

Restaurant Guide for the 2010 EHA Meetings

There once were three towns in the area occupied by modern Evanston: Evanston, North Evanston, and South Evanston. The three principal restaurant areas are at the center of the former towns. The Orrington Hotel is at the center of Evanston, and, unless noted, a listed restaurant is located there. We have noted NE for North Evanston (generally the corner of Central and Green Bay), SE for South Evanston (generally the corner of Main and Chicago Avenue), and O for other. This guide is an amalgamation of many sources and opinions. We have generally excluded big chains (e.g., Chili's, Panera) as there is nothing to distinguish the one in Evanston. Where we have information on price, we have included it.

The 1800 Club \$\$

1800 Sherman Ave (and Clark)
(847) 733-7900

Continental, relatively pricey, jazz at night.

Addis Abeba

1322 Chicago Ave.
(847) 328-5411

A relatively long walk for only slightly above average Ethiopian dining.

Al's Deli \$ O

914 Noyes (between Sherman and Maple)
(847) 475-9400
Open 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Closed Wed.

An excellent deli – one of Cain's favorites and worth the walk.

Bar Louie

1520 Sherman Ave.
(847) 733-8300

Primarily a bar with music. Food is an afterthought and historically pricey.

Bat 17

1709 Benson Avenue
(847) 733-7117

A deli that serves breakfast, large sandwiches, and drinks.

Bistro Bordeaux

618 Church St.
(847) 424-1483

New, well reviewed bistro. Good food for a medium-priced French place. Make sure to make reservations and ask for the Northwestern University menu (which will cap your costs, all included at \$60.00 per person).

Blind Faith Cafe \$\$ O

525 Dempster (between Chicago and Hinman)
(847) 328-6875

Holistic vegetarian with large portions and prices to match.

Bravo Cucina Italiana

1701 Maple Ave.
(847) 733-0917

An upscale chain Italian restaurant

Buffalo Joe's \$

812 Clark (and Sherman)
(847) 328-5525

Undergraduate fare. Hot and spicy buffalo wings and other finger fare, bench seating in the rear or take-out.

Campagnola \$\$-\$\$\$ SE

815 Chicago
(847) 475-6100

Italian bistro. One of Evanston's best-rated restaurants.

Carmen's of Evanston Pizzeria \$\$

1012 Church (and Oak)
(847) 328-0031

Chicago pizza, need we say more?

Celtic Knot

626 Church St
(847) 864-1679

An Irish pub featuring very well-done greasy fish and chips, sausage, and similar Anglo-Saxon delights. Plus music.

Chef's Station \$\$-\$\$\$

915 Davis (between Benson and Maple)
(847) 570-9821

An eclectic European-style restaurant hidden under the Metra station. One Chicago restaurant reviewer described it as "romantic." The outdoor garden area is along Church Street. Food is almost as good as the prices would lead you to expect.

Clarke's \$

720 Clark (and Orrington)
(847) 864-1610

More than a pancake house -- less than a steakhouse. Good place for breakfast or lunch. Just around the corner from the hotel, but usually crowded.

Cozy Noodles and Rice \$

1018 Davis (between Maple and Oak)
(847) 733-0101

Inexpensive, half-decent Pan-Asian cuisine, spices are ultra mild so go for the hotter version of each dish. Large groups are easily accommodated, but seating is not exactly private.

Dave's Italian Kitchen \$

1635 Chicago Avenue
(847) 475-6044

Informal, inexpensive, inundated with undergrads

Davis Street Fishmarket \$\$-\$\$\$

501 Davis (and Hinman)
(847) 869-3474

A good seafood place that has a few outdoor tables and a crowd. Reservations recommended. A large bar where you can sample the raw bar while you wait. Service mediocre at best, so go with good company.

Dixie Kitchen & Bait Shop \$

825 Church (and Oak)
(847) 733-9030

Once an outpost of an Obama favorite in Hyde Park; it is now the survivor. All the traditional southern dishes are served at this restaurant whose interior resembles a designer junkyard.

Donatella Mediterranean Bistro

1512 Sherman
(847) 328-7720

A small, bright BYOB place with limited outdoor seating.

Flat Top Grill \$\$

707 Church (and Orrington)
(847) 570-0100

A cross between a Chinese stir-fry and a buffet. It's all you can eat for one price. You put your selections of veggies, noodles, meats and sauces in a bowl, hand it to the stir-friers, who then cook it on a teppan grill and deliver it to your table. It's a better deal at lunch; the line can get quite long on weekend nights.

