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2023 Taste of Ulster Guide

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Guide 2023

User guide

This Guide is a county by county listing of all the Taste of Ulster members in Northern Ireland. There is a separate section for Belfast - the capital city.

Members can be hotels, bed and breakfasts, cafes, restaurants, basically anywhere that serves a true taste of Ulster with local produce at centre stage.



Each member must comply with the Taste of Ulster Charter (see inside back cover) and is fully inspected to make sure that membership criteria is met.

You will see symbols attached to every entry. This is what they mean:



Parking Available



Disabled Access



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Gluten Free



Wi-Fi Available



Child Friendly/ Baby Changing



Payment Cards Accepted



Paid Parking Available



Catering for Large Groups/Parties



Caters for Weddings





Accommodation Available



Live Music / Entertainment

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Taste of Ulster

Who We Are and What We Do

Thanks for picking up this Guide. In case you are wondering who is behind it. Let us tell you.

Taste of Ulster was founded in 1990 with the aim of providing an authentic eating experience in Northern Ireland's restaurants, cafes, bars, bed and breakfasts and hotels. Each establishment is inspected to ensure that great local ingredients form the basis of what is served. Size is not important, what matters is that diners get a true Taste of Ulster accompanied by a great welcome and service.

This printed Guide and our website www.nigoodfood.com are a directory of where to eat and drink best in each county in Northern Ireland. What started out small has developed into a compelling food and drink destination which has been recognised as the Best Food Destination in the world at the International Travel and Tourism Awards.

Our chefs are enjoying the best stocked local larder ever and their talent has not gone unrecognised. There are three Michelin 1-star restaurants in Belfast- EIPIC, OX and The Muddlers Club. Several others including Deanes at Queens, A Peculiar Tea, James St, Deane's Love Fish, Wine and Brine, Clenaghans, No 14 at the Georgian House and II Pirata are listed in the Michelin Guide. Also Michael Deane received the MICHELIN mentor award.





Several have been awarded accolades at the Restaurant Association of Ireland Awards, Food and Wine Awards, the UK Good Food Awards, the AA Hospitality Awards and Embrace a Giant Spirit while others are in the Waitrose guide, National Geographic, Georgina Campbell's Ireland Guide and Lonely Planet.

We help to set the agenda for the Northern Ireland hospitality industry. Our members are inspected to ensure they champion local produce where possible and deliver great food and drink and service. We organise trips for food writers from across the island and GB. Our chef steering groups are an excellent forum for networking and support. We regularly publicise training courses, events, conferences, TV and radio opportunities and competitions.

We work closely with Tourism NI, Visit Belfast and local councils on foodrelated initiatives such as Changing the Menu for Good, Belfast Restaurant Week and LegenDerry Food Experience. Our talented chefs cook on stage at events such as the Cookery Theatre at Balmoral Show and Taste Ards and North Down, and Dalriada Festival.

Our Taste of Ulster plaque is a sure sign of commitment to our charter and a guarantee of an authentic meal or stay in a place whose food and drink story is known and revered world-wide. Let's build on that, together.

Welcome to Northern Ireland!

Welcome to Northern Ireland, one of the fastest growing food and drink regions in Europe. What has happened to our food and drink scene in the past decade has been nothing short of revolutionary. We have emerged as a compelling food and drink destination with a strong cultinary culture. Northern Ireland has been recognised in the International Travel and Tourism Awards as the Best Food Destination in the world.

Our heritage products and time-honoured places to eat have been joined by a burgeoning number of new gastronomic experiences and a plethora of talented new producers. Three Northern Ireland regions were also shortlisted in the top 10 Food and Drink Destinations in the Restaurant Association of Ireland's Foodie Destination of the Year.

Our chefs are enjoying the best stocked local larder ever and their talent has not gone unrecognised. Belfast restaurants OX and EIPIC have retained their Michelin stars for a fourth consecutive year. Bib Gourmands are held by James Street South Bar and Grill, Clenaghan's, Wine and Brine and Deane's at Queens. A host of other establishments are winners in the Restaurant Association of Ireland (the Muddlers Club performed especially well) and Food and Wine Awards where Alex Greene from Deane's EIPIC was named Best Chef.

Several have been listed in the Waitrose Good Food Guide. The Walled City Brewery in Derry-Londonderry was awarded Atmospheric Restaurant of the Year at the Georgina Campbell Awards and there was a Special Hospitality Hero award for Ronan and Jennie Sweeney from Balloo Inns.

Northern Ireland's reputation as a seedbed of culinary creativity was further cemented at the latest Guild of Fine Foods Great Taste Awards. Successes included a Golden Fork for Natural Umber's Cider Vinegar. Hannan Meats Lamb Bacon made it into the list of the Top 50 Foods in the UK and received four 3 star awards. There were also 3 stars for Burren Balsamics, Lacada Brewery, The Cookie Jar and Maud's Ice-Cream. Thompson's Tea got 20 stars in total. Rooney Fish won the Supreme Champion Award at the Blas na hEireann Irish Food Awards in Kerry for their Millbay Oysters. A record 32 Food NI members took home prizes including Golds for Hannan Meats, Ke Nako Biltong, Glastry Farm LeCream, Corndale Farm, Deli Muru, Broighter Gold, Clandeboye Yoghurt, Suki Tea, Lacada Brewery, MacIvor's Cider, Noisy Nuts and Holmes Bakery. In other honours, Corndale Chorizo and Ispini both won Gold at the British Charcuterie Awards.

The vibrancy of our food and drink in Northern Ireland shines brightly, there are so many experiences to celebrate and so many more food and drink memories to make.

Our Food. Power of Good.

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Ongoing support to industry

It has been a challenging few years in the industry, as we all know.

Taste of Ulster chefs have been supported by continued promotion work with journalists and food writers. They have featured in several newspapers and magazines including Irish Country Magazine, the Belfast Telegraph, the News Letter, The Sunday Times and Observer Food Monthly.

Taste of Ulster got behind initiatives to reduce food waste including Visit Belfast's Changing the Menu, For Good and was a supportive partner of the Guardian's Food Waste Action Week.

Chef Steering Groups have resumed in person (they were online for a time). Visits included Baronscourt Estate, the Corick House Hotel and Spa and Woodlab Distillery in Tyrone.

Our social media includes a weekly focus on a Taste of Ulster members with a combined organic reach of more than 20,000.

The Focus on Food Conference in April 2023 was a key networking event as well as showcasing the produce and talent that make Northern Ireland such an exciting food destination.

The future is bright!









Belfast

Titanic Belfast is a "must see" during any visit to Belfast and Northern

Ireland. The Titanic Visitor Experience charts the ship's famous history from her conception in Belfast in the early 1900s, through her construction and launch, to her infamous maiden voyage and catastrophic demise. The exhibition goes beyond the aftermath of the sinking to the discovery of the wreck and continues to the present day with material from a live undersea exploration centre.

A stroll around Queen's University and the nearby free Ulster Museum will work up an appetite for coffee. There are plenty of cafes where you can munch on the native Fifteen. You could also try the iconic Belfast Bap at St George's Market before an open top bus or black taxi tour. You will undoubtedly find out about how some many of the peace walls are now coming down.

There are so many food options now. Vegans are well-catered for across the city in places like Buba Burgers n Bits, Coppi, The Cloth Ear, Taylor and Clay 'at The Bullitt Hotel' and the French Village to name some.

The Waterman House Cookery School is guaranteed to expand your repertoire. Top chef Niall McKenna has a real knack for teaching how to get the very best out of our great local ingredients.

For dinner, there are no fewer than 3 Michelin-starred restaurants- EIPIC, OX and the Muddlers Club- to choose from as well as a host of more casual eateries which have been awarded Michelin Bib Gourmand status. They include Deane's at Queens, Deane's Love Fish, James St, A Peculiar Tea, Edo, Ora and Stove Bistro. Top off your night out with a nightcap in a Belfast pub like The National or The Cloth Ear and sleep sound.

A Peculiar Tea



Gemma Austin is the Head Chef at this quirky restaurant in South Belfast. You may recognise her from the BBC TV programme Great British Menu which has she featured on numerous times. This Carryduff native trained as a nurse and has only been cooking for 9 years.

Gemma worked in the Old Inn in Crawfordsburn, Co. Down and at the Fitzwilliam Hotel in Belfast before opening A Peculiar Tea in December 2021.

A Peculiar Tea originally started as a pop-up in restaurants across Belfast, Bangor and Newtownards. It is now a 42-seater restaurant on University Road which does a 6-course tasting menu in the evening and Afternoon Tea during the day.

The concept is that it is supposed to be all about the imagination, so they change their menu every eight weeks. Every menu is themed such as The Best of Roald Dahl and Cluedo. They call it "fun dining" instead of fine dining. It is an experiential meal. They even redecorate the restaurant for each menu.

She is passionate about sustainability and knows the power of good in our food. Local suppliers include North Down Group, Hannan Meats, Keenan Seafood, Lisdergan Farm and Irish truffles from the Republic.

You just have to try food by a person known to her friends as a female Peter Pan. What fun!

Opening Hours Wed-Sat 12-3pm Afternoon Tea 5-9pm 6 Course Tasting Menu.



Get there: 44 University Road, Belfast BT71NJ Get in touch: t: (0)751306 9517 e: apeculiartea@gmail.com w: www.a-peculiar-tea.com





AC Hotel





Ignite your senses at Novelli at City Quays, Jean Christophe Novelli's signature restaurant serving delicious Mediterranean fare using local produce. Enjoy delectable all-day menus just a few steps away from your room at this waterfront Belfast hotel.

Executive Chef Cathal Duncan brings his expertise to the role where he works closely with Jean-Christophe to deliver the Novelli vision.

The main restaurant's dinner fixed price menu includes Kilkeel Scallops, Roast Mourne Lamb Rump, and Hannan's Sugar Pit Pork

Private dining is also available and there are small plates/bar food to share in the Terrace bar. There you can expect tapas style dishes, steak, burgers, salads and sides.

Opening Hours

Mon – Sun 12pm to 9pm



Get there: 90 Donegall Quay, Belfast BT1 3FE Get in touch: t: (0)28 9531 3191 e: cityquays@novellirestaurants.co.uk w: www.novellirestaurants.co.uk/belfast



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The View at Belvoir Park Golf Club



This South Belfast golf club has a restaurant called The View on site that's worth visiting in its own right. The view is lovely but so is the food and drink, as much of it locally sourced as possible.

It opens 7 days a week for brunch/lunch/afternoon snacks and dinner on Friday nights. The bar, or the 19th hole is right beside it.

Expect dishes like roast dinners and salmon with white wine sauce.

Opening hours

Monday, Tuesday 11-4 Wednesday 11-8 Thursday 11-4 Friday 10-8 Saturday 10-5 Sunday 12-5



Get there: 73 Church Road, Newtownbreda, Belfast, Co. Antrim Get in touch: t: (0)28 9049 1693 e: catering@belvoirparkgolfclub.com w: www.belvoirparkgolfclub.com



Bert's Jazz Bar And Restaurant



Transport yourself back to the Art Deco glamour of 1930's New York and the Jazz Age in Belfast's only dedicated jazz bar and restaurant: Bert's Bar at The Merchant Hotel. Soak up the sophisticated atmosphere and let the cool jazz melodies wash over you.

Taking inspiration from a typical French bistro menu, Bert's offers a sophisticated selection of mouth-watering dishes created by Head Chef Michael Weber – from Chateaubriand to Moules Frites, all complemented by a handpicked list of cocktails and, of course, exemplary service.

Bert's offers live jazz seven nights a week from 9pm until midnight, providing the perfect backdrop to a delicious brunch or relaxed weekend evening. Please note that on Friday and Saturday evenings there will be a stage charge of £10 per person for reservations between 8.30pm and 9pm sittings. This will ensure that the table is yours for the evening to enjoy the live jazz music.

Opening hours: Restaurant Opening Hours; Monday to Thursday: 5.00pm - 9.30pm; Friday: First sitting at 6.30pm and second sitting at 8.30pm; Saturday Lunch: 12.00pm - 5.00pm; Saturday A La Carte: First sitting at 6.30pm and second sitting at 8.30pm; Sunday Brunch: 12.00pm - 4.00pm; Sunday A la Carte: 12.00pm - 9.00pm



Get there: 16 Skipper St, Belfast BT1 2DZ Get in touch: t: (0)28 9026 2713 w: www.themerchanthotel.com/berts-jazz-bar twitter: @BertsJazzBar facebook: /bertsjazzbar



Buba Burgers & Bits



Buba Belfast in St Anne's Square in the Cathedral Quarter has had some reinvention work done and it is now called Buba Burgers & Bits. The newly launched menu has kept some of the original Eastern Mediterranean influences which have been enhanced by more global and plant-based offerings.

Buba's Burgers & Bits' style is fun and vibrant, a friendly and welcoming open plan eatery where burgers take centre stage. The "bits" include mozzarella sticks, corn ribs and pulled vegan fried cauliflower.

The daily special is always worth a look. It could be a plant-based Korean chickpea burger with kimchi slaw, but equally the base could be a Hereford mince burger.

