

*Riverside's  
Top 25  
Restaurants*



*2012*



One thing which makes a city distinctive is its selection of restaurants. When you listen to someone who has been on a trip, they often mention a great meal at a wonderful restaurant. Well, Riverside has many unique restaurants from which to choose!

Annually our City welcomes thousands of guests to our community as they attend concerts at the Fox Performing Arts Center, participate in conventions or sports competitions, or visit our Festival of Lights. Guests, and Riverside residents alike, often want to dine out in style and are looking for an unusual, cultured culinary experience; while others want a quick but intriguing taste. Riverside has something for everyone.

I have asked Restaurant Critic Allan Borgen to once again select some of Riverside's outstanding restaurants for your enjoyment. While we welcome national restaurants, in this guide we recognize those which have uniquely added to Riverside's culinary culture.

As a City of Arts & Innovation, Riverside is full of wonderful places to create memories, discuss important ideas, or just relax for the evening over a good meal. Get out and enjoy a meal with family or friends tonight!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ronald D. Loveridge". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ron Loveridge  
Mayor



Welcome to the 2012 Top 25 Restaurants Guide for Riverside. In spite of this being a difficult time for most businesses and the restaurant industry in particular, there are still a plethora of fine restaurants committed to providing the residents of Riverside high quality, creative dining experiences. Best of all, many new restaurants have opened up and I know of many more restaurateurs who want to open up in Riverside in the coming years.

Like most large cities, it's the small privately owned "mom & pop" restaurants that usually suffer when economic times prevail. For this reason I hope you support these locally-owned restaurants which in most cases offer a far superior dining experience than the chain restaurants provide.

With this said, I am proud to present this year's Top 25 Restaurants of Riverside.

Happy dining!

Allan Borgen, Food Critic

Allan has been a food critic for over 26 years and is a member of the Southern California Restaurant Writers. Visit his new online video restaurant Web site [FeedMe411.com](http://FeedMe411.com) and hear him on the "Let's Dine Out" Radio Show which airs every Saturday, 3 to 5 p.m., on KTIE 590am, [letsdineoutshow.com](http://letsdineoutshow.com). You can contact him at (909) 910-3463 or at [allan@feedme411.com](mailto:allan@feedme411.com)

**Price Range:** \$ = Up to \$10    \$\$ = \$11 – \$20    \$\$\$ = \$21 and Up



---

## Anchos Southwest Grill

951.352.0240

[www.anchos.net](http://www.anchos.net)

10773 Hole Avenue, Riverside, 92505

*Type of Cuisine: Southwestern*

*Price Range: \$\$\$ — Full Bar*

Decorated as a pueblo-styled village, Anchos has for years consistently served some of the best Southwestern influenced food in Southern California. This family-friendly restaurant prepares all of their meats, poultry and fish grilled over mesquite wood resulting in a delicate smoky flavor. The flour tortillas, made fresh daily, are as addictive as the warm tortilla chips and roasted chili salsa. One important condiment that sets off Southwestern food from Mexican food is regional red or green sauce, complementing any dish. My favorite dining options include any of the fresh fish entrees, the Pork Ribs with Seafood Enchiladas, Chile Rellenos, Chile Ancho BBQ sauce, mesquite grilled Bacon wrapped Shrimp, the popular Carne Asada, and Anchos' sizzling hot Fajitas and Rib Combo.

# Angel's Thai Restaurant

951.788.1995

[www.angelthairiverside.com](http://www.angelthairiverside.com)

6739 Brockton Avenue, Riverside, 92506

Type of Cuisine: Thai

Price Range: \$-\$\$ — Beer & Wine

This small family-owned and operated restaurant features delicious Thai cuisine with a menu which reflects both traditional as well as some wonderful original Thai dishes. Spicy Noodles, the popular Larb (ground beef, pork or chicken with chilies, onions, rice powder and lime juice), the delicious Pepper and Garlic Beef, the unique deep fried Trout with Mango Sauce, the wonderful Sliced BBQ Beef with Lime and Garlic, and the Crispy Ground Fish with Mango Sauce are just some of the many fine dishes you will discover. The servers are friendly, the food is fresh and full of wonderful flavors of Thailand, the portions are more than ample and the prices are outstanding.

---



# Bann Thai

951.684.3381

[www.bannthairiverside.com](http://www.bannthairiverside.com)

6461 Brockton Avenue, Riverside, 92506

Type of Cuisine: Thai

Price Range: \$-\$\$

Since its opening, this family-owned and operated restaurant, located in a lovely house, has been a favorite dining spot for its outstanding Thai dishes. The menu features a variety of traditional home-style Thai dishes, each made with lots of love and passion, the way good home-style food is prepared. Some of my favorites include the Young Papaya Salad, Sweet Basil Eggplant, Spicy Chili Garlic Fish, Larb and the popular Pad Thai Noodles. The portions are large, the food is full of exciting flavors and textures, and the prices are right. There are many fine Thai restaurants in Riverside and Bann Thai is certainly one of the elite.

