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.

In this edition of The Peninsula Beacon Readers Choice Awards, 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.

Inside, you’ll find the results of paper and online balloting.

The ballot results paint a broad canvas of category offerings, from the tastiest yogurt and smoothies to the best happy hour and the best wine selection.

The awards served up on the following pages were chosen by our loyal readership, which we value so highly. Take a look inside at this year’s Peninsula Beacon Readers Choice Awards — a true insider’s judgment of the restaurants and eateries that fuel our food passions, fill our bellies and add that extra spice to our beach dining experience.

Congratulations!

Kevin McKay, Editor, Peninsula Beacon
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 Overall Restaurant**

Nati’s Mexican Restaurant

Once again, Beacon readers have said Nati’s Mexican Restaurant is their favorite local restaurant over all, for four years running! It’s no wonder, though, as Nati’s has been serving the finest Mexican dishes made from scratch with fresh ingredients for more than 53 years. The owners take tremendous pride in serving virtually every dish made to order, including chili rellenos made with fresh chilies while providing patrons with affordable prices. They offer a variety of margaritas, Mexican and American beers, cocktails and wines. Diners may enjoy dining indoor or on the patio. Open daily at 11 a.m. for lunch and dinner.

Nati’s Mexican Restaurant
1852 Bacon St.
(619) 224-3369
natis.sandiego.com

**Best Acai Bowl tie**

Lazzy Hummingbird

Billed as a venue for “coffee, tea, community and culture,” the Lazy Hummingbird got plenty of thumbs-up for its acai bowls—and lots more. Not only can you find tasty granola and drinks, but you will also find yourself in the midst of neighbors playing music, singing, reading poetry, telling jokes, doing skills and even weaving their magic skills. The Lazy Hummingbird even hosts art workshops during the summer months. Hours of operation are Mondays through Fridays from 6:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m., and Saturdays and Sundays from 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Lazy Hummingbird
4876 Santa Monica Ave.
(619) 200-5016
lazzyhummingbird.com

**Best Appetizer**

Bo-Beau
Part of the local powerhouse Cohn Restaurant group, Bo-Beau takes its place as their premiere French restaurant. And this is no mere bistro, we’re talking about classic French cuisine, from starters like escargot with a garlic-herb butter...
sauce and smoked salmon tartare tartine with brie and celery greens to main courses of bone-in bourgignon and chicken fricassee and a selection of moulus, salads and pastas. But you won’t find any cliché Gallic restaurant snobbery here; everything at Bo-Beau is done in an inviting, warm and casual dining atmosphere. Entrees will run you between $12- $20, a good bargain for fine French fare.

Bo-Beau
4996 West Point Loma Blvd.
(619) 224-2884

Best Bagels

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 Bakery

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.

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

Best Bar (tie)

Sunshine Saloon
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 Saloon’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 Saloon 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 Saloon
5028 Newport Ave., Ocean Beach
(619) 222-0722

Lucy’s Tavern
Guests say this is truly a pub not to be missed. Though it may be tucked away from the waterfront a bit, patrons rave about this cash-only place. Lucy’s Tavern has a casual feel and good food with a family friendly menu and a great happy hour. Lucy’s is the perfect place to relax after a long day.

Sunshine Saloon
5028 Newport Ave., Ocean Beach
(619) 222-0722

Lucy’s Tavern
1830 Sunset Cliffs Blvd.
(619) 222-0298

Best Italian

The Venetian
Even after receiving numerous awards this local Point Loma restaurant is still humbled by the continued recognition. This little Italian restaurant has stayed true to its family recipes more than 40 years, pleasing generations of families. The Venetian encompasses a great family atmosphere and if you stop in enough you will feel like family too. Owners Frank and Joe appreciate the local business and enjoy meeting the community that helps their restaurant prosper. 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 your serious attention, as will the tidy bar and the family-style menu.

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

Best Dinner

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

Thank You for Voting Us #1

1st PLACE
• Dinner
• Pizza
• Also Voted a Readers Choice for Best Overall

Voted BEST Italian for the 6th Straight Year!

