

Restaurant picks in Santa Barbara

Moderate price

La Super Rica (Mexican)

622 N. Milpas St. (ph: 805-963-4940)

It does not look much from the outside, but it is arguably the best Mexican food north of the border and the most famous Mexican restaurant in town. Be prepared to wait in line and ordering at the counter. It is worth it!

Zen Yai (Thai-inspired) 425 State St, (ph: 805-957-1193)

Innovative Thai food. Small and fun. The soups are excellent

Shoreline Beach Café (seafood)

801 Shoreline Dr. (ph: 805-568-0064)

It does not get closer to the beach than this. The perfect place to watch the ocean over a margarita glass. Great fish tacos and seared tuna salad.

Corazon Cocina (Mexican) 38 W Victoria St.

Great tacos and very popular amongst the natives. If the line is too long, you have other options within the Public Market.

Sama Sama (Southeast Asia) 1208 State St.

Small menu but several great dishes. Very relaxed and open till fairly late for lunch.

Your Choice (Thai) 3404 State St (ph: 805-569-3730)

A Santa Barbara classic Thai restaurant. The food is great, but their hours are tight (dinner closes at 7:30pm).

Ca Dario Pizzeria veloce (Pizza)

436 State St. (ph: 805-569-6522)

A great place for Italian-style pizza at the Public Market.

Blue Owl (rice bowls)

5 W Canon Perdido St (ph: 805-705-0991)

Great fried rice bowls for lunch or a late-night meal. With the latter, you may get live music (not always as good as the food).

Via Maestra 42 (Italian) 38 W Victoria St.

A small Italian restaurant in upper State St with all the classic Italian dishes.

Brophy Brothers (seafood)

Harbor Way (ph: 805-966-4418)

Right by the marina. A fun place with good fish.

Chocolate Maya (chocolate)

15 W. Gutierrez St. (ph: 805-409-2951)

Perhaps this store should not appear in a list of restaurants, but if you want to skip the entrée and go straight for dessert this is the place to go. Great chocolate truffles!

Upscale

Arigato (Japanese) 1225 State St. (ph: 805-965-6074)

According to many the best sushi restaurant in town.

Olio e Limone (gourmet Italian)

1225 State St. (ph: 805-965-6074)

One of the best Italian restaurants in town. The rack of lamb and black risotto have plenty of fans. Quiet atmosphere.

Dom's Taverna (seafood)

1134 Chapala St. (ph: 805-884-4701)

A nice "new" restaurant with Basque-inspired food. The lunch menu is small but with several delicious options. The dinner menu is also great, but it gets busy, so you better have a reservation.

Loquita (Spanish tapas) 202 State St. (ph: 805-880-3380)

It does not get much better than this in lower state street. All tapas are great and the paellas are superb. You definitely need a reservation, at least in the weekend.

Opal (Californian) 1325 State St. (ph: 805-966-9676)

Very popular with the locals. Good food and fun atmosphere at a reasonable price. Great cocktails.

Bouchon (French/Californian)

9 W. Victoria St. (ph: 805-730-1160)

Voted the best French food in town.

Bibi Ji (Indian) 1213 State St.

Classic dished from Indian cuisine very nicely prepared and a little out of the ordinary. Great food to share.

Alcazar Tapas Bar (drinks, Spanish tapas)

1812 Cliff Dr. (ph: 805-962-0337)

A little further way (on the Mesa), but fun and hip. A good place for a date.

Zaytoon (Middle Eastern)

209 E. Canon Perdido St. (ph: 805-963-1293)

Great middle eastern food in a garden-like setting. The appetizers are great and can be a meal by themselves. Service can be a little slow.

Convivo (drinks, Californian)

901 E Cabrillo Blvd. (ph: 805-845-6789)

Great sunset if you seat outside and excellent veggie dishes. The seafood pasta and risotto are also very good.

Ca Dario (Italian) 37 E Victoria St. (ph: 805-884-9419)

A Santa Barbara classic.