Owned and operated by husband and wife team, Tony and Andrea O'Neill, who also own the popular Italian inspired restaurant/cichetti bar Coppi, also in the Square, so you know it's good.

As with all Taste of Ulster members, local ingredients are used where possible. Definitely worth checking out! Cocktails, too and desserts you can't say no to.

Opening Hours

Monday 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM, Tuesday 12:00 PM - 9:00 PM Wednesday 12:00 PM - 9:00 PM, Thursday 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM Friday 12:00 PM - 9:00 PM, Saturday 12:00 PM - 10:00 PM Sunday CLOSED



Get there: Unit 2, St Anne's Square, 8 Edward Street, Belfast, BT1 2LR Get in touch: t: (0)28 9568 0192 e: info@bubabelfast.com w: www.bubabelfast.com facebook/Instagram: @bubabelfast





Bullitt Hotel



With stylish bedrooms, a modern restaurant with a wood-fired grill, three bars and an eclectic events calendar, Bullitt has introduced a vibrant new hotel concept to Belfast, providing a space for people to stay, play and work in the heart of the city.

Bullitt's bedrooms feature comfy king-size beds, rain showers, smart TVs and superfast wi-fi. They leave daily breakfast bags for every guest with OJ, granola, a yoghurt pot and a piece of fruit to start your day. You can have a hot breakfast downstairs, a light lunch or a full-on feast for dinner.

Their main restaurant is called Taylor and Clay. At the heart of the restaurant lies their bespoke Asador grill which cooks prime cuts of meat, seafood and vegetables over roaring fires of lump-wood charcoal and ash wood sourced from sustainable local forests. You might have a starter of juicy sumac tiger prawns, a main of mouth-watering wagyu beef and a tasty chocolate and salted coffee cheesecake for dessert. Why not wash this down with a coffee from Bullitt's state-of-the-art Kees van der Westen coffee machine.

Opening hours: Breakfast: Mon-Sunday 7am-11am; Lunch: Monday-Sunday 12pm-4pm; Dinner: Monday- Sunday 5pm-10pm



Get there: 40a Church Lane, Belfast. BT14QN Get in touch: t: (0)28 95 900 600 e: info@bullitthotel.com w: www.bullitthotel.com





Café Nosh



Café Nosh is a long established friendly café in the heart of Dundonald that is always buzzing ! Open seven days a week and two late nights for Bistro, Nosh serves up delicious award winning menus using ingredients from many cafe suppliers.

The modern and quirky interior provides a perfect place to sit and enjoy the fantastic food and drinks on offer.

The deli counter is host to many tasty treats that you can take home and enjoy for lunch, dinner and dessert.

They also supply outside catering too!

Nosh is a real neighbourhood gem and well worth a visit to tempt your tastebuds and enjoy the welcome that awaits you from a great team of staff.



Get there: 64 Comber Road, Dundonald, Co. Antrim, BT16 2AB Get in touch: t: (0)28 9048 9199 e: Phil_andrews@tiscali.co.uk w: www.cafenosh.co.uk

Café Parisien



Talk about a place with a view! This oh-so-chic café looks onto Belfast City Hall. The outside terrace with French-style tables and chairs wouldn't look out of place on the Rive Gauche. Stunning décor aside, the food is tres bien.

As with all Taste of Ulster members, local products take centre stage. Suppliers include Hannans Meat, McAtamney's Butchers, East Coast and Ewing Seafoods, Get Fresh and North Down for vegetables, Zac's Bakehouse and Glastry Farm Ice-Cream.

They do breakfast, crepes, lunch, afternoon tea and dinner. The menus change seasonally but expect dishes like Confit duck leg, Toulouse sausage cassoulet, crispy leeks, pan-fried fillet of sea bream, saffron risotto cake, sauce vierge and wilted spinach. Sweets might include espresso creme brulee and Tia Maria truffles.

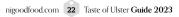
For everything from a coffee and a croissant or a cocktail to a wedding feast, Café Parisien is French Savoir Faire in the heart of the city.

Opening hours: Monday- Friday- Lunch and Afternoon Tea 11.30-4pm, a la carte Dinner from 5pm. Open Friday-Sunday 12pm-10pm



Get there: Cleaver House, Donegall Square North, Belfast, BT15GA Get in touch: t: (0)28 9590 4338 e: info@cafeparisien.com facebook: CaféParisienBelfast twitter: @cafeparisien





Cafe Smart



Owners Simon and Victoria love coffee, good food and good chat, which is why they created their multi award-winning, family-run business in 2010.

In 2020 they carried out an extensive refurbishment and rebrand to mark their 10 year anniversary! Their cafe is bright, warm and friendly and the mezzanine adds to the buzzing atmosphere. Check out some pics of their new addition - the hatch!!

They are passionate about using the best local ingredients and their baking is carried out on site every day in the Bakehouse. They are a specialty coffee shop and serve Root & Branch roasted coffee along with many other guest roasters.

They are open 7 days a week for sit in and takeaway, and you can also order through click & collect.

Opening hours: Mon - Sat 7.45 - 4.30, Sunday 9.00- 4.30



Get there: 56 Belmont Road, BT4 2AN 90 471 679 Get in touch: t: (0)28 9047 1679 e: info@cafesmart.co.uk w: www.cafesmart.co.uk



Coppi



New York style-subway tiles meet aged wood and guirky bicycle handlebar coathooks. That's the style of Coppi which is named after the legendary Italian cyclist, Angelo Fausto Coppi. There is just as much style in the food which majors on Venetian tapas called cicchetti and Italian-esque dishes.

The influences are Italian but the ingredients are local where possible. Your steak will come from Peter Hannan's and your fish will be landed off our shores. All of the pasta. sourdough breads and desserts are made fresh daily in house by their talented team, led by Head Chef Stephen Ferris. Being in the lively Cathedral Quarter means this place is really popular for lunch and in the evenings. Check it out for Sunday sharing roasts and cocktails too.

A meal at this St Anne's Square venue is as affordable as a single cappuccino in Venice's St Mark's Square - closer to home and much more satisfying! On warmer days you can even enjoy your meal alfresco! They offer an extensive vegan and vegetarian menu, delicious daily specials, as well as a fantastic value lunch menu.

Opening hours: MON-THURS 12PM - 3PM, 5PM - 10PM, FRI-SAT 12PM-10PM, SUN 12PM_9PM



Get there: Unit 2, St Anne's Square, Cathedral Quarter, Belfast, BT12LR 🛛 😭 💟 💽 Get in touch: t: (0)28 9031 1959 or book online at coppi.co.uk w:www.coppi.co.uk facebook/twitter/Instagram:@coppibelfast



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Cuff's Bar and Grill



Cuff's is a great name for a restaurant in a former jail, don't you think? Headed up by Glenn Rochette, the kitchen crew are dab hands at what they call "gaol grub" like Beef and Bird, the Executioner Burger and the classic Fish 'n' Chips.

It opened in July 2016 with a mission to "keep it local". Glenn has good relationships with small independent suppliers such as Carnbrooke Meats, Apperley's fine foods and Elmore Seafood.

You don't need to go on a tour of the tourist attraction that is Crumlin Road Gaol to eat there, but you should visit the gaol if you have never been, with great offers such as "Steak Saturdays" and "Roasts on Sundays".

Opening hours: Sun-Thurs 11am-6pm, Fri-Sat 11am-8pm.



 Get there: 53-55 Crumlin Road, Belfast BT14 6ST

 Get in touch: t: (0)28 9075 5822 e: cuffsgrillbar@crumlinroadgaol.com

 w: www.cuffsgrillbar.com
 twitter: @crumlinroadgaol

 facebook: cuffsbelfast
 instagram: cuffsbarandgrill



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Cyprus Avenue



Richard McCracken quietly opened the doors of Cyprus Avenue on the 30 December 2016 after renovations to a once derelict building nestled amongst the tree lined streets of Ballyhackamore village. Within a year it was clear the premises were no longer suitable for demand and Cyprus Avenue expanded into the adjoining building.

The menu is dictated by the seasons and portraits of the local suppliers who furnish the restaurant with their produce adorn the walls. The food is very much eclectic, drawing on the travels and influences of the staff allowing for a constantly evolving varied menu with something to please everyone.

Cyprus Avenue remains family run and fiercely proud of its humble beginnings, honoured to serve East Belfast. Call or book online. Walk-ins welcome.

Opening Hours: 7 days a week from 9am until late serving breakfast, lunch, dinner, and Sunday roasts

Awards: McKenna Guide Georgina Campbell Michelin Guide Belfast Chamber of Commerce Business Awards – "Best Eatery" category



Get there: 228-230 Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast, BT4 3ET Get in touch: t: (0)28 9065 6755 e: info@cyprusavenue.co.uk w: www.cyprusavenue.co.uk



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Deane and Decano



Deane and Decano is a smart, stylish and buzzing Restaurant/Cafe/Bar with a distinctly Italian flavour. It is located on the ever fashionable Lisburn Road in South Belfast and opens 5 days a week.

It's open for Lunch & Dinner a la carte menus as well as daily specials to choose from. Kids love the fresh pasta carbonara and roast chicken strips with potatoes. The bar counter heaves with treats like the home baked cakes! All of the pasta, breads and cakes are made fresh in-house.

Opening hours: Closed Sun & Mon, Tues-Fri: 12pm-3pm, 5:30pm-9pm, Sat: 12pm-10pm



FY

Get there: 537 Lisburn Road, Belfast, BT97GQ Get in touch: t: (0)28 9066 3108 e: deaneanddecano@michaeldeane.co.uk u: www.michaeldeane.co.uk twiitter: @DeaneAndDecano facebook: / DeaneAndDecano

Deanes at Queens



In the vibrant University Quarter of Belfast, Deanes at Queens Restaurant, Bar and Grill, with its glorious south facing Terrace, takes full advantage of its enviable leafy location overlooking the superb architecture of Methodist College. It's also adjacent to Belfast's Botanic Gardens and the Ulster Museum.

Deanes at Queens includes a Bar area which benefits from a full licence. Restaurant Head Chef Chris Fearon, of Great British Menu fame, consistently serves up dishes packed with the flavour of great local produce. The Mibrasa Charcoal Grill adds a delicious dimension to the wide ranging menus. This place has become a very popular wedding & private party venue and also has private dining rooms with no room hire fee.

Opening hours:

Mon & Tues: Closed Wed & Thurs: 12pm-3pm, 5:30pm-9pm Fri: 12pm-3pm, 5:30pm-9:30pm Sat: 12pm-9:30pm Sun: 1pm-7pm



Get there: 1 College Gardens, Belfast, BT9 6BQ Get in touch: t: (0)28 9038 2111 e: deanesatqueens@michaeldeane.co.uk w: www.michaeldeane.co.uk twitter: @DeanesAtQueens facebook: /Deanes-at-Queens/126966257370140?ref=hl



Deanes Eipic



EIPIC is Deanes Michelin starred restaurant. It is an elegant, refined, innovative, modern and glamorous dining experience, within Deanes flagship premises in Howard Street.

Head chef Alex Greene began his cooking career in The Michelin starred Deanes in 2007 and went on to work in Petrus by Gordon Ramsay, Claridges by Gordon Ramsay & The Cliff House in Ardmore; all Michelin starred establishments before returning to Deanes to become Head Chef of Eipic. Alex cooks locally sourced seasonal produce, creating dishes which are precise, balanced, wholesome and full of flavour.

Chef Alex Greene's weekly menu is based on his relationship with his hand-picked suppliers. The Tasting Menu offers seven courses, as well as tasty surprises. You may choose to have wine matched perfectly to each course by their Sommelier.

Deanes undoubted vision is to be amongst the finest restaurants in these islands! Expect a menu of few words and stunning flavours that will leave you searching for superlatives.

Opening hours: Thurs-Sat: 12noon-1:30pm, 6pm-9pm



Get there: 28-40 Howard Street, Belfast, BTI 6PF Get in touch: t: (0)28 9033 1134 e: info@michaeldeane.co.uk w: www.michaeldeane.co.uk/eipic twitter: @Deanes_Eipic



Deanes Love Fish



Deanes Love Fish is a totally different eating out experience in Belfast. The 100 seater dining space is flooded with light from a conservatory style roof. In the informal but stylish all white interior, reminiscent of a warm summer day on the coast, you will feel welcome and relaxed the minute you walk through the door.

The menu predominantly serves the finest of local seafood and shellfish but with other options. There are daily specials, snacks, small plates, fruits de mer and platters. It's all about casual dining here.

The close proximity to The Grand Opera House makes the restaurant a popular location for pre & post theatre dining. Deanes Love Fish is available for private party bookings and perfect for larger groups.

Business and Finance Hospitality Awards said it was 'Cheery, busy, delicious and great value" We absolutely agree!

