



An LMU CBA Restaurant Guide



From LMU & Lincoln Blvd to LAX (organized by neighborhood) — Eats for Every Occasion

● Fast & Cheap ● Moderate ★ Upscale / Special Occasion

Check out OpenTable and Yelp to learn more, find additional restaurants, and lock down dinner reservations. For additional dining options near the beach, explore Manhattan Beach, Venice, and Santa Monica. You can also ask the concierge at your hotel for additional recommendations. This list expands on the one in the “Know Before You Go” guide.



Lincoln Blvd Corridor — June Hotel to LMU

Lincoln Blvd (~8300–8500 block) and adjacent · Walk-friendly from the June Hotel or Campus

● Fast & Cheap \$

◆ The Nook Breakfast Spot \$ · Diner

Classic American diner right across from LMU. Huge portions, chilaquiles, great service. Open 7am–3pm daily.

◆ Benny's Tacos & Rotisserie Chicken \$ · Mexican / Rotisserie

Casual Manchester Ave favorite near LMU. Generous tacos, burritos, breakfast options, rotisserie chicken, chips & salsa; easy for takeout or a quick group bite.

● Moderate \$\$

◆ Thai Talay \$\$ · Thai

Sit-down Thai with full bar. Pineapple fried rice, Pad See Ew, Tom Yum soup. Sophisticated atmosphere, open daily 11am–10pm.

◆ Alejo's Presto Trattoria \$\$ · Italian

Family-run Italian gem, 35+ years in business. Generous pastas, wonderful bread & oil dipping sauces. Closed Mondays.

◆ Taj India Palace \$\$ · Indian

Reliable Indian with a strong lunch special. Butter chicken and mango lassi are standouts. Open daily 11am–10pm.

◆ Italy's Little Kitchen \$\$ · Italian / Pizza

Warm neighborhood Italian on Lincoln with hand-tossed pizzas, fresh pastas, focaccia, wine and beer. Comfortable, close-by option for delegates staying near Hotel June.

◆ Cinco \$\$ · Mexican / Bar

Lively Manchester Ave spot near Hotel June. Tacos, margaritas, vegan-friendly choices, and a patio-bar feel that works well for informal dinners or happy hour.

◆ Caravan Cantina (Hotel June) \$\$ · Baja / Poolside

Hotel June's terrace restaurant overlooking the pool. Baja-inspired tacos, ceviche, frozen margaritas, Golden Hour specials, and complimentary valet with dine-in visits.

★ Upscale \$\$\$

◆ **The Manchester** \$\$\$ · *Cocktail Bar & Kitchen*

Moody, vintage era glam bar-kitchen on Lincoln. Beef tartare, creative small plates, great whiskey sours. A true neighborhood gem. Open from 4pm, closed Mon.



Westchester

Manchester Ave corridor · Quiet neighborhood with hidden gems

● Fast & Cheap \$

◆ **Shawarma Truck** \$ · *Middle Eastern*

Open 24 hours. Authentic Armenian lavash, lightly smoked chicken, perfectly balanced. Consistently called the best shawarma in LA.

◆ **Pann's** \$ · *Classic Diner*

A Google-era Westchester landmark for all-day breakfast, fried chicken, burgers and retro LA atmosphere. A fun local choice before or after LAX runs.

◆ **Spiceland Indian Kitchen** \$ · *Indian*

Tiny gem rated 4.9 ★. Lamb biryani, house-special chicken, sweet mint lassi. Outstanding lunch specials. Near Manchester & Osage.

● Moderate \$\$

◆ **Truxton's American Bistro** \$\$ · *American*

Beloved Westchester anchor. Huge menu, legendary monkey bread, great brunch & dinner. Enormous free parking lot. Open daily 9am–9/10pm.

◆ **Aliki's Greek Taverna** \$\$ · *Greek*

Hole-in-the-wall on Arbor Vitae. Gyros, moussaka, galaktoboureko dessert. Friendly atmosphere. Closed Mon & Sun; closes at 8pm.

★ Upscale \$\$\$

◆ **Shokudo Westchester** \$\$\$ · *Japanese / Korean*

Izakaya-style gem. Pork loin katsu (best in LA), hand-pulled udon, beautiful banchan. Impeccable service. Reservations strongly recommended.

