

101 Unique Places to Dine in West Virginia



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Delectable, tantalizing and fulfilling – these are just some of the words used to describe West Virginia’s diverse selection of restaurants. From down-home country favorites such as fried potatoes and corn-on-the-cob, to international cuisine served with fine wine, West Virginia is full of mouth-watering aromas and scrumptious flavors. Whatever your taste or dining style, discovering and sampling the Mountain State’s rich food heritage will without a doubt satisfy your cravings.

The West Virginia Division of Tourism and the Collaborative for the 21st Century Appalachia partnered to identify some of the best “can’t miss” eateries across the state. These selections are the “people’s choice” and are only a sampling of what West Virginia has to offer. You are encouraged to visit these and the other out-of-the-way unique places found around the state. We hope you enjoy your meal!



Collaborative for the 21st Century Appalachia

The Collaborative for 21st Century Appalachia is a grassroots nonprofit organization that was formed in 2005 to begin the promotion of community and economic development by encouraging a new way of Appalachian cooking with a healthier version of traditional foods emphasizing local ingredients and agritourism. For more information about The Collaborative for 21st Century Appalachia visit www.wvfarm2u.org.





A chef dices freshly harvested ramps for one of many ramp festivals found across the state.



Located at the Capitol Market in Charleston, The Purple Onion offers a fresh selection of produce and other natural treats.



Customers select which wine found at The Wine Shop, at Charleston's Capitol Market, would best complement their meal.



A crowd fills Clarksburg's West Main Street to sample the cuisine at the annual Italian Heritage Festival.

Fair and festival favorites

The most delicious part of any West Virginia fair or festival is the food. From time-honored favorites such as corn dogs, funnel cakes and roasted corn-on-the-cob to unique fare like buckwheat pancakes, ramps and pepperoni rolls, West Virginia offers a menu of festivals that will have you waiting in line for second helpings. For a schedule of fairs and festivals and for more information, visit the West Virginia Association of Fairs and Festivals Web site at www.wvfairsandfestivals.org.



A guest of Barista's Café in New Martinsville enjoys a homemade dish and refreshing drink.

Farm fresh

Fresh fruits and ripe vegetables are plentiful at West Virginia's casual, open-air farmers' markets. Local growers offer a wide variety of seasonal produce, crisp, fresh and ready for your table. In many markets you'll also find specialty stores selling several other West Virginia favorites, such as homemade sauces, wines, soaps, crafts and much, much more! To learn more, visit www.wvagriculture.org.

West Virginia Wineries

Fine wine and West Virginia. This combination may sound surprising to some, but the art of wine making is taking place all over the Mountain State. West Virginia presents a collection of wineries including Potomac Highland, Forks of the Cheat, Daniel Vineyards, Mountaineer, Lambert Vintage Wines and West-Whitehill. Each has its own distinctive blend of vineyards, wines and styles.



Patrons to Charleston's Bluegrass Kitchen enjoy a relaxing meal in the midst of a busy day.

77. Sedona Cantina and Tapas

State Rt. 16, Fayetteville
(304) 574-3411

www.sedonacantina.com

Everything is made in-house from the restaurant's own recipes at Sedona Cantina and Tapas. The unique menu includes items like the "Cajun Fire Styx" and ethnic food from Japanese to Greek delicacies.

78. Smokey Ray's

109 N. Main St., Philippi
(304) 457-2646

This restaurant is famous for its smoked brisket, baby ribs, pulled pork, seafood and steaks. A full-service restaurant and sports bar, Smokey Ray's has a drive through and four big screen TVs and can accommodate more than 120 patrons. Specialty drinks also are part of the menu.



79. Smokey's on the Gorge

Ames Heights Rd., Lansing
(304) 574-4905

www.smokeysonthegorge.com

Started in 1978 as part of Class VI Rafting, Smokey's on the Gorge was the first true restaurant in the whitewater industry. Today, the restaurant's great buffet and salad bar, as well as the awesome view, draw customers back year after year.

