Restaurant picks in Santa Barbara

Moderate price

La Super Rica (Mexican, up to \$7)

622 N. Milpas St. (ph: 805-963-4940)

It does not look much from the outside but it is arguably the best Mexican food north of the border and the most famous Mexican restaurant in town. Be prepared to wait in line and ordering at the counter. It is worth it!

Zen Yai (Thai-inspired, \$7 - \$12)

425 State St, (ph: 805-957-1193)

Innovative Thai food. Small and fun. The soups are excellent

Shoreline Beach Café (seafood, \$10-\$20)

801 Shoreline Dr. (ph: 805-568-0064)

It does not get closer to the beach than this. The perfect place to watch the ocean over a margarita glass. Good fish tacos and seared tuna salad.

Brophy Brothers (seafood, \$10-\$20)

Harbor Way (ph: 805 966-4418)

Right by the marina. A fun place with good fish.

Bucatini (Italian, \$13 - \$18) 436 State St. (ph: 805-957-4177)

A lively Italian restaurant in lower State St.

Natural Café (many vegetarian dishes, \$7 - \$12)

508 State St (ph: 805-563-1163)

Simple healthy food with plenty of vegetarian choices. Popular amongst the natives.

Zaytoon (Middle Eastern, \$13 - \$18)

209 E. Canon Perdido St. (ph: 805-963-1293)

Great middle eastern food. The appetizers are great and can be a meal by themselves. Service can be a little slow.

Spice Avenue (Indian, \$7 - \$12)

1027 State Street (ph: 805-965-6004)

One of the best Indian restaurants in town. Very friendly staff. Great lunch buffet on the week-ends.

Chocolate Maya (chocolate)

15 W. Gutierrez St. (ph: 805-409-2951)

Perhaps this store should not appear in a list of restaurants, but if you want to skip the entrée and go straight for desert this is the place to go. Great chocolate truffles!

• Price ranges refer to the entrees and are provided by DiningSantaBarbara.com & www.santabarbara.com/dining/

2 Comments should be blamed on J. Hespanha

Upscale

Arigato (Japanese, \$13 - \$18)

1225 State St. (ph: 805-965-6074)

According to many the best sushi restaurant in town.

Olio e Limone (gourmet Italian, \$19 - \$24)

1225 State St. (ph: 805-965-6074)

One of the best Italian restaurants in town. The rack of lamb and black risotto have plenty of fans. Quiet atmosphere.

Hungry Cat (seafood, \$10 - \$20)

1134 Chapala St. (ph: 805-884-4701)

The room is small but the food is great and they generally have an excellent selection of oysters (if you care for it). It is probably a good idea to have a reservation.

Opal (Californian, \$13-\$24)

1325 State St. (ph: 805-966-9676)

Very popular with the locals. Good food and fun atmosphere at a reasonable price. Great cocktails.

Bouchon (French/Californian, over \$24)

9 W. Victoria St. (ph: 805-730-1160) Voted the best French food in town.

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Arch Rock Fish (Seafood, Over \$20)

608 Anacapa St. (ph: 805-899-4780)

A good seafood place with lots of options.

Ca Dario (Italian, over \$24)

37 E Victoria St. (ph: 805-884-9419)

One of the most popular gourmet Italian restaurants in town.

Alcazar Tapas Bar (drinks, Spanish, \$10-\$20)

1812 Cliff Dr. (ph: 805-962-0337)

A little further way (on the Mesa), but fun and hip. A good place for a date.

Blue Agave (drinks, Californian/Southwestern)

20 E. Cota St. (ph: 805-899-4694)

Mostly a place to go after dinner for dinks and desert, but they also have a full menu. The bread pudding is great.

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