◆ **Tomat** \$\$\$ · *Californian / Farm-to-Table*

Michelin Guide recognized. Hyper-seasonal California cuisine, rooftop seating, extraordinary pistachio croissants. Closed Mon–Tue.

◆ **Kanpai Japanese Sushi Bar** \$\$\$ · *Sushi / Japanese*

Fresh sushi, lively neighborhood setting, and a good option for a slightly more polished dinner without going far from Westchester or LAX.



Playa Del Rey

Culver Blvd & Vista Del Mar · Steps from the beach

● Fast & Cheap \$

◆ **Señor G's Fresh Mexican** \$ · *Mexican*

Counter-order burritos, tacos, fresh smoothies & frozen yogurt. A PDR staple for 7+ years. Closed Saturdays, no indoor seating.

◆ **Hank's Pizza** \$ · *Pizza*

Easy beach-town pizza stop for slices, pies and casual takeout. Good for delegates who want something simple after walking the beach or heading back toward LAX.

● **Moderate** \$\$

◆ **Cafe Boheme** \$\$ · *French Café*

Charming French café. Fresh croissants, croque madame, avocado toast. Dinner service (beef bourguignon!) Wed–Fri.

◆ **T.C. Organic** \$\$ · *Organic / Mexican*

Relaxed Culver Blvd café with breakfast, lunch, dinner, coffee, smoothies, juices, beer and wine; vegan and organic options make it a flexible group pick.

◆ **Hacienda Playa** \$\$ · *Mexican*

Colorful Playa del Rey sibling to Hacienda Del Rey with margaritas, fajitas, live-music energy and a beach-adjacent neighborhood vibe.

◆ **Playa Provisions** \$\$ · *Seafood / American*

The neighborhood anchor. Clam chowder in a bread bowl with real clam shells, fish tacos, poblano colada cocktail. Menu changes regularly featuring sea food and California Favorites. Beloved by locals and a Top Chef winner (Brooke Williamson).

★ **Upscale** \$\$\$

◆ **Bacari PDR** \$\$\$ · *Mediterranean Tapas*

String lights, gas lamps, and a converted parking-lot patio steps from the beach. Ricotta gnocchi, chicken schnitzel, fried chicken sliders. Terrific happy hour w/half price appetizers. Arrive before sunset. Reservations advised.

◆ **Penguni's.** \$\$\$ · *Italian*

Dean Smith's favorite "go to" classic authentic Italian by the beach with an amazing wine list
Lovely outdoor patio and walk the beach after dinner! Reservations advised.



Playa Vista

Jefferson Blvd & Runway area · Tech-hub neighborhood with great variety...there is always the Whole Foods Café and the overpriced but not to be missed Jenni's ice-cream among other gems in and around the area.

● **Fast & Cheap** \$

◆ **Hopdoddy Burger Bar** \$ · *Burgers*

Craft burgers with fresh-ground beef, housemade buns, and inventive toppings. Great shakes too. Casual, fast, and consistently good.

◆ **LOQUI** \$ · *Mexican / Tacos*

Fast-casual Runway favorite for tacos, bowls and flour tortillas. A quick, flavorful option near Whole Foods and the main Playa Vista dining cluster.

● **Moderate** \$\$

◆ **Sol Mexican Cocina** \$\$ · *Mexican*

Upscale-casual Mexican with a lively patio. Fresh guacamole, wood-grilled proteins, great margaritas. A Playa Vista go-to for happy hour and an LMU community favorite

◆ **Dan Mein** \$\$ · *Ramen / Asian*

Elevated noodle and dumpling bar in the Runway. Chef favorites, Rich broths, hand-crafted noodles, and inventive toppings. Popular for lunch and dinner.

◆ **Joliet Café & Bar** \$\$ · *Café / Bar*

Stylish all-day Runway option for brunch, client lunches or relaxed dinners. Good patio energy and a polished but approachable setting. The Mac n Cheese is another LMU favorite.

◆ **Ritrovo Playa Vista** \$\$ · *Italian*

Homey Italian spot with pastas, pizzas and wine. Works well for smaller groups wanting a quieter dinner near the Runway.



Marina Del Rey

Admiralty Way & Washington Blvd · Waterfront dining with harbor views....this is just a small subset of what you can find in this area...check out the Abbott Kinney area adjacent for more options.

