

10 Not-To-Miss Foodie Gems in Los Angeles

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By Keith Perrotta | July 5, 2019

In a city where cultures meld together so well, LA is one of the best places to take your tastebuds on a trip around the world. Foodies will feel right at home surrounded by new flavors all around them in some of these gorgeous places. World-class restaurants, food markets, food tours, and intimate coffee bars!!

Check out this list of my not-to-miss foodie gems you can find in the City of Angels!

Six Taste

 Go

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Picture Credits: Six Taste

Feeling overwhelmed by the sheer number of mouthwatering restaurants in the “City of Angels” and not sure where to grab dinner? [Six Taste](#) food tours can really feel like a lifesaver!

They offer well-organized tours to some of the best restaurants in town, and it’s a great way to meet fellow foodie-travelers if you’re traveling solo. Their tours go to several popular neighborhoods like [Santa Monica](#), Downtown, Hollywood, Chinatown, Koreatown, and Glendale. It’s a great way to get some local flavor from hidden-gem restaurants that locals actually go to and an even better way to make some new friends along the way.

The Los Angeles Urban Adventures

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Picture Credits: The Los Angeles Urban Adventures

Looking for a tour that feels less like a tour, and more of a local showing you around to their favorite spots in their city? Then I'd highly recommend [Los Angeles Urban Adventures](#) for an awesome afternoon in LA. Foodies should jump at the chance to explore the foods and cultures of some of the ethnic centers in the city, such as Chinatown, Little Armenia, and Thai Town on their Food & Culture Tour.

Booze and history buffs will love their "Sips of Old Hollywood" tour with a chance to raise a glass in the same bars where Hollywood greats like Charlie Chaplin, Marilyn Monroe, and Ernest Hemmingway once did in years past. No matter if you choose one of these tours or any of the additional expert tours they offer you know you're going to experience LA like locals do!

Melting Pot Food Tours



Picture Credits: Melting Pot Food Tours

[Melting Pot Food Tours](#) is a fun and interactive way to get to know one of the most important parts about a city... it's food! Embark on a culinary tour with a group of new friends as you taste the best of what LA has to offer (which is a heck of a lot). My favorite of the tours they offer was the "Original Farmer's Market Food & History Tour" which runs every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday year round from 9:30 AM to noon, all year long. Fortunately, the tour is located really close to hotspot neighborhoods like Hollywood, West Hollywood, and Beverly Hills so it's a great way to spend a morning before heading out for an afternoon of exploring these gorgeous places and spaces.

Pro-tip: booking your tour on their website will save you an extra 10% off as well, so be sure to check it out. While you're on their site you can also peruse the many colorful and mouth-watering photos of previous tours and even read about the tour experience from other foodies!

Spiaggia



Picture Credits: Spiaggia

Although your feet may be in LA, Spiaggia is an experience to modern [Italy](#) for the senses thanks to Chef-Partner Tony Mantuano and Executive Chef Joe Flamm (Top Chef Season 15 winner!) carefully curating your meal with exquisite detail and care. This restaurant has stirred up their fair share of recognition as well since being awarded the “Best of Award of Excellence” from Wine Spectator and is also being named one of “America’s 100 Best Wine Restaurants” year after year by Wine Enthusiast. Wine lovers will thrive with their 700-bottle wine list and careful notes from the award-winning Sommelier, Rachel Lowe as well. Whether you’re there for the food or the drink, experience this unique is meant to be shared with friends and family whenever possible. And don’t forget to save room for their stunning (and mouth-watering) desserts!

Mr. Chow Restaurant



Picture Credits: Mr. Chow Restaurant

Opening in 1974, [MR CHOW](#) in Beverly Hills has been dazzling diners with a unique blend of art, class, and delectable cuisine on a nightly basis. A beloved restaurant by many celebrities this restaurant/culinary theatre hybrid is an experience not to miss for any traveler to the LA area. Serving up Chinese cuisine that's elevated to a new level thanks to its masterful chefs who understand that food is equal parts spectacle and sustenance, MR CHOW is a place that "must be appreciated for its sheer fabulousness" according to Alan Richman of GQ Magazine. Something not-to-miss is the complementary Noodle Show where you can see pasta chefs Lau and Tsui hand pull hundreds of noodles from a small mound of dough in seconds. It's a sight that will leave you both mesmerized and famished at the same time! Be sure to book a reservation on their website ahead of time to make sure you get a good seat to the show!

