When it comes to food (and, indeed, eating it), La Jolla is one of the most vibrant areas of the city. Whether you’re searching for fine dining or a bite on the go, our community has it. From sumptuous seafood to delectable desserts, from gourmet gastronomic delights to international cuisine, you’ll find it here in our seaside village. We sport some of the finest culinary creations from some of the world’s most highly regarded chefs, who build inspired menus from resources just miles away — from our ocean and our fertile farmlands — and create some of the best local fare to be had.

Our readers have lent their dining expertise in vetting the best of the best in La Jolla. This list may not include every single eatery in our community — there are simply too many to name — but it does include those that, according to our readers, are so notable that recognition was necessary. Locals have taken the time to let us know where the best dining experiences can be had in La Jolla, and we listened. We tallied the votes over several months and highlighted those that go above and beyond to make our community the gourmet haven that it is.

La Jolla Village News thanks the readers who took the time to speak out about which dining establishments they think deserve to be singled out, and we would especially like to thank the winners who work so hard to hone their craft.

Use this list to revisit an old favorite or perhaps try somewhere new that’s getting rave reviews. And when you happen upon one of those top-notch restaurants proudly displaying its Readers Choice Award, take a moment to let them know how much you appreciate what they do.

— Martin Jones Westlin
Editor, La Jolla Village News
Congratulations to the following businesses who were chosen by the readers of the La Jolla Village News.

Readers were asked to cast ballots for their favorite choices. This was no simple task! With more than 50 categories, our readers had to decide what their favorite spots are.

**Best Overall Restaurant**

Truluck’s

Truluck’s is an escape — a gateway for the senses. Truluck’s boasts: “From our traps to your table in less than 24 hours.” Enjoy the All-fresh catch seafood menu or select tender, juicy steaks grilled to perfection. Then complement it all with delicious wines by the glass and bottle. Come early and enjoy Truluck’s cocktail hour from 4:30 to 7 p.m. and enjoy the special priced appetizers and drink menu.

Truluck’s at UTC Aventine

8990 University Center Lane (858) 453-2583

trulucks.com

**Best Restaurant Service**

Truluck’s

(See listing under Best Overall)

**Best New Restaurant**

Draft Republic

Located in La Jolla, across from UTC, Draft Republic is an American gastro pub offering a casual, friendly atmosphere and innovative cuisine. Draft Republic features a beer-centric menu including favorites such as their Housemade Sausage Sampler, House Smoked Pulled Pork and the Draft Republic Burger. Guests can enjoy over 36 craft beers on tap plus housemade leg cocktails. Challenge friends to a round of ping pong, billiards, shuffle board or foosball. Don’t miss out on the food, fun and brews at Draft Republic.

Draft Republic

4282 Esplanade Ct. (858) 450-1400

www.draftrepublic.com

**Best American Whisknlade**

(See entry under Best Chef)

**Best Appetizer**

The Hake Kitchen & Bar

With a farm-to-table approach to its fare, The Hake offers a global menu — but just as the appetizers tell a large part of a restaurant’s tale, so too does this entry heed the call. Sautéed pepper and onions, calamari and shrimp and farm salad with artichoke hearts are just a few of the appetizers that eat like meals (one couple recently said they’d shared four appetizers between them and were almost too full to enjoy the main dishes). Simple, fresh and rustic, The Hake Kitchen & Bar offers a lively bar and San Diego’s 2014 Chef of the Year, Led by Chef Jason Knibb, San Diego’s 2014 Chef of the Year, Stephen Window offers meals far beyond the standard fare, like the miso-glazed Japanese eggplant and crispy buttermilk onion rings with wasabi aioli sauce. Popular for its generous happy hour portions, Roppongi is the very definition of umami: the Japanese word for savoy.

Roppongi Restaurant & Sushi Bar

875 Prospect St. (858) 551-5252

ropponjusa.com

**Best Asian Fusion**

Roppongi Sushi & Sashimi Bar

Roppongi offers the rare opportunity to sample new Asian cuisine and choose from a variety of sushi rolls in a chic atmosphere where professionals are known to cluster. Chef Stephen Window offers meals far beyond the standard fare, like the miso-glazed Japanese eggplant and crispy buttermilk onion rings with wasabi aioli sauce. Popular for its generous happy hour portions, Roppongi is the very definition of umami: the Japanese word for savoy.