● Fast & Cheap \$

◆ **Starbird Chicken** \$ · *Fast Casual Chicken*

Fresh crispy chicken tenders, elote chicken salad, inventive sauces. Allergy-aware staff. Great quick lunch. Open 10:30am–10pm.

◆ **Thomas Cafe Hamburgers** \$ · *Burgers / Tacos*

Almost 50 years old. Fish tacos (\$4.99), pastrami sandwiches, gyro. No frills, great value. Open 7am daily.

◆ **Killer Shrimp** \$\$ · *Seafood / Casual*

Marina classic for saucy shrimp, seafood plates and a lively harbor-adjacent feel. Good for low-key groups who want something distinctively MDR.

◆ **Hinano Cafe** \$ · *Dive Bar & Burgers*

Venice Beach legend. The cheeseburger is iconic. Jukebox, pool tables, surfboards overhead, sawdust floors. Steps from the boardwalk. Open 8am–2am.

● Moderate \$\$

◆ **Ronnie's Diner** \$\$ · *Diner*

Bright, friendly diner on Culver. Stuffed French toast, fresh salsa, Roman bowl. Great weekend brunch. Breakfast & lunch only, 7am–2:30pm.

◆ **Ayara Thai Cuisine** \$\$ · *Thai*

Westside favorite for Thai takeout or sit-down meals. Crowd-pleasers include curries, noodles, salads and rotating specials; a strong choice for groups craving bold flavors.

◆ **UOVO Marina del Rey** \$\$ · *Italian Pasta*

Handmade pasta flown in fresh from Italy, set on the marina. Cherry tomato pasta, truffle udon, broccolini. No reservations usually needed.

◆ **Beachside Restaurant & Bar** \$\$ · *American Waterfront*

Hotel restaurant with a beautiful marina view. Great breakfast, reliable lunch and dinner. Valet parking \$12 with validation.

◆ **SALT Restaurant & Bar** \$\$ · *Californian Waterfront*

Marina del Rey Hotel restaurant with breakfast, dinner, cocktails and sunset harbor views. Strong choice for delegates looking for an easy waterfront meal.

◆ **The Warehouse** \$\$ · *Steak / Waterfront*

Long-running Polynesian-style waterfront spot with big-group capacity and marina views. Best for casual group dinners and classic MDR atmosphere.

★ Upscale \$\$\$

◆ **Scopa Italian Roots** \$\$\$ · *Italian*

One of the westside's very best Italian restaurants. Handmade squash blossom fritto, rigatoni with vodka sauce, the garlic-rubbed ciabatta bread is legendary. Open from 5pm.

- ◆ **PLANTA Cocina** \$\$\$ · *Vegan / Creative*
Spectacular fully plant-based dining on the marina. Bang bang broccoli, firecracker sushi, Udon noodles with truffle sauce. Beautiful waterfront terrace. Must-try even for non-vegans.
- ◆ **Dear Jane's** \$\$\$ · *Seafood*
Retro-nautical dockside seafood with tiki patio overlooking the boats. Great happy hour bar deals. Open Tue–Sat from 5:30pm.
- ◆ **Coni'Seafood** \$\$\$ · *Mexican Seafood*
Nayarit-style mariscos just east of the marina. Known for whole grilled fish, shrimp dishes and bright ceviches; a great detour for seafood lovers.
- ◆ **Cast & Plow (Ritz-Carlton)** \$\$\$\$ · *Hotel Fine Dining*
Harbor-view fine dining inside the Ritz-Carlton. The octopus appetizer is a standout. All-day service. Premium experience at premium prices.

El Segundo

Main St, Grand Ave & Rosecrans · South Bay small-town charm

Fast & Cheap \$

- ◆ **Wendy's Place** \$ · *Diner*
Cash only country diner on Grand Ave. Chicken fried steak, great omelettes, lowest prices in the area. Vintage atmosphere. Open from 6am. Closed Mon.
- ◆ **Little Gourmet** \$ · *Sandwiches & Pizza*
Tiny Main St shop. The Sam Special (hot, with everything) is legendary. Jalapeño pizza surprisingly great. Super friendly staff. Closed Sunday.
- ◆ **The Kebab Shop** \$ · *Mediterranean / Halal*
On PCH. Halal chicken shawarma bowls, saffron + truffle rice combo, excellent cilantro sauce. Fresh and flavorful. Open daily 10:30am–9pm.
- ◆ **Raising Cane's** \$ · *Chicken Tenders*
Open until 3:30am. Consistent crispy tenders, signature dipping sauce, Texas toast. Great late-night South Bay option.
- ◆ **¡Jaime! Taqueria & Breakfast Burritos** \$ · *Mexican*
Main Street stop for breakfast burritos, tacos and casual Mexican plates. Easy, friendly, and convenient for quick meals in downtown El Segundo.