---





---

## Cask 'n Cleaver Steakhouse

951.682.4580

[www.caskncleaver.com](http://www.caskncleaver.com)

1333 University Avenue, Riverside, 92507

Type of Cuisine: American/Steakhouse

Price Range: \$-\$\$\$ — Full Bar

For 45 years, Cask 'n Cleaver steakhouses have provided us with great classic steak and seafood entrees in a relaxing "California Casual" ambiance. Only mid-western, corn-fed beef is served so you can count on the steaks being juicy, tender and delicious. Large posters of wine labels adorn the walls while their bar/lounge area is very inviting. In addition to quality food, their award winning wine list continues to grow. The menu features a nice selection of appetizers, burgers, sandwiches, fresh fish and seafood entrees as well as lots of steaks. Items like the Mesquite Pepper Steak, the 22 oz. Porterhouse Steak, their signature slowly roasted Prime Rib, Tempura Jumbo Shrimp, Steak and Australian lobster tail, and the Teriyaki Mixed Grill are just some of their terrific dishes that are available nightly. If you like a nice juicy steak and a great glass of wine, you will definitely enjoy the Cask 'n Cleaver Steakhouse.

## Creola's Fine Dining

951.653.8150

[www.creolasrestaurant.com](http://www.creolasrestaurant.com)

1015 E. Alessandro Boulevard, Riverside, 92508

*Type of Cuisine: American/Continental*

*Price Range: \$\$*

Creola's Fine Dining is a casually elegant restaurant with a menu that hasn't changed much over the years, and for good reason ... the food. Creola's staff creates comforting and delicious American and Contemporary favorites with a distinct French Flair. The relaxing atmosphere with a touch of country thrown into the mix is the perfect setting to relax and enjoy some great dishes. Some of my favorite dishes include the Creola's Meatloaf, Lamb Shank with Dill & Sour Cream, Chicken Marsala, Oven Crisp Seabass Filet with Horseradish Relish & Mustard Sauce and such favorites as old fashioned Pot Roast, the popular Pepper Steak, and the Linguini with Clams and Garlic Sauce. Their tableside flambé desserts are a nice way to end an enjoyable meal at a very reasonable price.

---

## Crescent Jewell Restaurant & Lounge

951.684.1000

[www.crescentjewell.com](http://www.crescentjewell.com)

3597 Main Street, Riverside, 92501

*Type of Cuisine: Cajun/Creole*

*Price Range: \$-\$\$ — Full Bar*

Crescent Jewell Restaurant & Lounge is a classy and relaxing dining spot that features classic American food with a distinct Cajun/Creole flair. Their large lounge area is the perfect setting to relax, unwind with your favorite drink and listen to live music on Friday nights. Items I recommend you try include the Crawfish Quesadilla, their Santa Fe Angus Burger with fire roasted Anaheim chili and pepper jack cheese, Catfish Po Boy, the savory Crawfish Etouffee, Blackened Chicken Penne Pasta, the zesty Voodoo Salmon, and the delicious Shrimp and Andouille Parmesan Grits. They also have a wonderful Buffet Brunch on Sundays. Whether you dine inside or on their outdoor patio, where you can people watch, Crescent Jewell is yet another top restaurant in Riverside.

## La Cascada/Dona Timo's Mexican Seafood Restaurant

951.684.8614

[www.ciaobellariverside.com](http://www.ciaobellariverside.com)

3635 University Avenue, Riverside, 92501

Type of Cuisine: Mexican

Price Range: \$-\$\$ — Beer & Wine

La Cascada is a wonderful, small Mexican restaurant serving delicious dishes from the Jalisco region of Mexico including a fine selection of fresh fish and seafood entrees that you will absolutely love. Dishes like the Oysters Rockefeller, Jalapeno Shrimp Enchiladas, their signature seafood laden Cioppino, Mole Poblano, grilled or fried Fish Tacos and the Seven Mares Soup are just some of the many dishes you will savor. I find the food and service to be consistently good whether you visit for lunch or dinner; I have never been disappointed. Best of all, the prices are very affordable and the quality of the food is outstanding.