Roppongi Restaurant & Sushi Bar

875 Prospect St. (858) 551-5252

ropponjusa.com

**Best Atmosphere**

Nine-Ten Restaurant and Bar

Led by Chef Jason Knibb, Sushi Bar & Sashimi Bar

BBubba’s Smokehouse BBQ

In April of 2009, Jeffrey Nicoletta, a Navy veteran turned restaurateur, and Ali Nicoletta, with heaps of hands-on experience, opened Bubba’s Smokehouse BBQ. Six years later, Bubba’s mouth-watering, lip-smacking, falling-off-the-bone ribs are a smoking success! This family-friendly restaurant serves up Southern-style ribs, pork, tri-tip, brisket and chicken with lots of delicious home-style side orders. For those wanting lighter fare, Bubba’s offers hearty salads for a more healthful alternative. Southern BBQ? There’s Bubba’s, and then there’s all the others.

Bubba’s Smokehouse BBQ

888 Prospect St. (858) 551-4227

bubbasmokehousebbq

**Best BBQ**

Girard Gourmet

Girard Gourmet is going on its seventh year in La Jolla, so you know it has the experience factor in hand. It cooks and bakes in the European tradition and grows many of its fruits and vegetables in...
‘BEST RESTAURANT’
IN LA JOLLA!

THANK YOU AGAIN, VILLAGE NEWS READERS!
WE ARE HONORED TO RECEIVE THE
TOP READERS’ CHOICE AWARDS FOR:

BEST OVERALL RESTAURANT
BEST OVERALL SERVICE • BEST DINNER
BEST HAPPY HOUR • BEST SEAFOOD

In UTC at the Aventine, La Jolla Village Drive just east of The 5.
858 453 2583  www.trulucks.com
an organic garden in Julian. See if this place’s special desserts and custom-designed cookies don’t make you cry for more, like the chocolate croissants and raspberry rugelach. And don’t forget the special services, which will make catering your event a stress-free, professional experience.

Girard Gourmet
7837 Girard Ave.
(858) 454-3321
girardgourmet.com

Best Bar
Prospect Bar & Grill
Prospect Bar & Grill is, simply put, La Jolla’s premier restaurant and lounge for everything fresh, trendy and enticingly tasteful. The venue’s second-story location and glass-enclosed patio provide guests with a world-class view of the Pacific. Inside, lots of wide-screen TVs ensure access to all the current sports packages, as well as pool tables, luxurious oversized booths, and a highly impressive full bar. Oh, yeah – the bar: Daily happy hours and house specials yield further chances to sample all the excitement that the place, top floor and all.

Prospect Bar & Grill
1025 Prospect St.
(858) 454-8092
prospectbar.com

Best Beer Selection
Karl Strauss Brewery
San Diego’s very own microbrewery, Karl Strauss brews and bottles its beer in a converted greenhouse just east of Pacific Beach. La Jolla oenophiles should not miss out on the freshness and flavor Karl Strauss has to offer. Two college graduates mixed their passion for handcrafted, old-world beer with technical finesse to build a strong reputation. Karl Strauss now brews 30 beers each year with seasonal offerings and sends it to 2,500 bars, restaurants, liquor stores and grocery stores throughout So. California. Sipping a cold brew at the La Jolla restaurant is of cultural importance!

Karl Strauss Brewery
1044 Wall St.
(858) 551-2739
karlstrauss.com

Best Breakfast
The Cottage
The Cottage is a quintessential La Jolla destination beloved by locals, tourists, the young, the old, regulars and newcomers alike. Set in the historic Columbine cottage built in the early 1900s, The Cottage serves up an exceptional breakfast and lunch on a sun-drenched patio. Its gourmet omelets, stuffed French toast, healthful muffins and trademark granola are memorable and worth the weekend wait, which is sweetened by the coffee and cake samples offered to those milling on the sidewalk waiting for a table. Beginning May 20, the restaurant stays open for dinner. The Cottage is also available for rent for parties and receptions year-round.

The Cottage
7702 Fay Ave.
(858) 454-8409
cottagelajolla.com

Best Burger
Burger Lounge
The folks at Burger Lounge don’t just think burgers should taste great. They believe the common American meal should utilize healthy, sustainable ingredients as well. Burger Lounge’s vision is evident at every turn — from the organic ketchup to the wild salmon burger topped with fried green

Osteria Romantica
2151 Avenida de la Playa · La Jolla
858.551.1221 · www.OsteriaRomantica.com
■ Located in the heart of La Jolla Shores
■ Homemade Pasta - Fresh Bread
■ International Wine List
■ Patio Seating Available
Come enjoy your own private tour of Italy with us

Thank You for Voting For Us!

■ Partner Adriano Gasparo (left) with Luigi Tornatore
Thank You to our local Patrons for selecting us

The Readers Choice for
BEST ITALIAN
5 YEARS IN A ROW!

