When it comes to sumptuous indoor/outdoor dining or even the casual variety of belly-pleasing treats, Ocean Beach continues to be the gold standard for hungry neighbors and visitors.

You can’t beat the view, of course. But the restaurants and eateries in Ocean Beach add that extra-special layer to beach life you just won’t encounter in any other community.

Whether you’re on the hunt for a toasted morning bagel on your way to work, hungering for some mouth-watering, out-of-this-world ribs, craving some delectable fish tacos or eager to relax with a fine vegetarian dish as you sip an exotic drink and watch the stunning, panoramic sunset near the pier, Ocean Beach has it.

Want to “people watch” the sun worshippers on the boardwalk as the soft breeze kisses your face over appetizers at a nearby eatery? We’ve got it. Or maybe you just want to grab one of the tastiest burgers anywhere to be found in San Diego in between shopping stops — yeah, we’ve got that, too.

The merchants of Ocean Beach are dedicated to winning your business — and more importantly, keeping it.

With a treasure trove of food-related businesses, we asked our Peninsula readers to pick the “best of” when it comes to restaurants and eateries in Ocean Beach (look for the next Readers Choice Awards for Point Loma restaurants in June). In this edition of The Peninsula Beacon Readers Choice Awards, however, readers were eager to weigh in on their favorite Ocean Beach foodie stops and cast their votes for the winners.

Some of the merchants are longtime community fixtures; others are upstarts eager to win over the hearts and tummies of neighbors.

Readers weigh in on OB’s choice food venues.
Congratulations to the following businesses chosen by the readers of the Peninsula Beacon.

Readers were asked to cast ballots for their favorite choices. This was no simple task! With more than 71 categories, our readers came through with overwhelming response. We wish to thank all the readers who took the time to recognize these businesses that do so much to make Ocean Beach such a wonderful community.

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Best Bar
Sunshine Saloon Bar
An Ocean Beach institution since 1974, Sunshine offers up daily happy hour specials, an ocean-view deck, sports TVs, pool tables and great pints. The Sunshine Company’s unique two-story, open-air design allows space for all — downstairs under the sun roof and upstairs on the outdoor deck. One of the largest and most spacious bars in Ocean Beach, Sunshine Co. has plenty of room for smokers and nonsmokers alike. Whether you’re taking in the nice weather and distant ocean view, watching sports on TV or playing a game of pool, this is the place to be. Daily happy hour from 5 to 6 p.m. features half-price pitchers.
Sunshine Company Saloon
5028 Newport Ave., Ocean Beach
(619) 222-0722

Best Bartender
The Arizona
(see entry under Best Sports Bar)

Best BBQ
BBQ House
For more than 20 years, BBQ House has been serving award-winning barbecue in San Diego. Every recipe is made from scratch and uses a slow cooking method which naturally makes the food the best tasting barbecue in town. BBQ House has mouth-watering beef, delicious pork, and slow-cured ham and some of the best chicken you’ll ever have. They also offer ribs, sloppy joes, barbecue burritos, gyros and BLTs — a little something for everybody. The outdoor patio seating provides a relaxing and comfortable atmosphere, perfect for enjoying a meal while people-watching on Newport Ave. The restaurants is open seven days a week.
BBQ House
5028 Newport Ave. (619) 222-4311
www.bbbhouseob.com

Best Beer Selection
Pizza Port
As any true beer afficionado will tell you, the quality of a brew selection is every bit as important, if not more so, than the number of beers on offer. Fortunately for Ocean Beach locals, the newest member of the Pizza Port family opened in May 2010 at the corners of Bacon and Santa Monica, and have both the quality and quantity to satisfy the most discerning beer palate. The seven in-house craft brews run the gamut from a light “No Surf Cream Ale” to their hefty “Cho-Saiiko Double IPA” and even a microbrew root beer made on the premises. This doesn’t count the dozens of other beers available.
Pizza Port
1956 Bacon St.
(619) 224-4700
www.pizzaport.com/locations/ocean-beach

Best Chef
John Mann at O’Bistro
You’ll be delighted by the variety of dishes prepared by executive chef John Mann, like seafood, steaks, pasta, salads, sandwiches, sushi and ribs, but he is famous for his chowder. With more than 20 years of experience, Mann has revamped the already tasteful menu to include new favorites. The result gives O’Bistro a low-key and friendly atmosphere that feels like you’re having a meal in someone’s home.
O’Bistro
3663 Voltaire St.
(619) 223-2202

The Venetian
The food has best been described as California-Italian, which simply means you can expect great fare without a lot of heavy sauce, the way some other places think Italian should be done. The pastas and chicken entrees will command serious attention, as will the tidy bar and the family-style menu. The Tuscan wall murals and tabletop scenes complement vine-strewn latticework and mellow lighting on the patio make this a local favorite — whether it’s for a first date or family affair. They have a large take-out business as well.
The Venetian
3663 Voltaire St.
(619) 223-8197
www.venetian1965.com

