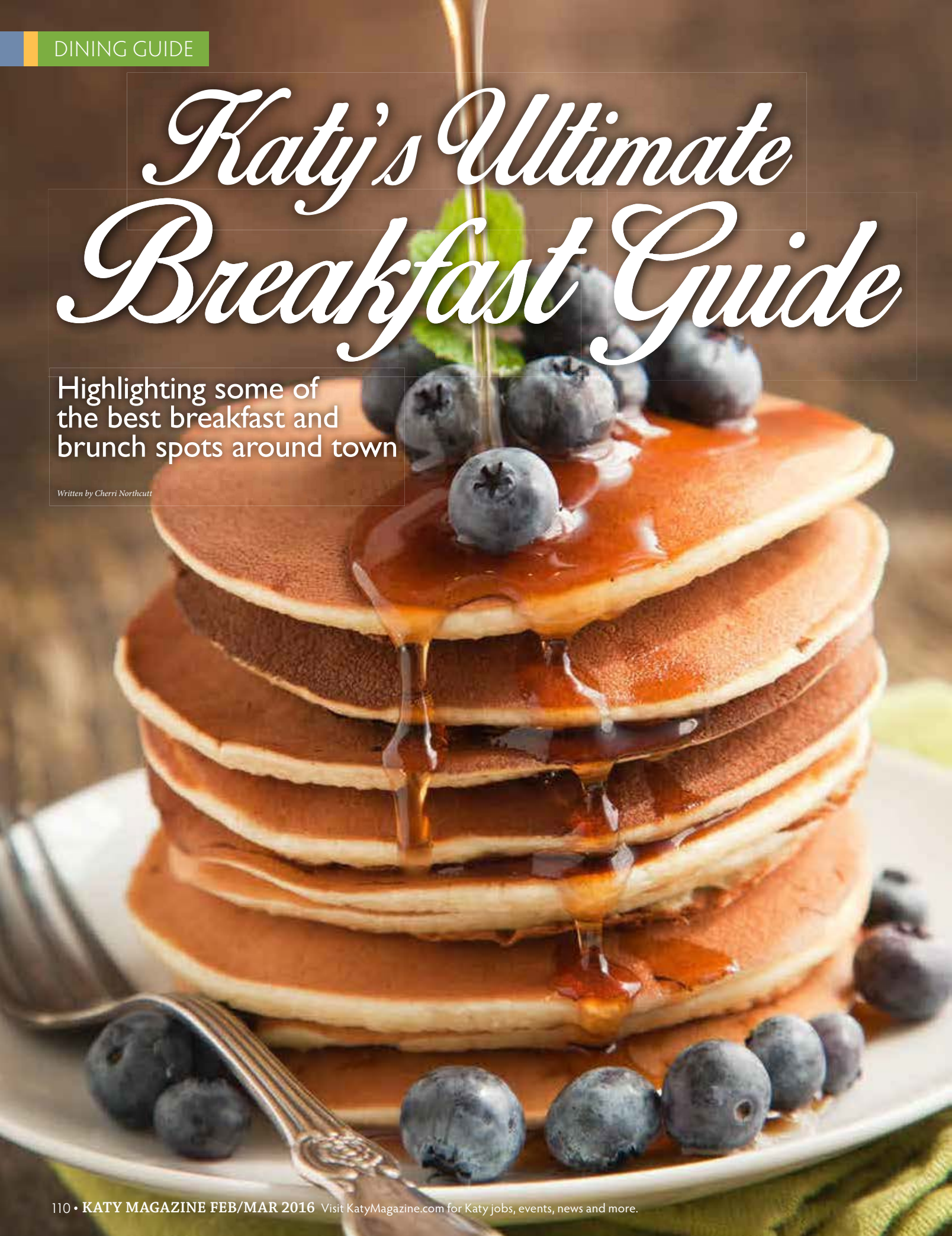


Katy's Ultimate Breakfast Guide

Highlighting some of
the best breakfast and
brunch spots around town

Written by Cheri Northcutt





Big steak omelet at IHOP



Try the French Toast

Nutella French toast at Dish Society

Take heed breakfast lovers. Terrific egg dishes, irresistible breads and spreads - Katy has it all - and we are ready to lay it all out. Welcome to Katy's ultimate breakfast guide.

ALL-DAY BREAKFAST

Corner Bakery Café

19355 Katy Fwy., Houston
832-772-9874

Stop in to the Corner Bakery Café for a wide variety of breakfast options, from oatmeal and sandwiches to pancakes and eggs. Houston director Sarah Greenberg recommends the Anaheim scrambler. "With smoked bacon, scrambled eggs, avocado, cheddar, tomato, and green onions, it's our most popular item," she says. It comes with fried potatoes and toast, or it can be served as a panini.