HAPPY HOUR 5-7PM TUESDAY - FRIDAY

BAR MENU
5PM-CLOSING EVENING
SMALL TASTES $4.95 • SELECT WINE $5
CATERING AVAILABLE!
Ask about Private Parties for Wedding Rehearsals, Birthday Parties and other special occasions.
www.lupivinocucina.com • 858.454.6421
5518 La Jolla Blvd. La Jolla
Don Carlos
If a picture is worth a thousand words, Don Carlos Taco Shop has single-handedly written every book published in the last 40 years. The eatery’s website makes regular Mexican entries look like virtual portraits – the enchiladas, carne asada and, yes, burritos make you think you’re already at the restaurant. If things look that appetizing from afar, imagine what awaits you when you finally pay a visit. Just take care to walk around the bookshelves.

Don Carlos Taco Shop
737 Pearl St., Ste. 113
(858) 456-0482
eataburrito.com

Best Café
Living Room
The Living Room has truly lived up to its name in La Jolla. The café has drawn young and old alike to sip tea, coffee and deluxe smoothies in a homey atmosphere furnished with antique, ornate coaches and wooden tables. Patrons find the communal atmosphere inspiring and relaxing; you’ll find groups of friends smoking the hookah on the patio and others poring over books in the back. Scrumptious desserts are available, along with wine, beer and hookah tobacco. Enjoy the views from the second floor ocean view room and don’t miss happy hour every day from 12-6 p.m.

Best Catering
Giuseppe Restaurants & Fine Catering
The motto in Giuseppe’s neighborhood is “Mangia bene e vivi meglio,” meaning “Eat well and live better!” – further translated to say that the right meal can turn any event into an unforgettable experience. Giuseppe’s gives its all to that end, bringing together the freshest seasonal ingredients from as many local sustainable sources as possible. It works personally with clients to create carefully crafted and personally tailored menus that complement your vision and your budget. Your only job is to picture your perfect event and let Giuseppe’s handle the details.

Giuseppe Restaurants
700 Prospect St.
(858) 581-2005
gmfc.com

Porkyland
The first Porkyland eatery started out in 1982 in Barrio Logan, and quickly became popular for its delicious home-made tortillas and carnitas. Out of the organic popularity from the original location, Porkyland expanded to La Jolla and was opened in the 1990’s. Porkyland takes pride in every dish we serve and are thrilled to be voted the Best Burrito in the La Jolla Village. Our carnitas and Mexican cuisine has become a family favorite for all generations alike. We also offer catering so you can enjoy our authentic Mexican cuisine anywhere for any party or wedding. Coming soon, we will open shop in Carmel Valley to serve even more of our appreciative customers.

Porkyland
1030 Torrey Pines Road
(858) 459-1708
goporkyland.com
Best Chef
Ryan Johnston®
Whisknladle

You know Whisknladle’s roasted Alaskan halibut, the stuff that’s so good people have actually keeled over and died of bliss? Or how about Mary’s Duck Breast, steeped in roasted carrots, yogurt and pistachio nuts? Ryan Johnston is the man at the top of this hearty heap, cooking and creating since Tuesday was a week and his efforts have paid off, as you’ve chosen him at the Best Chef in the history of the universe. Whisknladle’s commitment to quality goes hand in hand with its lively Wall Street location - the merits of both will become apparent the more often you stop. And with Ryan at the helm, you’re bound to visit more than once.

Whisknladle Bistro & Bar
1044 Wall St.
(858) 551-7575
whisknladle.com

Best Coffee Shop
Bird Rock Coffee Roasters

Bird Rock Coffee Roasters is taking specialty coffee to a whole new level. As the only coffee company in San Diego that sources their beans at origin, Bird Rock Coffee Roasters has expanded the concept of sustainable and transparent coffee buying. The green coffee beans they buy must meet stringent standards,
The Spot Restaurant and Tavern

This eatery opened its doors in 1978 in the oldest La Jolla building in continuous use as a restaurant. It’s become a favorite for its fresh fish, steaks, burgers, salads, pasta, and sandwiches and Chicago-style pizza, in other words, it offers just about anything a late-night diner could want. There’s a full-service bar and a large selection of fine wines. The warm fire burning in the middle of the room seals the cozy ambiance of this late-night diner. Patrons clearly love the place because of the free stickers! Wahoo’s has become a La Jolla tradition for young and old. Ask any kid who grew up in La Jolla — they remember hanging out after school at Wahoo’s. Walls, tables, windows and even bathrooms are laden with signed memorabilia and stickers, like a giant skateboard. Starters include tasty Mani onion rings and spicy chicken tortilla soup, but it’s the fish tacos that draw the crowds. Kids continue to love the place because of the free stickers!

Best Comfort Food

The Spot Restaurant

Best Dinner

Truluck’s

Best Family Restaurant

Sammy’s Woodfired Pizza

Best Fish & Chips

Cody’s La Jolla

Best Desserts

Michelle Coulon Dessertier

Best Fish Taco tie:

Wahoo’s Fish Tacos

Best Deli

Girard Gourmet

(More than one entry under Best Bakery)

Best Fish

Rubio’s

(See listing under Best Place to go on a Budget)

Best Family Restaurant

Sammy’s Woodfired Pizza

Best Fish & Chips

Cody’s La Jolla

Voted La Jolla’s Best Vegetarian 7 Years in a Row

Lean & Green Organic Health Cafe

THANK YOU!