THANK YOU FOR VOTING US #1

1st PLACE Dinner Best Service

3rd PLACE Family Restaurant
Voted one of the BEST Pizzas 5 Years in a row

OPEN FOR LUNCH & DINNER
Full Bar & Large Covered Patio
Wine Cellar / Dining Room
3663 Voltaire St., San Diego • (619) 223-8197

COURTESY PHOTO
Shades Oceanfront Bistro
Shades is a family owned and operated restaurant located just across the street from the beach with a fabulous view of the OB Pier. It's become a popular breakfast destination. You'll enjoy the casual atmosphere and dog-friendly patio for dining al fresca. Next to the awesome omelettes, another big hit at breakfast involves something called Salmon Scrambles, which should tide you over until lunch and that veggie sandwich with goat cheese and sprouts you’ve had your eye on. You'll enjoy the excellent food, unique cocktails and quality service and the ocean view never stops.

Best Breakfast
Shades Oceanfront Bistro
5083 Santa Monica Ave. (619) 222-0501
www.shadesob.com

Nick's at the Pier
Take Nick's at the Beach (arguably the archetypical Pacific Beach eatery) and drop it on the Ocean Beach Pier oddly enough, Nick’s at the Pier materializes, with the same vibe and commitment to quality you’ll find at a PB staple. The fried calamari, the papas quesadilla, the crab cakes and steamed mussels — they’re all here, along with a killer wine list, a serious banquet menu and a throng of 23 big-screen TVs. But all the televisions still can’t compare to the stunning spectacle of the coast, which would seem tailor made for a romantic sunset dinner or just a relaxing evening cocktail with a uniquely San Diego look and feel.

Best Lunch
Shades Oceanfront Bistro
5083 Santa Monica Ave. (619) 222-0501
www.shadesob.com

Best Catering
Surfside Cuisine
Surf Side Cuisine prides itself on custom designing your dining experience. Surf Side specialists in private dinner parties, in-home catered events, weekly meal plans and private vacation chef services. Our team will create a menu designed to make your special event unique. Chef Billy Butter hand-picks only the freshest ingredients from reputable suppliers — a typical day prepping for an event has Butter visiting Catalina Offshore to pick out his seafood; Specialty Produce for his farm-to-table fruits and veggies; Venissimo’s for hand-crafted cheeses from around the world; Elizabethan Bakery for the best desserts chocolate and sugar could hope to be involved with and gourmet coffees

THANK YOU OBecians!

Best Ocean View
Nick's at the Pier
(see entry under Best Atmosphere)

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Best Burger
Hodad’s
(see entry under Best American)

Best Burrito
Nico’s Mexican Food
Love burritos? You’ll really love the Nico’s burrito. According to the majority, it’s the best. The chicken taquitos rate high as well, as does the veggie burrito, breakfast burrito, California burrito, well, most of their burritos. Did we mention the legendary hot sauce? The food is reasonably priced, especially for the amount you receive. In a city that touts close to five million Mexican restaurants, Nico’s must indeed be unique in this crazy world.

Nico’s Mexican Food
4918 Newport Ave. (619) 223-0230

Best Coffee
O’Bistro Cafe
The patio dining and refreshing menu at this cafe have made it a top pick for readers, and owners Brenda and Jongo Park have clearly paid a lot of attention to the dining experience. Enjoy a delicious meal in the cozy cafe area or on the enclosed or outside patio. You'll be delighted by the variety of dishes prepared by executive chef John Mann, like seafood, steaks, pasta, salads, sandwiches, sushi, ribs and more. Lunch and dinner are served daily. Be sure to try their famous lobster bisque. Breakfast is served on weekends from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dogs are welcome. Just two blocks from the beach, with plenty of parking in their private lot.

O’Bistro Cafe
4934 Voltaire St. (619) 223-2202

Bravo's Mexican Bistro & Cantina
99¢ Margarita
With food purchase, with coupon. House Margarita only. Not valid with any other offer.

Thank you for voting us Numero Uno! Best Margarita

www.sunshineob.com
5028 Newport Ave., OB
www.shadesob.com
5083 Santa Monica Ave.
(619) 222-0501

THANK YOU OBecians!

BEST BREAKFAST!
Lunch– Ocean View- Comfort Food!

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner & Happy Hour
Affordable Catering
Daily 6:30AM - 9:00PM
5083 Santa Monica Ave, San Diego, CA 92107
(619) 222-0501 • ShadesOB.com

THANK YOU OBecians!

5028 Newport Ave., OB
www.sunshineob.com
5083 Santa Monica Ave.
(619) 222-0501

THANK YOU OBecians!

Best Atmosphere
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4934 Voltaire St. (619) 223-2202

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Thank you for voting us Numero Uno! Best Margarita

www.sunshineob.com
5028 Newport Ave., OB
www.shadesob.com
5083 Santa Monica Ave.
(619) 222-0501

THANK YOU OBecians!

