



# **Estin Report: 2019 Best Aspen Restaurants Cheat Sheet**

An essential 2019 Aspen CO restaurants list with live links, phone and brief comments by Aspen Realtor Tim Estin. A one-stop cheat sheet to bookmark or print. Updated as needed. (Parentheses indicate Tim's comments.)

### **Breakfast in Aspen**

<u>Aspen Public House</u> | 328 E Hyman, in the Historic Wheeler Opera House | 970-710-7026 | Elevated American Gastropub serving breakfast.

Poppycocks - 970-925-1245 | 655 E. Cooper. Next to Aspen Square Hotel near City Market

<u>Jour de Fete</u> - <u>970-925-5055</u> | 710 E. Durant. Next to City Market.

<u>Victoria's Espresso Wine Bar & Gourmet</u> - <u>970-920-3001</u> | 510 E. Cooper close to Aspen Mtn Gondola. (Great coffee and quiche and croissants fare.)

Hotel Jerome / Prospect Restaurant - 970-429-7778 (Very nice and historic setting.)

Hickory House Ribs - 970-925-2313 | 730 W. Main. (long-time favorite inexpensive b'fast.)

## **Aspen - Lunch & Dinner**

(Lunch favorites: Ajax Tavern, Mezzaluna, Hotel Jerome/Prospect, White House Tavern, Explorer Bookstore/Pyramid Bistro, Spring Street Cafe)

<u>520 Grill</u> | 520 E. Cooper | <u>970-925-9788</u> | Fast, fresh and friendly hand-crafted burgers, baja tacos and salads.

7908 Restaurant | 415 E Hyman | 970-516-7908 | A place to dine in the early evening and dance late into the night. Sophisticated and fun, raucous and regal, inclusive and exclusive.

<u>A La Car</u> | Aspen Food & Restaurant Delivery Service | <u>970-544-3663</u> | Menus are posted <u>online</u>, get your food delivered.

<u>Ajax Tavern</u> | 685 E Durant | <u>970-920-9333</u> (Casual and elegant modern American tavern eatery at the Gondola base. *The* spot at Aspen Mountain base and happy hour 3-6PM.)

Acquolina Trattoria | 415 E. Main | 970-925-8222 | informal but elegant trattoria & pizzeria.

Asie | 413 East Main | 970-920-9988 (Asian and pacific rim influenced cuisine.)

<u>Aspen Public House</u> | 328 E Hyman, in the Historic Wheeler Opera House | 970-710-7026 | Elevated American Gastropub serving breakfast, lunch and dinner and late night.

<u>Bamboo Bear</u> | 730 E Cooper St | 970-710-2094 | Take-out or casual dine-in gourmet South East Asian food

Betula Aspen | 525 E. Cooper Upstairs, f.k.a. bb's Kitchen | 970-429-8683 | The restaurant is the latest collaboration between chef Laurent Cantineaux and architect and restaurateur Juan Carlos Pérez Febres, co-owners of Bonito, a restaurant in the French West Indies Island of St. Barth. It features innovative French Pan-American cuisine.)

Bootsy Bellows | Crystal Palace Bldg on Hyman | 970-925-3700 | Nightclub Lounge Dancing

BOSQ | 312 S. Mill | 970-710-7299 | New world cuisine

Brexi Brasserie | 411 S. Monarch | 970-925-2838 (Traditional French cuisine.)

<u>Brunelleschi's Pizza</u> | 205 South Mill | <u>970-544-4644</u> (The best pizza, casually elegant, favorite local pizza is "Paisano" (with chicken and chorizo - amazing!) Very kid friendly where they can make and design their own Order out, pick-up option, too.)

<u>Cache Cache</u> | 205 South Mill | <u>970-925-3835</u> (Amongst Aspen's best overall. Best bar menu. Try the mussels.)

<u>Campo de Fiori</u> | 205 South Mill | <u>970-920-7717</u> (Very good Italian.)

<u>Chef's Club by Food & Wine</u> | St. Regis | 315 E. Dean St. | 970-429-9580 | This chic eatery hosts a rotating lineup of award-winning chefs.

<u>Clarks Oyster Bar</u> | 517 E Hyman | 970-710-2546 | Offers the country's very best oyster & caviar selections from its marble raw bar, freshly baked sourdough, overflowing lobster rolls, delicious burgers, steaming bowls of chowder & cioppino and more. Open for Lunch, Dinner and Happy Hour every day.

<u>Cloud Nine Alpine Bistro</u> | On Aspen Highlands Mountain | Small bistro, charming very euro/alps setting and ambiance with beautiful views. Becomes champagne party central after 130-2PM...Expensive, delicious, special and sometimes...crazy)

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<u>Caribou Club</u> | 411 East Hopkins | <u>970-925-2929</u> (An Aspen "institution" but there's competition from the younger, hipper Bootsey Bellows.)

