

Photo by Shanna Kenney

Katy's Top Happy Hour Destinations

Your guide to enjoying Katy's
most tantalizing social-hour specials

Written by Cherri Northcutt

Beef fajitas, Mexican rice, and a
fresa margarita at Los Cucos

Happy hour is a time to relax and unwind after a hard day or kick back with friends and enjoy a drink or two. But happy hour is not just about the drinks. There are a lot of delectable snacks and appetizers to try, making happy hour even happier. No more pretzels and peanuts - these snacks are sure to spoil your appetite for dinner.

BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse

20536 Katy Fwy. | 281-769-1850

At BJ's happy hour is Monday through Friday from 3 to 6 p.m. and Sunday through Thursday, 9 to 11 p.m. This fall, happy hour is also extended to anytime during a pro football game. In addition to drink specials, there are lots of great specials on snacks and appetizers. BJ's offers mini deep dish pizza, prepared with their signature five-cheese blend for only \$6. An order of four sliders with grilled onions, lettuce, and pickles is only \$5 during happy hour.

Bonefish Grill

2643 Commercial Center Blvd. | 281-394-5099

Stop by Bonefish Grill in LaCenterra and enjoy \$1 off draft beer and \$3.50 wines daily from 4 to 6:30 p.m. They also offer specials on their signature cocktails including the fresh pear martini, with freshly muddled pears and garnished with an edible flower. Enjoy a taste of the season with the fall apple martini, including soaked apples, a touch of honey, and topped with cinnamon sprinkle. On Wednesday nights you can try their famous bang bang shrimp, tossed in a creamy spicy sauce, all night for only \$6.

Chuy's

21300 Katy Fwy. | 832-772-1277

Stop by Chuy's for happy hour, Monday through Friday from 4 to 7 p.m. and enjoy their famous, free, fully-loaded nacho car. General manager Mark Novak says, "Our nacho car is the back end of a 1956 Chevy Bellaire, piled high with nacho chips, queso, beans, and ground sirloin." You can help yourself to a plate of nachos at the bar anytime during happy hour. Another great option is the deluxe quesadillas with chicken fajita meat, cheese, green chilies, and onions or the appetizer plate, which includes the deluxe quesadillas along with chicken flautas, chile con queso, guacamole, and sour cream.

Hasta La Pasta

1450 W. Grand Pkwy. S. | 281-392-0045

Stop by for happy hour Monday through Friday from 4 to 7 p.m. Kimberly Gattis owns and runs Hasta La Pasta with her husband Eric. "We have \$1.99 house wine, domestic beer, frozen margaritas, bellinis, and house-made sangria during happy hour," Gattis says. She suggests any of their \$5.99 appetizers to go with your bevies. "We have bruschetta, toasted ravioli, calamari, fried zucchini, and sausage with peppers," Gattis says. The calamari is lightly breaded, fried, and served with artichokes. The fried zucchini comes with pomodoro and ranch sauces.



Photo by Shanna Kenney

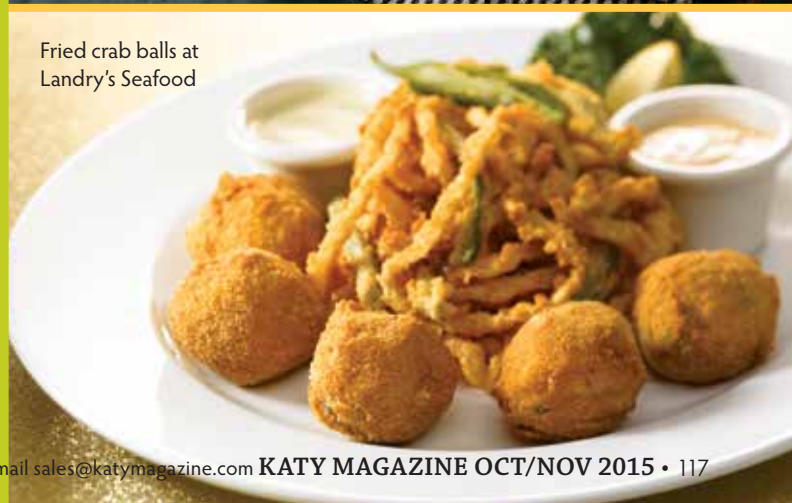
Texas Border's buffalo sliders and French fries



Perry's Steakhouse chateaubriand and asparagus



Spinach and artichoke dip at Saltgrass Steakhouse



Fried crab balls at Landry's Seafood

Landry's Seafood

22215 Katy Fwy. | 281-392-0452

Kyle Simms, general manager at Landry's in Katy, says, "We have happy hour seven days a week, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., with drink specials on beer, wine, and cocktails." The food prices are pretty special too. Simms adds, "We have tiers of appetizers like the battered onion strings and jalapenos, served with ranch dressing for dipping at just \$4." For shrimp lovers there are the fire cracker shrimp poppers, tempura fried in a sweet chili glaze or stuffed shrimp brochette, large bacon-wrapped shrimp stuffed with seafood, jack cheese, and jalapenos, which can be had for only \$7 during happy hour. "Another must-try app is the fried crab balls," Simms says. "They're great with cocktail sauce and served with a side of onion strings for \$5."

