

BEST HANGOVER BREAKFAST

1. **Brails** 1689 Willamette St. 343-1542. [brailseugene.com](#).
2. **Glenwood Restaurant** 1340 Alder St. 687-0355; 2588 Willamette St. 687-8201.
3. **Studio One Café** 1473 E. 19th Ave. 342-8596.

BEST BURGER

1. **Cornucopia** 295 W. 17th Ave., 485-2300; 207 E. 5th Ave., 485-2300. [cornucopiaeugene.com](#).
2. **Killer Burger** 50 W. Broadway. 636-4731. [killerburger.biz](#).
3. **NorthWest Burgers** 296 E. 5th Ave. 485-9176. [nwburgers.com](#).

BEST COFFEE

1. **Wandering Goat** 268 Madison St. 344-5161. [wanderinggoat.com](#).
2. **Dutch Bros.** 1633 Coburg Rd.; 2115 Franklin Blvd.; 311 E. 11th Ave. [dutchbros.com](#).
3. **Full City** 295 E. 13th Ave., 465-9270; 842 Pearl St., 344-0475. [full-city.com](#).

Unseated in the 2014 popular vote by Dutch Brothers, the Whiteaker's Wandering Goat came roaring back this year to reclaim its place as Eugene's favorite purveyor of all things coffee. When asked what makes Goat coffee so top-notch, the café's operation manager Don Joe puts it succinctly: "Your roast is only as good as your green." What this means is that the folks at Wandering Goat carefully oversee the whole process, from the growing of the bean to its in-house roasting to talented baristas turning it into a tasty cup of joe or creamy shot of espresso. Wholesale manager Arthur Lawniczak says the Goat specializes in organic, shade-grown coffee, purchasing its beans largely from exclusive micro-lots (small growers) and supporting fair-trade farming, including all-women co-ops in Sumatra and Peru. Head roaster Samm Blaine specializes in medium roasts, which Lawniczak says gives the final product a more complex, full-bodied flavor than either light or dark roasts. And although a cup of Goat is best enjoyed at its eclectic, comfy café in the Whit, you can also find its coffee all over town — sold by the pound in local markets, served at restaurants like Marché Provisions, and infused in Red Wagon Creamery ice cream and espresso stout from Oakshire.

BEST ITALIAN

1. **Beppe and Gianni's** 1646 E. 19th Ave. 683-6661. [beppeandgiannis.net](#).
2. **Mazzi's** 3377 E. Amazon Dr. 687-2252. [mazzis.com](#).
3. **Noli Italian Café** 769 Monroe St. 844-1663. [noliitaliancafe.com](#).

BEST MEXICAN/LATIN AMERICAN

1. **Tacovore** 530 Blair Blvd. 735-3518. [tacovorepnw.com](#).
2. **Chapala Mexican Restaurant** 136 Oakway Center, 434-6113; 68 W. 29th Ave., 683-5458. [chapalamex.com](#).
3. **Membrillo Latin Kitchen** 1530 Willamette St. (458) 205-8470. [membrillolatinkitchen.com](#).

I know why the Tacovore *calavera* (skull) near 6th and Blair has a smug grin on its face: It's Tuesday evening and there's a line out the door. The place is packed elbow-to-elbow on a school night. The mind-scrambling racket of dozens of conversations happening all at once attests to Tacovore's popularity. Ye gods, Eugene loves its Tacovore. Last year, the young taqueria/cocktail bar took home Best of Eugene's silver medal for local Mexican eateries, but it cinched gold this time around. And there's stiff competition in Tacovore's field; Eugene has more Mexican kitchens than you can count. Though, Tacovore's menu is only Mexican-ish, the food tastes good. Taco prices are steep, but the portions are generous and the animals on the menu are free-range and grass-fed. Tacovore's cocktails [in mason jars for casual Pacific Northwest effect] are pretty stiff, too. But food is only part of Tacovore's appeal. Those drawn here seem equally stoked about being whisked away from the complicated Whiteaker neighborhood to a cleaner, more sheltered place ... like, say, the North Williams

neighborhood in Portland. The minds behind Tacovore seem to have borrowed heavily from the playbook of the hugely popular and controversial Portland taco shop ¿Por Que No? Purists may scoff at the idea of a \$3.75 taco, but it's hard to argue with the numbers. Tacovore is a smash hit.