VOTED BEST:

LUNCH, ORGANIC, VEGETARIAN, SALAD, HEALTHY DINING

WE CATER!!!

Make your next meeting a healthy one.

Call today and let us show you how a healthy meal can charge up your team.

LEAN & GREEN CAFE

7825 Fay Ave. La Jolla

(See listing under Best Overall)

Best Dessert

Michelle Coulon Dessertier

Dessertier

Dessertier

dessertier.com

Best Dinner

Truluck’s

(See listing under Best Overall)

Best Family Restaurant

Sammy’s Woodfired Pizza

Best Fish & Chips

Cody’s La Jolla

Best Fish

Rubio’s

(See listing under Best Place to go on a Budget)

Best Family Restaurant

Sammy’s Woodfired Pizza

Best Fish & Chips

Cody’s La Jolla

Thank you, La Jolla!

Thank you for your recognition and continued support for the past 14 years.

NINE—TEN

Restaurant and bar

Jason Knibb - San Diego’s 2014 Chef of the Year California Restaurant Association

Thank you, La Jolla!

Thank you for your recognition and continued support for the past 14 years.

Free delivery

In the village, $12 minimum order

WE CATER!!!

Make your next meeting a healthy one.

Call today and let us show you how a healthy meal can charge up your team.

LEAN & GREEN CAFE

7825 Fay Ave. La Jolla

858-459-LEAN (5326)

www.LeanAndGreenCafe.com

Thank you, La Jolla!

Thank you for your recognition and continued support for the past 14 years.

Jason Knibb - San Diego’s 2014 Chef of the Year California Restaurant Association

Thank you, La Jolla!

Thank you for your recognition and continued support for the past 14 years.
Voted Best New Restaurant

Draft Republic
Located in La Jolla, across from UTC, Draft Republic is an American gastro pub offering a casual, friendly atmosphere and innovative cuisine. Draft Republic features a beer centric menu including favorites such as their Housemade Sausage Sampler, House Smoked Pulled Pork and the Draft Republic Burger. Guests can enjoy over 36 craft beers on tap plus housemade keg tapenaderestaurant.com

Best French Tapenade
Since 1998, chef Jean-Michel Diot has been serving up award-winning French-American fusion cuisine at Tapenade Restaurant. In addition to the famed chef and his cuisine, they have provided an on-site sommelier and excellent customer service, the Tapenade experience has been worthy of a standing ovation from start to finish. The owners and staff of Tapenade are grateful the local support over the past 18 years. While Tapenade has closed, be sure to visit Bistro du Marche opening mid-July on upper Girard. The original owners will still feature French Cuisine and the same award-winning chefs & staff. The new concept will also offer some exciting twists on the original.

Best Gelato Gelateria Frizzante
Gelateria Frizzante serves 140 different gelato and sorbet flavors using fresh-frozen fruits and imported Italian ingredients. They have the best selection of authentic gelato in San Diego, which pairs perfectly with their Italian-style coffee and espresso drinks! All gelato and sorbetto are made daily and they brew only fresh-roasted beans from Herkimer Coffee in Seattle.

Best Greek Apollonia
Apollonia has been the destination of choice for La Jollans with an appetite for Greek delicacies. The restaurant has a handsome outdoor patio where shaded alfresco dining is delightful. Venture inside and you will find a charming ambiance in every dining room and in the beautiful lounge. The menu includes age-old favorites such as Dolmathakia and Mousaka, alongside some absolute surprises guaranteed to tantalize your adventurous curiosity. The menu offers many heart-healthy items prevalent in Greek cuisine. Apollonia’s service is very friendly and as pleasant as the food. Open daily from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Sun-Thur) and 10 p.m. (Fri & Sat).

Best Healthy Dining Lean & Green Café
(See entry under Best Overall)

Best Ice Cream Cold Stone Creamery
Cold Stone conducts their business of making mouths happy with gusto, happily creating fresh ice cream batches every day in store on their signature frozen granite slab. Churned from high-quality ingredients and mixed with your favorite candy, fruits or nuts, their made-to-order ice cream treats include tons of tempting flavors like Oreo Overload from their Signature line and Churro Caramel Crave from their Hot Stone selections. Ice cream cakes, dreamy shakes created from their signature blend with tasty mix-ins, and fresh smoothies made with real whole fruit mesmerize mouths; and for the extra health-conscious, Cold Stone carries low-fat frozen yogurt with probiotics and refreshing sorbet. Stop by for a scoop today!