Opening hours: Sun&Mon: closed, Tues&Wed: 12pm-3pm, Thurs&Fri: 12pm-3pm, 5pm-9:30pm, Sat: 12pm-10pm



Get there: 28-40 Howard Street, Belfast BT16PF Get in touch: t: (0)28 9033 1134 e: lovefish@michaeldeane.co.uk w: www.michaeldeane.co.uk/LoveFish twitter: @Deanes_LoveFish facebook: Deanes-Love-Fish/155969751124756



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Deanes Meat Locker



When you combine the sheer skill of Deanes chefs with the superb quality of the well renowned Hannan Meats and the accuracy of the Asador Grill you create a product that simply excels... and that's at the heart of Deanes Meat Locker. It's one of the three restaurants at Michael Deanes Howard Street location.

There are no fewer than six cuts of steak- some are from that famed Himalayan Salt Chamber Peter Hannan built, and others are less-known like Hanger. All are superb and even better; they come with proper beef dripping chips.

There are plenty of non-steak options too. You will always find fish, chicken and vegetarian dishes that are as considered and accomplished as any other in the Deanes stable. The desserts, cheeseboard and drinks are all winners too- just what you'd expect.

The close proximity to The Grand Opera House makes the restaurant a popular location for pre & post theatre dining.

The Private Room upstairs can accommodate 56 people seated and 100 standing and Deanes Meatlocker can itself be hired for private lunch & dinner parties of up to 90 guests

Opening hours: Sun&Mon closed, Tues: 5pm-9:30pm, Wed-Fri: 12pm-3pm, 5pm-9:30pm, Sat: 12pm-10pm



Get there: 28-40 Howard Street, Belfast, BT1 6PF Get in touch: t: (0)28 9033 1134 e: meatlocker@michaeldeane.co.uk w: www.michaeldeane.co.uk twitter: @DeaneMEATLocker





EDÕ



Have you ever wished you could nibble tapas over drinks when out in Belfast city centre? Enter EDÕ (pronounced 'AYE-DOH' from the Latin 'I eat') with its take on contemporary European dining.

From the para picar menu you can graze on Padrón peppers, croquettes, olives and bread before moving onto charcuterie, verduras, fried bites, seafood and meat. And how about finishing with churros or ice cream with Pedro Ximenez for dessert? Expect seasonal changes to the menu and an abundance of local suppliers – Hannan and Lisdergan Meats, Ewing's seafood, North Down Group, Picked Organic and Zak's Bakehouse. With seating for 60 diners, there's plenty of room.

Aside from the delicious food menu, the drinks menu is also worth perusing – who doesn't love a Bramble or French Martini? And let's not forget, it's Michelin recommended, and those guys know good food. Perfect for a night out or as a pit stop if you are shopping in town.

Opening hours Tuesday-Saturday, 12 noon-late



Get there: 2 Capital House, Unit 2, Upper Queen Street, Belfast BT16FB Get in touch: t: (0)28 0931 3054 e: info@edorestaurant.co.uk w: www.edobelfast.com



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French Village Café & Bistro



This tres chic café and bistro on Belfast's hip Botanic Avenue is open for breakfast, brunch, lunch and dinner seven days a week. You may know the name from the French Village Bakery which is part of the same company.

You may have time to sit and linger over Scrambled Eggs on Sourdough or a Pancake Stack, or you may be grabbing a tea or coffee to go with a scone or a bagel. Lunchtime they offer many variations of sandwiches and hot dishes such as burgers, pasta, fish pie and curry to name a few.

Come evening you could have Crispy Chilli Squid or Seafood Chowder before a substantial main of steak, Catch of the Day or a stir-fry. You won't be able to resist the desserts. This is a bakery after all.



Get there: 99 Botanic Avenue, Belfast BT7 1JN Get in touch: t: (0)28 9031 3248 e: botanic@frenchvillagebelfast.co.uk w: www.frenchvillagebelfast.co.uk



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French Village Patisserie & Brasserie



Located on the bustling Lisburn Road, the interior and exterior is striking but welcoming and atmospheric.

The Brasserie menu focuses on using locally sourced ingredients cooked with a French and modern British influence.

The Patisserie showcases owner and baker Ashley French's skills, with a wide array of mouth-watering hand crafted French pastries to choose from.

It is licensed so you can enjoy one of the carefully selected wines or beers, or be tempted by a delicious cocktail.

Open for breakfast, brunch, lunch & dinner



Get there: 343-353 Lisburn Road, Belfast BT97EP Get in touch: t: (0)28 9066 4333 e: lbr@frenchvillagebelfast.co.uk w: www.frenchvillagebelfast.co.uk



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General Merchants



Tim Fetherston is the General Merchant at the helm of this uber-popular place on Belfast's Newtownards Road. He sells great local food and drink to the grateful people who live and work in the east part of the city.

The food is typically hearty world cuisine. You might have 12 hour slow cooked pork stacked between, and on top of some gently toasted brioche, served with free-range poached eggs and Gochujang hollandaise sauce. There are daily specials peppered with ingredients from local suppliers such as Draynes Farm, Zac's Bakehouse, Ewing's Seafood, Hannan Meats, Suki Tea, The Barn Coffee and North Down vegetables.

Menus change seasonally so you will never get tired. Also, check out their other locations on Ormeau Road, Forestside and Stranmillis, as well as their kiosk on Donegall Place.

Opening hours: Daily 8am-5pm (Sunday open 9am)



Get there: 481 Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast, BT4 3LL Get in touch: t: (0)28 9065 2708 e: info@generalmerchants.co.uk w: www.generalmerchants.co.uk



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Grand Café at Grand Central Hotel



The Grand Café is located in the heart of the city on the ground floor of the Grand Central Hotel, right beside the City Hall. Vibrant and contemporary, the Grand Café is a wide open space with its own exclusive cosmopolitan vibe. The Grand Café is an everyday place with an easy-going elegance. Step in from the street and grab a coffee and a slice of fresh homemade cake or pastry on your way to or from work or the shops, spend an afternoon people watching and dining on stunning food or enjoy an evening in the city for a delicious dinner.

You'll never see Breakfast in the same way again after ordering off the Grand Café's Breakfast menu. With signature specials, classics and hot beverages all for those who want to start their day off in the best way possible. Or take it to a whole new level and experience a Sunday Brunch like no other. Eggs benedict, poached eggs & crushed avocado, nachos, slow cooked beef brisket sandwich, charcuterie board – have Sunday your way. And don't forget to add a mimosa, bloody mary or spritz to finish off the weekend in style!

For those wanting something more substantial, the All Day Dining has everything you need, no matter what time of day. From sharing options for the table such as Antipasti Platter or Cheese Board to Korean Style Chicken Wings and Garlic & Chilli Prawns to start. Things start to get serious even from the choice of sandwiches with a Croque Monsieur, Slow Cooked Pulled Pork Sandwich and one of the most ordered dishes on the menu, the Fish Finger Sandwich.

Onto the Mains the Grand Café covers all palates, from sirloin steak and Irish beef burger to beer battered haddock, roast cod, spaghetti & Dublin bay prawns to a sweet potato & coconut curry. The final touch are the warm desserts including a Chocolate Brownie Sundae Sticky Toffee Pudding and Apple Crumble, or cool things down with a Knickbocker Glory Sundae.

Breakfast Menu: Daily 7am – 11.30am Sunday Brunch Menu: 12pm – 3pm All Day Dining Menu: Daily 12pm – 10pm



Get there: 9-15 Bedford Street, Belfast BT2 7FF Get in touch: t: (0)28 9023 1066 e: res@gch.hastingshotels.com w: www.grandcentralhotelbelfast.com





James Street



Owned by Niall McKenna since 2003, the revamped James St. offers locals and tourists a great dining experience in Belfast city centre. James St. has two rooms which are available to hire privately for up to 40 guests seated.

Classic dishes are firmly established on the menu from the crab and chilli linguine, Dundrum crab used on toast, alongside classic bistro dishes such as farmhouse terrine and fruit de mer plates available from Thursday. The charcoal grill still plays centre stage, cooking not just some of the best steaks and prime cuts Northern Ireland has to offer but also fresh whole fish, pork and vegetables. With a large, established bar area, a large range of wines are available alongside a considered spirit list and an extensive whisky offering. Locally produced beer, cider and gins take pride of place on the drinks menu.

Opening hours: Mon&Thurs: 5pm-late, Fri-Sun: 1pm-late



Get there: 19–21 James St. South Belfast, BT2 7GA Get in touch: t: (0)28 9560 0700 e: hello@jamesst.co.uk w: www.jamesst.co.uk





La Scala Bistro at The Stormont Hotel



With an enviable location just across the road from the stunning Stormont Parliament Buildings, La Scala is perfect for an unforgettable dining experience in a relaxed environment. As with all the hotels in the Hastings Hotels Group, the restaurant is big on using the finest, freshest local and seasonal quality produce available.

The menu changes seasonally but you can expect the likes of a hearty local seafood chowder and battered Portavogie scampi. The hotel's chefs have developed a fantastic range of dishes featuring local produce such as Roasted Grant's Pork Belly or their Lisdergan 10oz Salt Aged Sirloin and Gourmet Burger with Erin Grove Tomato & Red Pepper Chutney. Vegans and vegetarians will be happy too with a Vegan Burger and Sweet Potato & Chickpea Curry on the menu. Make sure to leave room for dessert and the yummy Apple Parfait Flapjack with homemade Honeycomb Ice Cream or Tangy Lemon and Ginger Nut Cheesecake with Farm View Dairies Fresh Cream and Candied Lemon.

Make the trip out from the city centre. There's plenty of parking, the food is wonderful and you can always walk it off in Stormont Park if you overindulge. **Opening hours:** Dinner menu: Daily 5pm-9:30pm



Get there: Stormont Hotel, Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast, BT4 3LP Get in touch: t: (0)28 9065 1066 e: res@stor.hastingshotels.com w: www.hastingshotels.com twitter: @stormonthotel facebook: /stormonthotel



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This very popular spot on East Belfast's Belmont Road serves freshly-cooked, home-made nosh made with local ingredients. Head Chef Ian Henderson uses suppliers such as Causeway Butchers, Arnotts, Draynes Farm and French Village.

We love the Chicken brunch burger. How good does it sound? Homemade buttermilk chicken burger with cheese, hash brown, mayo, hot sauce, maple syrup, fried free range egg, everything seasoning and rocket. The breakfast pancakes, Belgian waffles and French toast on brioche are all mint and as for the coffee. It's just proper. That's what to expect at this place. A superb option for breakfast, brunch, lunch, coffees and cakes. Their takeaway and outside catering options are also really popular. Give Ian a call if you want to chat about an order!

Opening Hours Mon-Sat 9-4 Sun 10-3.30



Get there: 36 Belmont Road, Belfast BT4 2AN Get in touch: t: (0)28 9067 5476 e: No36belmontroad@hotmail.co.uk





Orchard Café



The Orchard Café celebrates the culture and food of East Belfast. It is famous for its East Titanic Fry and Paddy's Soda Bread but there are lots of yummy options on their Breakfast and Lunch menus.

This is good, honest grub which won't cost the earth. Naturally, they source local ingredients where possible. They do daily pies, stacks of sandwiches and scones and Specials.

The sweet stuff includes German biscuits and traybakes to go with that Fair Trade tea and coffee.

By eating and drinking here, you are also doing good. Espresso East is part of the Orchardville Society which supports more than 250 people with learning disabilities every year. They provide support, training and employment opportunities.

Find the café at the Hollywood Arches near C.S. Lewis Square.

Opening hours: Open daily 9am-3:30pm



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OX Belfast



Since opening in 2013, Ox has become one of the most exciting restaurants in Belfast. Head Chef Stephen Toman together with Front of House Alain Kerloc'h continue to wow even the most jaded food critic with their impeccable food and wine pairings.

Ox menus are designed to showcase excellent meats and sustainably sourced fish whilst equally careful attention is given to seasonal vegetables and fruit. Local suppliers include Carnbrooke Meats, Hannan Meats, Ewings Fishmongers, North Down Group, Ballywalter Estate.

Stephen is a true believer in seasonality and has the imagination and creativity to bring seemingly mundane ingredients to technicolor life.

The style is relaxed, the décor is pared back and the space buzzes with energy from the open kitchen, but make no mistake, this is fine dining at its absolute best having held a Michelin Star since 2016.

Opening hours: Wednesday to Saturday; Wednesday 6-9:30pm, Thursday to Saturday 12-2pm, 6-9:30pm

Awards 2022 Food&Wine Best Restaurant Ulster Best Wine Experience Ulster



Get there: 1 Oxford St Belfast BT1 3LA Get in touch: t: (0)28 9031 4121 e: Info@oxbelfast.com w: www.oxbelfast.com twitter: @oxbelfast facebook: /oxbelfast



Parliament Buildings, Stormont Estate



As you drive up the tree lined avenue towards Parliament Buildings, it's unlikely that your first thoughts would turn to food.

And yet, housed within this historic building is the elegant Members' Dining Room, serving up some of the best local produce Northern Ireland has to offer.

The demand for dining in this iconic setting, which overlooks one of Belfast's most beautiful parks, the Stormont Estate, has been so popular that it is now open to the public every weekday (excluding public holidays).

The eclectic menu showcases a wide range of delectable seasonal fayre and whether your taste is traditional or a little more on the adventurous side, you are sure to find something that will delight your palate.

