Open morning, noon and night with a menu featuring French-inspired flavors as well as a raw bar featuring oyster, clams and shellfish.

Harp & Celt Irish Pub & Restaurant

Irish Pub
407-481-2928

<http://harpandcelt.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.

Kabooki Sushi

Sushi
407-228-3839

<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.

Linda's La Cantina

Steak House
407-894-4491

<http://lindaslacantinasteakhouse.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.

Disney/Buena Vista

The Boathouse

Seafood
407-939-2628

www.theboathouseorlando.com/

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

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/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.

Rainforest Cafe

American
407-827-8500

www.rainforestcafe.com/location/rainforest-cafe-lake-buena-vista-disney-world-marketplace-fl/

Part adventure, part restaurant, and wholly entertaining. The Rainforest Cafe is an exciting thrill for all ages. Wild times await in a decorative jungle with animatronics & a menu of delicious American & tropical fare.

T-Rex Cafe

American
407-828-8739

www.trexcafe.com/

American eats plus animatronic dinosaurs & an underwater aquarium draw crowds in Downtown Disney.



Celebration/Kissimmee

2 Brother's Steakhouse

Steakhouse & Bistro

407-750-6753

www.facebook.com/twobrotherssteakhouse

Modern American meets an island influence with this chef-driven concept. Live jazz and other events add to the laid back atmosphere.

3 Sisters Speakeasy

New American

407-201-3270

<https://www.3sisters-speakeasy.com/home>

Sushi, tacos & other diverse fare served in a contemporary eatery with regular trivia & live music.

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.

Blu on the Avenue

Seafood

(407) 960-3778

<http://bluontheavenue.com/>

An eclectic seafood menu, plus sushi and an extensive whiskey menu, all served in a breezy open spot with plenty of outdoor dining options.

Bosphorous Turkish Cuisine

Turkish

407-352-6766

<http://bosporousrestaurant.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.

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.

The Coop

Southern

407-843-2667

<https://www.asouthernaffair.com/>

Celebrating the home-style fare of the south, this neighborhood restaurant serves hospitality at every table, along with comfort food classics.

Hillstone Restaurant

American

407-740-4005

<https://hillstonerestaurant.com/locations/winterpark/>

Upscale chain eatery serving burgers, steaks & other American fare in stylish, spacious surrounds.

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.

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.

Winter Park Fish Company

Seafood

407-622-6112

<https://winterparkfishco.com/>

This market-style restaurant combines fine dining with fast casual, with fresh seafood, homemade sauces and from-scratch cooking.

Nightlife and Bars

Aero - <http://www.aeroorlando.com/>

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

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

Hanson's Shoe Repair - <https://www.facebook.com/hansonsshoerepair/>

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

Kings Bowl Orlando - <https://www.kings-de.com/location/orlando/>

Latitudes - <http://churchstreetbars.com/latitudes-downtown-orlando-bar>

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

Redlight Redlight - <http://redlightredlightbeerparlour.com/>

Sportstown Billiards - <http://sportstownbilliards.com/>

The Hammered Lamb - <http://thehammeredlamb.com/>

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

Orlando Area Sightseeing

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.morsemuseum.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/>

Sprinkles Cupcake ATM - <https://sprinkles.com/pages/location-disney-springs>

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=dtlww&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/>

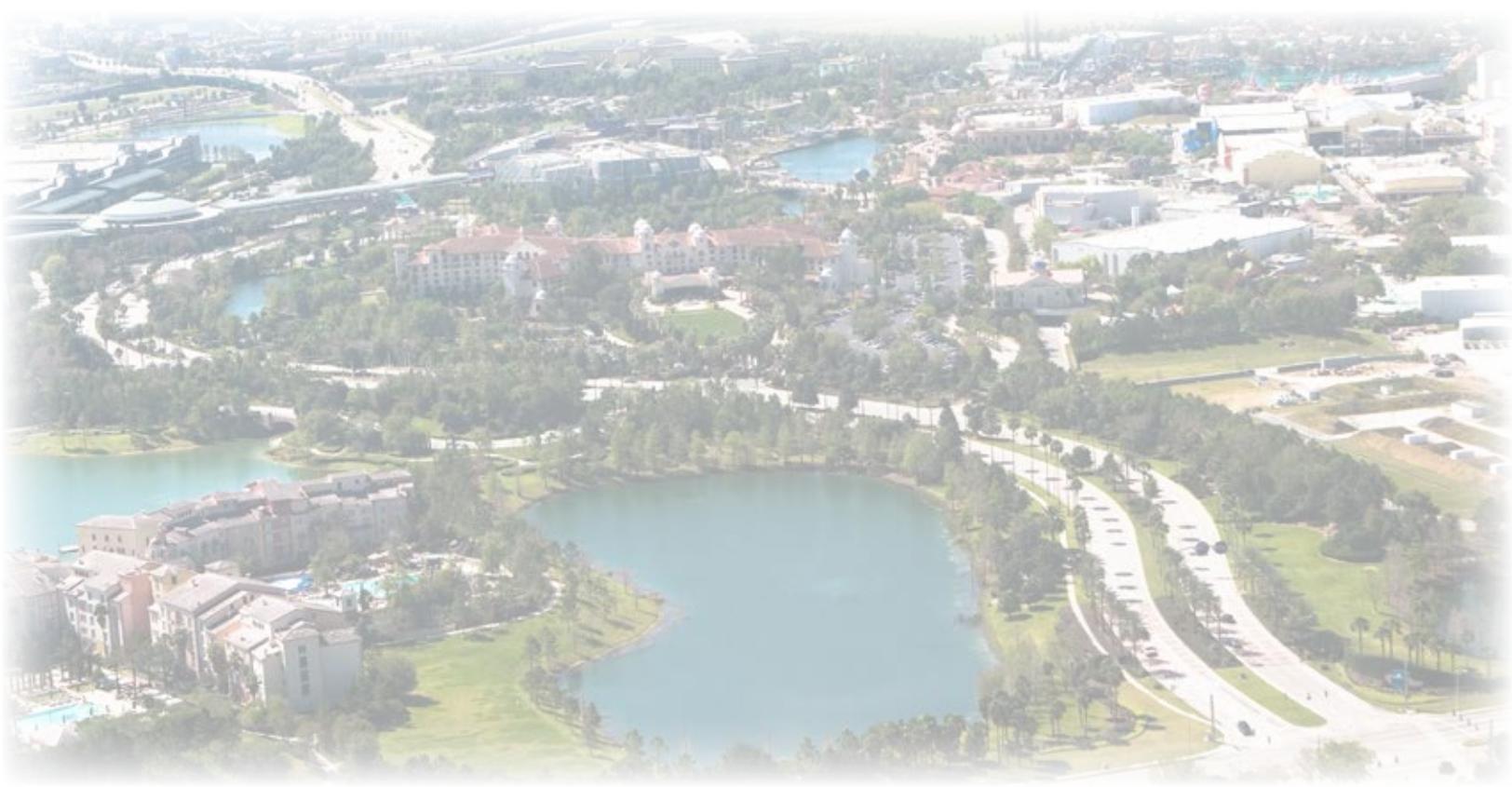
Mears Transportation - <http://www.mearstransportation.com/>