Cold Stone Creamery
909 Prospect St., second floor
(858) 454-2300
coldstonecreamery.com

Voted Best Chinese Food & Take-Out 15 Years in a Row!

Thank You La Jolla for Voting Us Best New Restaurant

Lunch & Dinner Daily
Sunday-Thursday: 11am-Midnight
Friday & Saturday: 11am-1am
Happy Hour Daily 2-6pm
36 Craft Beers on Tap • Keg Cocktails
Pong • Billiards • Shuffle Board • Foosball

4282 Esplanade Ct. • Costa Verde Center across from UTC
858.450.1400 • draftrepublic.com

China Chef
623 Pearl St., La Jolla • 858.454.7997

With $20 Or More Cash Order • Hot Valid On Dry line Orders • Offer Expires 06-22-15

See our Full Menu Online at: lajollachinachef.com

Voted Best Coffee Shop
5 Years in a Row!

Bird Rock Coffee Roasters would like to thank all our wonderful customers for this honor.

Named National Micro-Roaster of the year 2012!
- San Diego’s only source for Direct Trade Coffee
- Named one of Eater.com’s Most Essential Coffee Shops in America 2014
- 2nd location to open in Little Italy Summer 2014

5627 La Jolla Blvd. • 858.551.1707 • www.birdrockcoffeeroasters.com

Happy Hour Truluck’s
(See listing under Best Overall)

Best Healthy Dining
Lean & Green Café
(See entry under Best Lunch)

Best Ice Cream
Cold Stone Creamery
Best Indian
Tandoori Chef
Enjoy the casual dining atmosphere and an extensive menu of authentic Indian dishes. Tandoori Chef offers eight different kinds of naan, tandoori meat and seafood platters as well as vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free dishes. If you are new to Indian cuisine, try the chef's sampler, which includes a combination of vegetarian or chicken samosas, pakora, onion bhaji and aloo tikki, or one of the chef's specialty kebabs that are marinated in Indian herbes, spices and cooked in a clay oven. Delivery and take-out available.
Tandoori Chef
613 Pearl St. (858) 454-6999
tandoorigroup.com

Best Indian tie:
Cafe Milano
Owner/chef Pasquale Cianni brought northern Italian cuisine to La Jolla 15 years ago and has been successfully pleasing both local residents and out-of-towners — even out-of-the-country guests — with his homemade pappardelle pasta, veal ossobuco, lobster ravioli and many other authentic Italian dishes. Cafe Milano is an exciting and incredible experience for the whole family at affordable prices. Eazy bird special: 4:30 and 6:30 p.m. Choose a select soup or salad, menu entree and dessert for $19.95. Open M-F 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m., Sat 2-10 p.m., Sun 2-9 p.m.
Cafe Milano
711 Pearl St. (858) 454-3806
cafemilanioalajolla.com

Lupi Italian Restaurant
Lupi Italian restaurant and wine bar has always been a La Jolla favorite for those who appreciate fine Italian wine and mouthwatering authentic cuisine and now there is a new reason to visit. New partner Andriano Gasparo has teamed up with long time partner Luigi Tornatore to add a new twist to the menu while keeping all your favorites. Add to that an amazing bar menu featuring small tastes and select wines for $5, from 5 pm to closing every evening and you are all set... Enjoy dining on the the sunny outdoor patio. You can also bring your pet for some special “pet”ality... So stop by and see what’s new at Lupi’s your palate will be glad you did.
Lupi Italian Restaurant
5518 La Jolla Blvd. (858) 454-6421
lupivinocucina.com

Best Late Night Eater
The Spot Restaurant
This eatery opened its doors in 1978 in the oldest La Jolla building in continuous use as a restaurant. It's become a favorite for its fresh fish, steaks, burgers, salads, pasta, sandwiches and Chicago-style pizza. In other words, it offers just about anything a late-night diner could want. There's a full-service bar and a large selection of fine wines. The warm fire burning in the middle of the room seals the cozy ambiance of this late-night spot.
The Spot Restaurant and Tavern
1005 Prospect St. (858) 459-0800
thespotonline.com

Best Live Music
Beaumont's Eatery
Beaumont’s has become the focal point — the only point — for nightlife in Bird Rock. Live bands play on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, and neighbors like to throw back drinks and get a little rowdy (think Bird Rock rowdy, not PB!). The menu is exceptional and unique, and it offers a range of entrées, from a juicy burger to Spanish seafood paella and French country-style meatloaf. Neighbors love the Blues Brunch so much that acoustic music performances are now a regular feature on Sundays. Count on Beaumont’s for a delectable meal and a chance to meet your neighbor!
Beaumont’s Eatery
5662 La Jolla Blvd. (858) 459-0474
beaumontsaretery.com