2nd PLACE
• Restaurant Service
• Best Chef
Frank & Joey Giacalore

A consistent winner for BEST Pizza

NOW SERVING SUNDAY BRUNCH
OPEN FOR LUNCH & DINNER

Enjoy Our Full Bar & Large Covered Patio Wine Cellar / Dining Room

3663 Voltaire St., Point Loma • (619) 223-8197 • Delivery Available to OB/Pt. Loma
tavern where an interesting cast of characters gathers daily for cheap, strong drinks. The tavern features a large bar area and a billiards room with pool, foosball and shuffleboard. Now, if that weren’t enough, plan to save even more dough on those libations with an awesomely inexpensive happy hour — all in a friendly neighborhood atmosphere. As an extra incentive, Lucy’s serves free non-alcoholic drinks to designated drivers. Check out Lucy’s during hours from 6 a.m. to 2 a.m.

Lucy’s Tavern
4906 Voltaire St.
(619) 224-0834

Best Bartender
Shelly Hutchinson at Cheswick’s West
When it comes to the best bartender in town, readers made it clear that special title belongs to Shelly Hutchinson at Cheswick’s West. Readers say Shelly, the daytime bartender, just has a great sense of humor and is a lot of fun for thirsty visitors to be around. Cheswick’s features great jukebox music, darts, ice-cold beer and a full bar in a relaxed atmosphere. Cheswick’s West is also a great place to head out to with your dancing shoes on.

Cheswick’s West
5028 Newport Ave.
(619) 225-0733

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
5025 Newport Ave.
(619) 222-4311
bbqhouseob.com

Best Beer Selection
Newport Pizza & Alehouse
With a motto of “No crap on tap!,” Newport Pizza & Alehouse is a slice of heaven for beer and pizza aficionados. With 21 taps and at least 100 local and imported bottled beers, this is the place to settle in for some delicious pizza like the Ron Jeremy meatlovers, Clint Eastwood barbeque chicken or Big Kahuna Hawaiian specialties, among 27 others. Or build your own! Newport Pizza & Alehouse sports an ocean view and — for those who want to bring Fido along while the master sips a cold one — the venue has a dog-friendly patio. Hours of operation are Sundays through Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 12 a.m. and Fridays from 11 a.m. to 2 a.m.

Newport Pizza & Alehouse
5025 Newport Ave.
(619) 222-4311
bbqhouseob.com
Best Sushi

The Joint

Sushi and tapas may sound like a strange combo, but The Joint in Ocean Beach combines the two cuisines perfectly. The restaurant features a full sushi bar and also specializes in steak, seafood, tapas and southern fusion. Patrons have dubbed the Joint Roll as a must try, but the burgers and sweet potato fries are favorites too. The place has a laid-back atmosphere and is fairly priced. The Joint is known for its sushi and wide-ranging beer selection.

The Joint
4902 Newport Ave.  
(619) 222-8272
thejointob.com

Best Chef

Eric Riffe at The Joint

Executive chef Eric Riffe continues to gain a loyal foodie fan club at The Joint, which features a full sushi bar, tapas bar, steak, seafood, Japanese, southern fusion. Patrons have dubbed the Joint Roll as a must try, but the burgers and sweet potato fries are favorites too, along with new American fare. The place has a laid-back atmosphere and is fairly priced. Enjoy the sunshine outdoors while you eat or dine inside. The Joint is known for its wide-ranging beer selection.

The Joint
4802 Newport Ave.  
(619) 222-8272
thejointob.com

Best Atmosphere

Bo-Beau

(See entry under Best Appetizer)

Best Ocean View

Shades

Oceanfront Bistro

(See entry under Best American)

Best Breakfast

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
4941 Newport Ave.  
(619) 222-1880
oldtownhouserestaurant.com

Best Desserts

Azúcar

Azúcar communicates the Cuban origins of Owner/Chef Vivian Hernandez-Jackson — producing Cuban-inspired favorites like light coconut cupcakes and red velvet cake or unique mojito cookies. Other fare include especially Cuban items such as Cuban sandwiches with turkey and pork, papa rellenas (stuffed potato balls), corquetas (small friend rolls containing minced meat, mashed potatoes, and or shell fish and vegetables), pastelitos (baked puffs with filling). Azucar brings a taste of ethnicity to an ordinary lunch or snack in OB. Whether you’re in the mood for a Cuban sandwich or a delicate cupcake, this papaya-green establishment will bring an exotic flavor to the table.