Cracker Barrel

18151 Katy Fwy., Houston
281-492-1585

Manager Jesse Ghitman recommends the sunrise sampler or the old timer's breakfast. "The sunrise sampler is for big appetites. It comes with two eggs, buttermilk biscuits with gravy, grits, fried apples, hashbrown casserole and three kinds of meat including bacon, ham, and smoked sausage." If you're not quite that

hungry, the old timer's breakfast has two eggs, biscuits and gravy, grits, and your choice of either fried apples or the hashbrown casserole, plus your choice of meat. And don't forget mama's pancake breakfast. Three buttermilk pancakes with your choice of any fruit topping or syrup plus two eggs and either sausage patties, bacon, turkey sausage, or turkey bacon.

Denny's

Multiple locations
dennys.com

"The lumberjack slam is our top breakfast seller," says Ifte Ahmed, manager at the Denny's on Fry Road. "On the lumberjack, we have two buttermilk pancakes, grilled ham, bacon, sausage links, two eggs, hash browns, and a choice of toast, a biscuit, or an English muffin." If you're feeling like a change from pancakes, there's a Belgian waffle slam and a French toast slam as well. For lighter appetites, try the veggie omelet or heart healthy scramble.

IHOP

19989 Katy Fwy., Houston
281-398-8667

With pancake stacks that look more like a decadent dessert, IHOP is an old standby for breakfast any time of the day. The New York cheesecake pancakes with real cheesecake pieces cooked inside are a delectable choice. Craig Hoffman, a marketing rep for IHOP says, "They come topped with strawberries in glaze, powdered sugar, and whipped topping."

Mama's pancake breakfast at Cracker Barrel



Tasty Home Cooking

Bacon cheeseburger Benedict at Black Walnut Café





Assorted pastries at Panera Bread



Chick-n-minis and a chicken biscuit at Chick-fil-A

Another sweet delight is the French toast at IHOP. "We're always coming up with new and innovative recipes to please our customers," Hoffman adds. "We have several French toast varieties to choose from, all made with our vanilla, cinnamon, and real cream batter." The stuffed French toast starts with cinnamon raisin toast stuffed with cream filling, topped with a choice of fruit.

La Madeleine Country French Café

23322 Mercantile Pkwy.
281-395-2888

At La Madeleine, you can enjoy your breakfast at a leisurely pace by the fireplace. Manager Leony Sutarko says, "Our top item would be the country French breakfast with two eggs, our delicious potato galette, sausage or bacon, and a fresh buttery croissant." Another popular selection is the Parisian eggs Benedict; two poached eggs on a croissant with ham, bacon, and La Madeleine's specialty hollandaise sauce. "You can always order a custom omelet," Sutarko says. Though breakfast items are served all day, the Parisian eggs Benedict is only available until 11 a.m. during the week and until 1 p.m. on weekends.

Los Roberto's Taco Shop

3200 S. Fry Rd.
281-717-8950

For authentic Mexican breakfast dishes, Los Roberto's Taco Shop has it all, from breakfast tacos to big breakfast platters. Manager Lizeth Castaneza says, "Our huevos rancheros plate is our number one seller for breakfast. It has beans and potatoes with ham or bacon." Castaneza also recommends the Machaca. "It's a fantastic dish with eggs, shredded beef, onions, bell peppers, and tomato, and we serve it with rice, beans, and guacamole. People love it."

Torchy's Tacos

23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd.
281-394-7808

Next time you're shopping at LaCenterra, stop in to Torchy's Tacos for their amazing breakfast tacos. Manager John Potts says, "The monk special is what most people order. It's just a simple egg taco with bacon, green chiles, and cheese." Migas is another preferred choice. "Migas has scrambled egg, corn tortilla strips, shredded cheese, avocado, and pico de gallo."

BREAKFAST HOT SPOTS

Black Walnut Café

23233 Cinco Ranch Blvd.
281-371-2233

Breakfast Hours: Mon. - Fri. until 11 a.m., Weekends until 3pm. Haydar Kustu, manager of Black Walnut Café, recommends the Napoleon French toast. "It is very popular for breakfast and brunch." It's made with candied walnuts, English cream, strawberries, and powdered sugar. "Another great choice would be our scratch-made kolaches with sausage, bacon, or ham, and mozzarella or cheddar cheese," says Kustu. Some breakfast menu items are available all day.

