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A Top 10 List of Restaurants-Los Angeles, CA

Find a new, tasty place to eat.

by [Deborah Baxtrom](#)

Below is a list of the top ten hideaway restaurants in Los Angeles. Find a new, tasty place to eat.

VILLAGE COFFEE SHOP
2695 North Beachwood Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90068
(323) 467-5398

This quaint little neighborhood secret, nestled in the hills directly under the Hollywood sign, is more than a simple coffee shop. Upon entering, you feel like you've been transported to an old-fashioned diner in a small New England country town. The coffee is excellent and the servers are friendly, but don't be fooled. You're still in Hollywood. I once saw Gavin Rossdale and Gwen Stephani -- the lead singers of the rock bands "Bush" and "No Doubt," respectively, and long-time sweethearts -- breakfasting here. No one batted an eyelash at seeing two rock stars chowing down at this homely Hollywood haunt.

Holiday Schedule: New Years Day-Open, Easter-Closed, Thanksgiving-Closed, Christmas Eve-Open, Christmas-Closed, New Years Eve-Open

CAFE SANTORINI
64 West Union Street, Pasadena, CA 91103
(626) 564-4200
Cafe Santorini offers a taste of the Mediterranean in Old Town Pasadena, an area famous for its many alleyway attractions. Santorini is no exception. Located down an alley near an AMC theater, patrons enter through the side door and walk upstairs to enjoy some of the best "California Mediterranean" food around. Seating is available either indoors or outside on a patio that is decorated with dozens of little white lights that twinkle all around you like fireflies while you eat. The view

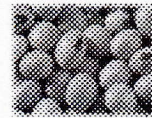


Café Santorini



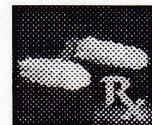
The battle of tastes is sure the full 15 rounds, or at le seven courses.

Soy: Today's Wonder Fo



Found widely in numerous you may be eating some ri and not know it!

Sushi for Your Health



Whether you're trying to k high-blood pressure down, your energy level, or just f your favorite jeans, pick u chopsticks

overlooks the activity of bustling Old Town below. There's even a live band and dancing on Saturday nights.

Holiday Schedule: New Years Day-Closed, Easter-Closed, Thanksgiving-Closed, Christmas Eve-Open, Christmas-Closed, New Years Eve-Open

FIDDLER'S BISTRO

6009 West Third Street, Los Angeles, CA 90036
(323) 931-8167

It requires some effort to discover Fiddler's Bistro. Few people happen upon this charming cafe if they're not purposely out looking for it, which is great for those in-the-know, as there's seldom a wait for a table. The food makes Fiddler's one of the best kept secrets in town. You can choose from a wide array of multiethnic culinary delights. The owners have selected succulent dishes from diverse parts of the world, so each visit to this secluded haven presents a whole new dining experience. And the beautiful garden setting lets you nestle into your own private Eden as you savor your meal.

Holiday Schedule: New Years Day-Closed, Easter-Closed, Thanksgiving-Closed, Christmas Eve-Open, Christmas-Closed, New Years Eve-Open

HOLLYWOOD HILLS COFFEE SHOP

6145 Franklin Avenue, Hollywood, CA 90028
(323) 467-7678

If you prefer stargazing to hiding away, few diners can boast of more celebrity sightings than the Hollywood Hills Coffee Shop. Each time I've wandered into this unassuming cafe for a weekend brunch I've noticed one or two famous people sipping coffee in nearby booths -- from Minnie Driver to Brad Pitt. If that's not enough, the food is good too, especially the cinnamon French toast and the restaurant's own "Coffee Cooler," a \$5 ice-blend java drink that's to die for on a hot day. As an added piece of Hollywood trivia, the coffee shop's exterior was used as the hang-out for Vince Vaughn and Jon Favreau in the movie "Swingers."

Holiday Schedule: Set by discretion of management

MOUN OF TUNIS

7445 1/2 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, CA 90046
(323) 874-3333

Do you have more exotic tastes? If so, check out Moun of Tunis. This is the only establishment in Los Angeles where you can enjoy a delicious, authentic Tunisian meal while watching talented belly dancers writhe around your table. It's also one of the few places where eating with your fingers is not only accepted, but

encouraged, and you can even get a "private room" if the mood strikes you. What more needs to be said?