---





## Mario's Place

951.684.7755

[www.mariosplace.com](http://www.mariosplace.com)

*3646 Mission Inn Avenue, Riverside, 92501*

*Type of Cuisine: Northern Contemporary Italian*

*Price Range: \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$ — Full Bar*

Riverside's oldest fine dining restaurant, Mario's Place continues to provide their loyal diners an outstanding array of delicious Northern Italian dishes with touches of southern France and California thrown into their creative menu. In addition to award winning food, Mario's Place also features an outstanding selection of wines, many offered by the glass. Located across from the Mission Inn, this sophisticated restaurant offers a truly memorable dining experience. Some of the many delectable dishes you should try include the Butternut Squash Ravioli with sage butter sauce, Risotto of Porcini Mushrooms, fresh Grilled Swordfish with a sweet onion, bell pepper and thyme compote, the popular Pan-Roasted Veal Chop, the delicious Grilled Prime Angus New York Steak with 15-year-old balsamic and horseradish infused oil, and the Scottish Salmon cooked in parchment with citrus & ginger. Better yet, why not choose Chef Leone's wonderful Prix Fixe dinners with wine pairings? In addition to fine food, Mario's Place offers some of the best live jazz in Riverside and they feature a fun and lively outdoor nightclub, V26, that is located behind the restaurant and is open Thursday-Saturday 9 p.m. till closing. It's the professional service, award-winning food and attention to details that make Mario's Place a shining star among fine dining restaurants in Riverside.

# Market Broiler

951.276.9007

[www.marketbroiler.com](http://www.marketbroiler.com)

3525 Merrill Avenue, Riverside, 92506

Type of Cuisine: Seafood

Price Range: \$-\$\$\$ — Full Bar

Market Broiler continues to be Riverside's #1 restaurant for fresh fish and seafood since their opening 22 years ago. The large restaurant features two dining rooms, each offering comfortable booth seating with a casual and relaxed feel thanks to the brick walls and wood paneling. As you enter, you are greeted by a fresh fish and seafood deli case with more than 20 selections that you can purchase and cook at home. The restaurant menu is huge and offers lots of choices including sandwiches, wraps, pizza and pastas, steaks, chicken, and of course, a vast number of seafood and fish entrees that come fried or grilled over mesquite charcoal. When I dine here, I enjoy such classics as the Beer Battered Fish & Chips, Coconut Shrimp, Filet Oscar, Caramelized Salmon & Scallops and the Crab Stuffed Atlantic Salmon. Oh yes, the Jambalaya, Aged USDA Tri Tip Steak and the Roasted Chicken are also fine choices. For the finest in fresh fish and seafood, Market Broiler is definitely a great option.

---





---

## Mexicali Bar & Grill

951.781.6682

1690 Spruce Street, Riverside, 92507

Type of Cuisine: Mexican

Price Range: \$-\$\$ — Full Bar

Mexicali is a restaurant that often goes unnoticed except by local businesses. However, the food is delicious and the prices are reasonable. This large restaurant has a lounge, complete with a full bar and lots of flat screen televisions, where you can enjoy your favorite drink while you root for your favorite team. In addition to the dining room, there is a private banquet/meeting room that is set up for presentations. As for the food, the menu features an array of regional Mexican, as well as original, dishes that are both exciting and tasty. Favorites include the Flautas Tehuacan with Chipotle Chicken, Queso Fundido, Cochinita Pibil - marinated pork leg with achiote paste, sour oranges and herbs baked in banana leaves, Carne Adobado, the rich and popular Pollo en Mole Poblano, and Filete Pampas - filet mignon with a zesty chimichurri sauce topped with roasted peppers, Swiss cheese and bacon. Dining here is definitely a treat which I know you too will enjoy.

# The Mission Inn Hotel & Spa Restaurants

951.784.0300

www.missioninn.com

3649 Mission Inn Avenue, Riverside, 92501

*When visiting any of the restaurants associated with The Mission Inn Hotel & Spa, make sure to allow enough time to casually stroll around the lush grounds, and marvel at the beautiful and rich history that the Inn has to offer.*

## Bella Trattoria Italian Bistro

*Type of Cuisine: Italian Cuisine*

*Price Range \$-\$\$ — Full Bar*

Bella Trattoria Italian Bistro, located just outside The Mission Inn Hotel & Spa on Main Street Riverside, features fresh, delicious Southern Italian cuisine. This is a great dining spot for people-watching and enjoying a wonderful sunny day. Some of my favorite dishes are the Grilled Chicken Paillard Panini with spinach & feta cheese, the popular Linguine with Clams, and the delicious Baked Shrimp Scampi. If you enjoy brick oven pizzas, the Sicilian and the Greek inspired Athena Pizza are great choices.