Best Italian tie:
Cafe Milano
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Cafe Milano
711 Pearl St. (858) 454-3806
cafemilanioalajolla.com

Best Margarita
Jose’s Courtroom
Jose’s has been delighting locals and visitors since 1978 with its colorful, casual, friendly ambiance. Specializing in carne asada, pollo asado and carnitas, along with many other delicious, authentic Mexican specialties, this is a great place to enjoy a fabulous meal with family, friends and co-workers. But for a different taste, try the “shrimp-packed burrito,” with an average of 15 shrimp, sautéed with onions, tomatoes and cilantro to make certain you get juicy, tasty
Jose’s Courtroom
7825 Fay Ave. (in the Merrill Lynch Bldg, next to LJ Sports Club) (858) 459-5326
Order on-line leanandgreencafe.com

Best Live Music
Cafe Milano
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Cafe Milano
711 Pearl St. (858) 454-3806
cafemilanioalajolla.com

Lupi Italian Restaurant
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Lupi Italian Restaurant
5518 La Jolla Blvd. (858) 454-6421
lupivinocucina.com

Thank you for voting us “Best Pizza” in La Jolla 6 years in a row!
617 Pearl St
(across from Pearl Car Wash)
Open Mon. - Sat. 11am - 10pm
Sun. 11am - 9pm
WE DELIVER!
pizzaonpearl.com
(858) 729-0717

MIX & MATCH PLATE
AS PART OF OUR $2.00 OFF
“THANK YOU” ANY ENTREE
WE ARE OFFERING
With this ad
Cafe 74-444
Exp. 6-30-15

We’re Jumping for Joy! For Being Voted Best Yogurt
Thank You La Jolla for your continued support over the past 29 years!
We’re Open Late! • We Serve Coffee • Wi-fi
In Appreciation

Family Owned & Operated

Regan’s
Dairy Queen
We’re Offering 30% OFF
Kid’s Tad, Tadpole or Smallish Yogurt
(Regan’s Dairy Queen only)
With this ad
Cafe 74-444
Exp. 6-30-15

Thank you for voting us “Best Pizza” in La Jolla 6 years in a row!
Don Carlos
If a picture is worth a thousand words, Don Carlos Taco Shop has singlehandedly written every book published in the last 40 years. The eatery’s website makes regular Mexican entries look like virtual portraits – the enchiladas, carne asada and, yes, burritos make you think you’re already at the restaurant. If things look that appetizing from afar, imagine what awaits you when you finally pay a visit. Just take care to walk around the bookshelves.

shrimp in every bite! Whether you come alone or with a group, you’re sure to enjoy unsurpassed quality food and friendly service.

Jose’s Courtroom
1037 Prospect St.
(858) 454-7655
joses.com

Best Martinis
Donovan’s
(See listing under Best Wine Selection)

Best Mediterranean
Apollonia
(See entry under Best Greek)

Best Mexican (Fast Food)
Don Carlos
(See entry under Best Burrito)

Best Mexican (tie)
Puesto

If you’re any kind of foodie -- and you probably are -- you might have run into The Food Network’s Melissa d’Arabian last March here, as she signed “Supermarket Healthy,” her latest cookbook. Buzz has it that happy hour was especially lively that day – then again, things are always bustling here amid the award-winning fare (one publication called Puesto’s ceviche the city’s best; another says it serves the best margarita). We’re sure Melissa loved her visit and sampled some victuals along the way – if the ceviche’s that good, she (and the numerous other media types) can probably vouch for everything else in the place.

Puesto

1026 Wall Street
(858) 454-1260
eatpuesto.com

Alfonso’s of La Jolla
Alfonso’s of La Jolla has been a community mainstay for more than three decades. The family has handed down recipes from generation to generation to shape its menu, which includes specials like Puerto Nuevo Style Lobster. Locals and visitors alike enjoy sipping margaritas on the outdoor patio with the smell of sea breeze in the air. Alfonso’s burritos, in part, have kept customers returning for so many years.

Alfonso’s of La Jolla
1251 Prospect St.
(858) 454-2232
alfonsosoflajolla.com

Best Ocean View
The Marine Room

When The Marine Room opened at its current location, Franklin Roosevelt had just been elected to his third term as president. That pretty much makes The Marine Room the oldest San Diego restaurant still owned and operated by its founders in its original location. Executive chef Bernard Guillas uses all that history to his best advantage — he’s got a lot to draw from as he travels the world in search of the finest cuisine for The Marine Room’s legion of customers.

The Marine Room
2000 Spindrift Drive
(858) 459-7222
marineroom.com

Best Organic
Lean and Green
(See entry under Best Lunch)
Only the best quality ingredients on the market. Everything is prepared daily. You, “their customers”, are the most important part of their business, and they try to make sure that you are well cared for so you will keep coming back for more. Every month Pizza on Pearl features an innovative creation with their “pizza of the month.” Come visit, call, or order online for delivery and taste the quality of Pizza on Pearl!

