

P.F. Chang's serves a variety of Chinese dishes in an upscale atmosphere



The flavors of Japanese cooking come alive at Tokyo Steak and Sushi



Bistro Le Cep's filet de boeuf fiandiere



Westheimer Dining

Exploring Eateries on Westheimer from Katy to West Houston

Written by Megan Oldag and Ashley Withers

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Westheimer has always been a mecca of delicious dining options in Katy and west Houston. With restaurants ranging from French and Italian to Mediterranean and Tex-Mex, more and more Katyites are journeying down Westheimer to find the perfect place for a flavorful and fun family dining experience.

Fogo de Chao dishes up Brazilian flavored cuisine





Fadi's Mediterranean Grill prides itself on serving low-carb, healthy meals



The Public House serves the best in traditional Irish cooking with a touch of Texas



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Bistro Le Cep

11112 Westheimer Rd.
Houston | 713-783-3985

Bistro Le Cep takes diners from Westheimer to the quaint French countryside. With a bakery that produces fresh baguettes daily, the restaurant offers specialties from the different regions of France. House favorites include their filet de boeuf fanciere, an "11-ounce tender filet wrapped with bacon and grilled to perfection, served with pinot noir reduction creamed potatoes and fresh seasonal asparagus," according to the restaurant's website. With a motto of "keep it simple," Bistro Le Cep's fresh quality and distinctive French flavor is sure to be a meal-time hit with your family.

Fadi's Signature Mediterranean Grill

8383 Westheimer Rd., #112
Houston | 713-532-0666

When driving down Westheimer, it is hard to miss the beautiful stone façade of Fadi's Mediterranean Grill. The appearance isn't the only thing enticing about this restaurant, though. Fadi's prides itself on being low-carb and health-conscious, while still serving flavorful Mediterranean dishes. Diners enjoy a buffet of classic dishes and appetizers like the dolmas, which are grape leaves stuffed with vegetarian rice, diced onions, tomatoes, lemon juice, and olive oil. Their salads range from the familiar Greek salad to the exotic Tabuli salad, and a selection of dips like hummus and baba ghanouge rounds out the menu.

Fogo de Chao

8250 Westheimer Rd.
Houston | 713-978-6500

Fogo De Chao brings a taste of Brazil to Houston, combining fine dining with timeless tradition. For centuries Brazil have been skewering fresh cuts of meat and grilling them over open-flame pits. Most of the restaurant's chefs are trained in Sao Paulo, Brazil to ensure an authenticity which can be tasted in any one of its 16 types of skewered lamb, chicken, pork, and beef. Fried bananas are served with each dish, as is customary in Brazil, and help cleanse the palate. With a variety of exotic sides, a trip to Fogo de Chao is sure to be a memorable experience.

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La Finca's dishes up Tex-Mex favorites like its fajitas

La Finca

23930 Westheimer Pkwy., #108
Katy | 281-693-0140

Tucked away in an inconspicuous strip center, La Finca sits as a gateway to authentic Mexican cuisine. With favorites like El Tres, which includes a chicken flauta, spinach enchilada, and taco al carbon topped with chile con queso, La Finca offers many traditional options in Tex-Mex fare. La Finca's hearty portions ensure that even foodies will get enough comida for their dinero. General manager, Manuel Rodriguez says, "We never hesitate on quantity or quality." La Finca offers a delicious way to explore the flavors of the southwest with your family and friends.

Nick's Place

2713 Rockyridge Dr.
Houston | 713-780-8338

Nick's Place is a cozy Italian sports café perfect for an adult evening out with your sweetie. They offer a variety of pizzas and Italian sandwiches, along with burgers and an ever-changing selection of gelato. Nick's is also famous for its Italian taco, with a pizza dough tortilla shaped into a taco shell and filled with anything from Cajun fried fish to mortadela and arugala. With an extensive menu and plethora of sports channels, Nick's Place is sure to be a slam dunk.



Nick shows off the gourmet pizzas at his restaurant, Nick's Place

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P.F. Chang's China Bistro

11685 Westheimer Rd.
Houston | 281-920-3553

Fans of Chinese cuisine will delight in P.F. Chang's many dishes which concentrate on five traditional cooking styles: Szechuan, Peking, Hunan, Shanghai, and Cantonese. "Our guests cannot go wrong by ordering favorites like Chang's chicken lettuce wraps," suggests operating partner, Nathan Franks. Diners are often treated to a tableside sauce presentation, where waiters mix condiments like Chinese chile paste, hot mustard, and Chang's sweet soy for a bold flavor. Diners who frequent P.F. Chang's can sign up for the Warrior Card for restaurant rewards. "Customers will receive members-only discounts and promotions, and sign-up is simple whether in store or online," says manager, Sean Piper.