Orlando Shuttle Service - <https://www.orlandoshuttleservice.com/>

Orlando Transportation Services - <http://orlandotransportationservice.com/>

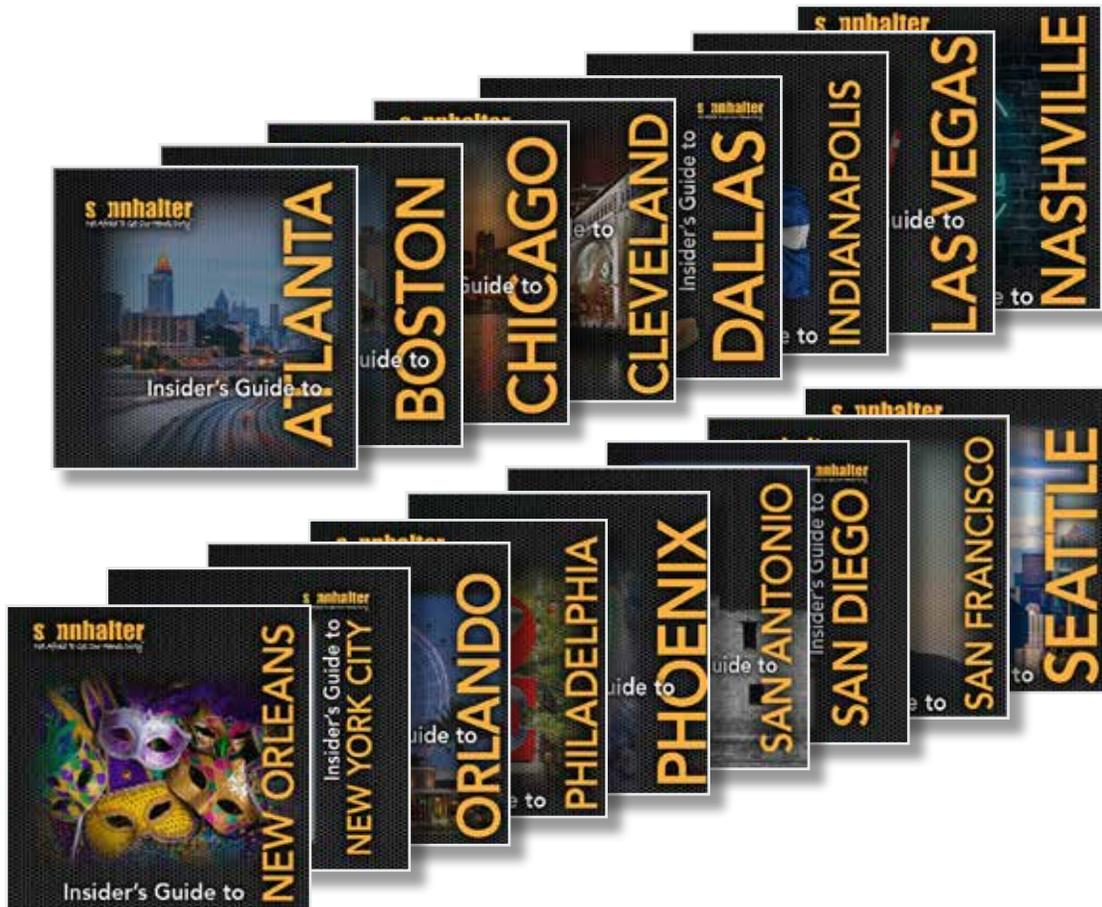
SuperShuttle - <https://www.supershuttle.com/locations/orlando-mco-sfb/>

Uber - <https://www.uber.com/>



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