BEST BREAKFAST!
Lunch– Ocean View- Comfort Food!

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner & Happy Hour
Affordable Catering
Daily 6:30AM - 9:00PM
5083 Santa Monica Ave, San Diego, CA 92107
(619) 222-0501 • ShadesOB.com

THANK YOU OBecians!

5028 Newport Ave., OB
www.sunshineob.com
5083 Santa Monica Ave.
(619) 222-0501

THANK YOU OBecians!
Kaiserhof Restaurant
Kaiserhof is a great family owned and operated German restaurant. A German restaurant would not be complete without wiener-schnitzel or jagerschnitzel. It doesn’t get much better than the “wurstplatte,” which includes: bratwurst, knackwurst and bavarian-wurst with sauerkraut and red potatoes and a good German beer. Dine in or enjoy the beer garden, a lovely outdoor heated area where you can sip a German brew and enjoy a traditional German and American meal. Full bar available.

Best German
Kaiserhof Restaurant
2253 Sunset Cliffs Blvd. (619) 224-0506
www.kaiserhofofrestaurant.com

Surfside Cuisine
(619) 507-0889
www.surfsidedecuisine.com

Little Chef
One local trivia of an innoscent run-in with Little Chef that speaks volumes. Not only was the food delicious, it was still hot when her boyfriend brought it to her at work. Now that’s fresh. They’ve been at the same location for more than 21. That means not only does Little Chef have the best Chinese, but it will be really tough to beat their prices! Some 60 chicken, beef and shrimp dishes dot the menu. Add the daily specials, and there’s not a lot Little Chef is missing as a restaurant or a community service.

Little Chef
4910 Newport Ave. (619) 222-6627

Best Chinese Take-Out
Little Chef
(see entry under Best Chinese)

Best Coffee Shop
Your Mama’s Mug
For the serious caffein obsessed, finding a good coffee house is as important as finding a good doctor. In Ocean Beach that means Your Mama’s Mug. The first coffee shop in OB boasts a selection of 50 different coffees (grade A or higher) and 30 teas, along with a selection of juices, waters and soda. Looking for some food with your cup of joe? Enjoy a variety of breakfast sandwiches, focaccia, filled croissants and a fresh daily selection of pastries, cheesecake and bagels. As we move into the warmer summer months, try one of Mama’s specialties: an ice cream mocha. With indoor and outdoor seating and wireless access, Mama’s is the place to come relax with a good cup of coffee. Enjoy the early bird special 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., Mondays through Fridays and 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. on weekends.

Your Mama’s Mug
4967 Newport Ave. (619) 523-0567

Best Comfort Food
Old Townhouse Rest.
Located in the heart of Ocean Beach, The Old Townhouse Restaurant is a local favorite for pancakes, waffles, omelettes, French toast, biscuits and gravy and eggs Benedict. The restaurant has been family owned and operated for more than 35 years and brings the comforts of home style cooking to you when you’re not at home. The meals taste like they’ve come out of your own kitchen. The Old Townhouse serves bottomless cups of coffee, their famous mimosas and breakfast all day. They’re open seven days a week from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Old Townhouse Restaurant
4910 Newport Ave. (619) 222-1880
www.oldtownhourrestaurant.com

Best Deli
Olive Tree Marketplace
Olive Tree Marketplace, Ocean Beach’s only upscale, independently-owned grocery store, offers patrons a variety of quality fare, including wine and cheese, locally grown produce, USDA Choice grade beef and fresh-baked goods. Their wine and beer selection is truly impressive. But Beacon readers were most impressed by the deli, which uses the market’s best ingredients to craft mouth-watering sandwiches. Meat lovers will want to try the Manhattan, a hot pastrami sandwich smothered with melted provolone cheese and served on a toasted onion roll, while vegetarians will appreciate the Euro Veggie, a combination of chopped Kalamata olives and chives, sprouts, tomato, cucumbers and feta cheese served on warm pita bread. In all, the deli serves more than 20 sandwiches and more than 20 varieties of salad.

Olive Tree Marketplace
4805 Narragansett Ave. (619) 224-0443
www.olivetreemarket.com

Best Desserts
Azúcar
Amar communicates the Cuban ori-
The results for 2012 are in... ...and we didn’t win.

Thank you for the Silver medals thought
To Gold in 2013!

Organic Burgers Local Craft and NZ beers

The Peninsula Beacon

THANK YOU!
FOR VOTING US BEST:
GREEK FOOD
ALSO A FAVORITE FOR
NEW RESTAURANT, APETIZER & WINELIST

Kecho’s Café
1774 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard
Reservations 619.225.9043
Tues. - Sat. - 5pm to 10pm
www.kehoscafe.com

A Favorite for:
5059 Newport Ave. Ocean Beach
(619) 226-4577

South Beach Bar & Grill

Stop by and check out our award winning view from the Brand New upstairs expansion!

