



Explore Kentucky One Bite at a Time



Kentucky's unique culinary offerings are diverse and sophisticated. From cooks preparing food over open flames, to meals prepared by classically trained chefs, a culinary exploration of Kentucky will prove tasty.



Fresh food straight from the farm always makes for good eating and the [Kentucky Proud](#) program is a sure recipe for success. Many restaurants throughout the state, including the internationally known [Oakroom](#) in Louisville's historic [Seelbach Hotel](#), feature seasonal dishes showcasing the abundance of Kentucky grown foods. A wide variety of [Kentucky Proud products](#) are available for purchase online.

Kentucky's Unbridled Spirit has given birth to many unique culinary delights:



Mint Julep – the traditional bourbon and crushed mint beverage of the Kentucky Derby since 1938.

Benedictine – this cucumber and cream cheese spread was created by Jennie Carter Benedict, a Louisville caterer and restaurateur.



Henry Bain sauce – created by the head waiter of Louisville's Pendennis Club in 1881. This sauce is traditionally used to complement game meats.

Modjeskas – a delicious caramel candy with a marshmallow center. A local candy maker named his confection after the famous European actress Madame Helena Modjeska after seeing her performance in Ibsen's "The Doll House" in Louisville in 1883.

Not sure what taste you might enjoy. Check out one or more of these well-known Kentucky eateries:

- [Moonlite Barbeque](#)
- [Pattis 1880s Settlement](#)
- [Claudia Sanders Dinner House](#)
- [Halls on the River](#)
- [440 Main Restaurant](#)
- [Hofbrauhaus Newport](#)
- [Old Talbott Tavern](#)
- [Joe Bologna's](#)

Food is not the only thing to please your pallet in Kentucky. Try an award winning [wine](#) from one of our scenic wineries or enjoy "America's spirit," [bourbon](#), produced in Kentucky. For something a little softer try the unique [Ale-8-One](#) bottled in Winchester since 1926.

Southern hospitality combined with great food and drink makes Kentucky a great place for a relaxing getaway.

Destination Spotlight: Louisville

[Things To Do](#)



[Bourbon](#)

[Louisville](#) is best known as the home of the Kentucky Derby. The race at [Churchill Downs](#) has been a national event for more than 130 years but there is much more the Kentucky's largest city than horseracing. The city offers 2,500 restaurants many of which are [original](#) to Louisville. Check out the festive "Restaurant Row" on the Bardstown Road corridor. [Jack Fry's](#), [Lilly's](#), [Café Metro](#), [Avalon](#) and [Tony Boombooz Pizzeria](#) are just a few of the many unique choices awaiting diners in this area. Other nearby favorites include [Lynn's Paradise Café](#), the [Irish Rover](#) and [El Mundo Mexican Restaurant](#).



[Entertainment And Shopping](#)

[Fourth Street Live!](#) Entertainment Complex in downtown Louisville offers many nationally known restaurants including the [Hard Rock Café](#). [Maker's Mark Bourbon House](#) can also be found here. Other fabulous downtown eateries include [Proof on Main](#), [Saffron's](#), [Toast on Market](#), [Park Place](#) and [Artemisia](#).



[Wine](#)

While in Louisville don't miss your chance to sample a Kentucky Hot Brown where it was created.... the historic [Brown Hotel](#). This open-face hot sandwich has become a regular at Derby parties throughout the world. [Follow this link for a recipe to make a Kentucky Hot Brown in your own kitchen.](#)