Holiday Schedule: New Years Day-Open, Easter-Closed, Thanksgiving-Closed, Christmas Eve-Open, Christmas-Closed, New Years Eve-Open

FRED 62

1850 North Vermont Avenue, Los Feliz, CA 90027
(323) 667-0062

For the hopelessly hip, we have Fred 62. Owned and operated by chef Fred Eric, this restaurant offers cutting-edge art on the walls, and a menu of American dishes with Asian accents guaranteed to suit any palate. This is arguably the only restaurant in LA where you can order a good old American burger and fries, while your lunch partner digs into a Vietnamese feast. And you can drop by anytime, as this Los Feliz hot spot is open 24/7. But beware, the staff and patrons are young, "artsy" and cool," so if you're sporting a middle-age paunch and polyester apparel, you might feel more comfortable at the House of Pies across the street.

Holiday Schedule: New Years Day-Closed, Easter-Closed, Thanksgiving-Closed, Christmas Eve-Open, Christmas-Closed, New Years Eve-Open

PALERMO

1858 North Vermont Avenue, Los Feliz, CA 90027
(323) 663-1178

People travel for miles to eat at Palermo. With a plethora of traditional Italian dishes to choose from, it's no wonder there's often a long wait for a table on Saturday nights, but most people feel the experience of eating at Palermo is worth the time and effort. No one ever goes away hungry -- the portions are gigantic and every dish is drenched in rich, red sauce. The Italian owner/host will usually remember your face, if not your name, while the decor and "vibe" are old-world Southern Italia at it's best and most affordable. It's irresistible.

Holiday Schedule: Set by discretion of management

ELECTRIC LOTUS

4656 Franklin Avenue, Los Feliz, CA 90027
(323) 953-0040
8222 West Third Street, Los Angeles, CA 90048
(323) 653-2121

Madonna, Leo, Brad and Jennifer, Ben and Matt. These are just a few of the "New Hollywood" stars who make their homes in the Los Feliz/ Hollywood Hills. And when these elite young lovelies venture out to mingle with us "little people," they've been known to drop in at the Electric Lotus. This trendy eatery offers scrumptious,

spicy entrees loaded with curry, and the atmosphere will send New Agers into spasms of ecstasy. As with most other Los Feliz haunts, you won't find too many patrons in business suits or "touristy" attire. This establishment caters to painfully cool patrons, but if you slap on a wash-off tattoo and a fake body pierce before you enter, you'll fit right in.

Holiday Schedule: New Years Day-Open, Easter-Closed, Thanksgiving-Closed, Christmas Eve-Open, Christmas-Closed, New Years Eve-Open

CAFE STELLA

3932 Sunset Boulevard, Silver Lake, CA 90029
(323) 666-0265

Another hangout for the shamelessly hip is Cafe Stella, a home-away-from-home for every bohemian wannabe in LA. Can't make it to Europe to relax at an outdoor Parisian cafe? No worries. Cafe Stella is a fairly decent substitute. The Gaelic bistro menu offers truly yummy fare and is scribbled on a chalkboard for easy reading, but expect to pay a high price for the privilege of dining at one of the hottest restaurants in Silver Lake. And don't be surprised if you're asked to wait for seating, even when tables are available "for important diners only."

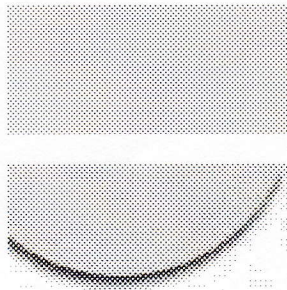
Holiday Schedule: New Years Day-Closed, Easter-Closed, Thanksgiving-Closed, Christmas Eve-Open, Christmas-Closed, New Years Eve-Open

SONORA CAFE

180 South La Brea Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90036
(323) 857-1800

If Tex-Mex is your thing, there's no better place in town to enjoy a great Southwestern meal than at the Sonora Cafe. The tortilla soup alone is worth the drive, while the gorgeous setting makes you feel like a warm breeze is kissing your face even if you visit in the dead of winter. If you come to Sonora with a good friend, order a couple of the most magnificent margaritas around, and get into a discussion about Hemingway, you may never want to leave this sunny hacienda.

Holiday Schedule: Set by discretion of management



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