Los Cucos

5831 Highway Blvd. | 281-391-9466

Los Cucos manager Luis Toro proudly recommends the family appetizer platter at happy hour. "It's a big variety of bite-sized snack foods, with enough for everyone to share," says Toro. The platter comes with chicken flautas, stuffed jalapenos, beef fajita nachos, chicken quesadillas, and chile con queso. Happy hour at Los Cucos is all day Monday and Tuesday, and from 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday through Friday. Happy hour food specials are served Monday through Friday, 3 to 6 p.m. and include chicken taquitos, shrimp cocktail, and ceviche served with chips.

Perry's Steakhouse

23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd. | 281-347-3600

Monday through Friday Perry's Steakhouse offers specials on their social hour menu from 4 to 6:30 p.m. With delicious select appetizers and signature cocktails for half the price, your experience at Perry's is bound to be blissful. Try their delicious escargot or pork chop bites for \$7.95 each, with a cucumber blueberry martini for \$6.

Saltgrass Steakhouse

21855 Katy Fwy. | 281-647-9400

"Saltgrass Steakhouse has a happy hour that is incomparable," says corporate beverage manager Brian Webb. "We offer a large selection of local and imported beers for less than \$3 and several premium wines for under \$5. At Saltgrass, you can enjoy value drinks without having to compromise quality." To go with your libations, Webb recommends the range rattlers. "We take jumbo jalapenos and stuff them with jack cheese and whole shrimp, then we fry it to a golden brown." Another popular choice is the creamy, satisfying spinach and artichoke dip, served with crisp tortilla chips and salsa. Both are available for only \$6 in the bar area during happy hour, Monday through Friday from 3 to 7 p.m.

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Perry's Steakhouse's famous fried asparagus garnished with chives and a lemon half



Mini martinis served at Perry's Steakhouse



Bonefish Grill's famous bang bang shrimp



Beer-battered fish tacos with pepper jack cheese and avocado salsa served at Landry's Seafood

Texas Borders Bar & Grill

20940 Katy Fwy. | 281-578-8785
See ad on page 182

At Texas Borders Bar & Grill, happy hour runs all day on Monday and from 3 to 7 p.m. the rest of the week. "We have some awesome apps and different specials for every day of the week," says Kellie Messer. The Texas Borders hot bites are only \$3 during happy hour. Choose from fried pickles, onion rings, or cheese sticks with marinara. "For bigger appetites we have \$6 buffalo chicken, a cheeseburger, or pulled pork sliders served with fries," Messer says. Another great choice is the mini crab meat quesadilla with pico.

TGI Friday's

5304 Bell Patina Dr. | 281-644-6625

Any time can be happy hour at TGI Friday's with their new endless choice of appetizers. You can get endless refills on your choice of appetizers for only \$12 or, for \$10, you can have endless refills of one favorite appetizer. There are new selections on the menu as well including spicy sriracha chicken potato skins loaded with asiago-queso, and French onion dumplings filled with caramelized onions and topped with melted Swiss cheese. Pair that with one of their famous smoothies like the mango passion smoothie with organic agave, passion fruit, and mango purees. **KM**

CHERRI NORTHCUTT enjoys dining out with friends and family in Katy. Her favorite happy hour snacks always include nachos.

More Great Happy Hours in Katy

Black Walnut Café - \$4 mimosas, and other cocktails, \$3 fried pickles, and \$4 quesadillas M-F, 7 - 10:30 a.m. and 3 - 6:30 p.m.

Jimmy Changa's - \$2.50 draft beer, \$9 Tex-Mex egg rolls, M-F, 12 - 6 p.m.

Johnny Carino's - \$2 off appetizers and pizza, M-F, 3 - 7 p.m.

Kublai Khan - \$5 sushi rolls, M-F, 3 - 6 p.m.

Las Mañanitas - \$3.50 margaritas, \$7.50 shrimp nachos, M-F, 3-7 p.m.

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