Mouth-watering starters, such as the Clonakilty black pudding bonbons or the Keenan's salmon mousse provide a perfect start to the perfect meal, and you won't be disappointed by their stylish mains which include the popular pancetta and parmesan tagliatelle or Guinness flavoured beef sausages. A full range of side dishes are also available to compliment your main meal, as well as a selection of speciality ales, beers and spirits from local artisan suppliers.

If you still have room for dessert, they have a range of sweet treats to tempt you with, including their signature dessert, iced lime parfait with Jawbox gin syrup, honeycomb shard and raspberry dust.

You can round of your afternoon by taking a free tour of Parliament Buildings (please visit the website to pre-book your tour time) or by visiting the gift shop which sells a range of postcards, books and souvenirs.

And of course, what better way to work off that big lunch than to take a walk through the parks and trails of the magnificent Stormont Estate.

Get there: Parliament Buildings, Stormont Estate Belfast BT4 3XX Get in touch: t: (0)28 9052 1041 e: assemblycatering@niassembly.gov.uk facebook: /ParliamentBuildings twitter: @ParliamentBldgs





Roam



This is a very welcome addition to the Belfast city centre dining scene. What started as a pop-up in 2018 now has a permanent home. It opened in September 2022.

Head Chef and Owner Ryan Jenkins reaches very deep into the local larder for ingredients for his dishes. He likes putting together sea trout, broccoli, beetroot, parsley and miso on savoury plates and maybe chocolate cremeux, hazelnut, orange, cacao nibs and caramelised milk ice cream on sweet ones. A snack might be a fish taco.

The atmosphere is fun and relaxed and the a la carte menu changes with the seasons. Informal, simple and sophisticated. Book online.

Open for lunch and dinner Wed-Sat. Walk-ins welcome.



Get there: 6a Callendar Street, Belfast, BT15HX Get in touch: t: (0)7917957162 w: www.roambelfast.com



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Robert Stewart's



Robert Stewart's Spirit Grocer or 'Bob Stewart's as it's known to the good folk of Drumbeg. Est 1620 formally known as the Bell Inn....the oldest trading bar in the greater Belfast area. Great food served 7 days a week.

Think classic gastropub grub like thick butcher's pork and leek sausages with champ, onion gravy and crispy onions or chicken wings or steak with chips and pepper sauce. Like all Taste of Ulster members, the team are committed to using the best of the local larder. Suppliers include Lisdergan Meats, North Down (Eglantine Farm) for vegetables, Elmore for seafood, Draynes Farm for dairy and French Village but they do some baking in-house.

Dog-friendly in the bar, so it's perfect as a pit stop after a walk.



Get there: 149 Ballyskeagh Road, Belfast BT17 9LL Get in touch: t: (0)28 9030 8807 e: info@bobstewarts.co.uk w: www.bobstewarts.co.uk



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SD Bell's Coffee House and Tea Rooms



SD Bell & Co Ltd. have been roasting coffee and blending fine teas in Belfast since 1887! So, where better to sample them than in the very place where they are roasted, blended and packed?

You can drink your way around the world. All coffees are roasted on the premises, and the choice is breathtaking: exclusive Blue Mountain Jamaica shares the podium with Great Taste Award-winning mild Colombian San Agustin or espresso-strength Barista 1887 roasts. It's the same for the tea. They're absolutely at the top of their game here. More Great Taste Awards adorn their packs like Natural Leaf Breakfast Tea and Directors' Brew teas, alongside trendier White, Green and Red teas, both in loose-leaf and tea-bag format. They serve light, continental & full breakfasts, delicious scones, light lunches, home-made soups and afternoon teas. It has an extremely broad-based and loyal customer base of business people, young families, tea aficionados and those who wistfully remember the aroma of roasting coffee in Ann Street, Belfast.



Get there: 516 Upper Newtownards Road, Knock, Belfast, BT4 3HL Get in touch: t: (0)28 9047 1774 e: sales@sdbellsteacoffee.com w: www.sdbellsteacoffee.com nigoodfood.com 45 Taste of Ulster Guide 2023

Stove



Simon Toye is Head Chef at this modern bistro on Belfast's buzzing Ormeau Road. He and his business partner, Simon McCance have more than 70 years' experience in the industry. Ormeau is a vibrant neighbourhood and Stove is deservedly popular. It is upstairs with fantastic views of "The Road".

We love the commitment to showcasing the absolute best produce Northern Ireland has to offer. The menu is peppered with namechecks of suppliers such as Ewing's and Keenans Seafood, Lisdergan beef and North Down vegetables. You might have a Salad of Duck Confit with Watermelon, Bitter Leaves and Sourdough Crouton or Grilled Sardines with Brioche toast with pickled red onion for Starter. Mains could be Featherblade of Beef with Horseradish Crumb and Jerusalem artichoke or Grilled Lobster with curry butter, spiced apricot and fennel salad. Dessert could be Pear Franqipane with good vanilla ice-cream or a classic Lemon Tart.

All of their crockery is designed by Rory Shearer Ceramics. Their cocktails and wine list are very special, too. No wonder it has been shortlisted for Food and Wine Restaurant of the Year Awards! Book online to avoid disappointment at http://www. stovebelfast.com Keep an eye on the Stove on socials.

Opening Hours Wed Saturday 5-9pm (Closed Sun-Tuesday).



Get there: First Floor, 455 Ormeau Road, Belfast BT7 3GQ Get in touch: t: (0)28 9064 7744 e: info@stovebelfast.com w: www.stovebelfast.com



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The Academy Restaurant



Overlooking St Anne's Cathedral on York Street, Belfast, Academy is a haven in the city centre where you can enjoy memorable dining experiences. Locally sourced, seasonal ingredients are crafted into beautiful dishes, packed full of flavour.

As an educational hub they aspire to be a leading destination for excellence for students studying the BSc Hons degrees in Culinary Arts Management and International Hospitality Management, supporting local suppliers and showcasing environmentally sustainable approaches whilst contributing to the ongoing development of Northern Ireland as a world-class food and drink destination.

The fully licensed Academy restaurant is open to the public throughout the autumn and spring semesters.

For opening hours and further information, check out the website www.academyrestaurant.co.uk $% \left({{{\rm{A}}_{{\rm{A}}}} \right)$



Get there: Academy Restaurant at Ulster University York Street, Belfast BT151ED Get in touch: t: (0)28 9536 7332 e: academyrestaurant@ulster.ac.uk w: www.ulster.ac.uk/theacademy



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The Belvedere



Belvedere Café Restaurant Belfast is a family friendly popular BYO restaurant, which offers good value wholesome food in comfortable relaxed surroundings over two floors. It is situated just 3 miles from Belfast City Centre on the bustling Cregagh Road and 10 minutes' walk to the Kingspan Stadium, home of Ulster Rugby.

They offer good value, wholesome food in comfortable relaxed surroundings over two floors. Like all Taste of Ulster members, they endeavour to source most of their ingredients from local suppliers. Their meat is from McFarlane family butchers, just a stone's throw down the Cregagh Road. Their fruit & veg come from Bethany Fruit and Veg, again on the Cregagh Road. Their breads are from Yellow Door and their fish is from St. Georges Market.

They have introduced a new Breakfast Menu. The House favourite is Eggs Benedict. If you are in a rush, you can call ahead to pre-order.

When the joy of the weekend comes they also have a Dinner Menu which is sure to please every discerning taste. It is served Friday and Saturday nights 5-10pm. They are a Bring your Own (BYO) Restaurant with no Corkage charge.

For a Lazy Sunday let them look after you with great coffee, food and fabulously friendly service from 11am.

Planning an occasion or conference? There is a Private Room available. Please contact Anne Marie for details.

Opening hours: Monday-Thursday 9.00 am – 3pm , Friday – Saturday 9.00 am – 10pm , Sunday 10.30 am - 2pm

Awards The Food Awards Northern Ireland 2020 Good Food Award 2019 2nd in World Cuisine Category



Get there: 69 Cregagh Road, Belfast BT6 8PY Get in touch: t: (0)28 9508 8912 e: Thebelvederebelfast@gmail.com w: www.thebelvederebelfast.com



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The Bowery



Formerly The Albany on Belfast's Lisburn Road, The Bowery is a modern neighbourhood bar with a touch of style. Great food, live music and a super selection of drinks are all on offer. Like all Taste of Ulster members, the team are committed to using the best of the local larder. Suppliers include Lisdergan Meats, North Down (Eglantine Farm) for vegetables, Elmore for seafood, Draynes Farm for dairy and Roisin's Bakery.

If you are wondering what type of dishes to expect, here are some examples. Think gastro pub snacks like charred sourdough with crispy roast chicken skin butter. Starters could be Roast Beef Croquettes with French Onion Aioli, Burnt Shallots, Greens or Prawns with Garlic, chilli, butter, parsley, charred sourdough and burnt lemon. Maybe you will choose a Plant Burger with Grilled Halloumi, Tomato Relish, Gem, Crispy Onions and home-cut chips, a grilled Fillet Steak with Potato Gratin and Mushrooms a la Grecque, or Duck with Apple, Potato Gratin, Hazelnut, Kale, Daikon and Jus for Mains and dessert could be a Chocolate Vegan Mousse with Raspberry Sorbet and Coconut or Pecan Pie, Vanilla Ice Cream and Maple Syrup.

The menus change daily but you get the idea. Why not try Sunday's very popular Sharing Roast Boards from 1pm for a lazy lunch. Make sure to book online to avoid disappointment. Restaurant Opening Hours 5pm-9.30pm Monday-Saturday, Sunday 1pm-9.30pm



Get there: 701-709 Lisburn Road, Belfast BT9 7GU Get in touch: t: (0)28 9066 2600 e: info@thebowerybelfast.co.uk w: www.thebowerybelfast.co.uk



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The Bullitt Hotel



With stylish bedrooms; a modern restaurant with a wood-fired grill; a rooftop restaurant, bar and garden; a laid-back lobby and courtyard bar; and an eclectic events calendar, Bullitt has introduced a vibrant new hotel concept to Belfast, providing a space for people to stay, play, work and create in the heart of the city.

Bullitt's bedrooms feature comfy king-size beds, rain showers and super-fast wi-fi. They come in a range of sizes, from Dinky to Comfy, Roomy and Biggy. They can cater for solo travellers, couples and group bookings.

On the ground floor, Taylor & Clay Grill boasts an open kitchen built around our incredible bespoke Asador wood-fired grill. Head chef Saul O'Reilly's talented team cook the best local meat, seafood and vegetables over roaring flames. They're serious about their steaks and all of their cuts are sourced from the award-winning Lisdergan Meats.

On the rooftop, you'll find Tetto - a bright, modern, design-led rooftop restaurant, bar and garden showcasing fresh local seafood with an Italian accent alongside sourdough pizza and imaginative aperitivo inspired cocktails. Tetto also serves up a delicious, laid-back weekend brunch every Saturday and Sunday. After dinner, spend the rest of the night in the Bullitt bar or with a rooftop cocktail in Tetto. Cocktail connoisseurs should make their way over to Rattlebag – Bullitt's secret cocktail den – for a unique, intimate cocktail experience.

Opening hours Taylor & Clay: Breakfast: Mon-Sunday 7am-11am; Lunch: Monday-Sunday 12pm-4pm; Dinner: Monday- Sunday 5pm-10pm

Tetto: Dinner: Wednesday – Saturday 5pm – 10pm; Brunch Saturday 12pm – 4pm, Sunday 11am – 6pm.



Get there: 40a Church Lane, Belfast, BT14QN Get in touch: t: (0)28 9590 0600 e: info@bullitthotel.com w: www.bullitthotel.com



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The Causerie at The Europa Hotel



The lobby at this world-famous hotel has seen more than its fair share of celebrities. The Causerie Restaurant is in a prime location for star-spotting but you'll probably be far too interested in what's on the plate to notice!

The vibe is relaxed and informal while the food is seriously good. As part of the Hastings Hotels Group they are passionate about the food they serve. The chefs here led by Kyle Greer are committed to using only the freshest, locally-sourced ingredients.

Start off your meal with a heart-warming bowl of Soup accompanied by Hastings Stout and Treacle Wheaten Bread, Walnut Crusted Goat's Cheese or Pork Belly before the main event that won't leave you disappointed. There truly is something for all tastes, from Salads, to Thai Green Curry and Lisdergan Sirloin Steak to Fish of the Day dishes, and vegetarian & vegan Risotto and Pasta.

And be sure to leave a space for pudding. You can't go wrong with a Sticky Toffee Pudding or Warm Armagh Apple and Berry Crumble, or go all out with a Taste the Island Cheese Slate served with a special Erin Grove Spiced Apple Chutney and Crackers.

For those taking in a show in the neighbouring Grand Opera House or nearby Ulster Hall, MAC or SSE Arena, the Europa also offers a Pre-Theatre Menu which includes two courses and a glass of wine.

The menus are updated to what's seasonally available but are delivered with the same great taste and a smile on the face of the staff.

