

A GUIDE TO THE BEST RESTAURANTS & ENTERTAINMENT

OKLAHOMA


JULY 2009

THE
BEST

**+ LUXURY
HOMES**

of the

BEST



Zahidah and Bill Hyman, owners of KEO, which earned votes from our readers for best romantic restaurant, best stylish new restaurant and best Thai and Vietnamese cuisines.

Mediterranean


It may be a challenge to find a great Mediterranean restaurant in Oklahoma, but our readers have done all the work for you. Top on their list in Tulsa is **Cedar's Deli**, where sandwiches and pitas keep customers stuffed. A barbecue restaurant with a special Mediterranean menu may sound odd, but that is exactly what **Golden Saddle BBQ Steakhouse** is. Specialties include lamb and saffron rice. **Shawkat's Deli and Bakery** also offers staples such as tabouli and cabbage rolls.

Moroccan-inspired **CousCous Café** is the top spot in Oklahoma City for Mediterranean food. A diverse menu made with fresh ingredients equal a great meal with each visit. **The Garden Pizza & Mediterranean Cuisine** serves up pies along with traditional Mediterranean dishes, while **Zorba's** rounds out an impressive roster of great Mediterranean stops in OKC.

Menu

Finding a menu that will please everyone is a tall order. When our readers looked, they found that **The Cheesecake Factory** has the top menu in Tulsa. From chicken dishes and fish tacos to their signature desserts, The Cheesecake Factory offers an extensive list of options. Utica Square's **The Wild Fork** is another great place to find diversity in a menu. **T.G.I. Friday's** rounds out our top three picks in Tulsa.

In OKC, it's **Deep Fork Grill** that gets our readers' mouths watering. From steaks to seafood and their signature rotisserie chicken, Deep Fork is a great place to go with a group with varying tastes. **Rococo Restaurant and Fine Wine** and **Cheever's Café** both received



Los Cabos Mexican Grill & Cantina's margaritas are the best in Tulsa, according to our readers.

tions. First place winner, **Fuji Japanese Cuisine & Sushi Bar**, was ahead of the trend. They've served top quality sushi since 1986. Their menu is extensive, with tons of traditional and very inventive rolls along with great nigiri and sashimi. Our readers also love the wide array of rolls offered at **In the Raw's** two hip Tulsa locations. The sushi bar at **Tokyo Garden** scores big too.

Sushi Neko is an OKC institution and our readers have honored this restaurant with the top spot on our list. Sushi Neko's selection is comprehensive and made with only the freshest ingredients. If you haven't tried sushi before, let their talented chefs guide you or select the Sushi Virgin Sampler. Tulsa favorite **In the Raw** is now in OKC and Norman, and has become wildly popular there as well. Next up, the **Fire Room at Musashi's** offers a great selection of sushi along with its Japanese style tapas.

Take-Out

With today's hectic lifestyles, there are very few families that don't grab take-out at least once a week. When Tulsa readers need a meal to go, they most often head to **Pei Wei Asian Diner**, for freshly prepared Asian specialties at budget friendly prices. **Lambrusco's To Go** is also a favorite for readers on the go, whether it's one of their delicious sandwiches or a complete meal from the constantly evolving menu. Tulsans also enjoy the convenience of take-out from **Te Kei's Chinese/Asian Kitchen**.

In OKC, readers grab a quick meal to go from **City Bites Deli & Grill's** selection of sandwiches, salads and the awesome stuffed spuds. Pizza is always a quick and easy meal, and our readers know you can't go wrong at **Hideaway Pizza**. OKC readers also have a fondness for the made-to-order Asian fare at **Pei Wei Asian Diner**.

Thai

The tastes of Thailand, with its unique blends of spices and ingredients, are a big hit with Oklahomans. Tulsa readers place **KEO** at the top of the list. Keo offers dishes from a variety of Asian cuisines, including terrific Thai specialties, such as Pad Thai, Tom Yum and Thai Sweet Basil. **Lanna Thai Restaurant** in south Tulsa is also very popular with its extensive menu of authentic Thai specialties. **Bangkok Thai Super Buffet** also offers great Thai, and its popular buffet is a good way to sample a little bit of everything.

OKC readers prefer to get their Thai fix at **Tana Thai Bistro**. Tana Thai prides itself on creating authentic dishes with the freshest ingredients available, including traditional favorites such as Pad See Ew and Panang Beef. Our readers are also fond of the Thai cuisine offered at **Padthai** in Norman and **Panang Thai Food** in OKC.

Vegetarian Selection

Committing to a vegetarian diet can be a bit of a challenge in the land of meat and potatoes, but luckily a few places do veggie really well. Our readers selected **D'Novo Lean Gourmet** in Tulsa as their top choice for vegetarian options and nothing over 500 calories. **Whole Foods Market** is a mecca for vegetarians with tons of prepared foods, tofu dishes and soups ready to take home or enjoy in their café. **Big Al's Healthy Foods** has been offering tasty vegetarian options since 1972.

If you're looking for a vegetarian meal in

of the best Vietnamese food. Our readers suggest you try **Pho Hoa**, with its delicious namesake Pho, a rich broth-based soup with rice noodles and thinly sliced meat. Readers also enjoy **Banh Mi Bale**, which specializes in the Vietnamese sandwich made from roast pork, pickled daikon and cilantro on a baguette. Finally the **Golden Phoenix** offers a changing menu of authentic specialties.

Wine List

A great wine can turn a satisfying dish into an incomparable dining experience, and inter-



Enjoying a cocktail after work at **In the Raw** is a popular ritual for both Tulsa and OKC readers.

OKC, readers say **The Red Cup** is the best bet. This eclectic coffeehouse/café/performance space offers daily vegetarian specials, dynamite red beans and brown rice and many other meat-free options. **Sage Gourmet Café & Market** in the Deep Deuce district offers up a great selection of organic vegetarian options and **Ajanta Cuisine of India** offers tasty vegetarian and vegan treats.

Vietnamese

The unique flavors of Vietnamese cuisine are a true delight to the taste buds. In Tulsa, our readers recommend **KEO** as the best place for the tastes of Vietnam. Vietnamese specialties include Papaya Salad, Pho and Shrimp Crepe. Tulsans also voted for **Ri Le's** with its traditional Vietnamese favorites and **Mekong River**.

OKC has one of the nation's largest concentrations of people of Vietnamese descent, so you know that means there is also some

est in wine continues to grow year after year. Oklahoma restaurants and bars are answering this demand with increased selection and hard to find vintages. Tulsa readers say **Fleming's Prime Steak House & Wine Bar** has the best list in town, and it's no wonder, since their selection is extensive and includes 100 wines available by the glass. **Michael Fusco's Riverside Grill** also offers an impressive list selected to complement its menu. Tulsa readers also recommend the extensive list at **Sonoma Bistro & Wine Bar** and the ever-changing menu at **Vintage 1740**.

In OKC, it's **Mickey Mantle's Steakhouse** that makes the top of our list. They offer an impressive selection of wines to accompany their terrific steaks and seafood and everything in between. **Paseo Grill** also offers up a specially selected wine list designed to complement their menu. OKC readers also give high praise to the wine list at **The Metro Wine Bar & Bistro**.