

the burritos are heavy enough to double as weapons in case of attack.

best winery

1. **Sweet Cheeks Winery**
27007 Briggs Hill Road. 349-9463.
www.sweetcheekswinery.com
2. **King Estate Winery** 80854 Territorial Rd. 942-9874. www.kingestate.com
3. **Territorial Vineyards** 907 W. 3rd Ave. 684-9463. www.territorialvineyards.com

best out-of-town restaurant

1. **King Estate Winery** 80854 Territorial Hwy. 942-9874. www.kingestate.com
2. **Waterfront Depot** 1252 Bay St., Florence. 541-902-9100.
3. **Mo's Restaurants** Florence, Newport, Otter Rock, Cannon Beach, Lincoln City. www.moschowder.com

It's impossible not to feel like royalty when you sup at King Estate, a restaurant that sits squarely amid a 1,000-plus acre vineyard and atop a stately rise overlooking the softly sweeping greenscape of the Lorane Valley. The chateau — with its spectacular view, spacious courtyard appointed in Santa Fe-cum-Grecian cobbles and burbling fountain — is luxurious but completely welcoming; the pleated tennis set mingles easily with visitors in flip-flops and cut-offs. But it's the menu, elegant and affordable, that really distinguishes this out-of-town designation: tender cakes of Dungeness crab, juicy Alaskan halibut and messy barbecued ribs are just a few of the must-tries. It's hard to argue with any place that offers pizza and truffle oil on the same page.



PHOTO BY TODD COOPER

best veggie options

1. **Café Yumm!** 1801 Willamette St., 686-YUMM; 130 Oakway Center, 465-YUMM; 730 East Broadway, 344-YUMM; 1005 Green Acres Rd., 684-YUMM; The Crossroads, 3340 Gateway St., 747-YUMM; Sacred Heart, 3333 RiverBend Dr., 736-YUMM. www.cafeyumm.com
2. **Laughing Planet** 760 Blair Blvd. 868-0668. www.laughingplanetcafe.com
3. **Lotus Garden Vegetarian Restaurant** 810 Charnelton St. 344-1928.

You know what keeps a partnership sane? One person who feels that Yumm! Sauce is *not* the end-all, be-all of human taste bud existence, but who gives a liter of said sauce to the Yumm!-loving half on special occasions. You know what keeps some of the *EW* editorial staff sane? That's right: Carefully spaced Yumm! attacks. Whether we order a medium Hot 'n' Jazzy, an Edamame bowl with extra Yumm! Sauce, a Southwest Wrap, a Hearty Salad or some of those strangely addictive tofu sticks, the various Café Yumm! franchises deliver consistent tastiness. Café Yumm! owners donate food all over town (and Beaverton too), not to mention bonding with social media — blog! Twitter! Facebook! —and they even hosted a recent Eugene Tweetup. When we can tear ourselves away from the sauce's tantalizing combo of salt, umami and (good!) fat, Eugene stays loyal to Laughing Planet's fresh, often organic bowls and burritos of tastiness.

staff picks

best thing ever built in eugene

The riverfront bike system. Five bike bridges and miles and miles and miles of scenic, car free riverfront winding right through the middle of town make it hard to beat. In minutes downtown workers can take a lunch ride and see osprey, egrets, heron, geese, ducks, beaver dams and turtles while spinning carefree along a wild-looking river. Bike commuters can use the scenic system to zip into town. Tourists love it. With the new path through the restored Delta Ponds, new bike bridge connection being built over the freeway to north Eugene and plans and hopes to extend the bike path all the way to Mount Pisgah, the riverfront trails just keep getting better.

best sit-and-think spot

At the picnic bench above the parking lot at Skinner's Butte. With the city sprawled below you and nature behind you, thoughts fly fast and furious. Unless, of course, the usual Sunday group of drunken cyclists has beat you there. Then you should probably leave and resolve to not think as much.

best irreverent way to remember the hard to pronounce and harder to spell name of the new UO president

Dick Love

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