Futami Sushi Lounge

1700 Orrington Ave
(847) 491-9220

Brand new. In the hotel.

Gigio's \$

1001 Davis (and Maple)
(847) 328-0990

Gigio's is Evanston's first pizzeria popular with the natives. There are a few tables, but it's basically take-out.

Gio

1631 Chicago Ave.
(847) 869-3900

A bit stuffy and not cheap for the food. If you must have upscale Northern Italian fare, it's close.

Giordano's \$\$

500 Davis (and Hinman)
(847) 475-5000

Largely deep-dish Chicago pizza; different seasonings than Carmen's. Choosing between them is a matter of taste.

The Globe Cafe & Bar

1710 Orrington (Omni Orrington Hotel)
(847) 864-6700

In many ways, the sports bar end of the space is more interesting than the restaurant end. Same kitchen.

Golden Olympic \$\$

1608 Chicago (and Davis)
(847) 328-1617

Simply dreadful, except if you have a deep commitment to greasy Greek cooking.

Hecky's Barbeque \$\$

1902 Green Bay (847) 492-1182

Take-out ribs; what you can smell if the wind is from the northwest. Generally considered the best north of Chicago. The pulled pork sandwich is a good buy, and you often see people walking out munching on a turkey drumstick.

Jacky's on Prairie \$\$\$ NE

2545 Prairie Ave.
(847) 733-0899

An excellent, quiet bistro with several outdoor tables. It's lost a beat since Jacky sold the place, but it's still a Cain favorite. Near Jilly's, which is smaller, on a busier street, and lacks outdoor seating.

J.K. Sweet's \$

720- 1/2 Clark
(847) 864-3073

Poor Man's Asian fusion food. Good for late-night, cheap coffees.

Jilly's Café \$\$-\$\$\$ NE

2614 Green Bay (and Central)
(847) 869-7636

Home-style American-Continental, reasonably priced for an upscale place. A small space without good parking; reservations are needed.

Jimmy John's \$

824 Clark (and Sherman)
(847) 328-8858

A really good, slightly pricey sandwich shop. Basically take out.

Joy Yee's \$\$

521 Davis (between Chicago and Hinman)
(847) 733-1900

A bustling Asian restaurant that usually involves a wait. There is a wait most nights for a table. Food isn't as good as other Asian choices, but the portions are among the largest.

Kansaku

1514 Sherman Ave
(847) 864-4386

An upscale sushi spot and sake lounge.

The Keg \$

810 Grove (and Sherman)
(847) 869-9987

An undergrad hangout at night; it was once an outpost of a Canadian chain of steakhouses. Not as expensive or as good for steak as Pete Miller's.

Koi

624 Davis
(847) 866-6969

One of Moky's favorites: Upscale Chinese mainstays (sesame chicken, Peking duck, General Tao's Plates). Do the Chinese, stay away from the sushi.

Kuni's \$\$ SE

511 Main (and Hinman)
(847) 328-2004

A good spot for sushi. Chef Yuki Kuni oversees the sushi bar, but also serves classic Japanese cuisine. It is perhaps the best Japanese restaurant in Evanston, but it is at best above average for the Chicago area.

Las Palmas

817 University Place
(847) 328-2555

Above average Mexican food with a customary above average wait.

Le Peep \$-\$\$

827 Church (and Benson)
(847) 328-4880

Great breakfast spot if you are totally indifferent to caloric intake. Big and heavy lunches, closes 2:30. The wait is often longer at breakfast than at lunch.

Lou Malnati's

1850 Sherman Avenue
(847) 328-5400

Yet another good choice for Chicago pizza.

Lucky Platter \$\$ SE

514 Main (and Hinman)
(847) 869-4064

The menu is eclectic with choices from many different cuisines. The quality of the food varies, but it is reasonably priced. There are vegetarian options available. It has its ardent supporters – and equally ardent detractors.

LuLu's \$-\$\$

626 Davis (between Orrington and Chicago)
(847) 869-4343

"Dim Sum and Then Sum," from a variety of Asian cultures. . Inexpensive and high-quality Asian Fusion serves various dishes inspired by the dishes of China, Japan, Korea, Thailand and Vietnam. Well-located and inexpensive, another of Moky's favorites.

Mandarin House \$\$ O

819 Noyes (and Sherman)
(847) 869-4344

Decent and inexpensive Chinese and Korean fare.

Merle's Barbecue \$\$

1727 Benson (and Church)
(847) 475-7766

Well-located, high-cholesterol "heart-attack on a plate." Natives still seem to prefer take-out from Hecky's.