Pizza On Pearl
617 Pearl St.
(858) 729-0717
pizzapearl.com

Best Pho
Pho UTC & Grill
Spend any time in any large San Diego neighborhood, and you’ll quickly be introduced to the joys of pho, a Vietnamese noodle soup with broth, rice noodles, herbs and either beef or chicken. Leading the way in our neck of the woods is Pho UTC & Grill, and it must be because of the Vernicelli noodles the staff uses in its fare. Or maybe it’s the tripe. Or the deep-fried appetizers. Or the fresh spring rolls. Or the dozens of other dishes that make pho the remarkably versatile soup it is. This place’s website says Pho UTC & Grill is the world’s leading expert on pho—and who are we to disagree?
Pho UTC & Grill
9191 Towne Center Dr., Ste 100
University City
(858) 320-0504
utcpho.com

Best Place to People Watch
Living Room
(See entry under Best Cafe)

Best Pet-Friendly Place
Lupi Italian Restaurant
(See entry under Best Italian)

Best Place to Go on a Budget
Rubio’s
“Sustainable” is a term very much in vogue among the environmentally savvy—the problem is that “sustainable” practices aren’t always very apparent, because they “sustain” themselves over lots of time (see how that works?). Enter Rubio’s, which serves some of the best and most totally inexpensive coastal Mexican you can fathom—like the killer seafood burritos and chicken, steak and veggie platter, which run you a paltry $8 or so—and looks out for all of us at the same time. Rubio’s honors environmentally sound fishing practices, helping control ocean populations as a fundamental part of food preparation. These guys save the oceans—you guys save the money.
Rubio’s
7530 Fay Ave.
(858) 454-0068
8855 Villa La Jolla Dr.
rubios.com

Best Place for B-day Party
Sammy’s Woodfired Pizza
Ever try to put birthday candles on a pizza? It’s actually a cute idea,
El Pescador Fish Market

What’s the first thing you notice about the drawings on the El Pescador website? The fish look really, really sad, like they know what’s about to go down — simply put, you’re about to taste heaven at their expense. The Dungeness crab sandwich simply has to be the entry that helped snag this place the award — in some states, something that mouth-watering is supposedly against the law. El Pescador is now serving from its new location on Pearl Street — but a change of venue, no matter how strategic, won’t change the weather heating up outside, don’t miss their award-winning tree-covered patios — perfect for a private event or al fresco dining.

El Pescador Fish Market

Executive Chef Pepe Capatinta and the wonderful team at Piatti La Jolla have cemented their status as a neighborhood gem by serving a mouthwatering menu that highlights flavors from all over Italy in warm and friendly environment. With the Piatti Italian Restaurant & Bar

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Thank you for the Gold

Steak
Wine Selection
Martini

America’s Best
DONOVAN’S
STEAK & CHOP HOUSE

100% prime steaks and fresh seafood

LA JOLLA 1250 Prospect Street
SAN DIEGO GASLAMP 570 K Street

Join us for Happy Hour 4-6 p.m., Monday through Friday
Reservations: 877-698-6666  •  Private Events: 877-268-6336
donovanssteakhouse.com
thing that mouth-watering is supposedly against the law. El Pescador is now serving from its new location on Pearl Street – but a change of venue, no matter how strategic, won’t change the outlook for the fish.

El Pescador Fish Market
634 Pearl St.
(858) 456-2526
elpescaadorfishmarket.com

Word on the street has it that San Diego is the king city of the booming craft brewery industry these days – and La Jolla Brewing Co., as you might imagine, plays a big role in that scene. It intends to maintain a reputation for its quality craft beer, food, wine and beverage selection, customer service atmosphere, and management. Knowledge and expertise (and sports, of course) are the bywords here, with the venue a natural extension of the community, where the adventurous and historical spirit of the Village brings the beer to life.

La Jolla Brewing Co.
7536 Fay Ave.
(858) 246-6759
lajollabeer.com

They may look good enough to eat, but the paintings and sculptures at Donovan’s of La Jolla are strictly off limits — so you’ll have to content yourself with the USDA Prime beef, the eatery’s star attraction. If steak isn’t in the plan, pork and veal chops and succulent seafood will satisfy the most discriminating of palates. And at Donovan’s, fresh seasonal vegetables and your choice of potato are included with each entrée.

Donovan’s of La Jolla
1250 Prospect St.
(858) 450-6666
donovanssteakhouse.com

The buzz on this 10-year-old staple says the chefs are “crazy.” We’re assured, however, that there’s no truth to that in the literal sense — it only means they’re creative and innovative. They have a lot to work with, too. Sushi on the Rock serves just about every kind of raw fish you can imagine, especially the spicy and Southwestern combos, and that means those “crazy” chefs have lots more material for their concoctions. Even now, the place is introducing several new specialty rolls, and there’s a house sake to wash it all down with.