Opening hours: Dinner Menu: Daily 5pm – 10pm, Pre Theatre Menu: Daily 5pm – 6.30pm, Lunch Menu: 1pm – 5pm



Get there: Great Victoria Street, Belfast, BT27AP Get in touch: t: (0)28 9027 1066 e: res@eur.hastingshotels.com w: www.hastingshotels.com twitter: @europahotel facebook: / EuropaHotelBelfast





The Chelsea



This place has been a stalwart on Belfast's trendy Lisburn Road since the 1990s. It has stood the test of time because this contemporary local bar and bistro does food and drink very well indeed. Local suppliers include Lisdergan Butchery, Walter Ewing's and French Village bakery.

Expect to find great steaks, seafood dishes, sandwiches, and much more. Their bestsellers include the Foxes Rock Beer Battered Haddock, Aromatic Chicken Curry; Tandoori Spiced Crispy Squid.

Their popular brunch menu is available all week, whilst their Sunday Roasts are among the best in Belfast. Add their extensive wine list, signature cocktails, beers and wide-ranging spirit selection which includes many local products, along with accompanying swing, soul & acoustic live music, you may end up spending the whole day and night in this comfortable retreat from the hustle and bustle of south Belfast.

Opening hours: Sun-Tues – 12pm – 11pm, Wed-Thurs – 12pm - 12am, Fri-Sat – 12pm - 1am



Get there: 346 Lisburn Road, Belfast, BT9 6GH Get in touch: t: (0)28 9068 7177 e: info@thechelseabar.com w: www.thechelseabar.com instagram: @thechelseabar



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The Cloth Ear



No visit to Northern Ireland would be complete without visiting a really good pub! In Belfast you are spoilt for choice, but why not start your odyssey in The Merchant Hotel's own welcoming public house – The Cloth Ear.

There's an exceptional range of craft beers, ales and stouts both bottled and on tap as well as a range of lagers and beers from around the world. They have an extensive range of liqueurs and spirits including a fine portfolio of Irish and International whiskies. The Cloth Ear offers wine by the keg, as well as a fabulous range of classic and contemporary cocktails.

And of course, no great pub would be complete without great pub grub! The food in The Cloth Ear is fresh, creative and hearty. Using the best local ingredients is the key to their successful dishes. Their menu is exceptionally popular and offers mouth-watering delights such as grilled cheese sandwiches, signature curries, wholesome bowls of chowder and Sunday Roasts.

Relax and unwind at The Cloth Ear with a pared-back entertainment programme of acoustic music reflecting the desire to encourage people to talk to one another uninterrupted by modern gadgetry.

Opening hours: Bar Service Hours, Sunday to Thursday: 12.00pm - 11pm, Friday to Saturday: 12.00pm - 1.00am. Food Service Hours, Sunday to Thursday: 12.00pm - 9.00pm, Friday and Saturday: 12.00pm - 10.00pm



Get there: 35-39 Waring Street, Belfast, BT1 2DY Get in bouch: t: (0)28 9026 2719 w: www.themerchanthotel.com/the-cloth-ear twitter: @TheClothEar facebook: /clothear





The Great Room at The Merchant Hotel



The Great Room Restaurant is undoubtedly one of Northern Ireland's most extraordinary restaurants. Thanks to the remarkable original Victorian interior with its glass cupola, Ireland's largest chandelier and an array of plasterwork detailing, the space is second to none.

Needless to say their chefs search tirelessly to bring the finest seasonal ingredients together in eloquent dishes, in thoughtfully prepared menus. Just one of the reasons The Great Room Restaurant was awarded 2 AA Rosettes. Inspired by great European classic dishes, their Head Chef brings a lightness of touch and an innovative approach to the creation of each dish. Quality and freshness of produce is paramount. Afternoon Tea in The Great Room is widely renowned. A five-star delight with bespoke blended tea, head pastry chef Sarah – Jade and her team create three tiered silver stands boasting finger sandwiches, scones with clotted cream and jam, and a delicious selection of cakes, pastries and sweet treats. All this is complemented by expert service and a wine list to which all the superlatives apply!

The Great Room Restaurant offers a huge range of dining choices, from excellent value set menu options to their extensive a la carte and full tasting menus (with or without matched wines), dining in The Great Room Restaurant is an experience not to be missed!



Get there: 16 Skipper Street, Belfast, BT12DZ Get in touch: t: (0)2890 234 888 w: www.themerchanthotel.com/the-great-room twitter: @MerchantHotel facebook: /themerchanthotel



The Mill Restaurant at La Mon Hotel & Country Club



Relax & dine in Charlie's Bistro & Lounge at La Mon Hotel & Country Club. Set within the rolling hills of Co. Down and uniquely located on the periphery of Belfast.

Whether it's lunch, dinner or afternoon tea, enjoy the relaxed atmosphere of Charlie's Bistro & Lounge. The team of talented chefs have created a menu based on seasonal local produce, sourced with care. Dishes are freshly prepared and beautifully presented by their friendly team.

From its intimate corners and roaring winter fires to its full height windows bathed in summer sunlight, Charlie's Bistro & Lounge makes the ideal destination for relaxing with friends and family at any time of year.

To complete your dining experience Charlie's Bistro & Lounge offer an extensive selection of drinks and wines suitable for any occasion or celebration.



Get there: La Mon Hotel & Country Club, 41 Gransha Road, Belfast, BT23 5RF Get in touch: t: (0)28 9044 8631 e: info@lamon.co.uk w: www.lamon.co.uk twitter: @LaMonHotel facebook: LaMonHotelBelfast/



The Muddlers Club



The Muddlers Club is loosely named after the United Irishmen, a group of free thinking revolutionaries who met in secret around the turn of the 19th Century in the Cathedral quarter. While the name also plays on the double entendre of "Muddling" a cocktail and giving a sense of ambiguity for the venue.

This Michelin starred restaurant combines locally sourced tasting menus under the watchful eye of Chef/Patron, Gareth McCaughey, alongside an extensive & eclectic wine list and seasonal cocktail menu. The dimly lit room with subtle rock tones like 'Rebel Rebel' play to encourage a cool and relaxed atmosphere with hues of gold and navy in a post industrial layout. But don't let the decor fool you, service is on point, efficient and friendly that coincides perfectly with the masterfully crafted tasting menus on show.

A great show of local artisinal produce is the fayre here. A must visit! Bookings are highly recommended to avoid disappointment. Reservations can be made online.

Opening hours: Sun-Tues: Closed, Wed & Thurs: 5PM-9:30PM, Fri & Sat: Lunch sittings at 12:30PM/1PM, open for evening service 5:30PM-9:30PM



Get there: Unit 1 Warehouse Lane, Belfast, Co. Antrim BT1 2DX Get in touch: t: (0)28 9031 3199 e: info@themuddlersclubbelfast.com w: www.themuddlersclubbelfast.com



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The National Grande Cafe



The National is set in the historic surrounding of one of Belfast's oldest buildings, the former National Bank Building on the High Street. Inside lies an intentionally unfinished industrial modern interior of exposed bricks, steel girders and concrete floors. The girders are now painted in the unmistakable yellow of Samson and Goliath.

Sharp and industrial design with minimal and simple aesthetics, The National offers a contemporary twist on the beautiful, listed Victorian Building it's housed in. Offering an airy and sophisticated space to relax and socialise with friends, you won't want to leave! They offer café dining and evening carousing at its best! With their pared-back cocktail menus, simple but bold food menus and coffee that packs a punch, they're offering you the best in local food and drink stripped back. If it's late-night socialising you're after, don't worry they have you covered with two upstairs bars and club areas opening until 3am every weekend!

Drinks-wise, the cocktail list is small but clever and sits well alongside a wide range of gin, whiskey, rum and tequila. There are also a number of locally brewed craft beers.



Get there: 62-68 High Street, BT1 2BE Belfast, United Kingdom Get in touch: t: (0)28 9031 1130 e: info@thenationalbelfast.com twitter: @NationalBelfast facebook: /NationalBelfast





The Pocket



Richard and Bailey Evans are the owners of this super little place on the iconic Flat Iron building beside Victoria Square Shopping Centre in Belfast City Centre. Locals will know it as being behind Bittles Bar. They met at Queens University and first set up The Pocket in a listed building in Queens Quarter in 2015 after they had their first baby. Bailey was on maternity leave and Richard's coffee obsession has been fuelled by a spell experimenting in his "coffee cave" in the garage.

The Queens venue became unviable because of Covid so they decided to concentrate on the Flatiron site. There, Head Chef Roxanne Gough's menus change with the seasons and there are monthly specials. Expect Lavender French toast (the lavender is infused into the caramel), Green Eggs on Toast (the green sauce is in-house) and Veggie and Crispy Buttermilk Chicken Burgers. Local suppliers include Hellbent for their Wors Sausages, Keenans for Seafood, Draynes Farm for all dairy, Bara Bakehouse and the Buchas Dog Kombucha. There are lots of sweet treats and the loose leaf tea and 3fe coffee are proper.

Their philosophy for coffee and food is the same as their philosophy for life. Success is born out of passion and their passion for yummy fresh food and great coffee in a chilled atmosphere is plain to see.

Opening hours Monday-Friday 8.30-15.00 Saturday and Sunday 9.00-15.00





The Seahorse at the Grand Central Hotel



Fine dining in the city centre with phenomenal cuisine and lavish surroundings, the Seahorse Restaurant holds a prestigious AA Rosette and is situated on the second floor of the five-star Grand Central Hotel.

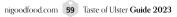
Led by Chef Damien Tumilty, the Seahorse Restaurant oozes excellence and that's due to the restaurant using the best local produce to enhance the quality of the dish for guests. The À La Carte Menu showcases some of the best appetisers, entrées and desserts in the city, from Ballycastle Lobster, Thinly Sliced Salad of Smoked Beef and Terrine of Confit Duck and Smoked Duck for appetisers to Irish Pork Fillet, Salt Aged Fillet Steak, Pan Fried Turbot and Risotto for entrées and Chocolate Salted Caramel Tart, Warm Chocolate Fondant and Caramelised Pineapple for desserts.

Dinner Menu: Thurs: A La Carte, Fri & Sat: Tasting Menu



Get there: 9-15 Bedford Street, Belfast, BT27FF Get in touch: t: (0)28 9023 1066 e: res@gch.hastingshotels.com w: www.hastingshotels.com facebook: / GrandCentralHotelBelfast twitter: @grandcentralbel





Titanic Hotel



Titanic Hotel Belfast is located in the former headquarters of Harland & Wolff, builders of RMS Titanic. The world's most authentic Titanic-themed hotel, it is the perfect destination for anyone travelling to Titanic Quarter on business or for pleasure.

The décor is Art Deco and the champagne and cocktail lounge known as the Harland Bar is brilliantly situated beside the historic Drawing Office Two where many ships were designed. Drawing Office Two is home to Titanic Hotel's main bar.

Foodwise, there is everything from fine dining in the Wolff Grill restaurant with views of Titanic Belfast and surrounding slipways to casual dining in Drawing Office Two. Titanic Hotel also serves Afternoon Tea and first class breakfasts.

Titanic Hotel Belfast can cater for weddings from 20 guests up to 220 guests. Titanic Hotel Belfast can also provide private dining in one of the heritage offices, with 5 to choose from, for the ultimate dining experience.

Opening Hours:

Drawing Office Two: Lunch 12noon-5pm, Dinner 5pm-9.30pm

The Wolff Grill: 6pm-9.30pm



Get there: Queen's Road, Titanic Quarter, Belfast, BT3 9DT Get in touch: t: (0)28 9508 2000 e: info@titanichotelbelfast.com w: www.titanichotelbelfast.com



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Vespers at The Culloden Estate and Spa



Located within the Culloden Estate and Spa, Vespers is one of Northern Ireland's leading fine dining restaurants. This elegant dining room enjoys fabulous views over the beautifully manicured lawns and delivers a special dining experience for guests. Start off with Baked Strangford Lough Clam and Chorizo Gratin or Irish Beef Cheeky Croquette, before a choice of mains including Gressingham Duck Breast, Irish Fillet Steak or Ardglass Hake and finishing off with Bushmills Whiskey and Caramel Poached Pear or Irish Cheese Slate. The restaurant is also famed for its fabulous Sunday lunch which attracts a regular clientele.

Vespers combines a warm and welcoming ambience with attention to detail serving the finest and freshest local ingredients – key to Vesper's success and appeal. The chefs combine creative flair with classic flavours, whilst always paying heed to the cooking finesse required for a fine dining restaurant. The menus move with the season to capture all that is good from the rich produce of Northern Ireland. Whatever your taste, an evening at Vespers will be a special experience, and their highly trained team will make sure you are expertly advised on the wide range of wines available to complement your choice of dish.

If you wish to spend an afternoon full of decorum and copious amounts of tea, experience an indulgent Afternoon Tea in the finest surroundings. While the Culloden Estate was built for a Bishop, it's certainly more than fit for a King or Queen. From the freshest scones and sandwiches brimmed with fillings to mouth-watering pastries to end in the most perfect way possible.