80. Solera Café & Wine Bar

318 Richwood Ave., Morgantown
(304) 292-1888

www.soleracafe.com

Solera is a "Nuevo-Latino" inspired restaurant featuring Brazilian churrasco-style steaks and a wine cellar dominated by Argentinean and Spanish wines. The menu is a concentration of organic, free-range meats and sustainably harvested seafood. You'll enjoy unique cocktails with interesting liquors, as well as a modern art gallery and openings and exhibits.

81. Stone Soup Bistro

112 W. German St., Shepherdstown
(304) 876-8477

www.stonesoupbistro.com

A colonial-era storefront in the historic district of Shepherdstown is home to the Stone Soup Bistro. This restaurant features vegetarian and vegan options along with locally grown and organic food.

82. The Bohemian Bakery

701 Bland St., Bluefield
(304) 327-9300

At The Bohemian Bakery, all entrees and desserts are homemade using the finest food, handmade from the freshest ingredients. Located in the old Holly Store building on the outskirts of the Bluefield Arts District, the building has been converted to an art gallery which houses local and regional art works.

83. The Fifth Floor

134 South Third St., Clarksburg
(304) 326-5555

The Fifth Floor is home to hot pepper and hot sausage soup made with local Demus sausage, as well as fabulous martinis, a huge single-malt scotch collection, beautiful vistas of downtown Clarksburg and a manager and bartender second to none. The restaurant is located on the top floor (Fifth Floor) of the former Broida's building, which was built in 1920s and housed fine women's fashion, including a furrier, for several generations.

84. The Fresh Seafood Company

800 Smith St., Charleston
(304) 344-1905

www.capitolmarket.net

Capitol Market, an old train station that was converted to a farmers market in downtown Charleston, houses The Fresh Seafood Market. Known for the "big fish sandwich," The Fresh Seafood Market is a must-visit location for any seafood lover.

85. The Grafton 123

123 W. Main St., Grafton
(304) 903-4717

www.grafton123.com

The Grafton 123 not only serves great coffee, it's also a neat place to hang out, meet friends or eat. Daily lunch specials, fresh-baked cheesecakes, cakes, cookies, brownies and biscotti are sure to please. Wireless Internet service available.



86. The Last Run Restaurant

State Rt. 28/92 North between Dunmore and Green Bank, Cass

(304) 456-9952

www.cassrailroad.com

At The Last Run Restaurant, the food is good and the unique setting is outstanding. Meals are cooked from scratch – no instant potatoes here – and the ice cream is hand dipped. Located in the original Cass Company Store, the restaurant is open seasonally.

87. The Lodge at Kelly Mountain

Kelly Mountain Rd., Elkins
(304) 635-0300

www.lodgeatkellymtn.com

Eclectic chef and owner Martin Biafora serves up some of the best dishes around, including filet mignon, authentic Jamaican jerk chicken and fresh mushroom soup made from locally picked Cheat Mountain mushrooms. Besides a great meal, you'll get a "million-dollar view" of the beautiful Shavers Fork of the Cheat River.

88. The Mason Jar

61 E. Main St., White Sulphur Springs
(304) 536-5001

Located in the heart of White Sulphur Springs, this quaint restaurant offers delicious food and friendly service. The Mason Jar is known for its scrumptious fried green tomatoes and generously large portions.

89. The Parkette

Old Rt. 50/Old Bridgeport Hill Rd., Clarksburg
(304) 623-0155

The Parkette has been a Bridgeport/Clarksburg area staple since the 1950s. Enjoy what generations of locals have enjoyed: great Italian and diner food.

90. The Pizza Station

206 Lafayette St., St. Marys
(304) 684-2411

Positioned along the railroad tracks that run through the center of town, The Pizza Station's newly remodeled facility continues the train theme throughout the restaurant. As its name suggests, it is best known for its pizza but it also has a nice, family-friendly atmosphere.