BEST THAI

1. **Ta Ra Rin** 1200 Oak St. 343-1230. [tararin.com](#).
2. **Sabai** 27 Oakway Center. 654-5424. [sabaicafe.com](#).
3. **Tasty Thai** 1308 Hilyard St. 343-0165. [tastythaicampus.com](#).

BEST KOREAN

1. **Noodle Bowl** 860 Pearl St. 686-1114. [noodlebowlrestaurant.com](#).
2. **Chingu** 1466 W. 7th Ave. 687-6424.
3. **Café Seoul** 1930 Franklin Blvd. 687-2122.

BEST SUSHI

1. **Mame** 541 Blair Blvd. 654-4378.
2. **Sushi PURE** 296 E. 5th Ave. 654-0608. [pureeugene.com](#).
3. **Sushi Domo** 1020 Green Acres Rd., 343-0935; 2835 Oak St., 484-7008. [sushidomoeugene.com](#).

BEST PIZZA

1. **Mezza Luna** 933 Pearl St., 684-8900; 2776 Shadow View Dr., 743-2999. [mezzalunapizzeria.com](#).
2. **Sizzle Pie** 910 Willamette St. 683-7437. [sizzlepier.com](#).
3. **Pegasus** 2864 Willamette St., 344-9931; 790 E. 14th Ave., 344-4471; 4 Oakway Center, 344-0844. [pegasuspizza.net](#).

BEST COMFORT FOOD

1. **Papa's Soul Food Kitchen** 400 Blair Blvd. 342-7500. [papassoulfoodkitchen.com](#).
2. **Cornbread Café** 1290 W. 7th Ave. 505-9175. [cornbreadcafe.com](#).
3. **Cornucopia** 295 W. 17th Ave., 485-2300; 207 E. 5th Ave., 485-2300. [cornucopiaeugene.com](#).

You can't swing a dead cat on Blair Boulevard north of 6th Avenue very long without hitting a bar, restaurant or some combination thereof. No matter what you want, Blair's got you covered food-wise, especially now that the city's long-time favorite purveyor of barbecue and comfort cuisine moved into a small house on the corner of Blair and 4th. The grub at Papa's Soul Food Kitchen sticks to your ribs and wraps your mind snugly in a reassuring embrace. Close your eyes and hear the pulled pork gently murmur, "Chin up, slugger. Everything's gonna be OK." Papa's Three-Buck Mac & Cheese has got your back, too. "It can't rain all the time," it chirps, lightly. The need for such friendly consolation starts to feel more and more crucial as the winter battle against seasonal affective disorder wears on and no dosage of vitamin D supplements or time with your friends or light from special lamps can save you. That might be why Papa's Soul Food Kitchen has a lock on Best of Eugene's barbecue and comfort food categories. As an aside, whoever designed their menu should get a Best of Eugene award of his/her very own: The thing is beautiful.

BEST CHEAP EATS

1. **Burrito Boy** 2511 W. 11th Ave., 338-4219; 510 E. Broadway, 344-8070; 943 River Rd., 689-7970; 30 W. 10th Ave., 344-5856; 1071 Valley River Dr., 343-8089. [burritoboy.com](#).
2. **Café Yumm!** 730 E. Broadway, 344-9866; 1801 Willamette St., 686-9866; 130 Oakway Center; 465-9866. [cafeyumm.com](#).
3. **Laughing Planet** 760 Blair Blvd., 868-0668; 2864 Willamette St., 505-5399. [laughingplanet.com](#).

BEST PLACE TO EAT WITH KIDS

1. **Laughing Planet** 760 Blair Blvd., 868-0668; 2864 Willamette St., 505-5399. [laughingplanet.com](#).
2. **At home**
3. **Papa's Pizza** 1700 W. 11th Ave., 485-5555; 1577 Coburg Rd., 686-2240. [papaspizza.net](#).



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