

Best of Eugene

shows, themed birthday parties and play-groups, as well as impromptu ice cream or hot cocoa stops with friends. The menu is split between adult and child-oriented food, and includes nice selections of coffees from Café Mam and Prince Pückler's ice cream. The kids' snacks include peanut butter sandwiches that come with your choice of jelly, bananas, chocolate chips or honey, little bagel pizzas, rice and veggies, and more. Fresh fruit and veggies come with each kids' meal. It's a comfortable, creative and very Eugene place for your babies. — MT

Best Appetizers: Anatolia

Poppi's Anatolia has been a favorite in Eugene for decades, and this year it wins both Best Mediterranean and Best Appetizers. Many have sat at one of the wonderful window booths, drunk a glass of retsina and sampled the variety of offerings at the top of the menu.

A great start is the Mezedakia, which combines bowls of three separate appetizers surrounded by pita and fennel seed bread on a single platter: dolmadakia, taramasalata and melitzanosalta.

The bowl of dolmadakia, grape leaves stuffed with pine nuts, raisins and rice, comes topped with a lemon wedge. Delicately tangy on the outside, the taste is faintly sweet from the raisins inside. Pine nuts give a wonderful texture to the stuffing, balancing the soft rice with their firmer give. The tightly wrapped leaves hold together well when speared with a fork.

The taramasalata is smoked fish roe whipped with potatoes and onions into a



creamy texture, and the melitzanosalta is a chunky paste of eggplant, whole cilantro leaves, garlic and tahini. It has a bright, fresh taste with a strong garlicky undertone.

A perennial favorite is also the saganaki, aged sheep's milk cheese deep fried in olive

oil and served in a sizzling, blackened pan, with a squirt of fresh lemon juice. Crispy and golden on the outside, and stretching to elastic proportions on the fork, the cheese is delicious with fennel seed bread.

— Kaukab Jhumra Smith

Best Buffet

1. Taste of India
2. China Sun
3. Sundance Natural Foods

Best Upscale Menu

1. Marché
2. Café Soriah
3. KoHo Bistro

Best Cheap Eats

1. Burrito Boy Taqueria
2. Burrito Amigos Taqueria
3. Glenwood

Best Place To Take The Kids

1. BabyCakes
2. Papa's Pizza
3. McDonald's

Best Happy Hour

1. Cornucopia Market & Deli
2. Diablo's Downtown Lounge
3. Turtles Bar & Grill

Best Brewpub

1. High St. Brewery & Café
2. Steelhead Brewery & Café
3. West Brothers' River Ranch Steakhouse

Best Beer

1. McMenamins
2. Steelhead Brewery & Café
3. West Brothers'

Best Comfort Food

1. Glenwood
2. Café Yumm!
3. Brail's

Best Restaurant

We Wish Were Still Open

1. Navarro's
2. French Horn
3. Govinda's

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Matinees: Sunday, October 12 & 19 • 2pm
Previews: October 1 & 2 • Gala Opening October 3

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