Voted #1 Best:
FISH TACO & SEAFOOD
A Favorite for:
OCEAN VIEW - ATMOSPHERE
FISH & CHIPS
Must be 21+

5059 Newport Ave, Ocean Beach
(619) 226-4577

South Beach Bar & Grill

THANK YOU FOR VOTING FOR US!

Best Dinner
The Venetian
The food has best been described as California-Italian, which simply means you can expect great fare without a lot of heavy sauce, unlike some other Italian places. The pastas and chicken entrees will command serious attention, as will the tony bar and the family-style menu. The Tuscan wall murals and table-top scenes complement vine-strewn latticework and mellow lighting on the patio to make this a local favorite whether it’s for a first date or family affair. Take-out is also available

The Venetian
3663 Voltaire St.
(619) 223-8197
www.venetian1965.com

Best Donut Shop
OB Donuts
OB Donuts is a great little shop to indulge your sweet tooth! Traditional donuts include glazed, chocolate, jelly, maple and chocolate bars — all freshly baked and mouth watering! They also carry great breakfast sandwiches, including bagel and croissant and your choice of ham, Canadian bacon and lox! This locally owned and operated business has been a donut-loving haven serving the Peninsula for years!

OB Donuts
1830 Sunset Cliffs Blvd.
(619) 222-0298

Best Early Bird Special
Shades Oceanfront Bistro

(see entry under Best Breakfast)

Lighthouse Ice Cream & Yogurt

Lighthouse serves up some of the best ice cream and yogurt in Ocean Beach, now featuring double rainbow super premium, all natural, gluten free and certified kosher ice cream. But Lighthouse also has something that the other places don’t — a hot waffle ice cream sandwich, which includes your favorite ice cream stuffed between two Belgian waffles and put in a special iron. Reportedly, the heat doesn’t melt the ice cream, which means this place is worth a visit for the scientific phenomenon alone.

Lighthouse Ice Cream & Yogurt
5059 Newport Ave.
(619) 222-8600

Best Ice Cream/Yogurt

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The Venetian
3663 Voltaire St.
(619) 223-8197
www.venetian1965.com

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OB Donuts
1830 Sunset Cliffs Blvd.
(619) 222-0298

Best Early Bird Special
Shades Oceanfront Bistro

(see entry under Best Breakfast)
Best Family Restaurant
Nati’s
(see entry under Best Overall)

Best Fish & Chips
WOW Cafe
The Walk-On-Water Ocean Beach Pier Cafe has a one-of-a-kind atmos-
phere only to be rivaled by its amazing fish and chips, which is why it
was voted best by Beacon readers. The portions of WOW Cafe’s plates
are generous and its prices are rea-
sonable. Besides fish and chips, WOW is known for lobster tacos and
even its pancakes. The cafe is small and quaint, with an eclectic decor,
but one thing is for sure: nothing beats the views or the fish.
WOW Ocean Beach Pier Cafe
5091 Niagra Ave. (on the Pier)
(619) 226-2262

Best Fish Taco
South Beach Bar & Grille
Anybody who knows anything about coastal San Diego knows that the
fish tacos at South Beach Bar & Grille are the best in history. But did
anybody ever think about what kind of fare rests inside that delicious
shell? South Beach Bar & Grille can only speak for itself on that score —
and the Mahi taco, at an absolutely unbeatable price, speaks volumes.
South Beach Bar & Grille
5059 Newport Ave.
(619) 226-4577
www.southbeachob.com

Best French
Bo-Beau
Part of the local powerhouse Cohn Restaurant group, Bo-Beau takes its
place as their premiere French restaur-
ant. And this is no mere hitter, we’re talking about classic French cuisine,
from starters like escargot with a gar-
lie-beer butter sauce and smoked
salmon tartare tartine with brie and
celery greens to main courses of bœuf bourguignon and chicken fricassee
and a selection of moules, salada and
pasta. But you won’t find any cliché
Gallic restaurant snobbery here; every-
things at Bo-Beau is done in an
inviting, warm and casual dining
atmosphere. Entrees will run you
between $12-$20, a good bargain for
five French fare.
Bo-Beau
4996 West Point Loma Blvd.
(619) 224-2884

Best German
Kaiserhof Restaurant
Kaiserhof is a great family owned and
operated German restaurant. A Ger-
man restaurant would not be com-
plete without wienerbratwurst or jagerschnitzel. It doesn’t get much
better than the “wurstplate” which includes: bratwurst, knockwurst and
bauernwurst with sauerkraut and red
potatoes and a good German beer.
American style entrees include
beefed lobster tail, grilled halibut
steak, poached salmon filet with hol-
landaise, filet mignon Madagascaran
with peppercorn/brandy sauce, or a
New York strip steak. Dine in or enjoy
the beer garden, a lovely outdoor
heated area where you can sip a Ger-
man brew and enjoy a traditional
German and American meal. Full bar
available.
Kaiserhof Restaurant
2253 Sunset Cliffs Blvd.
(619) 224-0606
www.kaiserhoferestaurant.com