Sushi On the Rock
1025 Prospect St.
(858) 459-3208
sushiontherock.com

For a taste of China in the middle of La Jolla, look no further than China Chef, on Pearl Street. This authentic little gem has a wide range of traditional fare like chop suey, noodle dishes, chef specialties to choose from and great deals on $6.75 lunch specials from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Gluten-free menu items like cashew nut chicken, shrimp with assorted vegetables and Kung-Po beef to cater to everyone’s tastes.

China Chef
623 Pearl St.
(858) 454-1368
lajollachinachef.com

At Chedi Thai Bistro, the zen-like decor comforts the eye and the modern Thai cuisine pleases the palate. Chef Pia, who hails from northern Thailand, infuses regional influences into her dishes. Even now, the place is introducing several new specialty rolls, and there’s a house sake to wash it all down with.

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distinctive home-cooked meals. The eclectic menu includes traditional Thai favorites as well as healthy vegetarian creations. The restaurant shops at various produce and specialty markets daily to guarantee the freshest and highest quality ingredients.

Chedi Thai Bistro
737 Pearl St., Ste 110
(858) 551-8424
chedithaibistro.com

Best Vegetarian
Lean and Green Café
(See entry under Best Take-Out)

Best Wings
Hennessey’s Tavern
Every tavern seems to do spicy buffalo chicken wings these days, and they’re probably pretty good for the most part — but for your money, Hennessey’s corners the market, and the staff isn’t telling how. Maybe they, like, put something illegal in the chicken or the spice or both; that might account for one hungry guy’s actual teleportation to Ireland, where the venue’s motif comes from (it was on the news and everything). Or maybe it’s that wings go with just about everything, which is also in ample supply at Hennessey’s. You can ponder the reasons to your heart’s content here; there’s even a fire pit to help shed some light.

Hennessey’s
7811 Herschel Ave.
(858) 551-8772
hennesseystavern.com

Best Wine Selection
Donovan’s of La Jolla
(See entry under Best Steak)

Best Wine Shop
BevMo
It’s not difficult to understand why this warehouse of alcohol has grown popular. It sells every brand and region of alcohol desired. There are thousands of bottles of wine, beer and spirits on these shelves. What to choose is the only problem. Browsing the company website may help out the wandering shopper. Rating agencies give their top picks for the beer, wine and spirits. Kegs are also sold for parties.

BevMo
844 Pearl St.
(858) 729-0775
bevmo.com

Best Frozen Yogurt
Froglander’s
With the smoothest frozen yogurt around and a range of fruit, candy and fudge toppings that would rival Willy Wonka’s chocolate factory, a stop by Froglander’s on Pearl Street is never a bad idea. With flavors rotating every two to three days, it’s always a pleasant surprise what you’ll see on tap at Froglander’s. The endless list of toppings — ranging from healthful options like nuts, granola and fruit to sweeter indulgences like candies, chocolate and syrups — make for a frozen treat that caters to any La Jollan’s sweet tooth. Free delivery with $9 order.

Froglander’s
915 Pearl St.
(858) 459-3764
froglanders.com

The Marine Room
When The Marine Room opened at its current location, Franklin Roosevelt had just been elected to his third term as president. That pretty much makes The Marine Room the oldest San Diego restaurant still owned and operated by its founders in its original location. Executive chef Bernard Guillas uses all that history to his best advantage — he’s got a lot to draw from as he travels the world in search of the finest cuisine for The Marine Room’s legion of customers.

Michele Coulon Dessertier
Michele Coulon Dessertier desserts and savory offerings are made from the finest ingredients: fresh local organic produce, only real butter, and Belgian chocolate. They take pride in creating spectacular wedding cakes and desserts that are both appealing to the eye and tantalizing to the taste.

Michele Coulon Dessertier
Sycamore Court, 7556 Fay Ave,
(858) 456-5098
dessertier.com
Thank you for Voting!

A short list of Richard’s Favorites

**OVEN Baked Omelettes**
Western with Cheese
Ham, onions and bell peppers

**Belgian Waffles**
Bacon Waffle
Crisp bacon cooked inside a golden brown waffle

**From the Creperie**
Fresh French Strawberry Crepes
Crepes are wrapped around fresh juicy strawberries, topped with tropical sauce

**Gourmet Griddle Cakes**
49ers Flap Jacks
3 Big, chewy pancakes from the gold rush

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**Downtown**
619.231.7777
520 Front St., Just South of Market

**La Jolla**
858.459.8800
909 Prospect St., Between Girar and Fay