<u>Casa Tua</u> | 403 S. Galena | <u>970-920-7277</u> (Contemporary northern Italian cuisine in an upscale, moderne private-club like environment.)

<u>Cooking School of Aspen and The Cottage</u> | 305 E Hopkins | 970-920-2022 | A special event venue space for 50-120 people +/- and cooking school.

<u>CP Burger</u> | 433 E. Durant | <u>970-935-3056</u> (L.A. style burger joint, same owner as LuLu Wilson and the Wild Fig.)

<u>Creperie du Village</u> | <u>970-925-1566</u> | 400 E. Hopkins | (fun, cozy, intimate, euro-alps environ with Alps inspired cuisine. Located on the corner near the Isis Movie Theatre.)

<u>Domino's Pizza</u> | 732 East Cooper | <u>970-925-3230</u> (Delivery. When you've stopped caring, will settle for anything, no more decisions, and home video is IT.)

Element 47 | 970-920-6330 | Little Nell Hotel | Aspen formal, exquisite delicious dining.

Ellina | 430 East Hyman | 970-925-2976

Grey Lady | 308 S. Mill | 970-925-1797 | New England coastal fish - lunch, dinner, bar. Grilled lobster, tuna burgers, steamers, mussels, chowder & scallops.

<u>Hickory House BBQ</u> | 730 West Main | <u>970-925-2313</u> (Superb spare ribs, great character, good value eats in funky 'old' Aspen.)

<u>HOPS Culture</u> | 414 E. Hyman | <u>970-925-4677</u> | American comfort food, lunch and dinner with over 200 craft beers and fine wines.

Hotel Jerome Prospect Restaurant & Bad Harriet & J-Bar | 330 E. Main St | 970-920-1000 | (Prospect is an elegant restaurant with locally inspired menu with fresh, organic and natural ingredients; J-bar: friendly apres-ski, old-west bar scene; Bad Harriet: Craft cocktails and small plates are aptly titled after strong women in history.)

<u>Jimmy's</u> | 205 South Mill | <u>970-925-6020</u> (Always buzzing, a fun place, good comfort food, American: steak & fish. Friendly later hour scene.)

<u>Jimmys Bodega</u> | 307 South Mill | <u>970-925-6020</u> (Coastal Mexican, Fresh Seafood, Ceviche, Raw Bar, Tacos, Salads, Soups, and Nightly Specials.)



<u>Jour de Fete</u> | 710 East Durant | <u>970-925-5055</u> (Breakfast, lunch and early dinner, serving sandwiches, soups, salads, hot daily plates. Located right next to City Market.)

Jus | 501 E Hyman (inside the Ute Bldg.) | 970-710-7063 | Aspen juice bar.

Kenichi | 533 East Hopkins | 970-920-2212 | long time Aspen sushi restaurant.

<u>Krabloonik</u> | Divide Road/ Snowmass Village | <u>970-923-3953</u> (Exquisite wild game dinners in a wonderful snowy setting with sled dogs.)

<u>L'Hostaria</u> | 620 East Hyman | <u>970-925-9022</u> (Wonderful Mediterranean dining and setting. One of my all-time favorites.)

<u>Little Ollie's Asian Cafe</u> | 308 S. Hunter | <u>970-544-9888</u> | (Good Asian takeout menu)

<u>Lynn Brit Cabin</u> On Snowmass Mtn | <u>970-923-0469</u> (Group lunches on Snowmass Ski Mountain. Fun experience.)

Maroon Bells Lodge T Lazy 7 Ranch | 970-920-4677 (Aspen institution, western barbeque, spare ribs, dude ranch setting. Kids + families. Yee'hah.)

Maru Aspen | 320 S. Mill St | 970-429-8640 | Specializes in both traditional and contemporary Japanese cuisine.

Matsuhisa | 303 East Main | 970-544-6628 (Nobu in Aspen, best sushi, most say the best in Aspen, tres cher...expensive.)

Mezzaluna | 624 East Cooper | 970-925-5882 (Casual upscale meeting place for lunch and dinner. Great salads, classic Italian dishes...and pasta and thin crust craft pizza.)

Mi Chola | 411 East Main St. | 970-710-7076 | Mexican | "Progressive Mexican cuisine with attentive service in an environment that is casual, hip and fun is our sole soul mission." | In the location formerly known as The Cantina and El Rincon

New York Pizza | 409 East Hyman | 970-920-3088 (Perfect for late night munchie, pizza - whole or slices - to stay or to go with beers on tap. In middle of Hyman Mall. Yummy slices!.)

<u>Pine Creek Cookhouse</u> | 11399 Castle Creek Road | <u>970-925-1044</u> (Great winter experience: sled ride or x/c ski to restaurant from parking lot. Superb dining, ambiance and dining experience. A favorite and very special.)

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<u>Pinons</u> | 105 South Mill | <u>970-920-2021</u> (One of the best Modern American dinners - great food, service and experience - in Aspen.)