Best Greek
Kecho’s Cafe
Kecho’s Cafe is a fusion of traditional
and contemporary Mediterranean
cuisine. A small, cozy restaurant just a few doors down from The Olive Tree
Marketplace, it brings a mix of tradi-
tional and contemporary, where you
can experience rustic Old World fla-
vors combined with California flair.
Everything is served “mezzes-style”
(Greek for small plates). The signa-
ture dishes include the Eleni salad,
stuffed calamari, grilled lamb chops,
and for dessert, Galaktoboureko, a
traditional Greek delicacy you won’t
experience anywhere else. The cafe
invites you to experience the excellent
food, warm atmosphere and excep-
tional customer service.
Kecho’s Cafe
1774 Sunset Cliffs Blvd.
(619) 225-9043
www.kechoscafe.com

Best Happy Hour
The Blue Parrot
There is never a sad face during Blue Parrot’s happy hour. The restaurant
is located just one block away from the sand and is home to great food
and tons of fun. The breezy
indoor/outdoor bar offers the perfect
place to unwind. Or take a seat in the
cabana-style patio and enjoy some
appetizers. There’s also an all-you-
can-eat brunch on Saturdays and
Sundays with bottomless bloody
Mary’s, mimosas and Bud Light. No
matter what, stop by The Blue Parrot.
You’ll leave feeling anything but blue.
The Blue Parrot Bar & Grill
4993 Niagra Ave.
(619) 222-1722
www.blueparrotob.com

Best German Restaurant
Kaiserhof Restaurant
4 years in a row!
Reduced prices on selected beer,
Join us for Happy Hour
4-7 PM Tuesday-Friday
for Voting us
(Thank you)
14 BEERS ON TAP
www.kaiserhoferestaurant.com

Kecho’s Cafe
Kecho’s Cafe is a fusion of traditional
and contemporary Mediterranean cuisine. A small, cozy restaurant just a few doors down from The Olive Tree Marketplace, it brings a mix of traditional and contemporary, where you can experience rustic Old World flavors combined with California flair. Everything is served “mezzes-style” (Greek for small plates). The signature dishes include the Eleni salad, stuffed calamari, grilled lamb chops, and for dessert, Galaktoboureko, a traditional Greek delicacy you won’t experience anywhere else. The cafe invites you to experience the excellent food, warm atmosphere and exceptional customer service.
www.kaisershofrestaurant.com
(619) 224-0606
READERS CHOICE AWARDS 2012

THURSDAY MAY 31, 2012

The Peninsula Beacon

Best Hot Dog

Hot Dog Shack

Since its grand opening in July 2011, the Hot Dog Shack has specialized in quick-serve food, which they offer at affordable prices. Their dogs are different from anything you’ve seen before and their curly fries with special house seasoning are a favorite on the menu. The menu also includes “hot dogs on a bun” and “pancake and sausage on a stick.” The only catch: since Hot Dog Shack is a food truck, it’s sometimes hard to catch it. The Dog Shack attends food truck events all over San Diego County and keeps its website and Twitter updated with its location. Even though the Shack is known to roam, it’s a mainstay at the OB Farmers Market and OB At Night.

The Dog Shack

www.diegodogshack.com
www.twitter.com/diegodogshack

Best Ice Cream/Yogurt

Lighthouse Ice Cream & Yogurt

The Lighthouse serves up some of the best ice cream and yogurt in Ocean Beach, now featuring double rainbow super premium, all natural, gluten free and certified kosher ice cream. But Lighthouse also has something that the other places don’t – a hot waffle ice cream sandwich, which includes your favorite ice cream stuffed between two Belgian waffles and put in a special iron. Reportedly, the heat doesn’t melt the ice cream, which means this place is worth a visit for the scientific phenomenon alone.

Lighthouse Ice Cream & Yogurt

5059 Newport Ave.
(619) 222-8600

Best Irish Pub/Bar

The Harp

The Harp offers a warm Irish welcome with friendly staff serving up great drinks and conversation. Decorated with autographed pictures of Irish sports stars, this is a good spot to watch sports on the plentiful flat screens. Grab a seat at the open windows and enjoy an afternoon of people watching while eating some fine comfort food, including shepherd’s pie, fish ‘n’ chips, Irish stew, etc., with a pint of the black stuff. Great venue to watch local bands and get your jig on the dance floor!