Azucar
4820 Newport Ave.  
(619) 523-2020
iloveazucar.com

How Sweet It Is!

Thank you for voting us...

A Beacon Reader’s Choice for Bakery and Desserts

European Cake Gallery

Specializing in “Swiss Black Forest” cake & pastries for all occasions

619-222-3377 • 3661 Voltaire St.  
Open Tues–Sat 7am–4pm

Best Sushi

The Joint

Sushi and tapas may sound like a strange combo, but The Joint in Ocean Beach combines the two cuisines perfectly. The restaurant features a full sushi bar and also specializes in steak, seafood, tapas and southern fusion. Patrons have dubbed the Joint Roll as a must try, but the burgers and sweet potato fries are favorites too. The place has a laid-back atmosphere and is fairly priced. The Joint is known for its sushi and wide-ranging beer selection.

The Joint
4902 Newport Ave.  
(619) 222-8272
thejointob.com

Best Chef

Eric Riffe at The Joint

Executive chef Eric Riffe continues to gain a loyal foodie fan club at The Joint, which features a full sushi bar, tapas bar, steak, seafood, Japanese, southern fusion. Patrons have dubbed the Joint Roll as a must try, but the burgers and sweet potato fries are favorites too, along with new American fare. The place has a laid-back atmosphere and is fairly priced. Enjoy the sunshine outdoors while you eat or dine inside. The Joint is known for its wide-ranging beer selection.

The Joint
4802 Newport Ave.  
(619) 222-8272
thejointob.com

Best Atmosphere

Bo-Beau

(See entry under Best Appetizer)

Best Ocean View

Shades

Oceanfront Bistro

(See entry under Best American)

Best Breakfast

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
4941 Newport Ave.  
(619) 222-1880
oldtownhouserestaurant.com

Best Desserts

Azúcar

Azucar communicates the Cuban origins of Owner/Chef Vivian Hernandez-Jackson — producing Cuban-inspired favorites like light coconut cupcakes and red velvet cake or unique mojito cookies. Other fare include especially Cuban items such as Cuban sandwiches with turkey and pork, papa rellenas (stuffed potato balls), corquetas (small friend rolls containing minced meat, mashed potatoes, and or shell fish and vegetables), pastelitos (baked puffs with filling). Azucar brings a taste of ethnicity to an ordinary lunch or snack in OB. Whether you’re in the mood for a Cuban sandwich or a delicate cupcake, this papaya-green establishment will bring an exotic flavor to the table.

Azucar
4820 Newport Ave.  
(619) 523-2020
iloveazucar.com

How Sweet It Is!

Thank you for voting us...

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European Cake Gallery

Specializing in “Swiss Black Forest” cake & pastries for all occasions

619-222-3377 • 3661 Voltaire St.  
Open Tues–Sat 7am–4pm
Best Catering
To The Point
With a simple phone call to To The Point Catering and Events, you can be a guest at your event. To The Point is a full-service catering and event-planning company dedicated to providing each and every client with exquisite food and exceptional service. Whether you are throwing an intimate party for 15 guests or hosting a large event for hundreds, To The Point can help you with every component to ensure your vision becomes your reality. To The Point pledges its reputation for integrity and reliability throughout every stage of planning.

To The Point
(619) 226-6222
tothepointsandiego.com

Best Bar
Lucys Tavern
Guests say this truly is a pub not to be missed. Though it may be tucked away from the waterfront a bit, patrons rave about this cash-only tavern where an interesting cast of characters gathers daily for cheap, strong drinks. The tavern features a large bar area and a billiards room with pool, foosball and shuffleboard. Now, if that wasn’t enough, plan to save even more dough on those libations while the master sips a cold one — the venue has a dog-friendly patio.

Lucys Tavern
4906 Voltaire St.
(619) 224-0834

Best Beer Selection
Newport Pizza & Alehouse
With a motto of “No crap on tap!,” Newport Pizza & Alehouse is a slice of heaven for beer and pizza aficionados. With 22 taps and at least 100 local and imported bottled beers, this is the place to settle in for some delicious pizza like the Ron Jeremy meatlovers, Clint Eastwood barbeque chicken or Big Kahuma Hawaiian specialties, in for some delicious pizza like the Ron Jeremy meatlovers, Clint Eastwood barbeque chicken or Big Kahuma Hawaiian specialties, and for those wanting to bring Fido along while the master sips a cold one — the venue has a dog-friendly patio. Hours of operation are Sundays through Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 2 a.m., and Fridays and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 2 a.m.

