

KATY'S MASSIVE MAC MELTDOWN



These local eateries have found unique ways to curb your mac and cheese cravings

Written by Kirsten Cornell

A love for a hearty bowl of mac and cheese doesn't always fade with childhood. For those looking for a fun twist on an old classic, we've cultivated a list of some of the tastiest dishes in town. Be prepared to savor these adult versions of America's favorite pasta.

Applebee's Grill & Bar

19625 Restaurant Row, Houston | 281-579-3580
applebees.com

Applebee's raises the bar with their 4-cheese mac and cheese with honey pepper chicken tenders. The sweet and savory spice provided by the honey pepper in the breading of the chicken tenders balances the richness of this dish. If that isn't enough to tickle your taste buds, it's then loaded with Applewood smoked bacon.

The Capital Grille

840 W. Sam Houston Pkwy. N., Houston | 713-463-5051
thecapitalgrille.com

How can you improve on freshly grated cheese melted to perfection and blended with tender pasta? Mix it with fresh Maine lobster of course. The salt of the pasta offset by the sweetness of the lobster is as decadent and marvelous as it sounds. The serving is enough to share but after your first bite, you may not want to.

Cheddar's Scratch Kitchen

21150 Katy Fwy. | 281-578-0593
cheddars.com

Known for down-home dishes like chicken pot pie and chicken fried steak, their cheesy goodness is ranked just as high. Cheddar's mac and cheese is a traditional favorite mixed with two creamy cheeses and served with toasted garlic bread when ordered as a bowl. You can also order this delicious made-from-scratch side as an accompaniment to your dish.

The Cheesecake Factory

303 Memorial City, Memorial City | 713-932-6344
thecheesecakefactory.com

Who needs a fork to enjoy this tasty side? The Cheesecake Factory has turned America's top-rated pasta dish into a hand-held appetizer with fried macaroni and cheese. Crispy, crumb coated balls of delicious, velvety mac and cheese that you can then dip in marinara sauce before popping in your mouth. Now that's a game changer.

Chili's Grill & Bar Restaurant

3130 W. Grand Pkwy. S. | 281-574-3220
21865 Katy Fwy. | 281-398-3987
chilis.com

For a side of pasta with a kick, try Chili's southwestern mac and cheese. A spicy blend of Monterey Jack and cheddar cheese collides with chopped green chiles to create a fiesta on your fork. Baked to full cheesy goodness with a dust of bread crumbs, you'll be practicing your salsa steps for more.

Corner Bakery Café

19355 Katy Fwy. | 832-772-9874
cornerbakerycafe.com

This isn't your mother's mac and cheese, but it's just as tasty. Corner Bakery takes cavatappi pasta and tosses it with a blend of three cheeses to create their coveted dish. Step it up a notch and order the bacon tomato mac and three cheese - pasta tossed with Applewood smoked bacon, diced tomatoes, and a blend of cheeses. You'll rocket back to your childhood in no time.

THE CHEESECAKE
FACTORY FRIED
MAC-N-CHEESE



CHILI'S BAR &
GRILL SOUTHWESTERN
MAC AND CHEESE



CORNER BAKERY
CAFÉ BACON MAC
AND CHEESE





DISH SOCIETY
MAC AND CHEESE

Dish Society

23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd. | 281-394-7555
dishesociety.com

The popular farm-to-table concept eatery has introduced patrons to many tasty side dishes including citrus quinoa relish, smoked gouda grits, and balsamic bacon Brussels sprouts. But few are as popular as the truffle mac and cheese. Made with a rich mixture of smoked gouda, white cheddar, and gruyere, the truffle mac is then topped with toasted bread crumbs. Even adults salivate over this creamy dish.

Macaroni House

6501 S. Fry Rd. | 832-437-7991
macaronihouse.com

Macaroni House boasts a gourmet twist on this traditional American favorite. There are several vegetarian options including primavera mac or the mushroom mac, which features roasted portabella mushrooms, mascarpone, and fontina topped with caramelized onions. Texans will love digging into the brisket mac: elbow macaroni mixed with smoked brisket, American and mozzarella cheese, then topped with pepperoncini.

Newk's Eatery

20802 Katy Fwy. | 281-647-6100
newks.com

Newk's created unprecedented goodness when they combined Asiago, Vermont white cheddar, imported Parmesan, and Ammerländer Swiss cheeses, folded them into elbow pasta, then topped with yellow cheddar, and baked the cheesy concoction to a golden brown, five cheese perfection. If your mouth isn't already watering, they also have a six cheese pimiento with bacon which takes all the rich flavors of their five cheese dish, adds a kick of pimento cheese, and tops the whole thing with crumbled bacon.

Panera Bread

Multiple locations
panerabread.com

You are in for a treat when you order up the mac at Panera Bread. Tender shell pasta tossed with a blend of rich cheeses including their tangy Vermont white cheddar cheese sauce. Order as a large bowl and make a meal out of it, or pair with a sweet salad or flatbread sandwich.

Romano's Macaroni Grill

7607 FM 1960 Rd. W., Houston | 281-955-1388
macaronigrill.com

Start with their signature mac and cheese bites: crisp-fried four-cheese pasta served with melt-in-your-mouth truffle dip. Once your palate is warmed up, you're ready for the truffle mac and cheese entrée. Ditalini pasta is smothered in asiago, fontina, imported smoked mozzarella, cheddar, pecorino, drizzled with truffle oil, and topped ever so delicately with brioche bread crumbs. **KM**

KATY'S LITTLE MACS

Try these Katy locations for excellent mac and cheese options offered on the kid's menu. We asked the experts themselves!

Buffalo Wild Wings

Multiple locations
buffalowildwings.com

Jason's Deli

21953 Katy Fwy.
jasonsdeli.com

Kentucky Fried Chicken

Multiple locations
kfc.com

Landry's Seafood House

22215 Katy Fwy.
landryseafood.com

Luby's

485 S. Mason Rd.
24033 Cinco Ranch Blvd.
lubys.com

Olive Garden

21220 Katy Fwy.
olivegarden.com

Popeyes Louisiana Kitchen

Multiple locations
popeyes.com

Saltgrass Steak House

21855 Katy Fwy.
saltgrass.com

Sammy's Sports Grill

Multiple locations
sammysportsgrillandbar.com

Spring Creek Barbeque

21000 Katy Fwy.
springcreekbarbeque.com

Texas Roadhouse

20840 Katy Fwy.
texasroadhouse.com

Texas Tradition

5321 Highway Blvd.

Willie's Grill & Icehouse

19905 Katy Fwy.
williesgrillandicehouse.com



KIRSTEN CORNELL is the lead associate editor at Katy Magazine. The secret ingredients to her creamy mac and cheese are eggs and sour cream.

Katy Taste Fest

For early bird specials and more details
www.KatyTasteFest.com

General Admission

\$25 in advance
 \$30 at event

(Includes unlimited tastes and 4 beer/wine samples)

Children's Tickets

\$8

(Includes 1 Chick-fil-A kid's meal & unlimited access to Kids Zone)



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DISH SOCIETY

KATY, TEXAS
 LOCAL TABLE

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Thai Spice
 Asian Gourmet



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Benefitting Armor of Hope, Helping Kids Ministry, Katy Cares and Krause Children's Center

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