The Harp

4935 Newport Ave. Ocean Beach
(619) 222-0168

Best Italian

The Venetian

(see entry under Best Dinner)

The European Cake Gallery

You’d think this place had staked its claim on its carrot cake – such is the fanatical public response the delicacy’s gotten over the years. Truth is, The European Cake Gallery is more than just an item or two. Apple, pumpkin and other pies line the shelves as surely as the German chocolate and white Bavarian cake entries, cookies and fruit bars — and you haven’t lived until you’ve tried a piece of the Swiss Black Forest. Open Tuesdays — Saturdays from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Best Bakery

The European Cake Gallery
3661 Voltaire St.
(619) 222-3377
www.europeancakegallery.com

PHOTO BY CASEY DEAN/PENINSULA BEACON

The Arizona Cafe

The “AZ” is the place to mingle for anyone who wants a real taste of the beach scene. An Ocean Beach landmark, the Arizona Cafe offers a 1940s atmosphere with a contemporary flare — even the ceiling reflects the artistic detail of the era. Check out the daily happy hour featuring $3 food and drink specials. As for the cafe, the menu offers burgers, sliders, sandwiches, salads, appetizers and more. Satellite sports on big screen plasma TVs and Internet jukebox and pool tables make this a great place to go and a hard place to leave.

Arizona (AZ) Cafe
1925 Bacon St., Ocean Beach
(619) 223-7381

www.theazcafe.com

#1 BEST FISH & CHIPS 2012

Thank you for voting us a Readers Choice for:

Best Seafood 2012
Best Fish & Chips 2012, 2011 & 2010
Best Ocean View 2012, 2011 & 2010
Place to Watch People 2012, 2011 & 2010

We’re on the Pier at the end of Niagara. fatboyzusa.com 619.226.3474
READERS CHOICE AWARDS 2012

Best Juice Bar

OB Smoothie
Routinely charged with having the best acai (pronounced: ah-sigh-ee) bowls around OB, portions are huge with lots of fresh fruit to order, such as fresh mango, banana, blueberries and, of course, the chilled acai mix itself. Try yours with a little granola and honey for a real treat. Other specialties include traditional juice drinks and fruit bowls. A great breakfast or lunch alternative to heavier take-out options.

OB Smoothie
5001 Newport Ave.
(619) 756-6265

Best Late Night Eatery
O’Bistro
(see entry under Best Cafe)

Best Live Music Venue

Winston’s
You already know that Winston’s is the most popular live music venue in Ocean Beach. It’s been that way for almost all of its 22 years and things aren’t expected to change in the foreseeable future. The bar features local and touring bands and has a top notch sound system and full scale lighting system making it one of San Diego’s premier live music venues. Although it’s known for live music, the bar also has some unique happy hour events including karaoke and stand-up comedy nights. Winston’s is proud of its work with the Ocean Beach MainStreet Association and many San Diego-area organizations.

Winston’s
1921 Bacon St.
(619) 222-6822
www.winstonsob.com

Best Lunch

3rd Corner Wine Shop & Bistro
Your first glance at this OB wine bar may prompt a certain confusion. You won’t know whether you’ve walked into a bar that dabbles in retail sales or a wine cellar with a drinking license—such is the level of attention this establishment renders for both services. Hundreds of bottles from around the world are there for the taking, surrounded by funky-colored walls and maps of the world’s most well-known wine regions. 3rd Corner serves dinner, too, and many patrons make a habit of ordering a meal and then visiting the racks to pick the wine that goes best with their food. And you won’t be paying an inflated price just because you’re at a restaurant.

3rd Corner
2265 Bacon St.
(619) 223-2700
www.the3rdcorner.com

Best Margarita

Bravo’s Mexican Bistro
Bravo’s Mexican Bistro has all the dishes customers love to see on the Mexican food menu with a few special touches that keep visitors coming back for more. Nearly everyone who visits Bravo’s raves about the huge portions, cheap tacos, and unique salsa bar. Its window seats and prime location on Newport Avenue also make it a great place to people watch. Nothing goes better with people watching and dining than a Bravo’s margarita. Its window seats and prime location on Newport Avenue also make it a great place to people watch. Nothing goes better with people watching and dining than a Bravo’s margarita. Bravo’s offers flavors like mango and strawberry banana, and even a low-calorie option. Deals on Margarita Monday and Taco Tuesday make Bravo’s hard to pass up.

Bravo’s Mexican Bistro & Cantina
5001 Newport Ave.
(619) 222-6633

O’Bistro Cafe
The patio dining and refreshing menu at this cafe have made it a top pick for readers, and owners Brenda and Jongoo Park have clearly paid a lot of attention to the dining experience. Enjoy a delicious meal in the cozy cafe area or on the patio. You’ll be delighted by the variety of dishes prepared by executive chef John Mann, like seafood, steaks, pasta, salads, sandwiches, sushi, ribs and more. Lunch and dinner are served daily. Be sure to try their famous lobster bisque. Breakfast is served on weekends from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dogs are welcome. Just two blocks from the beach, with plenty of parking in their private lot.