Newport Pizza & Alehouse
5050 Newport Ave.
(619) 224-4540
obpizzashop.com

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 with spots 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 Café (tie)
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 Munm, 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.

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

Newbreak Coffee and Cafe
With two locations in Ocean Beach to satisfy the caffeine urge of locals and visitors, Newbreak Coffee and Cafe is celebrating 20 years in business. The venues are bright, colorful and inviting, tempting guests to return time after time. Delicious breakfast combinations await, along with wraps, vegetarian fare, soups, salads and grilled paninis. If you’re on the go, call ahead and simply pick your order up. Stop by the boutique area and buy your teas and coffees in bulk or pick up a gift card for that special someone. Whether you’re in a rush or need some down time to savor your coffee and a sumptuous bagel, Newbreak gives you two locations and plenty of choices to get your day off on the right foot.

Newbreak Coffee and Cafe
1959 Abbott St.
(619) 224-6666

LITICKERS
Thank you for voting us a readers choice for Best Mexican Food and Best Burrito

Deli & Breakfast Sandwiches • Fresh Juice Smoothies • Acai Bowls • Fruit Salads

LITTLE CHEF
CHINESE FOOD TO GO

We appreciate your support over the last 23 years!

4910 Newport Ave. •  Ocean Beach, CA. 619-222-6627

OB & Point Loma
Thank You
for choosing us the Readers Choice for

CHINESE & TAKE-OUT

6 Years in a Row

4955 Voltaire, Ocean Beach

(619) 224-1052

litickers.com • 619.224.1052

OB & Point Loma

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for choosing us the Readers Choice for

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Best Catering
To The Point
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To the Point
4161 Voltaire St.
(619) 226-6222
tothepointsandiego.com

Best Chinese
Little Chef
One local tells of an innocuous 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 years. 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!

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

Best Coffee Shop
Lazy Hummingbird
(See entry under Best Acai Bowl)

Best Comfort Food
Village Kitchen
A classic little breakfast and lunch shop, the Village Kitchen serves up an uncomplicated menu with extremely fair prices. For example, you could swing by after a morning stroll at the beach and pick up three pancakes and a hot tea for just $5. Customers often rave about the Village Kitchen’s huevos rancheros, while others call the chicken fried steak the best in town. Hours of operation are Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sundays from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Village Kitchen
4853 Newport Ave.
(619) 222-0151
vkrestaurant.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 mouthwatering 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
olivetreemarket.com

Best Dinner
The Venetian
Even after receiving numerous awards this local Point Loma restaurant is still humbled by the continued recognition. This little Italian restaurant has stayed true to its family recipes more than 40 years, pleasing generations of families. The Venetian encompasses a great family atmosphere and if you stop in enough you will feel like family too. Owners Frank and Joe appreciate the local business and enjoy meeting

We pride ourselves in using only the freshest seasonal ingredients and finding inspiration from our beautiful surroundings.

Our Eatery is available for private events!
75-125 Guests
Projector & Projection Screen
Private Patio
Beer & Wine
619.226.6222 info@tothepointsd.com
4161 Voltaire Street

Weddings Corporate Events Baby & Bridal Showers Rehearsal Dinners
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. This place has lots of stellar values on everything else — it’s all part of doing business on the coast, which is already overrun with competitors. When it comes to an inexpensive, great taco and a cold drink, South Beach has it made.

