

"You can't just eat good food. You've got to talk about it too. And you've got to talk about it to somebody who understands that kind of food."

- Kurt Vonnegut

Cameo Cafe

8111 NE Sandy Blvd.
Portland, Ore. 97213
503-284-0401
www.cameocafe.com

Cameo Cafe, what can I say? Your beauty and delight leave me grasping for words. Strong toast in mind and left overs in hand I give my best thanks for a meal well served. Cameo is not just a breakfast/lunch cafe; it is an experience! A large sign points of a small building on the corner of 82nd & Sandy Blvd. A small cage with chickens and lush foliage hide much of the front of the cafe, but once you make your way in you are assaulted with decor that looks like someone's grandmother exploded and smells of food divine.

Food at the Cameo is astounding, fabulous, delicious ... there are not enough words to describe my love of this restaurant. It serves up all the classic American diner breakfast foods: biscuits and gravy (with gravy refreshers should you run low), chicken fried steak and pancakes galore.

One of the great attractions of the Cameo is the pancakes. They are sold by the acre, with 1/2 acre being a single 12 inch — maybe as much as a 14 inch — pancake in a variety of flavors to choose from, you can order up to a full acre of pancakes which by itself is enough to feed a small family. Once you get past the diner classics, you get into the more interesting parts of their menu, featuring Bulgoki, kimchi omelets, Sue Gee's Pindaetok (Pin-day-tuck) a vegetable bean and rice pancake, a variety of bento specials and a host of Herculean hamburgers.

Given their small space, they aren't able to make French fries like most diners so their elegant solution was to make the best hashbrowns I have ever put in my mouth. To top it all off, they have toast! That doesn't sound that amazing, but it is — especially when topped with their homemade raspberry preserves that is just killer. If you want to be a little brave and eat something you will remember, put some of the raspberry preserves and the Oh Baby! sauce on that toast. Just a little. It is to die for.

Going to the Cameo the first time is an experience of being cared for and pampered, being served amazing food at great prices. The second and third times are like going visit a favorite Aunt. Everyone recognizes you and you can feel the genuine affection the people have for their patrons. I am often greeted with hugs and very kind words. I recommend that next time you are near the airport, stop in at the Cameo Cafe and have a meal you won't soon forget.

The Cameo is only open until 3 p.m. so unless you get there early, it is easy to miss your chance.

James Duncan

Rocco's Cannoli Cafe

2144 SE Oak Grove Blvd.
Milwaukie, Ore. 97267
503-234-1324
www.roccoscannolicafe.com

If you are looking for a quiet coffee shop to read the morning paper or catch up on some forgotten homework, this is the place to go. Rocco's Cannoli Cafe is on Oak Grove Blvd. This small shop's main food is their cannolis. A cannoli is a small Italian pastry that is filled with Ricotta or flavored cream cheese and topped with yummy dessert snacks, like chocolate chips, Reese's Peanut Butter Cups and so much more.

At Rocco's, you have the option of what kind of cannoli shell you want, what kind of filling and what kind of toppings you want.

They also offer sandwiches. I tried the turkey sandwich. They grill it just like a panini and it tastes amazing. Their coffee options are limited because they are more known for their cannolis but it is a great place to grab a coffee or hot chocolate and enjoy a breakfast sandwich.

Their prices are cheap and the barista is very friendly. They have a few tables but it is not a huge hang out place. The room is quiet so you keep to yourself and focus on your own work.

The art at Rocco's is amazing. They make it seem just like you are drinking a cup of coffee in your own home with the warm colored walls and the beautiful art.

Come to Rocco's for a cup of Joe and a delicious cannoli.

Breanna Craine



Rocco's. Photo by Joshua Dillen

"One cannot think well, love well, sleep well, if one has not dined well."

Virginia Woolf

Biscuits Cafe

19273 Molalla Ave.
Oregon City, Ore. 97045
503-655-3612
www.biscuitscafe.com

We've all heard it: Breakfast is the most important meal of the day. So instead of skipping out on all that energy-making food, why not go out for a cheap yet satisfying meal?

Biscuits Cafe is iconic for their breakfast and lunch hours, opening at 6:30 am and closing at 2:30 pm. With their wide variety of breakfast favorites and original lunch combinations, Biscuits makes for the perfect late morning meal.

The breakfast menu includes a variety of pancakes, French toast, waffles, omelets, benedicts, scrambled eggs, other specialties, and, of course, biscuits and gravy. The lunch menu has all the basics, such as burgers, sandwiches, wraps and salads as well as unique specialty items, like Black Oak Mac and Cheese and the Chicken Tenderloin Platter. All of the plates fit in the \$10 range, with nothing ever going over \$15.

