

Restaurant Recommendations

CODES:

Ⓜ: Reservations taken
 \$\$\$\$: above \$35
 \$\$\$: \$20-\$35
 \$\$: \$10-\$20
 \$: \$10 or less

Based on reviews that have appeared in the AJC.

★★★★ Outstanding
 ★★★ Excellent
 ★★ Very good ★ Good

RECENTLY RATED: Excerpts from John Kessler's recent reviews in Friday's Weekend Preview section (unless otherwise noted).

IN THE MOOD FOR: A burrito bigger than your head

RESTAURANT	LOCATION	CODES	GRADE / CUISINE / DESCRIPTION
Andiamo Italian Bistro	VIRGINIA-HIGHLAND 1044 Greenwood St. N.E. 404-892-3555	\$\$ Casual Ⓜ	★ Italian: Northeastern transplants will recognize the warm vibe and the appealing if predictable list of pastas, veal, eggplant and calamari.
Horseradish Grill	ALPHARETTA 3070 Windward Plaza, Suite P 770-442-3123	\$\$\$ Casual-dressy Ⓜ	★★★ American (upscale): This almost-identical twin to the popular Southern restaurant near Chastain Park features the same signature dishes.
Park 75	MIDTOWN 75 14th St. N.E. 404-253-3840	\$\$\$\$ Casual-dressy Ⓜ	★★★ American (upscale): The decent expense-account menu veers from a four-course taste of the kitchen to a fine steak on the "Retro Grill" section of the menu.
Five Seasons Brewing Co.	SANDY SPRINGS 5600 Roswell Road 404-255-5911	\$\$-\$\$\$ Casual Ⓜ	★★★ Brewpub: Offbeat, thoroughly unique brewpub that took over the space of the former Phoenix Brewing Co.
Pura Vida	PONCEY-HIGHLAND 656 N. Highland Ave. 404-870-9797	\$\$ Casual Ⓜ	★ Latin American: Hector Santiago, a trained chef with an impressive résumé, goes to his Latin roots to prepare this collection of Latino tapas.
Sweet Devil Moon	DECATUR 350 Mead Road 404-371-3999	\$ Casual Ⓜ for large parties	★ Latin American: With its fresh assortment of Peruvian tapas, mixture of drinks and aura of lounge lizardry, this is a cool hangout you want to keep in your mental Rolodex.
Wild Times Cafe	ALPHARETTA 11105 State Bridge Road 770-664-6116	\$\$-\$\$\$ Casual Ⓜ	★ American (casual): Think of a theme restaurant paired with Chuck E. Cheese, and you'll get some idea about this odd concept.
Cherry	MIDTOWN 1051 Peachtree St. 404-872-2020	\$\$\$ Casual-dressy Ⓜ	★ Eclectic: We've been happier with the big salads, noodle bowls and standard-issue sushi than with the gourmet stylings on the menu.
Sushi Yoko	NORCROSS 7124 Peachtree Industrial Blvd. 770-903-9348	\$\$-\$\$\$ Casual Ⓜ	★★★ Japanese: The sushi is fine, but Japanese people really go for small-plate food — fried shrimp, vinegared octopus and grilled chicken.
Fogo de Chão	BUCKHEAD 3101 Piedmont Road N.E. 404-995-9982	\$\$\$-\$\$\$\$ Casual-dressy Ⓜ	★★★ Brazilian: Atlanta's first Brazilian churrascaria is a great example of the genre. For one price, you feast on a cold buffet and 15 cuts of meat brought to your table and sliced from skewers.
Aspen's Signature Steaks	MARIETTA 2942 Shallowford Road 678-236-1400	\$\$\$ Casual-dressy Ⓜ for	★★★ Steakhouse: Latest venture from Chris and Michele Sedgwick brings mountain-lodge interior, supelative wine cellar
Willy's Mexicana Grill	BUCKHEAD 4377 Roswell Road N.E. 404-252-2235	\$ Casual	One of the best places in town for wraps, featuring several authentic fillings (pork carnitas, mole) and about a dozen fresh and vibrant condiments and sauces.
Raging Burrito	DECATUR 141 Sycamore St. 404-377-3311	\$ Casual	Monster burritos, tasty margaritas and tables that spill out onto the sidewalk are the draw.
Qdoba	SANDY SPRINGS 6125 Roswell Road N.E. 404-459-8322	\$ Casual	Back-to-basics burritos in a warm, industrial-chic setting.
Nuevo Laredo Cantina	WEST INTOWN 1495 Chattahoochee Ave. N.W. 404-352-9009	\$\$-\$\$\$ Casual Ⓜ for large parties	The affordable lunchtime combo plates will win over any enchilada aficionado. Fajitas, chimichangas and tamales also have a big following.
Tortillas	MIDTOWN 774 Ponce de Leon Ave. N.E. 404-892-0193	\$ Casual	This longtime bohemian hangout still makes some of the best wraps in town — burritos and soft tacos bursting with pinto beans and rice and freshly cooked ingredients ranging from broccoli to shrimp. Takeout orders must be in person.

GOOD AND CHEAP: Meals for under \$10

RESTAURANT	LOCATION	CUISINE / DESCRIPTION
The Flying Biscuit Cafe	MIDTOWN 1001 Piedmont Ave. 404-874-8887	American/casual: Like all good Southerners, these biscuits have wings and roots. This location fits neatly into Midtown's developing boho scene.
Taqueria Los Hermanos	TUCKER 4418 Hugh Howell Road 678-937-0660	Mexican: Cheerful little storefront has great flour tacos, sides and interesting specials. Cute and varied enough for a quick lunch or a fun, inexpensive dinner date.
Le Cafe Crepe	MARIETTA 90 Marietta Station Walk N.W. 770-426-8003	French: The crepes are light and marvelous, with substantial fillings, at this charming little hideaway off Marietta Square. Quiche is good, too. Gourmet nights on Saturdays with four-course fancy French dinners are reservation-only.
Speedi Pig Barbecue	FAYETTEVILLE 715 S. Glynn St. 770-719-2720	Barbecue: You'll find good, basic Georgia barbecue, with few surprises. Chopped pork and beef, as well as Brunswick stew, all get high marks. And kids love those Curly Dogs.