Chick-fil-A

Multiple locations
chick-fil-a.com

Breakfast Hours: Mon. - Sat. 6 - 10:30 a.m

For a quick breakfast on the go, Chick-fil-A has you covered. "Our chicken biscuits and chick-n-minis are both big favorites," says Claudia Richter, marketing director of the Katy Mills Chick-fil-A. "Another good way to start the day is with our Greek yogurt parfait. It has half the sugar and twice the protein of other yogurts and comes with fresh blueberries, strawberries, and either harvest nut granola or chocolate cookie crumbs." She also recommends a piping hot cup of Thrive coffee. "It's a sustainable source and you're doing a good thing for the farmers."

Dish Society

23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd.
281-394-7555

Breakfast Hours: Mon. - Fri. 7 - 10:45 a.m.

Brunch Hours: Sat. 7 a.m. - 3 p.m., Sun. 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Dish Society has an extensive breakfast and brunch menu with options ranging from quinoa to biscuits and gravy. "The favorite with our customers would be the brisket n' eggs," says owner Aaron Lyons. It includes grass-fed brisket garnished with tomatillo relish, two open-range eggs cooked sunny-side up, a buttermilk biscuit, and smoked gouda grits. Other popular choices are the southwest scramble made with black beans and roasted corn pico, or pork belly hash made with jalapeños and avocado hollandaise. "On weekday mornings people like the Nutella on French toast or our breakfast tacos," adds Lyons.

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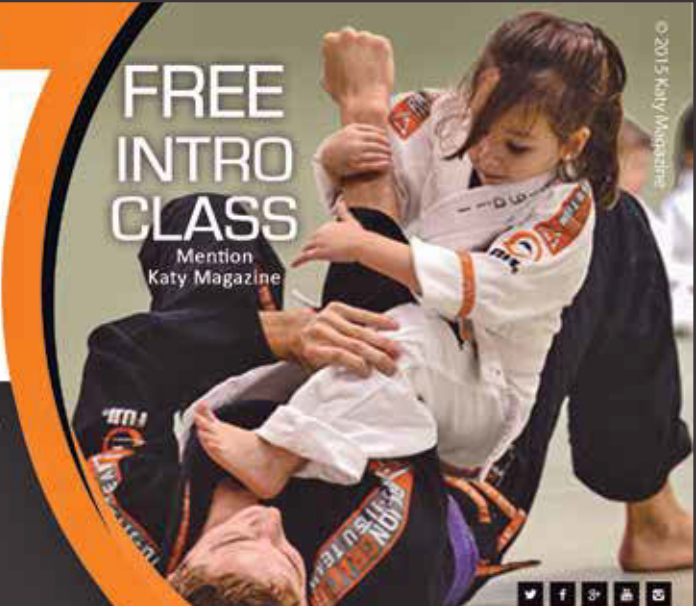


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Mi Pueblito Colombian Restaurant

402 W. Grand Pkwy. S.

281-665-8690

Breakfast Hours: Mon. - Sun. until 11 a.m.

Visit Mi Pueblito Colombian Restaurant for an authentic Colombian breakfast that you won't find anywhere else in Katy. The tamal tolimense is steamed corn dough with chicken and pork, wrapped in plantain leaves. Calentado con carne o huevos is a mix of red beans, pork belly, rice, pork sausage, and served with scrambled eggs or grilled steak.

Panera Bread

19502 Katy Fwy., Houston

281-398-6100

23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd.

281-395-6100

Breakfast Hours: 6 a.m. - 11 a.m. daily

"We take pride in offering foods that are not only good, but also good for you," says Janet Ixcoy, manager of Panera Bread LaCenterra's location. Top breakfast items are the power sandwiches. "The turkey sausage, egg white, and spinach power sandwich is less fattening than many traditional breakfast sandwiches," Ixcoy explains. The ham and egg power sandwich is another favorite with lean ham, white cheddar, and a fresh egg on whole grain miche bread.

Snappy's Café and Grill

5803 Highway 90

281-391-8163

Breakfast Hours: Mon. - Sat. 6 a.m. - 3 p.m., Sun. 6 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Snappy's Café is a favorite among locals for breakfast in old Katy. Co-owner Alex Tsounakas says, "The pork chops and eggs is our most popular breakfast." It's served with either grits, hash browns, or home fries and your choice of toast, biscuit, or English muffin. Another hometown favorite is deuces, which is three eggs, bacon, sausage, and two pancakes. "You can substitute French toast or biscuits and gravy for the pancakes if you like," Tsounakas adds. **KM**

CHERRI NORTHCUTT is a freelance writer in Katy. She enjoys breakfast foods at all times of the day and her family says she is addicted to scrambled eggs.

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