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OpenTable Reveals 52 Best Restaurants for Vegetarians in America

Plant-based Cuisine Proves Popular at Long-Running and New Restaurants; California and New York Eateries Lead, Followed by Pennsylvania and Maryland

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 1, 2015 /PRNewswire/ -- In celebration of World Vegetarian Day and Vegetarian Awareness Month, [OpenTable](#), the world's leading provider of online restaurant reservations and part of The Priceline Group (NASDAQ: PCLN), today unveiled the [52 Best Restaurants for Vegetarians in America](#). These awards reflect the combined opinions of more than 5 million restaurant reviews submitted by verified OpenTable diners for more than 20,000 restaurants in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.



Featuring many of the restaurants that helped establish the vegan and vegetarian eating movements, such as [Moosewood](#) in Ithaca, New York, and [Sublime](#) in Fort Lauderdale, as well as newer vegetable-centric eateries that have moved plant-based cuisine into the mainstream, such as [Al's Place](#) in San Francisco and [Vedge](#) in Philadelphia, the complete list features winning restaurants in 14 states and the District of Columbia. California has 15 winning restaurants, followed by New York with 13, Pennsylvania with six, and Maryland with four. Illinois, Oregon, and Washington all have two eateries. Arizona, Florida, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Carolina, Vermont, Washington, D.C., and Wisconsin are also represented.

Vegan restaurants represent 21 spots on the list, as do vegetarian-friendly eateries; vegetarian restaurants account for the remaining ten. While most of the winning restaurants have deep ties to growers and emphasize seasonal, farm-to-table dishes, a host of global cuisines proved popular, including Afghan, Chinese, Indian, Italian, Mexican, and Shojin. A significant percentage of honorees easily accommodate diners with gluten allergies or sensitivities.

More than half of the award winners were founded in the last five years, with seven winners opening their doors in 2015 alone, such as [Plant Food and Wine](#) in Venice, California, and [Encantada Restaurant](#) in Baltimore. Landmark vegetarian restaurants also dot the list, with some having been in business since the seventies, including [Blind Faith Cafe](#) in Evanston, Illinois, and [Irregardless Cafe](#) in Raleigh, North Carolina. Standout restaurants skew heavily toward providing an upscale casual dining experience as opposed to fine dining, though several winners cater to this affinity.

"Whether these restaurants serve vegan, vegetarian, or vegetarian-friendly fare, fruits and vegetables are given the star treatment at each establishment," said Caroline Potter, Chief Dining Officer at OpenTable. "From omnivores seeking to indulge in the best of the season's natural bounty to diners who prefer a sustainable, meatless diet, eaters of every appetite can discover delicious plant-based dining experiences at any of these outstanding spots."

Of the vegetable-forward food movement, Matthew Kenney, renowned chef and CEO and founder of Matthew Kenney Cuisine and culinary academy added, "The market is blossoming all over the world for plant-based cuisine. It's just expected now that all progressive restaurants will have a vegetarian tasting menu or vegan items on the menu."

The [OpenTable data science team](#) used natural language processing techniques to identify all semantically related phrases

that refer to the concept of a vegetarian or vegetarian-friendly restaurant. For each restaurant, they then identified reviews that contain these key phrases (qualifying reviews). A final score was assigned to a restaurant based on a combination of three scores: the percentage of qualifying reviews, a score based on the sentiment expressed in the relevant portion of these reviews, as well as the "overall" star-ratings associated with these reviews.

Based on this methodology, the following restaurants, listed in alphabetical order, comprise the 52 Best Restaurants for Vegetarians in America according to OpenTable diners. The complete list may also be viewed at <http://www.opentable.com/m/best-restaurants-for-vegetarians-and-vegans-in-america/>.