Dinner Menu: Wednesday to Saturday 6pm – 9.30pm Sunday Lunch: 1pm – 3pm Afternoon Tea Menu: Daily 1.30pm



Get there: Bangor Road, Holywood BT18 0EX Get in touch: t: (0)28 9042 1066 e: res@cull.hastingshotels.com w: www.cullodenestateandspa.com twitter: @CullodenEstate facebook: /cullodenestate





Yardbird



Yardbird is situated within one of Belfast's oldest buildings above The Dirty Onion Public House in the heart of the Cathedral Quarter on Hill Street, Belfast.

Yardbird, a free-to-roam rotisserie chicken restaurant, is a firm local favourite in its own right as well as a being a perfect complement to the cosy bar downstairs.

The simple, stripped back and uncomplicated menu is prepared and delivered to the highest standards and served in a unique style with a matching environment.

The food offering is straight to the point, rotisserie chicken, ribs, wings, and sides, all cooked to perfection and full of flavour.

Although the restaurant is situated above The Dirty Onion public house, the restaurant offers a family friendly atmosphere where everyone is welcome, just so long as you love chicken!

OPENING HOURS: Mon - Sun 12pm-10pm



Get there: 3 Hill Street, Belfast BT12LA Get in touch: t: (0)28 9024 3712 w: www.thedirtyonion.com/menu/ twitter: Yardbirdbelfast facebook: /yardbirdbelfast



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Yellow Door Belfast



The go to place for great sandwiches and more on Belfast's trendy Lisburn Road is definitely the Yellow Door. It's part of the big Yellow Door family founded by the multi-award winning chef, Simon Dougan.

This branch is open early for the business crowd and those who need a breakfast boost before they head into work. The Yellow Door bakery provides the usual standard of pancakes, scones and breads that form part of the scrummy menu. Everything is made from scratch without any additives.

Come lunchtime, there will be queues but they're as good at service as they are at sandwiches. There are plenty of sweet treats on offer too. You know how moreish their patisserie range is.

They provide outside catering too.

Opening hours: Mon-Sat: 8.30am – 2.30pm



Get there: 427 Lisburn Road, Belfast, BT9 7EY Get in touch: t: (0)28 9038 1961 e: Belfast@yellowdoordeli.co.uk w: www.yellowdoordeli.co.uk







Co. Antrim

County Antrim has so much to offer. It is home to the cities of Belfast and Lisburn (famous for linen), as well as annual events such as Balmoral Show and Garden Show Ireland.

The spectacular North Coast with its stunning beaches, great golf and rolling glens is worth taking time to explore. Take the coastal route with stunning architectural stops like Dunluce and Kinbane Castles. Game of Thrones fans will recognise lots of locations such as The Dark Hedges and Ballintoy village. In fact, this is Game of Thrones country!

For diehard fans, book into The Dark Hedges Estate in Stranocum. The Fullerton Arms pub with rooms has a door carved out of one of the Dark Hedges trees. Ballygally Castle Hotel has a Game of Thrones-themed Afternoon Tea....

Did you know this county is the closest to Scotland? It is just 13 miles away from Ballycastle. Ulster Scots phrases are peppered throughout the local talk as is the love of hamely food like soda farls in the kitchen.

There are so many lovely places to stop off in the picturesque nine Glens of Antrim. It is an Area of Outstanding Beauty. Look out for local Glens of Antrim crisps to munch on.

Find local favourites Dulse (seaweed) and Yellow Man (honeycomb) at the Auld Lammas Fair in Ballycastle. Visit the world's oldest distillery at Bushmills while you are up that way to see the Giants Causeway UNESCO World Heritage Site. Are the basalt columns the work of the ancient giant, Finn McCool or Mother Nature. We'll let you decide.

The Bushmills Inn



It's always a good start to a meal when the atmosphere is so cosy. You will love the wee snugs, the whitewashed walls and dark timbers. The traditional 17th century building might take you back in time, but the food is bang up to date.

Their style is Irish with an international twist. One of the most popular dishes on the menu is as local as it can get; pan-fried fillet of beef flamed with the famous whiskey made a mere stone's throw away.

The Inn's passion for using locally sourced, seasonal produce is evident throughout all their menus, and they are one of the founding members of Taste Causeway, a consortium of producers and hospitality businesses who represent the well-renowned food and drink of their area. As well as fine dining in the Restaurant you can enjoy casual dining in the Gas Bar, a traditional Sunday Carvery, a decadent Afternoon Tea or al fresco dining on the Patio.

Desserts are sinfully rich and irresistible. It would be rude not to try their sticky toffee pudding with fresh cream. Just make sure you take a walk on the beach afterwards. Then come back to a malt whiskey in the bar which is still lit by gaslight.

They've even got a private cinema! It doesn't get much better than this.



Get there: 9 Dunluce Road, Bushmills, Co. Antrim. BT57 8QG Get in touch: t: (0)28 2073 3000 e: info@bushmillsinn.com w: www.bushmillsinn.com facebook: /BushmillsInn twitter: @BushmillsInn instagram@bushmillsinn



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Dunadry Hotel And Gardens



Dunadry Hotel and Gardens have a long-established reputation for serving delicious food which is unrivalled in the area. The hotel, whose name means "The Middle Fort" has recently been awarded the AA Rosette for the Mill Race Restaurant.

The Mill Race restaurant offers gorgeous views over the Six Mile River and inside is now contemporary and stylish as befits the food by Head Chef, Greg Ferguson. His team of talented chefs are committed to using fresh, locally sourced produce from suppliers including Carnbrooke Meats, McAtamney Meats, Get Fresh, Keenan's Seafood, Dale Farm and Yellow Door. They create seasonal tasty menus, using international influences on local favourites. Expect dishes like Seafood Bouillabaisse, with Monkfish, Mussels, and Langoustine or a Venison steak with baby turnip and bourguignon garnish. From savoury taste sensations to sweet delights, make sure to taste their homemade scones, pastries and desserts. And don't forget to try the Traditional Sunday Carvery and the beautifully hand-crafted Afternoon Tea. **Opening hours:** Monday to Saturday 12.00pm – 9.30pm. Sunday 12.00pm to 8.30pm



Get there: 2 Islandreagh Drive, Dunadry, Co. Antrim, BT412HA Get in touch: t: (0)28 9443 4343 e: reception@dunadry.com w: www.dunadry.com twitter: @thedunadry facebook: TheDunadry



Galgorm Resort



Galgorm is Northern Ireland's premier Resort and Spa destination and with an array of restaurants and bars to choose from, guests will be spoiled for choice.

With a passion to create quality, memorable and unique experience, a range of restaurants and bars promise a selection of flavours and themes to please a crowd. Whether you are looking to enjoy the decadence of Afternoon Tea in the stunning setting of The Conservatory, wholesome dining in the casual setting of Gillies Grill, family-friendly traditional Italian in Fratelli or enjoy the ambience of Castle Kitchen + Bar where menus fuse the eclectic with modern dining twists, there is an option for you at Galgorm.



Get there: Galgorm Resort, 136 Fenaghy Road, Ballymena, Co. Antrim BT421EA Get in touch: t: (0)28 2588 1001 w: www.galgorm.com



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Ocho Tapas Bistro



Tapas are Spanish nibbles which can easily turn into a full-scale feast if you order enough of them. That's the beauty of them. They can be a snack like Pinxtos from San Sebastian, small plates to larger sharing platters and are regarded as a more sociable way of eating.

Ocho Tapas Bistro is well-known for great seafood (the coast couldn't be closer!) and freshly prepared dishes using local produce. This is a place where the menus are seasonal and inventive.

The wine list is well-considered and there is also a good selection of craft beers and cocktails.

There are plenty of sweet treats too, so get there for a taste of Spain on the north coast. VAMOS!

Ocho Tapas is re-opening in Coleraine in July 2023! The new location can be found at 78 Portstewart Road, Coleraine, BT521SB



Get there: 78 Portstewart Road, Coleraine BT521SB Get in touch: t: (0)2870327756 w: www.ochotapas.co.uk



Square Bistro



This Lisburn city centre bistro is renowned for its theme nights; tapas, curry and fresh seafood, but they also do an Early Bird Menu and a regular a la carte. The Square has been uber-popular since it was opened by a husband and wife duo ten years ago.

Head chef and proprietor Stephen Higginson and his team are sticklers for using the best local ingredients like Peter Hannan's salt-aged beef, Abernethy Butter, Ewings Seafood, Belfast. Naturally, they have the know-how to cook them very, very well. That's why they advise you to book in advance. They wouldn't want you to miss out on their amazing food.

Stephen and his wife Cristina are passionate about what goes on the plates. Lunch and dinner menus change regularly but expect things like Portavogie scampi with Mooli and Ponzu dressing and Peter Hannan hanger steak with darling baby roast apples.

The wine list is perfectly balanced, the desserts are all made in house, and on top of that, more than half of the staff has done the World Host Customer Service programme.

<code>Opening hours:</code> Mon CLOSED, Tues 11.30am – 2.30PM / 5pm – 8.30PM, Wed 11.30am – 2.30PM / 5pm – 8.30PM, Thurs 11.30am – 2.30PM / 5pm – 8.30PM, Friday 11.30am – 2.30PM / 5PM – 9PM, Saturday 11.30am – 2.30PM / 5PM – 9PM, Sunday CLOSED



Get there: 18 Lisburn Square Lisburn, Co. Antrim BT28 1TS Get in touch: (0)28 9266 6677 e: info@squarebistro.co.uk w: www.squarebistro.co.uk nigoodfood.com 71 Taste of Ulster Guide 2023

Tartine at The Distillers Arms



Tartine at The Distillers Arms was originally home to the Bushmills Distillery owners, spending some years as lodgings and a pub before being converted to a restaurant, retaining many of its original features.

The restaurant comprises of 3 beautifully appointed, interconnecting areas each with a contemporary selection of local artists' original paintings and prints. The lighting is low, the atmosphere relaxing and the service attentive. The cooking style could be described as Modern Brasserie. Chef and owner Gary Stewart sources locally produced meats, fish and vegetables to create daily specials and interesting dishes reflective of the Causeway coastal area.

There is an imaginative wine list and a good stock of Northern Irish craft beers behind the bar. All this and just 5 km from Royal Portrush Golf Club, 3 km from The Giants Causeway, Co Antrim and 5 minutes stroll from the Old Bushmills Whiskey Distillery. So many reasons for a day out before this becomes one of your favourite places to eat!

Opening hours: Dinner Wednesday-Sunday 5-9pm (Extended hours in Summer) Sunday roast lunch served 12.15pm - 2.15pm



Get there: 140 Main Street, Bushmills, Co. Antrim, BT578QE Get in touch: t: (0)28 2073 1044 e: info@distillersarms.com w: www.distillersarms.com



The Boathouse



The Boathouse opened in December 2019 and is located inside the Gateway complex at Antrim Loughshore. Since opening, Head Chef, Michael McGuigan has been serving great fish dishes, a twist on the classics, and stunning wood fired pizzas made in a bespoke, authentic Italian pizza oven.

The Boathouse has stunning views over Lough Neagh, thanks to the solid glass exterior. A view you'll never tire of, while enjoying delicious, freshly cooked dishes, homemade desserts and bakes made by the in-house baker, and their local blend of coffee made by trained baristas. Sustainability and supporting local produce is important to them which is why they only use sustainable seafood, and is some of the best locally sourced produce in the country such as McAtamney's Butchers, Ewing Seafoods, First for Fruit and McCloskey's Bakery. They also do take away. Make sure to try the pizza at weekends.

Awards NI Restaurant of the Year 2022 from The Northern Ireland Hospitality Awards



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The Cardan



The Cardan Bar and Grill has a long history and is also well known under its previous incarnation, The Robin's Nest. It dates from 1848 when it was built in response to the construction of the railway line between Lisburn and Belfast in 1839. It became The Cardan Bar and Grill following the purchase of The Robins Nest in 2004 and subsequent major renovations in 2005 by the current owner Jon Poots.

The Cardan Bar and Grill serves great food using as many local ingredients as close to their door as possible. That's the Taste of Ulster ethos and they are true to it, championing local suppliers long before it was fashionable! Some of the local suppliers include Lisdergan Meats, Keenan Seafoods, Down Wholesale and Draynes Farm. They cook all food fresh daily and to order.

For the style of food, think gastro pub. Expect Glazed Beef Cheek with Roasted Garlic Mash, Confit Shallot and Smoked Pancetta, in-house Burger with all the trimmings or Catch of the Day. They serve an All-Day menu from Noon Monday-Sunday. Their Vegetarian and Gluten free options are also available and can be made to suit with a few favourites like the Pea & Parmesan Risotto or Veg Thai Curry. Kids will be happy with some of the favourites with other great options including fresh vegetables and minimal fried foods and local Draynes Le cream for after.

From the Drinks menu, they carry one of the best ranges of Draft Lagers, Ales, and Stout available with regular guest brands form local Craft brewers such as Whitewater Brewery, Castlewellan and Hilden Brewery, Lisburn plus a selection of international beers, 0% Alcohol beer and cider and Gluten Free Beers also. Their Cocktails and Spirit range also include local Gin brands such as Jawbox and Boatyard, all served with premium mixers.