---

## Duane's Prime Steaks & Seafood

*Type of Cuisine: American*

*Price Range: \$\$\$ — Full Bar*

*Reservations are suggested*

Featuring only USDA Prime Beef and the finest in seafood and fish entrees, Duane's is the Inland Empire's only AAA Four Diamond Restaurant, and is the winner of numerous prestigious awards for their food and their wines. The restaurant is elegant in its décor and is the perfect setting for a relaxing meal. For starters, I recommend the Lobster Tempura and the Honey-Garlic Shrimp. My favorite dinner entrees include the Grilled Swordfish with a stone ground mustard sauce, impressive juicy 20 oz. Bone in Rib Chop, the Double Cut Lamb Chops and the Trio of Tenderloins. They also have wonderful side dishes like the Mac and Cheese with truffle oil, Crimini Mushrooms, and Brussels Sprouts Tocino with applewood bacon and shallots. For a truly memorable dining experience, why not try the Chateaubriand for two? Duane's Prime Steakhouse and Seafood Restaurant is surely one of Riverside's most acclaimed and award-winning restaurants.

## Las Campanas

*Type of Cuisine: Mexican*

*Price Range: \$\$\$-\$\$\$ — Full Bar*

Las Campanas is yet another award-winning restaurant located in the lush outdoor garden patio just outside the Presidential Lounge and the front entrance of the Mission Inn Hotel & Spa. This upscale Mexican restaurant is the perfect setting to enjoy some terrific traditional, as well as some great original, Mexican dishes in a one-of-a-kind tropical setting. Dishes I recommend include the Shrimp Ceviche and Open Face Quesadilla for starters, while the fantastic Chile Rellenos, the zesty Filet Picado, the Chile Verde in a tangy tomatillo sauce and their fantastic Grilled Fresh Filet of Pacific Salmon with Jalapeno Cilantro Pesto are great dinner options. Don't forget to try one of their signature (and huge) margaritas. If you are tired of the same old Mexican fare and looking for a classy yet casual dining experience, Las Campanas is one terrific choice.

---

## Mission Inn Restaurant

*Type of Cuisine: Continental*

*Price Range: \$\$\$-\$\$\$ — Full Bar*

*Sunday Brunch, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.*

The Mission Inn Restaurant is another fine dining establishment at this historic resort serving a variety of marvelous dishes that will delight your taste buds. The restaurant offers two distinct settings. The large dining room is impressive with its open kitchen, beautiful Mediterranean tiles and overhead ceiling mural, while the adjacent Spanish outside patio, with lush greenery and beautiful architecture surrounding each dining guest, is yet another jewel in the Mission Inn restaurant crown. There are two menus to choose from, a "Wellness Cuisine" menu and the regular menu, along with daily specials and a great lunch buffet. Some of the dishes that I recommend include the juicy and tasty Rotisserie Chicken, Saga Blue Cheese & Bacon Burger, Pan Seared Atlantic Salmon, Chicken Breast Marsala, Jumbo Shrimp Provencal, and the magnificent Prime Rib of Beef. One item you must try is their Blue Bayou (restaurant in Disneyland) inspired Monte Cristo sandwich which is outstanding. This "king of sandwiches" is offered only at lunch time. What a beautiful setting to enjoy some delicious food and relax with friends.



---

## Monark Asian Bistro

951.683.1073

[www.monarkasianbistro.com](http://www.monarkasianbistro.com)

5225 Canyon Crest Drive, Riverside, 92507

Type of Cuisine: Thai & Chinese

Price Range: \$-\$\$ — Beer & Wine

The Monark Asian Bistro, located in the Canyon Crest Plaza, is the most elegant and impressive Asian restaurant in Riverside serving outstanding traditional, as well as original Thai and Chinese, dishes for more than 26 years. Besides the beautiful interior, the food is delicious and the prices are more than fair considering the quality of the food served there. Some of the many dishes I recommend include the spicy Jungle Curry, the crispy and sweet Firecracker Beef, the delicious Strawberry Chicken, the Monark Steak with a tasty lemon grass garlic sauce, fresh Miso Salmon, Szechwan Fish and the Talay Quartet with sautéed scallops, fish, shrimp, calamari, onions and basil in a zesty Thai chili sauce. The food is fresh and the flavors will keep you coming back again and again.

## Olivia's Mexican Restaurant

951.689.2131

[www.oliviasmexicanrestaurant.com](http://www.oliviasmexicanrestaurant.com)

9447 Magnolia Avenue, Riverside, 92503

*Type of Cuisine: Mexican*

*Price Range: \$\$\$ — Beer & Wine*

Set in the heart of the Arlington Village, Olivia's has served some of the finest Mexican food in Riverside since 1978. This popular restaurant has a regular clientele that keeps coming back for breakfast, lunch and dinner. From the food I sampled and the rave reviews I have gotten from friends, I am certain that you too will have a wonderful dining experience. Some of the many dishes you should order from their large list of entrees include the Shrimp Taco or Shrimp Burrito, the unique Anaheim Enchilada, the exciting Shrimp Sampler Plate with five different shrimp items, the popular Carne Con Chile Verde, and the impressive Shrimp & Beef Fajitas. Come hungry since the portions are on the large side and the food is so good you might be tempted to try more than one entrée.