2015 52 Best Restaurants for Vegetarians in America

[A Single Pebble](#) - Burlington, Vermont
[Agrodolce](#) - Seattle, Washington
[Al's Place](#) - San Francisco, California
[Blind Faith Cafe](#) - Evanston, Illinois
[Blossom-Chelsea](#) - New York, New York
[Blossom on Columbus](#) - New York, New York
[Cafe Clover](#) - New York, New York
[Cafe Gratitude](#) - San Diego, California
[Cafe Manna](#) - Brookfield, Wisconsin
[Candle 79](#) - New York, New York
[Candle Cafe West](#) - New York, New York
[Charlie Was a Sinner](#) - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
[Civico 1845](#) - San Diego, California
[Crossroads](#) - Los Angeles, California
[Departure Restaurant and Lounge](#) - Portland, Oregon
[Dirt Candy](#) - New York, New York
[Dovetail](#) - New York, New York
[Encantada Restaurant](#) - Baltimore, Maryland
[Equinox](#) - Washington, D.C.
[FARMiCiA](#) - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
[Firefly Restaurant](#) - San Francisco, California
[Flora](#) - Jenkintown, Pennsylvania
[French Meadow Cafe & Bluestem Bar](#) - Minneapolis, Minnesota
[The Gadarene Swine](#) - Studio City, California
[Gather](#) - Berkeley, California
[Gracias Madre](#) - West Hollywood, California
[Green Zebra](#) - Chicago, Illinois
[Greens Restaurant](#) - San Francisco, California
[The Helmand](#) - Baltimore, Maryland
[The Herb Box-Old Town](#) - Scottsdale, Arizona
[Irregardless Cafe](#) - Raleigh, North Carolina
[Kajitsu](#) - New York, New York
[Mi Lah Vegetarian](#) - Ambler, Pennsylvania
[Mizuna Restaurant and Wine Bar](#) - Spokane, Washington
[Modern Love](#) - Omaha, Nebraska
[Moosewood](#) - Ithaca, New York
[Natural Selection](#) - Portland, Oregon
[Pala](#) - New York, New York
[Plant Food and Wine](#) - Venice, California
[Ravens Restaurant-Stanford Inn by the Sea](#) - Mendocino, California
[Sage-A Plant Based Bistro](#) - Culver City, California
[Saha](#) - San Francisco, New York
[The Springs](#) - Los Angeles, California
[Sticky Rice](#) - Baltimore, Maryland
[Sublime](#) - Fort Lauderdale, Florida
[SunCafe](#) - Studio City, California
[Sweet 27 Bar and Restaurant](#) - Baltimore, Maryland
[V-Note Organic Wine Bar & Vegan Bistro](#) - New York, New York
[V Street](#) - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
[Vatan Indian Restaurant](#) - New York, New York
[Vedge](#) - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
[Wassail](#) - New York, New York

Diners can read more about the 52 Best Restaurants for Vegetarians in America, including the OpenTable Connected kick-off

celebration of World Vegetarian Day at Plant Food and Wine held on September 30, 2015, by visiting the [OpenTable blog](#). For perspectives on plant-based dining from culinary professionals, visit our restaurant industry blog, [Open for Business](#).

About OpenTable Restaurant Reviews

Originally launched in November 2008, the OpenTable Reviews program helps diners find restaurants that best fit their dining occasions. Only diners who recently honored an OpenTable reservation are invited to submit restaurant reviews. Visitors to OpenTable can access reviews for thousands of OpenTable restaurant partners across the United States, Canada, Germany and the UK. The OpenTable Reviews program has generated more than 34 million restaurant reviews by verified diners, establishing OpenTable as one of the largest and most trusted sources for restaurant reviews.

About OpenTable

[OpenTable](#), part of The Priceline Group (NASDAQ: PCLN), is the world's leading provider of online restaurant reservations, seating more than 17 million diners per month via online bookings across more than 32,000 restaurants. The OpenTable network connects restaurants and diners, helping diners discover and book the perfect table and helping restaurants deliver personalized hospitality to keep guests coming back. The OpenTable service enables diners to see which restaurants have available tables, select a restaurant based on verified diner reviews, menus, and other helpful information, and easily book a reservation. In addition to the company's website and mobile apps, OpenTable powers online reservations for nearly 600 partners, including many of the Internet's most popular global and local brands. For restaurants, the OpenTable hospitality solutions enable them to manage their reservation book, streamline their operations, and enhance their service levels. Since its inception in 1998, OpenTable has seated more than 885 million diners around the world. The Company is headquartered in San Francisco, California, and the OpenTable service is available throughout the United States, as well as in Canada, Germany, Japan, Mexico, and the UK.

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