Get there: 41 Railway Street, Lisburn BT281XP Get in touch: t: (0)28 9267 8065 e: info@thecardan.com w: www.thecardan.com



The Creamery Can



This family-run coffee shop and ice-cream business is the 10th member of Economusee in Northern Ireland. They were awarded this accolade for their artisan ice-cream which is made onsite on their farm and is sold via the coffee shop.

At the Creamery Can, they serve from the heart. They believe in generosity of spirit, passion and attention to detail in all they do.

The coffee shop menu includes many hearty favourites such as a full Irish breakfast, homemade pancakes, bacon & maple syrup, homemade granola with natural yogurt, cinnamon & strawberries, pulled pork with BBQ sauce in a brioche bun, shredded duck wraps with hoisin & spring onions and much more. They are well known for a wide selection of home bakes, including gluten free options. Specialities are the homemade scones, raspberry friands and their very famous caramel squares which customers travel miles to purchase! All their bakes and savoury items are all prepared on site using locally sourced ingredients wherever possible.

This is homely food and drink coupled with great service. The outside tables are very popular in fine weather and suit our cyclists and dog owners.

People often ask about the stone barn building itself. Before renovation it was just an old stone barn with no floor in which they kept the oil tank. The beautiful oak trusses were made by a talented local carpenter and the interior design has a distinctly quirky, up-cycled style. All the windows and doors were a new addition to the property, allowing a spacious, airy feel.

Winter opening hours are Thursday to Saturday inclusively from 9.30am to 4.30pm. (Closed Sundays) During summer months these hours extend to Tuesday to Saturday weekly.



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The Causeway Hotel



Talk about a room with a view! The Causeway Hotel is one of the most idyllic places to eat, offering all-day dining and serving the finest dishes using seasonal and locally-sourced produce.

The restaurant at this historic hotel dating back to 1836 looks onto the Giant's Causeway UNESCO World Heritage site and the crashing waves of the Atlantic ocean and Ronkerry beach.

Newly refurbished, the hotel is full of olde world charm and Irish hospitality where you can enjoy local dishes such as Irish stew, seafood chowder and a slice of homemade wheaten bread.

There's lots more besides, Crispy Duck with Plum Sauce and Oven baked Salmon that won't disappoint and much more.

Light bites in the bar include soups, burgers, fish, steak, we could go on. For dessert, all home-made, comfort food at its best!



Get there: Giants Causeway, 40 Causeway Road, Bushmills, BT47 8SU Get in touch: t: (0)28 2073 1210 e: info@causewayhotel.com w: www.thecausewayhotel.com

The Daily Apron



You will find this super café and bakery in the Smyth Patterson Department Store in Lisburn, Co. Antrim. It is owned by Cathy Stevenson and Katrina Collins. Katrina is the manager. You may have heard of baker Cathy, She was named as a World Bread Hero at the 2020 World Bread Awards for her work with novice bakers.

At The Daily Apron their values are based around 'cake, kindness and community'.

With everything made from scratch and a firm commitment to local suppliers, they begin every morning at 5.30am to ensure they are ready with the wide variety of breads, sweet treats and savoury options that fill their menus. From their bestselling sausage rolls with their own flaky pastry to the big grilled cheese sandwich selection on Cathy's crusty sourdough bread, there is so much choice. Plus Dolly is their sweet trolley with three layers of all treats deservingly delightful!

They want customers to feel looked after whatever their dietary requirements are, so they offer home-made, gluten-free, vegetarian and dairy-free choices. They also have a bespoke vegan menu.

Well worth a visit, or several! Eat in or take out.

Opening Hours Monday-Saturday 9am – 2pm





The Dairy



The Dairy is a bustling bistro, butchers and farm shop set in the heart of the Gleno valley, within a few minutes' walk of the National Trust site of Gleno waterfall and just a short drive from both Larne & Carrickfergus. The Dairy is all about handmade, homegrown and locally sourced. It's a dream come true for owner Sandra McDowell.

The stylish, modern interior is complemented by its more traditional exterior and blends in with the beautiful rural surroundings. In previous generations the building was a fully operational, traditional dairy. Over 100 years later it has been given a new lease of life.

It is important that The Dairy remains a fond part of the community and for that reason it has reused and reclaimed as much of the original building as possible; the tables have been made from old beams from the previous building, a conveyor beit from the old meal store has been reinvented as a seat in the walled courtyard at the rear of the building and some of the old tin roof has been repurposed and used throughout the hallways. In keeping with how the original dairy had its own unique products The Dairy has many bespoke products including its very own unique coffee blend, supplied by Wild Heart Coffee Roasters.

The butchers and bistro use only quality cuts of Irish meat. The grass-fed farm quality assured Dairyside Lamb and Beef is reared on The Dairy's home farm on the same grounds with the view that the lower the miles from field to the plate the better the taste and the better it is for the environment too. With locally sourced meats from their butchers to using local companies to supply the Café and shop, they pride ourselves in supporting local businesses and surrounding communities. Head Chef's menus are full of goodies like The Dairy Signature Antrim Fry and fabulous milkshakes made with Maud's Lec Cream.

Opening Hours Mon-Fri 9:30-16:30, Sat 09:00-21:00, Sun 09:30-16.30



Get there: 5 Waterfall Road, Gleno BT40 3LE Get in touch: t: (0)28 2827 8662 e: thedairy.gleno@gmail.com w: www.thedairygleno.com



The Fullerton Arms



Visited by locals and tourists alike, the Fullerton Arms is an ideal stop for anyone keen to experience genuine hospitality, taste high quality food and sample from a wide range of beverages.

The food menu features a range of dishes and daily specials that appeal to any taste, although Beef and Guinness pie will always be a firm favourite. That being said, Ireland's premier moulerie is the speciality here, with Strangford Lough mussels served in six delicious sauces using ingredients from local, artisan supplies such as Corndale Chorizo, Jawbox Gin and Northbound IPA.

Located in the idyllic seaside village of Ballintoy, the Fullerton Arms is perfect for those wanting to visit attractions along the North Coast such as the Giant's Causeway and Carrick-a-Rede rope bridge. Fans of the hit TV series Game of Thrones will also be delighted by the proximity to well-known film locations, the Game of Thrones themed room inside the building and the sixth Door of Thrones.

For those staying over, the thirteen bedrooms have recently undergone renovations, with comfy furnishings and a fresh décor that's as welcoming as the beautiful coast itself. Just like the main bar area, 3 of the bedrooms also have a dog friendly policy, so that all of the family can be made to feel truly welcome.

Reservations are recommended to avoid disappointment.



Get there: 22-24 Main Street, Ballintoy, Co. Antrim, BT54 6LX Get in touch: t: (0)28 2076 9613 e: info@fullerton-arms.com w: www.fullerton-arms.com



The Garden Restaurant at Ballygally Castle



The chefs have really gone to town on the menu at the Ballygally Castle. Their Garden Restaurant offers a wide range of tasty starters like their Signature Seafood Chowder, tasty Prawn Cocktail or choice of Salad, whilst main course offerings include Slow Cooked Irish Beef, Lisdergan Sirloin Steak, a classic Fish and Chips with Mushy Peas and a selection of vegan and vegetarian options including Pappardelle Pasta and Linguini......Yum!

Add to the experience with an indulgent side of Truffle, Parmesan Fries, Triple Cooked Chips, or Garlic Sourdough. If you still have room for dessert, don't miss the Sticky Toffee Pudding, seasonal Cheesecake, Crumble and Torte. Well, it would just be rude not to try at least one, wouldn't it?

If you're after something a little more casual, they've got that covered, and then some in the lounge. From a not to be missed full Afternoon tea by the sea with Thompson's specialty teas, buttermilk scones, scrummy sandwiches and to die for pastries, to a selection of sandwiches, wraps and salads to something more filling such as a Lisdergan Gourmet Burger and moreish chicken curry, it's got everything you might want and more.

Dinner Menu: Daily 5pm – 9pm

Lounge Menu: Monday to Saturday 12pm – 6.30pm and Sunday 3pm – 6.30pm

Afternoon Tea: Monday to Saturday 2pm - 5pm and Sunday 3pm - 5pm



Get there: Coast Road, Ballygally, Co Antrim BT40 2QZ Get in touch: t: (0)28 2858 1066 e: res@bgc.hastingshotels.com w: www.hastingshotels.com twitter: @BallygallyHotel facebook: /ballygallycastle



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The Lighthouse Bistro



The Lighthouse Bistro is a little hidden gem along the East Antrim coast near the Gobbins cliff walk, a stones throw from Blackhead coastal path and lighthouse, and beside one of the UK and Irelands most colourful and Instagramable promenades!

This family run award-winning restaurant makes everything from scratch, with lots of local produce cooked with pride and dedication by chef proprietor Joni Lutzman - and lovely wines, local beers and spirits to match.

Over the warm summer months you can dine alfresco right beside the sea and enjoy a bottle of wine as you watch the world go by. Various events are held across the year including wine tasting, cookery classes, tasting menus as well as offering private events such as intimate weddings.

Follow The Lighthouse in Instagram and Facebook to keep up to date with everything this superb little restaurant has to offer!

Opening hours: Lunch Wed-Fri 12pm-3pm. Dinner Fri-Sat 5pm-10pm

Awards Tripadvisor Traveller's Choice 2022



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The Marine Hotel



There is no doubt that the North Coast is one of the most beautiful areas of Northern Ireland. This hotel in the charming seaside town of Ballycastle has an enviable location right on the seafront. The owners have just spent £1 million on refurbishment and expansion, so the inside is as beautiful as the outside is picturesque.

Marconi's Bar & Bistro serves freshly prepared food daily, with breakfast, lunch and evening meals as well as delicious Afternoon Tea. Their menus change with the seasons with daily specials on offer. You can see their commitment to local producers by their ingredients list. Their meat comes from Carnbrooke, seafood from Keenan's and their dairy products are from Farmview, with their own bread baked fresh by their team of chefs. Expect things like Seafood Chowder, Ballycastle Smoked Salmon, delicious Steaks and traditional favourites with a modern twist!

Don't miss their Evening of Seafood on the first Friday of every month. It is always a popular evening so booking is strongly recommended.



Get there: 1-3 North Street, Ballycastle BT54 6BN Get in touch: t: (0)28 2076 2222 e: reception@marinehotelballycastle.com w: www.Marinehotelballycastle.com



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The Shed Farmshop And Tea Rooms



The Shed is a real treasure trove. Nestled in the countryside on the outskirts of Moira, it is housed in a beautifully converted shed on the Lewis family farm. The farm shop stocks everything you would expect and more.

The 80 seater restaurant has fantastic views from the Mourne Mountains to Moira. The menus changes with the seasons and local fresh ingredients always set the stage.

Expect an extensive breakfast menu. There will be Springmount Farm free-range eggs, Irish smoked salmon on homemade Guinness wheaten bread with burnt lemon and crème fraiche.

Lunch is served from 12. You might have Irish Beef Brisket on Grain Bakehouse sourdough with shoestring onions and special pepper sauce.

All of their seasonal desserts, afternoon teas and breads are made in house by their pastry chef.

Hot drinks and food are served until 3pm. Hot food and desserts served until 3.30pm. No need to pre-book, just turn up and enjoy!

Opening hours

Closed Sunday and Monday

Tues-Sat 09.00-16.00



Get there: 1D Hammonds Road, Lisburn, Co. Antrim BT28 2NG Get in touch: t: (0)28 9261 3922 e: info@theshedhammondsroad.com w: www.theshedhammondsroad.com



Top of the Town



Top of the Town Bar & Grill is located in the heart of Antrim Town, just 20 minutes from Belfast International Airport. They offer a family-friendly environment in their multi-award winning restaurant, and a friendly and welcoming bar offering live sports, live entertainment and an extensive offering of drinks, including cocktails.

They say they don't settle for anything less than food they are proud to serve, with exceptional attention to detail. Nigel Greenan (Executive Head Chef) and his team use local suppliers, including McAtamney's Ballymena, Finnebrogue Artisan and Ewings Seafood. With their own in-house pastry chef, you can expect delicious desserts and homemade breads too. When you think Top of the Town, think crowd pleasers like quality steaks, burgers, renowned Sunday roasts, peppered chicken, pastas and so much more, with a brilliant kids' menu too.

With a warming front bar, their Elixir Library which offers an array of spirits and cocktails, plus live music at weekends, and two beer gardens; one of which boasts 154 seats, comes complete with fully retractable roof, heaters, pool table, screens, dart board and its very own bar, there's simply something for everyone across the venue.



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Twilight Coffee and Bunkhouse



Twilight is an independent speciality coffee shop and accommodation provider located in the gorgeous Glens of Antrim. They make their own scones, cinnamon rolls, cakes, traybakes and breads in-house including Farmhouse White, Wheaten, Stout and Rustic.

Local suppliers are plenty. They include Born and Raised Waffles, Bailies Coffee, Irish Black Butter, Glens of Antrim Honey, Hendersons and Lynas for some meat and dry goods. Other meat comes from McAllister's Butchers in Broughshane. They get their seafood from Ewings in Glenarm. Sydney B Scott does the vegetables and dairy and eggs come from Dale Farm and Out There at Glenballyeamon.