South Beach Bar & Grille
5059 Newport Ave.
(619) 226-8177 www.southbeachob.com

Best Acai Bowl
Lazy Hummingbird

Billed as a venue for “coffee, tea, community and culture,” the Lazy Hummingbird got plenty of thumbs-up for its acai bowls — and lots more. Not only can you find tasty grab and drinks, but you will also find yourself in the midst of neighbors playing music, singing, reading poetry, telling jokes, doing skits and even showcasing their magic skills. The Lazy Hummingbird even hosts art workshops during the summer months. Hours of operation are Mondays through Fridays from 6:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m., and Saturdays and Sundays from 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Lazy Hummingbird
4876 Santa Monica Ave.
(619) 200-5016
lazyhummingbird.com

Best Fish Taco
South Beach Bar & Grille

(See entry under Best Fish & Chips)

Best French
Bo-Beau

(See entry under Best Appetizer)

Best German
Kaiserhof Restaurant

Kaiserhof is a great family-owned and operated German restaurant. A German restaurant would not be complete without wienserschnitzel or jagerschnitzel. It doesn’t get much better than the “wurstplatte” which includes: bratwurst, knackwurst and bauernwurst with sauerkraut and red potatoes and a good German beer. American style entrees include: broiled lobster tail, grilled halibut steak, poached salmon filet with Hollandaise, filet mignon, Madagascan 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-

GRACIAS
for all your support
OB over the past
32 years!
It’s been great.

NICO’S
MEXICAN FOOD
Thanks for
Voting us #1 again

4918 Newport Ave. Ocean Beach  619.621-8930

Thank you for
Voting for US!

Voted #1 Best: FISH TACO • SEAFOOD
FISH & CHIPS

South Beach
Bar & Grill

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

Best Donut Shop
OB Donuts

(See entry under Best Appetizer)

Best Family Restaurant
Nati’s

(See entry under Best Overall)

Best Fish & Chips
South Beach Bar & Grille

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South Beach Bar & Grille
5059 Newport Ave.
(619) 226-4577 southbeachob.com

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

South Beach
Bar & Grill

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

Expires 9-15-13

Must be 21+
WE ACCEPT
Best Place To Go On A Budget

Pacific Shores
Established in 1941, Pacific Shores continues to be a home run for those who are minding their wallets. The drinks are cheap and the atmosphere is a cool “under-the-sea” kind of feel. A black light adds a whole new element to the setting. There are plenty of comfortable booths for small gatherings. Be sure to get your drink on at Pacific Shores. It is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays through Sundays. Pac Shores is also known for its annual golf tournament benefitting San Diego Hospice.

Best Indian
Sundara
Sundara brings the exotic cuisine of India to Ocean Beach and pairs it with craft beers and fine wines, all reasonably priced and served in a friendly atmosphere. Their fresh Naan is baked to order and the Curries are slow-cooked to bring out the intricate flavors unique to India. Try the Tikka Masala Pizza — a local favorite! Join them for dinner and drinks or order online for takeout and delivery.

Best German
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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)

Best Juice Bar

OB Smoothie (See entry under Best Acai Bowl)

Best Late Night Eatery

Livingston’s Chicken Kitchen & Mexican Grill

If you’re out late or even just up late watching TV on a weekend night and don’t feel like cooking, readers say your best bet is to breeze on down to Livingston’s Chicken Kitchen & Mexican Grill. Here, you’ll find a host of yummy food to choose from, ranging from Mexican seafood cocktails to combination plates, sandwiches, tostada salads, fish tacos, fried seafood, burritos with potatoes or mushrooms, and, of course, chicken. Choose from the fried chicken offerings or rotisserie chicken. Livingston’s is open daily from 10 a.m. to midnight.

Livingston’s Chicken Kitchen
5026 Newport Ave.
(619) 224-8088
livingstonschickenkitchen.menu-toeat.com

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 every week including karaoke and stand-up comedy nights. Winston’s is proud of its work with the Ocean Beach MainStreet Association.

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

Best Lunch

The Joint

Sushi and tapas may sound like a strange combo, but The Joint in Ocean Beach combines the two cuisines perfectly. The restaurant features a full sushi bar and also specializes in steak, seafood, and southern fusion. Patrons have dubbed the Joint Roll as a must try, but the burgers and sweet potato fries are favorites too. The place has a laid-back atmosphere and is fairly priced. Another reason Beacon readers love The Joint is known for its wide-ranging beer selection and, more specifically, its specialty in craft beers.

The Joint
4902 Newport Ave.
(619) 222-8272
thejointob.com

Best Margarita

Nati’s (See entry under Best Overall)

Best Martini

Tony’s Bar

Tony’s 1940s cocktail lounge with a unique atmosphere, loaded with vintage photos of Ocean Beach is the place to be in OB! Now featuring live music. See their Facebook page for a complete schedule. Savor a classic cocktail or specialty martini while relaxing in one of the booths listening to the Internet juke box or playing a game of pool. Don’t miss happy hour everyday from 5 to 7 p.m. Big
screen TV’s, a smoking patio and ATM make it an all-around great place to hang out.