O’Bistro Cafe
4934 Voltaire St.
(619) 223-2202

THANK YOU FOR VOTING US:

#1 BEST CHEF (John Mann), Cafe, Late Night Eatery, Pet Friendly Restaurant, and Steak!

WE’RE ALSO A READER’S CHOICE FOR:

OVERALL RESTAURANT

PHOTO BY CASEY DEAN/PENINSULA BEACON
Best Martini
Tony’s Bar
Tony’s is one part consummate bar and one part time machine. The unique 1940s cocktail bar atmosphere is loaded with vintage photos of Ocean Beach and might make you feel like you’ve stepped into a colorized version of a Bogart classic. Savor a classic cocktail or specialty martini while relaxing in one of the booths listening to the Internet jukebox or playing a game of pool. Don’t miss happy hour every day from 5 to 7 p.m. for half-price pitchers of beer, $2 off all martinis and $1 off cocktails. Your favorite sports on big-screen TVs, a smoking patio and ATM make it an all around great place to hang out.
Tony’s Bar
5034 Newport Ave.
(619) 223-0558
www.tonysoceanbeach.com

Best Mexican
Nati’s
(see entry under Best Overall)
Best Mexican Fast Food
Nico’s
(see entry under Best Burrito)

Most Romantic
Bo-Beau
(see entry under Best French)

Best New Restaurant
The Joint
(see entry under Best Appetizer)
Best Omelette
Shades Oceanfront Bistro
(see entry under Best Breakfast)

Best Patio Dining
Nati’s
(see entry under Best Overall)
Most Pet Friendly Restaurant
O’Bistro
(see entry under Best Cafe)

Best Pizza
Pizza Port
(see entry under Best Beer Selection)
Best Place for B-Day Party
OB Noodle House
(see entry under Best Beer Selection)

Best Place to Dance
Winston’s
(see entry under Best Live Music)
Best Place to Go on a Budget
OB Noodle House
There’s a new kid in town called OB Noodle House, specializing in pho and run by the two sons of the owners of OB Donut. The pho comes highly recommended in two sizes. Enjoy a hearty broth and “nau- in,” including sprouts, basil, lime and jalapeno. Choose from steak (well-done or rare), rib-eye, meatball or tripe. Also on the menu, you’ll findbroken rice, fried rice, some vermicelli dishes and a Korean barbecue rib plate. They have appetizers (like fried dumplings, spring rolls, egg rolls) and a good beer selection, with many imports from Asia, all at great prices. It’s located on Calle Street between Voltaire and West Point Loma (where Surfari Eats used to be). They’ve even expanded next door and added a sushi bar you’re sure to love.
OB Noodle House
2218 Cable St., Ocean Beach
(619) 450-6868
www.obnoodlehouse.com

Best Place to People Watch
Sunshine Co. Saloon
(see entry under Best Bar)

Best Overall Service
The Venetian
(see entry under Best Dinner)

Best Wine Selection
3rd Corner Wine Shop & Bistro
(see entry under Best Lunch)

Best Salad Bar
Ocean Beach People’s Organic Food Market
Ocean Beach People’s Organic Food Market, San Diego’s only customer-owned grocer, boasts an award winning sit-down deli featuring a delicious selection of vegetarian and vegan entrees, soups, salads, sandwichs, freshly prepared baked goods, desserts, and more! Additionally, People’s offers an extensive selection of organic produce, grocery, dairy, bulk foods and herbs, supplements, cruelty-free body care, gifts and aromatherapy products.
Ocean Beach People’s Organic Food Market
4765 Voltaire St.
(619) 223-7381
www.obpeoplesfood.coop

Sandwich
Olive Tree Marketplace
(see entry under Best Deli)

Best Sea Food
South Beach Bar & Grille
(see entry under Best Poli Taxi)

Best Specialty Drink
Tony’s | Martini
(see entry under Best Martini)

Best Sports Bar (tie)
The Arizona Cafe
The “AZ” is the place to mingle for anyone who wants a real taste of the beach scene. An Ocean Beach landmark, the Arizona Cafe offers a 1940s atmosphere with a contemporary flare — even the ceiling reflects the artistic detail of the era. Check out the daily happy hour featuring $3 food and drink specials. As for the cafe, the menu offers burgers, sliders, sandwichs, salads, appetizers and more. Satellite sports on big screen plasma TVs and Internet jukebox and pool tables make this a great place to go and a hard place to leave.
The Arizona (AZ) Cafe
1925 Bacon St., Ocean Beach
(619) 223-7381
www.theazcafe.com

Thank You! for Voting us
BEST DELICATESSEN & BEST SANDWICH

Serving the Coastal Communities of SAN DIEGO

SAN DIEGO’S BEST READ COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

OLIVE TREE MARKETPLACE
4805 Narragansett Avenue
619-222-0443
www.olivetreemarket.com

www.sdnews.com • 858.270.3101
Sapporo's Japanese Restaurant

Dim lights and Japanese decor provide appeal to this intimate sushi spot in Ocean Beach. Sapporo's prime location and great sushi make this a favorite for local sushi enthusiasts. You’ll find traditional nigiri sushi like tuna, yellowtail and scallops, along with other specialty rolls like the Mexican roll, which consists of octopus and a spicy sauce at reasonable prices.