<u>Plato's</u> at Aspen Meadows Resort | 845 Meadows Road | <u>970-925-4240</u> <u>Poppycock's</u> | 665 E Cooper next to Aspen Square Hotel | <u>970-925-1245</u> | casual American breakfast and lunch. Always full.

<u>Pyramid Bistro at Explorer Books</u> | 221 East Main | <u>970-925-5338</u> (Very healthy, vegetarian, organic, soul food and setting, quietly located above Aspen's longest established bookstore)

Red Onion | 420 East Cooper | 970-925-9043 | Aspe's oldest downtown bar, historic restaurant with southwestern pub grub, lunch, apres ski, dinner & sports bar.

Rustique Bistro | 216 South Monarch | 970-920-2555 (Charming atmosphere, country French.)

Spring Cafe | 116 S. Spring | 970-429-8406 Organic food and juice bar. See article.

SO Cafe | 315 E. Hyman - at the new Aspen Art Museum rooftop | 970-925-8050 | Lunch and snacks with unmatched views of Aspen Mountain and Independence Pass, SO features an innovative, rotating weekly menu of local ingredients prepared by Julia and Allen Domingos—a local duo well known for their dedication to quality, creativity, and service

<u>Su Casa Restaurant Taqueria and Tequila Bar</u> | 315 East Hyman | light and authentic Mexican cuisine at reasonable prices.

<u>Tasters</u> | 455 Rio Grande | <u>970-544-3421</u> (pretty basic burger, pizza slices, after play time in Rio Grande Park.)

<u>Velvet Buck</u> | at the St Regis | 970.429-9644 | Modern Mountain Cuisine meets rustic elegance

White House Tavern | 302 E. Hopkins | 970-925-1007 | Delicious kale and beet salads, sandwiches.

Wild Fig | 315 East Hyman | 970-925-5160 (Excellent lighter food & fair and appetizers. Great when you're not that hungry.)

Willow Creek Bistro Ritz Carlton Club | on-site restaurant at the Ritz | 75 Prospector Rd | 970-429 2327



<u>Woody Creek Tavern</u>, Woody Creek | <u>970-923-4585</u> (Popular bike from town, taxi back, to Hunter Thompson's old haunt. Former hippie hang-out now Aspen institution, wild and crazy galore, fun, buffalo burgers and fries, amazing warm brownie choc. sundae desert.)

Zocalito | 420 East Hyman | 970-920-1991

#### **Basalt**

<u>Cafe Bernard</u> | 200 Midland | <u>970-927-4292</u> (Charming French cafe serving breakfast, lunch and dinner.)

<u>Heather's Savory Pies & Tapas Bar</u> | 66 Midland Ave | <u>970-927-0151</u> | Homemade dinner pies, feel good eating in a friendly popular downtown Basalt setting.

Skip's Farm to Table | 227 Midland Ave. | 970-927-7650 | small market offering organic and seasonal fresh foods from local farms.

Two Rivers Café | 156 Midland Ave | 970-927-3348 ("Everybody's hangout — white collar, blue collar, rich and poor, liberal and conservative... The lines that often stretch out of the dining room into the bar during breakfast are a testament that people will come downtown for a good reason." Aspen Times)

<u>Tempranillo</u> | 165 Midland | <u>970-927-3342</u> | (wonderful charming Spanish and Italian servings and tapas bar in converted historic Old Town Basalt train station.)

#### Willits & El Jebel

El Korita | Willits Town Center - 251 Harris | 970-277-4500 (good mexican. always busy for sit-down and takeout. No website)

Market St Kitchen | 499A Market St at Element Hotel in Willits Town Ctr | 970-510-5280

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Smoke Modern BBQ | Willits Town Center - 241 Harris | 970-927-5158

Zheng Bistro | 400 East Valley Rd | 970-963-8077

Carbondale – Go to next page.

### Carbondale

<u>Allegria</u> | 355 Main St | 970-963-7316 | A very special Italian – European farm to table restaurant with a local's soul in the heart of the up and coming food town of Carbondale, CO.

<u>Phat Thai</u> | 343 Main St | <u>970-963-7001</u> | a new breed of southeast Asian eatery offering food and drink inspired by Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam and beyond.

White House Pizza | 801 Main St | 970-704-9400 (Best pizza in the Roaring Fork Valley.)

<u>Village Smithy Restaurant</u> - Great B'fast | 26 South 3rd Street | <u>970-963-9990</u> (a local's casual favorite especially for B'fast and lunch.)

Mi Casita Restaurant | 580 Main Street #100 | 970-963-5866

Pour House | 351 Main Street Carbondale | 970-963-3553 (Old local bar, hangout on Main St)

<u>River Valley Ranch Golf Restaurant</u> | Homestead Bar & Grill | 303 River Valley Ranch Drive | 970-963-6597

Town | 348 Main St | 970-963-6328 | (Bakery/Coffee, lunch and dinner...a new favorites spot)

Carbondale, CO Restaurant List from the Carbondale Chamber

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