

# THE ULTIMATE TACO CHECKLIST

Katy Magazine is bringing the flavor and turning up the heat with our guide to the best taco joints in town

*Written by Kennan Buckner and Kirsten Cornell | Select photography by Reinaldo Medina*

You won't find just any ordinary tacos on our list. Topping tortillas with ingredients like mango relish, fried chicken, haba ero peppers, pineapple, or spicy avocado cream, these restaurants offer up some sizzling Mexican cuisine perfect for family night, date night, or girls' night. Don't forget while you're chatting away enjoying complimentary chips and salsa, to slow down and save room for these tasty delicacies.

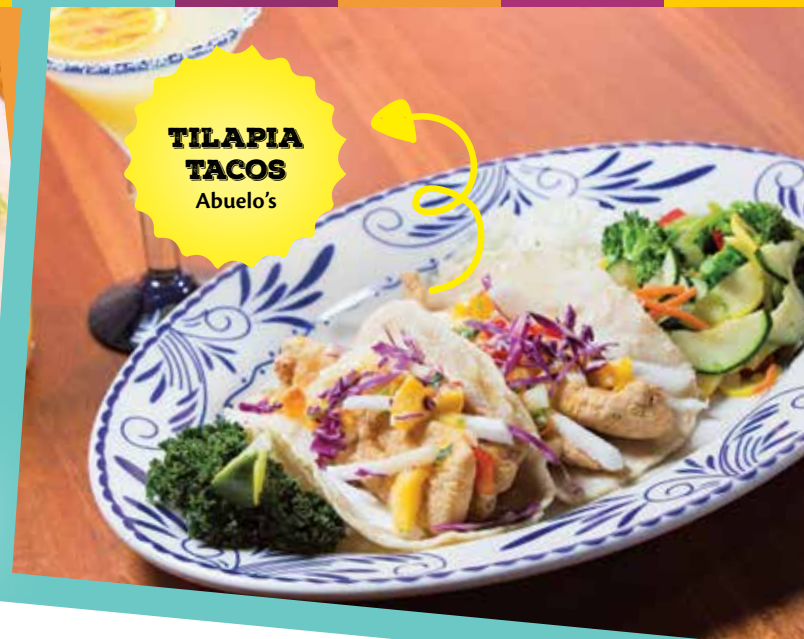
**PIGGYLICIOUS  
TACOS**  
Piggy Pibil







**TACOS TRIO**  
El Asador Mexican Restaurant



**TILAPIA TACOS**  
Abuelo's

## TILAPIA TACOS

Abuelo's

24600 Katy Fwy. | [abuelos.com](http://abuelos.com)

If the flavor of Mexico is what you're after, you'll enjoy the tilapia tacos at Abuelo's. Featuring fried tilapia, Napa cabbage, shaved carrot, mango relish, and cilantro topped with a honey lime dressing. All of their tacos are served in handmade flour tortillas. They also offer firecracker shrimp tacos with spicy shrimp in lieu of the tilapia.

## TACOS TRIO

El Asador Mexican Restaurant

3750 S. Mason Rd. | [elasadormexicanrestaurant.com](http://elasadormexicanrestaurant.com)

Proudly serving guests family recipes that are made fresh daily, El Asador offers Tex-Mex in a beautiful environment. The tacos trio features carnitas, beef fajitas, and chicken fajitas with jalapeños, onions, cilantro, and sliced avocado. Another must-try is the tacos de carnitas which features three tacos filled with savory, slow-roasted pork and tomatillo sauce.

## TACOS AL CARBON

El Jarrito Mexican Restaurant

21724 Highland Knolls Dr. | [eljarrito.com](http://eljarrito.com)

A Katy landmark since 1998, El Jarrito is a family-owned business that's been pleasing customers for years. Be sure to try their tacos al carbon, with your choice of beef, chicken, or shrimp served with rice, beans, fresh guacamole, sour cream, lettuce, and pico de gallo. Finish it off with some warm sopapillas.

## GRANDE AVOCADO TACO

El Pollo Loco

390 S. Mason Rd. | [elpolloloco.com](http://elpolloloco.com)

Known for their authentic fire-grilled chicken, El Pollo Loco appeals to fans with their grande avocado taco. Hand-sliced avocados, jack cheese, pico de gallo, cabbage, chicken, and cilantro dressing are tucked into artisan tortillas. Also be sure to sample the chicken taco al carbon made with corn tortillas, chopped citrus-marinated fire-grilled chicken, diced onion, and cilantro. Grab just one, or make it a meal and get three.