Moderate \$\$

- ◆ **Big Mike's** \$\$ · *Cheesesteaks & Subs*
Philly cheesesteaks, chicken parm subs, salads. Solid South Bay lunch spot. Closed Sunday; lunch hours only (10:30am–3pm).
- ◆ **Jame Enoteca** \$\$ · *Italian*
Beloved Main Street pasta spot from Chef Jackson Kalb. Hand-rolled pastas, salads, sandwiches and a neighborhood feel; reservations are smart for dinner.
- ◆ **Sausal** \$\$ · *Mexican / Southwestern*
Refined Mexican and Southwestern cooking on Main Street with a warm dining room and strong cocktails. Good for conference-adjacent group dinners.
- ◆ **Kagura El Segundo** \$\$ · *Japanese / Tonkatsu*

Quiet Main Street favorite for crispy tonkatsu sets, sushi and sake. A nice alternative when delegates want something comforting and not too formal.

★ Upscale \$\$\$

◆ **Eddie V's Prime Seafood** \$\$\$\$ · *Fine Dining Seafood*

Top-tier seafood & steakhouse. Crab-fried rice, crab-stuffed shrimp, impeccable service. Live music. Smart-casual dress expected. Valet \$12 (or free garage with validation).

◆ **Fleming's Prime Steakhouse** \$\$\$\$ · *Steakhouse*

Classic upscale steakhouse at the Rosecrans retail center. Tomahawk Tuesday deal worth knowing about. Exceptional wine bar program.



Century Blvd / LAX Corridor

Sepulveda to Airport Blvd · Convenient dining for pre- and post-flight

● Fast & Cheap \$

◆ **Melo Burger** \$ · *Burgers & Burritos*

Open 24 hours near LAX. Great asada fries, massive malts with 50¢ flavor add-ons, big burritos. A reliable late-night go-to.

◆ **Denny's (Century Blvd)** \$ · *Diner*

Not glamorous, but dependable when flights run late. Pancakes, burgers, coffee and late-night basics close to the airport hotels.

● Moderate \$\$

◆ **The Daily Grill (Westin LAX)** \$\$ · *American Grill*

Open 6:30am–10/11pm. Reliable American classics, skirt steak, loaded mac & cheese. Surprisingly solid for an airport hotel. Great service.

◆ **Studio 12 Bar & Lounge** \$\$\$ · *Lounge / American*

Hotel lounge near LAX with live piano music. Good Cal-American food. Smart vibe for a proper pre- or post-flight sit-down meal.

◆ **Andiamo (Hilton LAX)** \$\$\$ · *Italian*

Northern Italian-inspired hotel dining with validated parking. A convenient, quieter option for business dinners near the airport.

◆ **Hangar 18 Bar + Kitchen** \$\$ · *Bar / American*

LAX Marriott lobby restaurant-bar with craft beer, cocktails and casual plates. Easy for travelers already staying along Century Blvd.

◆ **Century Taproom** \$\$ · *American / Bar*

Hyatt-adjacent bar option for sandwiches, burgers, pizza and a quick drink. Convenient when delegates want to stay close to the airport hotels.

★ Upscale \$\$\$

◆ **JW Steakhouse (Marriott LAX)** \$\$\$\$ · *Steakhouse*

Prime beef steakhouse steps from the airport. Exceptional ribeye, French onion soup, crab cakes, and arguably the best crème brûlée near LAX.

◆ **Lumière (Fairmont Century City)** \$\$\$\$ · *French Fine Dining*

Elegant French restaurant at the Fairmont. Escargot, foie gras, wild sea bass. A refined pre-flight splurge. Located just off Century Blvd.

 *Tip: Always check hours before heading out — some spots close early or have limited days.*

 *Guide current as of June 2026*