Moonshadows



Picture Credits: Moonshadows

[Moonshadows Malibu](#) is your chance to dine with style while watching the waves of Malibu beach. This restaurant has reached #11 of CNN's list of "World's Best Beach Bars" and for good reason! It's chic yet casual atmosphere will be the perfect ending (or beginning) of your evening, no matter the type of trip you're after. The menu is varied with no bad choices in sight between seafood dishes, [Asian](#) fusion, Italian, and classic American fare to cater to any taste. Everything is made with fresh ingredients by a highly skilled and accommodating staff. Pro tip: Don't forget to ask about the fish of the day for the freshest fish around! You can also make your reservation online to be sure you have an unobstructed view of the waves!

Big Bar



Picture Credits: Big Bar

If you're a big fan of a well-made cocktail like I am, the [Big Bar](#) is the place to be! This place has a warm, welcoming atmosphere and some cocktails that really deliver on quality and taste. With cocktails like "staycation", "* s u m m e r *", and "sun glitter" it will be hard to choose your first of what may be many hand-crafted libations. Rest assured that each ingredient is either house made or carefully sourced so that you're truly getting the best of the best from the master mixologist Cari Hah. All that being said, the best part of this location is that they serve wine, beer, bloody marys, and mimosas starting at 7 AM for those needing a place to chill before their departure or after their arrival in [Los Angeles](#). Pro tip: Happy Hour is Monday-Friday from 2 PM to 7 PM if you're looking for great cocktails and eats on a budget!

Everson Royce Bar



Picture Credits: Everson Royce Bar

The [Everson Royce Bar](#) (ERB) is a fun-loving and seriously talented spot to grab some food and that perfect margarita with either a small or large group. They have a wide range of possibilities for both food and drink on their menu, including everything from Mexican tequila to [Japanese](#) whiskey, and from the classic nachos to a grilled pork chorizo burger (yum!). Happy Hour connoisseurs like me will be glad to know they offer cheap drinks and food from 4-7PM from Tuesdays to Fridays with free chips and salsa for everyone! Start out with the “Smoky Potato Taquitos” and you’ll be thanking me for sure.

Endorffeine



Picture Credits: Endorffeine

[Endorffeine](#) (think endorphin + caffeine), is an experience in coffee that goes beyond calling it a “coffee shop.” Located in the Chinatown neighborhood it was born out of the creative and culinary passions of owners Jack and Taya. Jack, a former biochemist turned culinary school graduate with a passion for pastries and coffee is the mastermind behind the beverages while Taya is the creative force behind everything else. Together they run this must-see locale and are the only ones in LA to focus themselves entirely on Nordic-style coffee roast offerings. The roasts they offer are fruit-forward, elegant, and balanced and Jack and Taya do well to pair them with elegantly plated desserts to take your coffee experience to the next level. I highly recommend going for a visit to see what Jack and Taya have brewing for you!

Zinc Cafe



Picture Credits: Zinc Cafe

[Zinc Cafe](#) is a visual and culinary gem of a place that you should spend some time checking out. Open from 8 AM to 10 PM during the week and from 8 AM to 11 PM on Friday and Saturday, it's a great place to relax with some good food and a cold

drink any time of day. Brunch lovers, this place is for you since they serve an amazing brunch spread from 8 AM to 4 PM on the weekends! If you're more of a happy hour kinda person then they have you covered on weekdays from 4-7PM with a creative and colorful choice of cocktails, full wine, and beer list, as well as discounted bites at the bar! In LA to celebrate an event? They also offer private event space and catering if you wanted to take all the stress out of planned the perfect birthday, anniversary, baby shower, or holiday bash. Don't miss out on this delicious and visually stunning slice of paradise!

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About the Author: Keith Perrotta

Keith is a freelance writer, English teacher, baker, and travel junkie currently based in Madrid, Spain. When not creating content or teaching ESL he enjoys going to the beach, researching bread recipes, looking through bookstores, and relaxing with a glass of wine. Having lived in the USA, France, Ghana, Kenya, and now Spain, his main goal in life is to visit every continent once (including Antarctica). You can usually catch him eating ice cream in the park or stopping someone in the street to ask to pet their dog.

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