---

## Peking Chinese Restaurant

951.687.4822

11170 Magnolia Avenue, Riverside, 92505

*Type of Cuisine: Chinese*

*Price Range: \$\$\$ — Beer & Wine*

The Peking Chinese Restaurant is a small establishment tucked away in a shopping center that serves what I consider the best Chinese food in Riverside. The dining room features small hanging Chinese lanterns while a huge wood relief mural adorns one wall. Two well-kept fish tanks set the mood while the aromas of ginger, garlic and other ingredients fill the dining room. Some of my favorites include the exciting Kung Pao Shrimp, General Chicken, the popular Three Flavor Hot Noodle Soup with handmade noodles, the zesty Fried Fish with Hot Garlic Sauce, the plump and crispy Orange Shrimp, and the classic Twice Cooked Pork. The portions are large, the prices are very reasonable and the food is delicious. If you are looking for both authentic and tasty Chinese food, you must visit the Peking Chinese Restaurant. No frills here, just great Chinese food with a Korean twist!

## Phood on Main

951.276.7111

[www.phoodonmain.net](http://www.phoodonmain.net)

3737 Main Street, Riverside, 92501

*Type of Cuisine: American*

*Price Range: \$\$\$ — Full Bar*

This hip and creative restaurant is one of the most unique restaurants in Riverside for good reason. For lunch, you can order an item solo (single), duo (two items) or trio (three items) while the dinner menu features small Tapas-like plates or large size dinners. Some of their wonderful made-from-scratch selections include salads like the popular Papaya Spinach Salad with strawberries and almonds, the Apple Pecan Salad with Bleu Cheese, the unique Salmon BLT Sandwich, Braised Lamb Shanks, Drunken Shrimp, Grilled Chicken Parmesan, BBQ Pork Ribs and the French Onion Steak Tower to name a few. Under the supervision of Chef Marla Cohen and her talented crew, the food is fun, creative and delicious. No matter which items you choose, you will thoroughly revel in the cuisine of Phood on Main. They also have an outstanding catering business and a nice banquet room for private parties as well as an outdoor dining area for those nice days you want to dine alfresco.

---

## Punjab Palace

951.351.8968

10359 Magnolia Avenue, Riverside, 92505

[www.punjabpalacecuisineofindia.com](http://www.punjabpalacecuisineofindia.com)

*Type of Cuisine: Indian*

*Price Range: \$\$\$ — Beer & Wine*

In the best traditional Northern Indian cuisine in Riverside, Punjab Palace offers a wonderful array of dishes that are both delicious and healthy. For lunch, I highly recommend the "All You Can Eat" buffet while the dinner menu features all of the Indian dishes that this terrific cuisine is known for. Dishes like the creamy Lamb Korma, the heavenly Garlic Shrimp, Chicken Malai, the impressive Mixed Tandoori Grill, the Karachi Chicken with garlic, ginger and tomatoes, and their delicious and addictive Indian breads, the Paratha and the Kashmiri Naan, are all great choices. If you love Indian food or have never tried it, you really should try Punjab Palace. Oh yes, despite what many people think, not all Indian food is deathly spicy. Just tell them the level of hotness you desire and they will accommodate your wishes.

## Red Hot Kitchen

951.684.9800

[www.rhkriverside.com](http://www.rhkriverside.com)

1995 University Avenue, Riverside, CA 92507

*Type of Cuisine: Mexican/Asian Fusion*

*Price Range: \$*

If you have had the pleasure of eating at one of those trendy Food Trucks you surely experienced some unique and delicious items that you cannot find at any sit-down restaurant; that's until the Red Hot Kitchen opened up. The Red Hot Kitchen restaurant on University Avenue features some wonderful Mexican dishes which have been thoughtfully infused with items and spices from Korea, China and Japan. Choose from spicy pork, chicken, Korean style short rib meat, Bulgobi, fish, tofu, salmon and veggies to have on your salads, tacos, burritos, in your Teriyaki bowl or in your fried rice. If you are in the mood to try delicious, exciting and affordable foods in a casual fast food setting, I know you will love the Red Hot Kitchen.