**TACOS AL CARBON**  
El Jarrito Mexican Restaurant



**CHICKEN AVOCADO TACOS**  
El Pollo Loco





**VAQUERO TACOS**  
Saltgrass Steak House



**SUPER ADRIAN TACOS**  
Tacos y Tortas Adrian

### LENGUA TACOS

Los Balito's Taco Shop  
3200 S. Fry Rd. | [losbalitostacosshop.com](http://losbalitostacosshop.com)

Los Balito's call themselves the original California Burrito House and bring their fresh cuisine to Katy 24/7. Daring eaters can try the lengua (beef tongue) with cilantro and onion, or the tripa (small intestines of farm animals) served with pico de gallo and guacamole. If your palate isn't up for the adventure, try their crispy beef taco and add a side of beans or rice.

### PIGGYLICIOUS TACOS

Piggy Pibil  
4031 FM 1463 | [piggypibil.com](http://piggypibil.com)

Featuring self-made chef Manuel Abascal's creations, Piggy Pibil serves up foodie delights such as the piggylicious from its food truck kitchen. The name "pibil" is of Mayan origin and refers to the ancient method of cooking meat that's been marinated in sour orange and achiote in banana leaves. The piggylicious is a corn tortilla filled with cochinita pibil, refried black beans, avocado, pickled onions, and habaero peppers.

### VAQUERO TACOS

Saltgrass Steak House  
21855 Katy Fwy. | [saltgrass.com](http://saltgrass.com)

Perfect for lunch or dinner, the vaquero tacos at Saltgrass Steak House bring the best beef in the Lone Star State to the taco, featuring slow-braised brisket, sriracha mayo, cilantro oil, and pico de gallo and served in warm corn tortillas. Pick a side such as the sweet potato fries, or upgrade to the spinach and kale salad to complete your meal.

### SUPER ADRIAN TACOS

Tacos y Tortas Adrian  
Multiple locations | [facebook.com/tacosadrian3](https://facebook.com/tacosadrian3)

At Tacos y Tortas Adrian, all taco plates come with five corn tortilla tacos, making it a stellar deal. Try their Adrian plate with seasoned beef steak tacos, or make it a super Adrian and get your tacos topped with sour cream, queso fresco, and avocado. Another fan favorite is the Al Pastor featuring seasoned pork and pineapple.



**PANCHITOS TACOS**  
Tony's Mexican Restaurant



**TRAILER PARK TACOS**  
Torchy's Tacos



## STREET TACOS

**Tony's Mexican Restaurant**  
870 S. Mason Rd. | [tonyskaty.com](http://tonyskaty.com)

A Katy staple, Tony's has been offering authentic Mexican food to Katyites for years. The tacos callejeros, or street tacos, are a fan favorite. Beef fajita or carnitas tacos are placed in double corn tortillas then topped with onions, cilantro, spicy jalapeño sauce, and avocado slices. You may want to grab some extra napkins when handling the panchitos tacos. Not only do they load up flour tortillas with hot-off-the-grill fajita meat and chopped jalapeños, it's also smothered in chile con queso.

## TRAILER PARK TACOS

**Torchy's Tacos**  
23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd. | [torchystacos.com](http://torchystacos.com)

What began as a food trailer in Austin has taken the state by storm. Torchy's Tacos offers what founder Michael Rypka calls "experiments" that have generated many happy customers. Take a bite of the trailer park taco made of fried chicken, green chilies, lettuce, pico de gallo, and cheese on a flour tortilla and you'll understand why. Patrons can order it "trashy" by substituting the lettuce for queso.

## GRILLED FISH TACOS

**Uncle Julio's**  
20526 Katy Fwy. | [unclejulios.com](http://unclejulios.com)

Satisfy your taco cravings with Uncle Julio's made-from-scratch Mexican cuisine. Their grilled fish tacos come with tilapia, shredded cabbage, carrots, pico de gallo, and spicy avocado cream inside two corn tortillas. Served with cilantro rice and spicy black beans. **KM**

*KENNAN BUCKNER is a conservative republican who votes for the democrat street tacos from Torchy's Tacos.*

## MORE TEMPTING TACOS

### BULLRITOS

24441 Katy Fwy. | [bullritos.com](http://bullritos.com)

### CHUY'S

21300 Katy Fwy. | [chuys.com](http://chuys.com)

### LAS MAÑANITAS

803 S. Mason Rd. | [lasmananitasmexicanrestaurant.com](http://lasmananitasmexicanrestaurant.com)

### LOS CUCOS MEXICAN CAFE

5831 Highway Blvd. | [loscucos.com](http://loscucos.com)

### TAQUERIAS ARANDAS

233 S. Mason Rd. | [taqueriasarandas.com](http://taqueriasarandas.com)

### YURIRIA TAQUERIA EXPRESS

5502 N. Fry Rd. | [taqueriasyuriria.com](http://taqueriasyuriria.com)



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