Piccolo Italian Café

13505 Westheimer Rd., #4
Houston | 281-679-8720

The law of the kitchen in any Italian family is, "fresh ingredients equal quality, and homemade food equals good food." At least that's what the motto is at Piccolo Italian Café, where they offer a wide variety of traditional Italian cuisine from spaghetti and meatballs to eggplant parmigiana. With an intimate atmosphere, the restaurant offers the perfect way for diners to enjoy a relaxed dinner with friends and family.

Rio Ranch

9999 Westheimer Rd.
Houston | 713-952-5000

The phrase "cowboy elegance" has been used to describe the Texas-made ranch-style décor of Rio Ranch. The restaurant offers down-home cooking in an array of menu options, featuring everything from chicken fried rib eye steak to enchiladas. Rio Ranch captures the essence of Texas culture by including the strong Mexican influence on Texas cuisine. To go back to your Texas roots any day of the week, take a trip down Westheimer and eat some good food with the good people of Rio Ranch.

Rockfish Seafood Grill

11805 Westheimer Rd., #370
Houston | 281-558-7380

Enjoy the catch of the day in a relaxed, nautical-themed atmosphere at Rockfish Seafood Grill. With a variety of fish, shrimp, crab, oysters, and steak, diners can choose from a variety of healthy and delicious dishes. House specialties like jalapeno hush puppies and Santa Fe fish tacos get a bold kick of flavor as seafood favorites. A host of daily specials focus on freshness and value, offering the perfect reason to stop by Rockfish for a fun, family dinner.

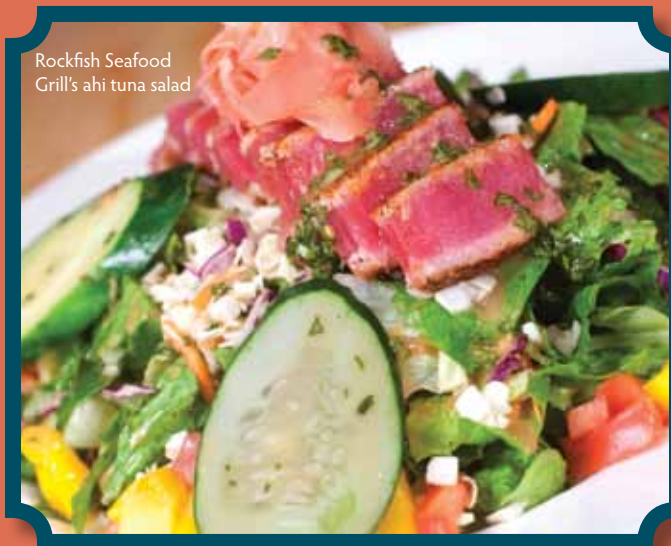
Sylvia's Enchilada Kitchen

12637 Westheimer Rd.
Houston | 281-679-8300

Serving up a taste of the Rio Grande Valley, Sylvia's Enchilada Kitchen serves lunch and dinner using only the freshest ingredients and time-tested homemade recipes. They have over 18 varieties of enchiladas, vegetarian plates, and fajitas. Diners can enjoy al fresco dining on the outdoor patio, and a dining room can be reserved for private functions. While Sylvia may be famous for her enchiladas, don't discount all her other made-from-scratch specialties, like her famous tres leches cake!



Fogo de Chao serves the finest cuts of meat skewered and grilled Brazilian-style



Rockfish Seafood Grill's ahi tuna salad

The Public House

Villagio Town Center
27758 Westheimer Pkwy., #270
Katy | 281-395-3473

Located in the heart of Cinco Ranch, Public House offers traditional Irish fare with a Texas twist. Favorites include Texas-style Irish nachos with cut potatoes and plenty of toppings, and the classic fish and chips. "We've upgraded our fish and chips to a higher quality of fish," says co-owner, Toby Willis. "Our guests love the new Cod and our portions are huge. As for the chips, our fries are all hand-cut in house." For a fun evening out with the adults, Public House hosts live music every Saturday night.

Tokyo Steak and Sushi

Villagio Town Center
22762 Westheimer Pkwy., #420
Katy | 281-391-8833

Conveniently located in the Villagio Town Center, Tokyo Steak and Sushi lets you experience the true taste of Japan close to home. They offer a large selection of special rolls with varieties of teppanyaki dishes prepared right in front of you. Half of the restaurant is set up hibachi style and the other half is a sushi bar, the perfect combination to meet your dining needs. Tokyo Steak and Sushi also features a private room that can accommodate up to 50 people for your next big event. KM