Sapporo's Japanese Restaurant
5049 Newport Ave.
(619) 222-6686

Best Thai

Thai Time Bistro is known for its fresh ingredients and reasonable prices, as well as its clean, sophisticated atmosphere. Food is always served hot, and the chefs don’t resort to using canned veggies to speed up the cooking process. The menu is filled with appetizers, soups and entrees that meet restaurant patrons’ high standards for traditional Thai dishes like curry, Tom Kha soup and Pad Thai. Those looking to up the ante on their usual Thai food routine should try the spicy seafood soup, a delectable combination of green mussels, crab, calamari, shrimp, lemon-grass, mushrooms and cilantro. Thai Time Bistro also has affordable lunch specials; customers can get soup, salad and a main course for just $6.95 Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Thai Time Bistro
1830 Sunset Cliffs Blvd.
(619) 223-5000

Best Vegetarian

Ocean Beach People’s Organic Food Market
(see entry under Best Salad Bar)

Best Vietnamese

OB Noodle House
(see entry under Best Place to Go On a Budget)

Best Wine Shop

3rd Corner
(see entry under Best Lunch)

Wine Bar

3rd Corner
(see entry under Best Lunch)

Best Take-Out

Little Chef
(see entry under Best Chinese)

Best Sushi

Sapporo’s Japanese Restaurant

Best Steak

O’Bistro
(see entry under Best Cafe)

Best Sunday Brunch

The Blue Parrot
(see entry under Best Happy Hour)

Best American

Hodad’s

As owner Mike Hardin likes to say, “After 42 years in business, we’re an overnight success!” Hodad’s is no longer just a local favorite. Its been featured on Diners, Drive-Ins & Dives, voted by CNN as one of the top five burger joints in the country as the only burger joint recognized on the West Coast! Those who want to see what all the fuss is about can stop by the original location or the new location now open downtown. A local legend for years has definitely hit the big time!

Hodad’s
5010 Newport Ave, OB
(619) 224-4623
945 Broadway, Downtown
(619) 234-6323
www.hoddadso.com

Best Take-Out

Little Chef
(see entry under Best Chinese)

Best Thai

Thai Time Bistro is known for its fresh ingredients and reasonable prices, as well as its clean, sophisticated atmosphere. Food is always served hot, and the chefs don’t resort to using canned veggies to speed up the cooking process. The menu is filled with appetizers, soups and entrees that meet restaurant patrons’ high standards for traditional Thai dishes like curry, Tom Kha soup and Pad Thai. Those looking to up the ante on their usual Thai food routine should try the spicy seafood soup, a delectable combination of green mussels, crab, calamari, shrimp, lemon-grass, mushrooms and cilantro. Thai Time Bistro also has affordable lunch specials; customers can get soup, salad and a main course for just $6.95 Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Thai Time Bistro
1830 Sunset Cliffs Blvd.
(619) 223-5000

Best Vegetarian

Ocean Beach People’s Organic Food Market
(see entry under Best Salad Bar)

Best Vietnamese

OB Noodle House
(see entry under Best Place to Go On a Budget)

Best Wine Shop

3rd Corner
(see entry under Best Lunch)

Wine Bar

3rd Corner
(see entry under Best Lunch)

Best Take-Out

Little Chef
(see entry under Best Chinese)

Best Thai

Thai Time Bistro is known for its fresh ingredients and reasonable prices, as well as its clean, sophisticated atmosphere. Food is always served hot, and the chefs don’t resort to using canned veggies to speed up the cooking process. The menu is filled with appetizers, soups and entrees that meet restaurant patrons’ high standards for traditional Thai dishes like curry, Tom Kha soup and Pad Thai. Those looking to up the ante on their usual Thai food routine should try the spicy seafood soup, a delectable combination of green mussels, crab, calamari, shrimp, lemon-grass, mushrooms and cilantro. Thai Time Bistro also has affordable lunch specials; customers can get soup, salad and a main course for just $6.95 Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Thai Time Bistro
1830 Sunset Cliffs Blvd.
(619) 223-5000

Best Vegetarian

Ocean Beach People’s Organic Food Market
(see entry under Best Salad Bar)

Best Vietnamese

OB Noodle House
(see entry under Best Place to Go On a Budget)

Best Wine Shop

3rd Corner
(see entry under Best Lunch)

Wine Bar

3rd Corner
(see entry under Best Lunch)

Best Take-Out

Little Chef
(see entry under Best Chinese)

Best Thai

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