---

## Salted Pig

951.848.4020

[www.saltedpigriverside.com](http://www.saltedpigriverside.com)

3700 12th Street, Riverside, 92501

*Type of Cuisine: American*

*Price Range: \$-\$\$\$*

Certainly one of the most exciting new restaurants to call Riverside home, the Salted Pig is a "hip and trendy" restaurant that will surely thrill and delight your taste buds and soul. This casual restaurant located in downtown Riverside is a cross between a pub, fine brasserie and fine dining restaurant. Locally-grown and sustainable ingredients are important elements found in each dish along with unique craft beers, boutique wines and high-end spirits which are featured to enhance your meal and add to a very relaxing experience. Some of the many unique items include the Pork Belly Sandwich with a garlic mayo and mandarin pickles, Pig Flatbread - prosciutto, goat cheese, onions and Serrano chilies, some of the best half-pound burgers around, with the "Really Good Burger" that includes jalapeno cream cheese and crispy red onions being my favorite, Oak Grilled Hangar Steak with braised cabbage and German Spatzle with onions, bacon and gouda cheese leading the way. This is a restaurant reminiscent of those great culinary finds you experience in San Francisco, San Diego or Santa Barbara but lucky for us, it's right here in downtown Riverside. This is one restaurant you really must experience!

## Smokey Canyon BBQ

951.782.8808

[www.smokeycanyon.com](http://www.smokeycanyon.com)

5225 Canyon Crest Drive, Riverside, 92507

Type of Cuisine: American/Barbecue

Price Range: \$-\$\$ — Beer & Wine

If you enjoy great BBQ in a family-friendly setting, welcome to Smokey Canyon BBQ in the Canyon Crest Towne Center. The food is fresh, and the hickory smoked meats are outstanding. For starters, the Garlic Fries and Fried Green Tomatoes are great choices. For the entrees, I recommend the slowly smoked St. Louis Style Ribs, Smoked Half Chicken and the Deep Fried Catfish dinners. The Smoked Turkey Panini or the Brisket Panini with Ortega chilies, jack cheese and creamy horseradish sauce are also excellent. For dessert, you must order the Old-Fashioned Bread Pudding and the unique Blackberry Cobbler topped with a coconut pecan crust and served with vanilla ice cream. Whether you dine in or have them cater your next party or event, you will be thoroughly delighted with the wonderful food offered by Smokey Canyon BBQ.

---

## Table for Two

951.683.3648

[www.Tablefor2thai.com](http://www.Tablefor2thai.com)

3600 Central Avenue, Riverside, 92506

Type of Cuisine: Thai Cuisine

Price Range: \$-\$\$ — Beer & Wine

This stylish and modern looking Thai restaurant offers some outstanding original as well as traditional Thai dishes in a relaxed and beautiful environment. The menu is exciting and new items are constantly being added. Some of my many favorites include the Eastern Thai Steak, Garlic Pepper Shrimp, Sweet Garlic Fish, the tasty Steamed Ginger Chicken and Pineapple Roasted Duck Curry. The service is friendly, the food is absolutely delicious and consistently good, and the daily specials are terrific. The food served here is quite different from other Thai restaurants so if you are looking for a unique Thai experience, Table for Two is where I would dine.



## Vino Veritas Wine Bar 951.789.2965

[www.vinoveritaswinebar.com](http://www.vinoveritaswinebar.com)

285 East Alessandro Blvd. #7-F, Riverside, 92506

Type of Cuisine: American/Wine Bar

Price Range: \$-\$\$ — Full Bar

Vino Veritas Wine Bar offers a unique wine and dining experience that is innovative and fun. Wine dispensers allow guests to use the Vino Veritas Passport Card to sample any of the 40 local, domestic and international wine varieties automatically dispensed from their exclusive wine collection. Guests are also invited to experience any of the more than 150 varieties of wine by the bottle or glass. Their kitchen features some outstanding appetizers, salads and scrumptious entrees. The Baked Brie with apricot marmalade and White Truffle Mac are wonderful starters, while the delicious Seared Ahi with coconut rice, Baked Swordfish with Wasabi mashed potatoes, Filet Mignon Tips and Wild Mushroom Ravioli are just a few of the delicious dishes that when paired with one of their outstanding wines make for a memorable and enjoyable dining experience. Open for dinner only, Vino Veritas Wine Bar is a nice setting to meet friends and relax.

## Zacatecas Café

951.683.3939

2472 University Avenue, Riverside, 92507

Type of Cuisine: Mexican

Price Range: \$\$\$ — Beer and Wine

Zacatecas Café has been a favorite of locals since 1963 and remains as popular as ever. The menu features a variety of delicious traditional, as well as some unique, Mexican dishes that represent the best that Mexican cuisine has to offer. The warm serving of their signature Colorado sauce and some crispy warm tortilla chips sets the tone for a special dining experience. Some of the many dishes that deserve your attention include the Huevos con Nopales, the Mole de Gallina, the hefty Carne Asada Torta sandwich, the Chile Colorado Dinner Plate and their special Deluxe Cheese Burger that is messy, but really good. In addition to great food, the service is friendly and the prices are very reasonable. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner, this marvelous restaurant also has a huge banquet hall that can accommodate most large parties. I love Zacatecas Café and know you will too!