91. The Pretty Penny

Watoga State Park, Marlinton
(304) 799-2646

The Pretty Penny uses fresh produce and meats from local Pocahontas County farmers in its delicious and unique dishes. Any choice from the menu is a good one, whether you choose from local favorites like spaghetti, rainbow trout, grass-fed beef burger and fries or go for something more exotic.

92. The Purple Fiddle

21 East Ave., Thomas
(304) 463-4040

www.purplefiddle.com

Located in the old DePollo building, The Purple Fiddle is known throughout the state as an eclectic and delicious dining choice. Menu items include homemade ice cream, falafel, pico de gallo, hummus, wild turkey gobbler and the "World Peace Wrap."

93. The Red Rooster Café

602 Elk St., Gassaway
(304) 364-6023

Besides its ambiance, The Red Rooster Café is known for many things: great steaks, delicious house vinaigrette salad dressing, homemade lasagna and melt-in-your-mouth crab cakes. Try the popular Sunday brunch, and don't forget to sample the restaurant's famous selection of homemade desserts.

94. The River Car Restaurant & Sports Bar

Next to Revelle's Campground, Elkins
(304) 636-0174

www.therivercar.com

Bring family, friends or that special someone to The River Car Restaurant & Sports Bar. Enjoy a versatile menu that ranges from fine dining to burgers and fries in one of the restaurant's distinctive dining settings: aboard the Pullman dining car, riverside or in the sports bar.

95. The Sunset Grill

914 Craigsville Rd., Rt. 55, Craigsville
(304) 742-5115

The Sunset Grill in Craigsville offers a varied menu with something sure to please everyone in your party. Choose from clam chowder, chili, steaks, chicken alfredo, shrimp scampi, stuffed flounder, lasagna, crab cakes, stuffed mushrooms, cheese sticks or onion rings – all made from scratch.



96. The Surrey House

62 Shae Ave., Chapmanville
(304) 855-5770

Located in one of the oldest homes in Chapmanville, The Surrey House was converted into a cozy restaurant in 2007. Enjoy locally grown seasonal items such as fried green tomatoes, homemade pies and chicken and dumplings.

97. Top Spot Country Cookin'

7139 Sissonville Drive, Sissonville
(304) 984-2816

www.topspotcountrycookin.com

If country cooking is what you're looking for, then head to Top Spot in Sissonville. Award-winning chicken and dumplings, meatloaf, baked steak, fried chicken and cornbread are all on the menu. The waitresses are very friendly, courteous and considerate and will accommodate changes in orders without question.

98. Undo's

Benwood, Elm Grove and Weirton locations
www.undos.com

(304) 233-0560

Undo's has three West Virginia locations to choose from for great Italian food: Benwood, Wheeling and Weirton. In business since 1953, Undo's is a local favorite offering daily specials throughout the week.

99. Wally's Restaurant

Rt. 52, Main St., Gilbert
(304) 664-9500

Denny's famous smoked barbecue ribs will get you in the door and the great atmosphere will keep you coming back. The restaurant is home to Wally Bear, a mounted black bear who used to eat at the restaurant every day until game wardens had to protect the patrons. Wally now sits inside the restaurant and watches all customers enjoy their food.

100. White Grass Café

HC 70, Box 299, Davis
(304) 866-4114

www.whitegrass.com

Open December – March to feed hungry skiers, White Grass Café serves homemade hearty soups, sandwiches, cookies, cakes and pies for lunch and offers international specialties from around the world for dinner. The cuisine has produced two popular cookbooks that complement this varied and highly popular winter cafe.

101. Wildernest Inn

HC 32, Box 63V, Upper Tract
(304) 257-9076

www.wildernestinn.com

This special B&B, located high on Spring Mountain 12 miles south of Petersburg, combines heavenly meals with a love of nature. Wildernest is a wildlife sanctuary, so don't be surprised if you spot a bear during dinner.



West Virginia
Wild and Wonderful

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