Tony’s Bar
5034 Newport Ave.
(619) 223-0558
tonysceanbeach.com

Best Mediterranean
Ocean Beach Kabob
Established in February 2013, Ocean Beach Kabob is a family-owned and operated restaurant that brings exquisite Middle Eastern cuisine to Ocean Beach. All the dishes are homemade from the finest quality meats, vegetables and spices. OB Kabob uses the freshest ingredients in all of its dishes, as well as top-quality beef, lamb and chicken. The shawarma is mouth-watering, delicious and a must-have. Ocean Beach Kabob uses top cuts of beef and lamb, making its kabobs the most tender and juicy anywhere, and the chicken is made of white meat (breast) only. The taste is simply so delicious that you’ll be glad you stopped by.

Ocean Beach Kabob
4994 Newport Ave.
(619) 222-9700
obkabob.com

Best Mexican
Ranchos Cocina
With so many Mexican restaurants to choose from today, readers made it clear which one is their preference locally. Ranchos Cocina Natural Foods, which specializes in Mexican and vegetarian dishes and now features an organic salad bar with buckwheat, peas and sunflower sprouts, along with barley grass and wheat grass. For those looking for more traditional Mexican fare — only with a healthy twist — there are plenty of delicious soups and salads, combination plates and even Mexican breakfasts that are served all day. Take a look at the menu closely and you’ll see which items can be vegetarian and which could be done vegan. No matter how you like it, you’ll find something to suit your tastebud.

Ranchos Cocina
1830 Sunset Cliffs Blvd.
ranchoscocina.com

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

Best Hawaiian
Shades
Oceanfront Bistro
(see entry under Best Breakfast)

Best Organic
OB Peoples
(See entry under Best Healthy Dining)
Best Mediteraenean
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Ocean Beach Kabob
4994 Newport Ave.
(619) 222-9700
obkabob.com

Best Burger
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—featured on Diners, Drive-Ins & Dives and voted by CNN as one of the top five burger joints in the country. Hodad’s is the only burger joint recognized on the West Coast! Fodor’s travel guides call the Hodad’s bacon cheeseburger “awesome,” and there’s even a grilled cheese sandwich on the menu for those desiring lighter fare. Hodad’s is no longer just 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
hodadies.com

Best Pizza
The Venetian
(See entry under Best Overall)

Best Place for B-Day Party
Pizza Port
As any true beer aficionado 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-Saiko 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
pizzaport.com/locations/ocean-beach

Best Place to Dance
Gallagher’s Irish Pub
This Irish-owned and operated pub in Ocean Beach has created a unique environment that replicates the atmosphere at the best pubs in Ireland with a fun, friendly, exuberant vibe and a commitment to remain passionate about the pint. The bar is home to a variety of live music, although it exclusively reserves Saturday for Irish bands. If the pub isn’t hosting a live performance, it pipes in lively Irish music. The walls are covered with crests, collectable bottles, pictures and signs that reflect the owners’ Irish heritage, so customers who visit the establishment after a day at the beach will be instantly transported to the Emerald Isle.

Gallagher’s Irish Pub
5046 Newport Ave., Ocean Beach
(619) 222-5300
gallagherspubOb.com

Best Place to Go on a Budget
Pacific Shores
Established in 1941, Pacific Shores continues to be a home run for those who are minding their wallets. The drinks are cheap and the atmosphere is a cool “under-the-sea” kind of feel. A black light adds a whole new element to the setting. There are plenty of comfortable booths for small gatherings. Be sure to get your drink on at...
Best Sports Bar

Tiny’s Tavern

With a motto of “Everything is BIG at Tiny’s,” you’ll find plenty of daily specials and sports galore. Tiny’s Tavern is the official sports bar in Ocean Beach for the Green Bay Packers, San Diego State University Aztecs, Boise State Broncos and the University of Wisconsin Badgers. Check out a game while gnawing on sliders, specialty sandwiches, burritos, tacos, Hawaiian Island plates or start early with a fun breakfast menu that features items like Portuguese sausage, eggs and rice. The appetizers are delish, and the kitchen is open every day until midnight. Tiny’s has tons of beers on tap and plenty more bottled offerings. Check out happy hour Mondays through Fridays from 3 to 7 p.m. and on Saturdays from 3 to 7 p.m. Tiny’s is open Mondays through Fridays from 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 9 a.m. to 2 a.m.