## Top 25 Restaurants in Riverside

### Honorable Mention

#### Asahi Sushi

951.637.1313

2955 Van Buren Boulevard

Cuisine: Japanese/Sushi

#### Cactus Cantina

951.789.0211

[www.cactuscantina.org](http://www.cactuscantina.org)

151 East Alessandro Boulevard

Cuisine: American/Continental

#### Green Olive Grill

951.687.1014

[www.greenolivegrill.com](http://www.greenolivegrill.com)

4294 Riverwalk Parkway

Cuisine: Mediterranean

#### Sevilla

951.778.0611

[www.cafesevilla.com](http://www.cafesevilla.com)

3252 Mission Inn Ave.

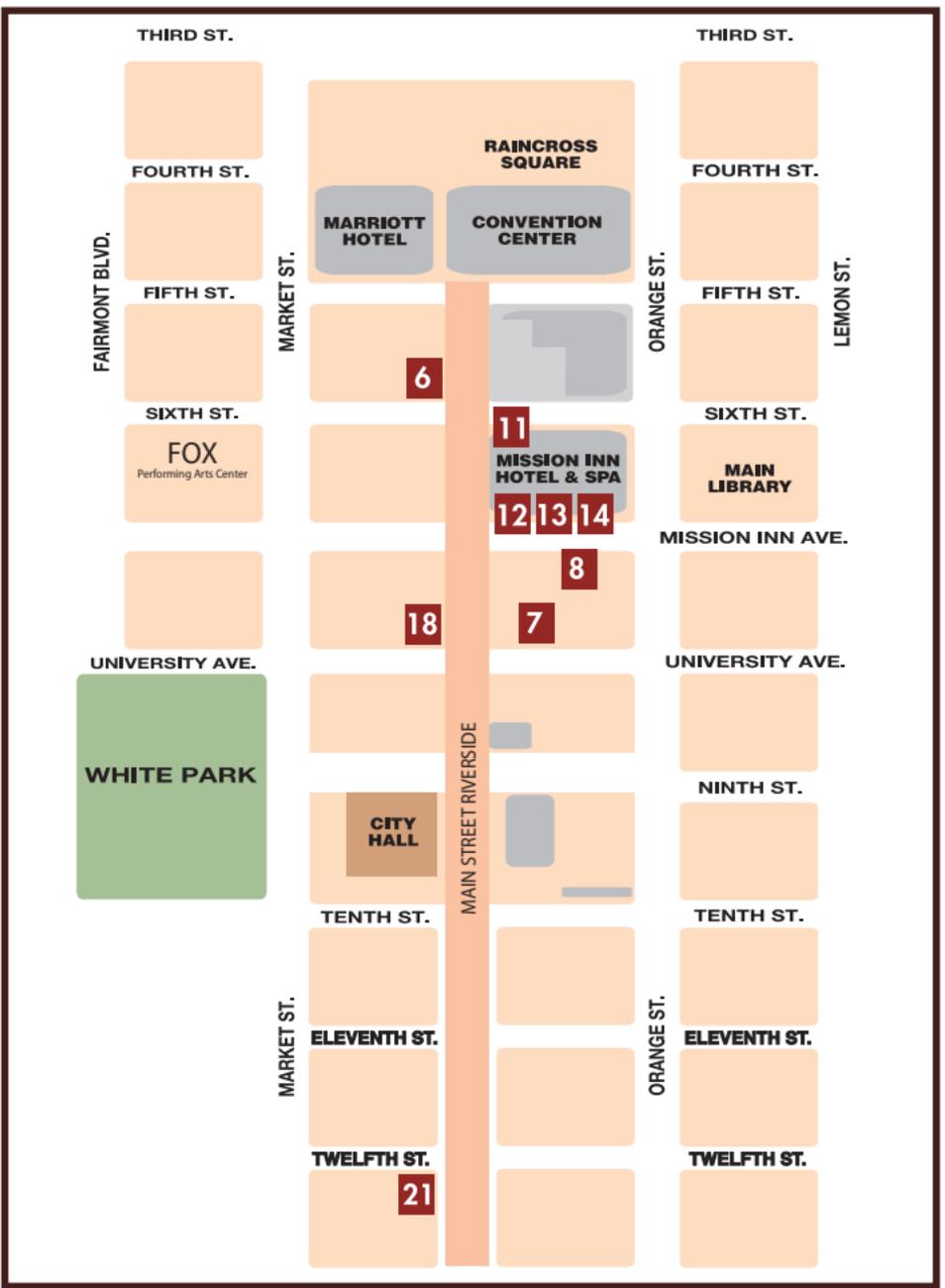
Cuisine: Spanish/Tapas

#### Simple Simon's

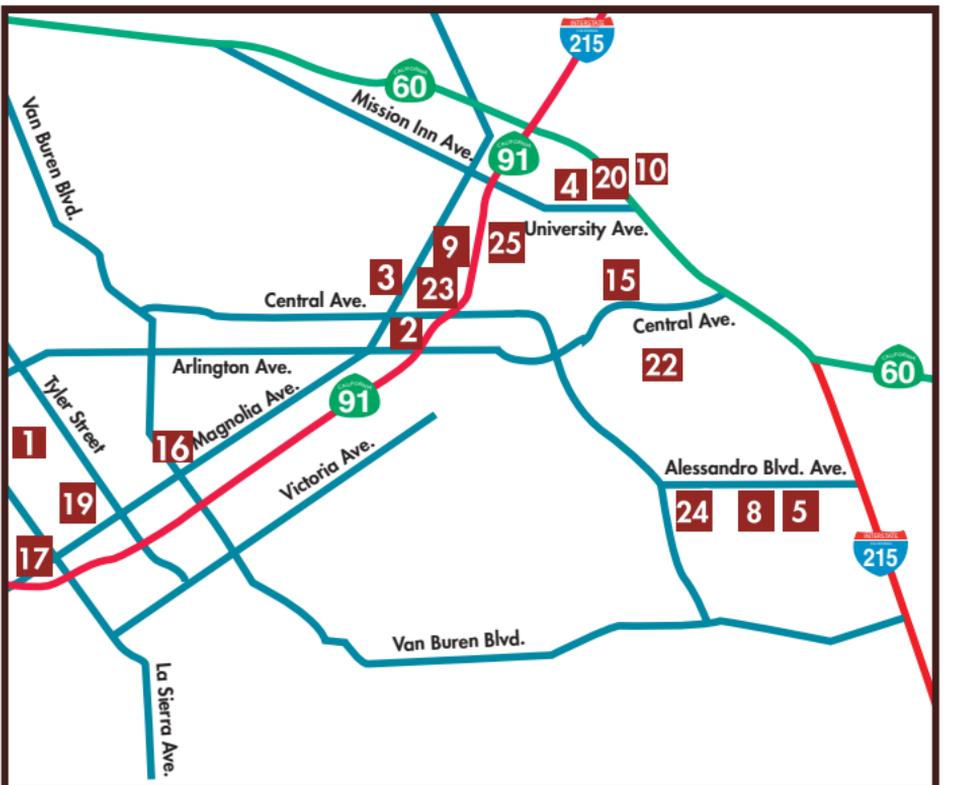
951.369.6030

3639 Main Street

Cuisine: American



Downtown Riverside Map

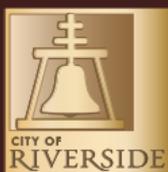


Riverside Area Map

(See back cover for list)

# *Top 25 Restaurants in Riverside*

- 1 - Anchos Southwest Grill
- 2 - Angel's Thai Restaurant
- 3 - Bann Thai
- 4 - Cask 'n Cleaver Steakhouse
- 5 - Creola's Fine Dining
- 6 - Crescent Jewell Restaurant & Lounge
- 7 - La Cascada Dona Timo's Mexican Seafood Restaurant
- 8 - Mario's Place
- 9 - Market Broiler