Having never been to Biscuits Cafe, I decided to go with a personal favorite of mine to see how they prepared it. The Mushroom Burger, served with fries and a slice of dill pickle on the side, was just as delicious as it looked. Topped with lettuce, tomato, and onions, this plate was cooked to perfection and left your mouth watering for more. My only problem was that after asking for the onions to be left off, the onions remained on the burger when I went to take my first bite, but that can be forgiven. As for the sides, the fries, while not too crispy, were just right and the slice of dill served as a nice finishing touch.

In the end, don't skip breakfast before heading to class. Stop in at Biscuits Cafe for a nice, hot meal to keep you focused throughout the day. Not only for the convenience, but for the taste as well!

Kelli Luke

Genies Cafe

1101 SE Division St.
Portland, Ore. 97202
503-445-9777
www.geniesdivision.com

Just by looking at the menu, it was clear to see that Genies has the particular gift of finding wonderful but strange combinations. Combinations nobody else would typically associate with each other, but once you taste them, realize they were meant to go together. Manifest destiny food.

Chicken sausage flavored with maple? French toast made with brioche? Pancakes infused with real, white chocolate chips? Human flight? Toasters? Gravity? Shoes? Scuba diving? All great ideas sound insane until someone actually pulls them off. Genies pulls off breakfast beautifully.

The French toast was perfect. If not to die for, to kill for. The chicken maple sausage was genius. It was how breakfast always wanted to taste, but didn't know how.

As well as an enlightened breakfast menu, they also have an assortment of interesting drink, coffee and cocktail mixtures. It is a cafe, after all. With my breakfast, even though I am not an alcoholic, (really), I couldn't resist the opportunity to try one of the exotic seasonal cocktail mixtures they had.

There are at least 10 other combinations of seasonal beverages on the menu, as well as several classical assortments which are offered year round, not all of them alcoholic either. I am very interested, if not excited, to go back and try some of the others. And let's face it, the descriptions on the menu were just too dang interesting to pass-up.

If you love coffee, and if you love unique flavor combinations, go hit up this place. You will find something that will intrigue your appetite and excite your imagination. Even if one particular item doesn't interest you, I can almost guarantee you will find something else right next to it that will haunt your dreams later.

Heather Mills



Biscuits. Photo by Kelli Luke

The coffee debate: Winner takes all



When it comes to coffee, people are very picky, well not picky per say, more like faithful. Once you pick your spot where you coffee up before, work, school, etcetera, it is hard to break the habit and go to a different one, but why change places? Coffee shops are more or less the same right? Wrong! Every place that makes coffee is different in many subtle ways, simply changing the brewing temperature of the coffee or scald the milk five seconds longer and the flavor of the whole concoction changes.

Barista to barista, shop to shop, coffee is a fickle drink.

As many of us know the choices for coffee near the college are fairly limited. Unless you want Starbucks or Dutch Bros you are sadly SOL. Between the two is it an even match of price vs quality. Starbucks is a "little" overpriced and serves their famous burnt tasting coffee. It is what I think of as the last choice in coffee. While al-right coffee (if you dress it to the point of being sugared milk in a cup with some coffee), the ridiculous prices of their wares is a perpetual turn off for me.

Dutch Bros. on the other hand is very cheap, but the price is reflected in the coffee itself. While they can push out an okay cup of cheap coffee, it is always just that, a cheap cup of coffee. Often far to sweet or next to flavorless, Dutch Bros. comes in as my next to last choice.

If you really want to treat your tongue right and have a truly good cup of coffee you should saunter down to Coffee Rush. It is a fair drive from school, but right next to the Oregon

City transit center. So if you are one of the many people who buses to school and find yourself craving coffee, it is the way to go! The prices are very middle of the road, not to high and not really low, but the reason to go to Coffee Rush is most definitely not just the price. They make a very good cup of coffee! You can get what you want how you want with little to no extra cost tacked on because you want your coffee the way you like it.

Next time you go out to get coffee try some place new. Even if you have a coffee place you like, try something else, because with the exception of Dutch Bros., since it is all pour/heat/serve, they can be wildly different. If you really want to experience the best coffee has to offer, find new coffee shops and try their specialty items. Not all coffee places have a special drink, but you can find some of the most amazing drinks by taking a few chances with a new coffee shop.

James Duncan



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