Tiny’s Tavern
4745 Voltaire St.
(619) 523-1002
tinystavernsd.com

Best Bakery

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.

The European Cake Gallery
3661 Voltaire St.
(619) 223-3377
europeancakegallery.com

Best Ice Cream/Yogurt

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 hot waffle ice cream sandwich, which includes your favorite ice cream stuffed between two Belgian waffles and put in a special

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

Best Lounge

Tiny’s Tavern

With a motto of “Everything is BIG at Tiny’s,” you’ll find plenty of daily specials and sports galore. Tiny’s Tavern is the official sports bar in Ocean Beach for the Green Bay Packers, San Diego State University Aztecs, Boise State Broncos and the University of Wisconsin Badgers. Check out a game while gnawing on sliders, specialty sandwiches, burritos, tacos, Hawaiian Island plates or start early with a fun breakfast menu that features items like Portuguese sausage, eggs and rice. The appetizers are delish, and the kitchen is open every day until midnight. Tiny’s has tons of beers on tap and plenty more bottled offerings. Check out happy hour Mondays through Fridays from 3 to 7 p.m. and on Saturdays from 3 to 7 p.m. Tiny’s is open Mondays through Fridays from 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 9 a.m. to 2 a.m.

Tiny’s Tavern
4745 Voltaire St.
(619) 523-1002
tinystavernsd.com

Best Wine Selection

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 making it 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 that goes best with their food. And you won’t be paying an inflated price

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

Best Desk

TINY’S TAVERN

The Joint

Best Sunday Brunch

The Joint

(See entry under Best Lunch)
Best Thai

Thai Time Bistro
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, lemongrass, 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

Rancho’s Cocina
(See entry under Best Salad Bar)

Best Indian

Sundara
Sundara brings the exotic cuisine of India to Ocean Beach and pairs it with craft beers and fine wines, all reasonably priced and served in a friendly atmosphere. Our fresh Naan is baked to order and our Curries are slow-cooked to bring out the intricate flavors unique to India. Try the Tikka Masala Pizza – a local favorite! Join us for dinner and drinks or order online for take-out and delivery.

Sundara
1774 Sunset Cliffs Blvd.
(619) 889-0639
sundaracuisine.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 mouthwatering 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
olivetreemarket.com
Best Vietnamese

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 “mix-ins,” including sprouts, basil, lime and jalapeño. Choose from steak (well-done or rare), rib-eye, meatball or tripe. Also on the menu, you’ll find broken 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 Cable 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 Wings

The Tilted Stick

Widely known for its free pool play, readers took their best shot at the category of Best Wings and gave their nod to The Tilted Stick. There is no glitz and glam going on here, but this bar is a magnet for locals. Those same locals say The Tilted Stick’s wings are among he best in San Diego. But the attraction doesn’t stop there. There are 20 beers on tap, along with a full bar and a heated dog-friendly smoking patio. You can catch all major sports packages on satellite at The Tilted Stick, and the kitchen stays open until 1 a.m. Happy hour runs from 4 to 7 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

The Tilted Stick
4970 Voltaire St.
(619) 222-6895 thetiltedstick.com

Bo-Beau

Part of the local powerhouse Cohn Restaurant group, Bo-Beau takes its place as their premiere French restaurant. And this is no mere bistro, we’re talking about classic French cuisine, from starters like escargot with a garlic-herb butter sauce and smoked salmon tartare tartine with brie and celery greens to main courses of bouef bourguignon and chicken fricassee and a selection of moules, salads and pastas. But you won’t find any cliché Gallic restaurant snobbery here; everything at Bo-Beau is done in an inviting, warm and casual dining atmosphere. Entrees will run you between $12-$20, a good bargain for fine French fare.

Bo-Beau
4996 West Point Loma Blvd.
(619) 224-2884

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