- 10 - Mexicali Bar & Grill
- 11 - Bella Trattoria Italian Bistro
- 12 - Duane's Prime Steaks & Seafood
- 13 - Las Campanas at the Mission Inn
- 14 - Mission Inn Restaurant
- 15 - Monark Asian Bistro
- 16 - Olivia's Mexican Restaurant
- 17 - Peking Chinese Restaurant
- 18 - Phood on Main
- 19 - Punjab Palace
- 20 - Red Hot Kitchen
- 21 - Salted Pig
- 22 - Smokey Canyon BBQ
- 23 - Table for Two
- 24 - Vino Veritas Wine Bar
- 25 - Zacatecas Café



*City of Arts & Innovation*  
ExploreRiverside.com

For more information contact:  
the city of riverside  
office of the mayor  
951.826.5551  
[www.riversideca.gov](http://www.riversideca.gov)



YOUR NEXT MEETING COULD BE A

# *Historic event*

*Over 100 years of culture, romance, architecture and natural beauty are waiting to inspire you, your next meeting or banquet function. With over 45,000 sq. ft. of intimate meeting space, Riverside caters to a more personal event with luxurious hotels and a new vibrant downtown pedestrian mall.*

**Riverside Convention and  
Visitors Bureau (888) 748-7733.**

**RiversideCVB.com**



*There's more to Riverside than you ever imagined.*