Mount Everest \$\$

618 Church (and Maple)
(847) 491-1069

Very decent northern royal Indian and Nepalese cuisine at good prices; an excellent lunchtime buffet.

Noodle Garden \$\$-\$\$\$ O

1241 Chicago (and Crain)
(847) 332-2775

A popular Asian place that's a bit out of the way.

Noyes St. Café \$\$-\$\$\$ O

828 Noyes (and Sherman)
(847) 475-8683

Modest prices, immodest portions. Often uncrowded, even on a Friday night.

Oceanique \$\$\$ SE

505 Main (and Hinman)
(847) 864-3435

French, seafood specialties, reservations needed. Reminiscent of an upscale Parisian place with prices to match.

Olive Mountain \$\$-\$\$\$

610 Davis (between Orrington and Chicago)
(847) 475-0380

Middling quality Middle Eastern food in an informal setting. Generous portions. A good place for lunch

Pete Miller's Steakhouse \$\$-\$\$\$

1557 Sherman (and Grove)
(847) 328-0399

The steaks and burgers are probably the best in town, but the rest of the menu is even more overpriced for the quality. Live jazz every night.

Phoenix Inn \$\$

608 Davis
(847) 475-7782

One of the worst Chinese places East of the Mississippi.

Pine Yard \$\$-\$\$\$

1033 Davis Street (and Maple)
(847) 475-4940

A crowded place that does not take reservations and doesn't mind if you wait. It has recovered from a move several years ago and is probably the most popular Chinese restaurant in Evanston.

Prairie Moon \$\$-\$\$\$

1502 Sherman Ave. (and Grove)
(847) 864-8328

"All-American" menu at reasonable prices. One of the better "deals" in non-greasy spoon dining in Evanston.

Quince at the Homestead

1625 Hinman Ave.
(847) 570-8400

Chef Andy Motto has taken over (and renamed) what has been the top Evanston restaurant space for decades. His menu is alleged to be more accessible to the average Evanstonian's wallet.

Ruby of Siam \$\$-\$\$\$

1125 Emerson
(847) 492-1008

Inexpensive, high-quality tasty Thai food. One of Moky's favorites. Try the Pad Thai or the Garlic Chicken.

Sabai

724 Clark St.
(847) 492-0631

Yet another Thai place.

Sashimi Sashimi

640 Church St.
(847) 475-7274

If you don't want to walk very far, crave sushi, and aren't terribly critical, this is your place.

The Stained Glass \$\$\$

1735 Benson (and Church)
(847) 864-8600

Evanston's first wine bar and bistro. Nice French food, a Northwestern University recruitment favorite, Make sure to ask for the Northwestern University menu to keep you under \$60.00.

Stir Fire Grill

1729 Benson Ave (and Church)
(847) 328-2920

Similar to Flat Top Grill, not quite as good.
Main difference is that Stir Fire doesn't use beef-based products.

Tapas Barcelona \$\$

1615 Chicago (and Church)
(847) 866-9900

A terrific tapas place that is ideal for group dining. A nice outdoor dining area. Their sangria is the recommended accompanying beverage. One of Cain and Ferrie's favorites.

Thai Sookdee \$-\$

810 Church (and Benson)
(847) 866-8012

Mediocre, but accessible, Thai cuisine.

That Little Mexican Café \$\$-\$\$\$

1571 Sherman (and Grove)
(847) 328-7411

A little more upscale than Las Palmas; a little more expensive.

Tommy Nevin's \$\$-\$\$\$

1450 Sherman (and Grove)
(847) 869-0450

The dining area emphasizes traditional Irish dishes; it's a bit more formal than the Celtic Knot. The bar area is customarily filled by the yuppies-in-training attending Kellogg.

Trattoria Demi \$

1571 Sherman (and Grove)
(847) 332-2330

An above average Italian place that's so small you can try what people ordered at the next table.

Trattoria D.O.C. \$\$-\$\$\$ SE

706 Main St.
(847) 475-1111

An excellent, upscale Italian restaurant that often involves a wait on weekends. It has a broader menu than Gio with similar quality food and similar prices.

Union Pizzeria O

1245 Chicago Avenue
(847) 475-2400

Wood-fired pizza, small plates, run by owners of Campagnola. A major music venue, Space, is in the rear. Check <http://www.evanston.space.com/> to see who's in town.

Walker Bros. Pancake House \$ O

153 Green Bay
(847) 251-6000

The best pancakes in the Midwest, but you need a car. Evanstonians preferred place for breakfast and brunch. While the line is often out the door, it moves relatively fast. Worth the time and effort.