Expect Smashburgers, Loaded Fries, Breakfast Baps, Porridge Bowls, Shakshuka, Seafood Chowder and Homemade Sausage Rolls.

Keep an eye on socials for their monthly bistro nights. Why not stay over in the Bunkhouse?

Opening Hours: Monday-Sunday 9-4.30pm Kitchen serving till 3pm. Hot food Wednesday-Sunday.



Get there: 545b Harbour Road, Carnlough, BT44 OEU Get in touch: t: (0)28 288 5510 e: hello@twilightantrimcoast.com w: www.twilightantrimcoast.com



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Whitehead Golf Club



Talk about a room with a view! The vista out over Whitehead is lovely, but even lovelier is the food and the welcome here.

Golfers who have done their exercise for the day love hearty portions. Head Chef Pauline Dodds makes sure they are well catered for, but so too are the people who come to meet friends or celebrate an occasion like Mother's Day or birthdays.

She does crowd-pleasers like prawn cocktail, roast dinners and puddings like cheesecake and apple crumble. The chips are often commented on for their total yumminess. Check out the Indian-themed nights.

The service is friendly and efficient, the food and drink great and so many happy regular customers agree. Why not become one of them?



Get there: McCrae's Brae, Whitehead, Carrickfergus BT38 9NZ Get in touch: t: (0)28 9337 0820 e: info@whiteheadgolfclub.com w: www.whiteheadgolfclub.com









Co. Armagh

The Orchard County's cider and apples are renowned for their unique flavour. Armagh Bramleys were granted PGI

Protected Name Status and are an important element in the many award-winning craft ciders made there. The Armagh Food and Cider Weekend is an important date in the local calendar.

It is home to the cathedral city of Armagh with strong links to the St Patrick; the patron saint of Ireland. There are two cathedrals named after him on this city built on seven hills. The city's Georgian architecture makes an ideal backdrop for the Georgianthemed Christmas Fair on the Mall.

The Observatory and the Planetarium have long been top tourist attractions, but Gosford Park is increasingly popular for a day out as well as Navan Fort.

The Ring of Gullion in the south of the county is an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty with a strong traditional music tradition and a growing number of glamping sites.

The refurbished Killeavy Castle estate was granted 2 AA Rosettes in 2022 and has its own walled garden and estate beef and venison.

Ballylisk of Armagh is now one of the most talked-about cheeses in the UK and Ireland, having won 3 stars at the Great Taste Awards for its Single Rose. It was in the running for the Golden Fork Award. Burren Balsamics vinegars are also one of the county's most feted producers.

It might be the smallest county in Northern Ireland but it's big on things to do, see, eat and drink.

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Armagh City Hotel



The Armagh City Hotel, nestled in the heart of The Orchard County, "Where Past Meets Present", delivers a culinary experience for all palates and tastes.

When passing through this historic city, a visit to The Deli at Armagh City Hotel is a must, serving delicious home-made soups, sandwiches, tray bakes and pastries, all washed down with one of their speciality coffees prepared by their baristas. The Deli serves a delightful Afternoon Tea that has proved to be extremely popular with all customers.

For a more substantial lunchtime experience, the ever popular Callan Carvery is something of an institution in Armagh, with a large selection of superbly cooked meats, fishes and vegetarian dishes, served with locally sourced vegetables and a choice of potatoes. The Callan Carvery will certainly set you up for a busy afternoon ahead. Served seven days a week. The Callan Crill Bar serves up a mouth-watering array of classic dishes every evening, and the relaxed dining atmosphere in the Callan Lounge is suited to all customers, and is particularly family friendly.

For a more formal dining experience, The Friary Restaurant at The Armagh City Hotel delivers a top class a la carte dining experience. With an ever evolving menu, designed and prepared by the Award Winning Head Chef, John Whyte, you will enjoy the very best of local produce in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. Why not speak to a member of staff who will be delighted to recommend a quality wine to go with your meal?

No matter where in the Armagh City Hotel you decide to dine, you must leave a bit of room for one of their desserts. All desserts are lovingly made by their pastry chefs and they are simply, "to die for", and they make sure the list they prepare has something for everyone, from sweet to savoury, hot to cold. The Apple Pie is a house favourite; made with those famous local Bramley Apples, you would expect nothing less!



Get there: 2 Friary Road, Armagh, BT60 4FR Get in touch: t: (0)28 3751 8888 e: info@armaghcityhotel.com w: www.armaghcityhotel.com twitter: @ArmaghCityHotel facebook: /ArmaghCityHotel



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Blackwell House



A warm welcome awaits you in this luxurious five-star guesthouse nestled in the rolling countryside bordering Co. Down and Co. Armagh.

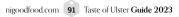
Owners Joyce and Steve want their guests to enjoy the tastiest food made with the best local ingredients. They take particular care in sourcing the best local produce available, which you'll find is exceptional in the unique Food Heartlands of County Armagh. From the award winning local Butcher's, NI dairy produce, Lough Neagh Smoked Eels, artisan beers & ciders and of course, they visit the Armagh orchards for Bramley Apples.

There are lots of things to do close by, but if you feel like learning to cook your own pancakes or Irish soda bread on Great Aunt Maggie's Griddle, which is over 100 years old, just book a slot with Joyce and the Aga Stove. Joyce also provides a turndown service complete with homemade truffles.

AWARD Georgina Campbell Guesthouse of the Year 2018



Get there: 33 Mullabrack Road, Scarva, Co-Armagh, BT63 6BP Get in touch: t: (0)28 3883 2752 e: enquiries@blackwellhouse.co.uk w: www.blackwellhouse.co.uk



Clenaghan's



Set in a rural and picturesque setting on Soldierstown Road at Aghalee, Clenaghans has given a real boost to the local council area offering locals, visitors and tourists a touch of class with their flavoursome dishes and high quality customer service, since re-opening in 2017.

The restaurant has announced the appointment of Leigh Ferguson as Head Chef.

Alderman Alan Ewart, of Lisburn and Castlereagh, welcoming the appointment, says: "I am delighted to welcome Head Chef Leigh to the team in Clenaghans and I have no doubt that the passion he has for good food and local produce will translate into a memorable dining experience for anyone who comes across the door. The restaurant is going from strength to strength and I want to congratulate Stevie and Cristina on this new exciting chapter."

Joint owner Cristina Higginson explains: "Leigh was part of our team in Square Bistro, Lisburn, for over 10 years and it is because of his success there that we are certain he will bring the same level of passion for food to Clenaghans.

"We are confident in Leigh's ability to manage both the kitchen and to continue introducing impressive new dishes, made with local produce, into Clenaghan's menu. For everyone here at the restaurant it is important that we create incredible food using quality local ingredients which brings the community back to Clenaghans; for Leigh this is a priority."

Opening hours: Thursday-Saturday 1pm-9pm. Sunday 1m-6pm



Get there: 48 Soldierstown Road, Craigavon, Co. Armagh BT 67 OES Get in touch: t: (0)28 9265 2952 e: clenaghansrestaurant@aol.co.uk w: www.clenaghansrestaurant.com facebook: ClenaghansRestaurant twitter: @ClenaghansRest



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Groucho's on the Square



There's a whole lot of history at this very popular Olde Worlde pub. It's been in the same family since 1969, and there's been a tavern at this site for hundreds of years.

Head Chef Mervyn Steenson uses as much local produce as he can. The weekly specials reflect the seasons. As much of the food as possible is cooked from scratch, so, on busy nights there may perhaps be a wait but it will be well worth it. Just relax with a drink and soak up the atmosphere.

They're particularly proud of their drinks selection. The beers, wines, spirits and teas come from around the world and the coffee is the good Italian stuff.

Opening Hours:

Wed 4pm-9pm Thurs & Fri 12pm-9pm Sat 10am-9pm Sun 10am-8pm Bar open to 11pm (10pm Sun)



Get there: 1 The Square, Richhill, Co Armagh, BT91 9PP Get in touch: t: (0)28 3887 1874 e: mervchef@googlemail.com w: www.grouchosonthesquare.com twitter: @GrouchosCafeBar facebook: /pages/Grouchos-On-The-Square/121664071199866?fref=ts



Newforge House



Nestled down a gravelled driveway on the outskirts of the County Armagh village of Magheralin is a real hidden gem. Newforge House is one of those places which feels steeped in history yet has all the comforts of the 21st century. They think of everything from fresh fruit and shortbread in your room to a thoughtful book stand in the roll-top bath.

John Mathers grew up in this six bedroom Georgian pile. He and his wife Lou opened it in 2005 and since then it has been picking up awards like Georgina Campbell's Best Country House in Ireland and the Best Hotel Restaurant in Ulster from the Restaurant Association of Ireland

As for the food, know that you will eat remarkably well. Their orchard provides fruits for desserts, chutneys and preserves, and is home to their friendly chickens who lay wonderful eggs for breakfast. Homegrown vegetables also feature in their dinner menu as well as Peter Hannan's meat. Their extensive drinks list includes no fewer than 20 gins. It's a wonderful place for a romantic break.

Dinner is for residents only. Formal dining for up to 26 people. Informal dining and receptions for up to 45.



Get there: 58 NewforgeRoad, Magheralin, Craigavon, Co. Armagh, BT67 OQL Get in touch: t: (0)28 92611255 e: enquiries@newforgehouse.com : www.newforgehouse.com



Seagoe Hotel



At the Seagoe, you can enjoy a bite to eat at their stylish restaurant, the popular bar or the buzzing coffee lounge, offering a wide selection of locally sourced, inspired dishes. They also offer private dining packages on request for those extra special occasions.

You'll find casual all day dining in The Courtyard Bar and Restaurant plus an extensive drinks range. Whether you fancy a quick burger and a craft beer or a delicious, seasonal salad and a chilled glass of wine, the Courtyard Bar and Restaurant has something for everyone. Book your table now and enjoy great food and drink in stylish surroundings.

The famous Seagoe Sunday Lunch is served every week from 12noon - 4.00pm, and offers traditional roast meals with all the trimmings plus indulgent desserts and tasty starters. Popular with locals and guests alike, their Sunday Lunch is a wonderful way to round off the weekend with friends and family.

Sample dishes: Crispy Cured Pork Belly Bites to start, Natural Smoked Potavogie Cod, Irish Steak Sandwich

Breakfast: 7.30am - 10.30 am Lunch: 12pm - 4pm Dinner: 4pm - 9.30pm



Get there: 22 Upper Church Lane, Portadown, BT635JE Get in touch: t: (0)28 3833 3076 e: reservations@seagoe.com w: www.seagoe.com



Uluru Bar & Grill



Uluru Bar & Grill is an award winning restaurant based in Armagh city's historic marketplace area. Awarded for its casual dining and wine experience, the Australian neighbourhood style restaurant celebrates authentic cooking with an Australian twist.

Spread over two floors, the 160 seat eatery is a high cut above the rest. Its naked ceilings and ebony-stained woods are inspired by the bustling Melbourne pop up restaurants. Huge windows give audience to one of Armagh city's famous cathedrals.

The chefs pride themselves in supporting local suppliers and producers and have long standing relationships with producers such as Mac Ivors Cider Co, Broighter Gold, Abernethy Butter, Thompsons, Shortcross Gin and many more.

The team of chefs are led in the pass by Head Chef Mark McGonigle - a chef who quite simply loves cooking and preparing great tasting food.



 Get there: 3-5 Market St, Armagh BT617BX

 Get in touch: t: (0)28 3751 8051 e: gday@ulurubarandgrill.com

 w: www.ulurubarandgrill.com

 facebook: /ulurubarandgrill/

 twitter: @Ulurubargrill

 instagram: Uluru Bar & Grill





Wine and Brine





Chris McGowan is a Northern Ireland native who has returned home after a long stint in the UK, where he worked at Richard Corrigan's London restaurants for 12 years. Prior to that, he was Sous Chef for Pierre Koffmann at La Tante Claire, and spent nearly five years working for Gary Rhodes before that. Wine and Brine is his first restaurant which he opened with his wife Davina. It's on the Main Street in Moira in a Georgian-fronted building. The clue is in the name. It showcases pickled, brined and fermented foods using Northern Irish produce with a lot of ingenuity and flair. Every week snacks are £3-4, starters £6-9, and mains at around £12-20 from a seasonally driven a la carte menu that changes regularly.

Two courses for £20 or three courses for £25 are offered at lunch and early evening (Thurs and Fri 5:30-6:30pm only) alongside the a la carte menus. Tasting menu only on Saturday nights and all day Sunday lunch. Wine and Brine holds a Michelin Bib Gourmand and several RAI Best Chef and Best Restaurant Awards. Make a date to go soon, not least for the crispy olives!

Opening hours: Closed Mon-Wed. Open Thurs-Sat 12-2:15 (lunch) 5:30-9pm (dinner). Open Sun 12-5pm.



Get there: 59 Main Street, Moira, Co. Armagh, BT67 OLQ Get in touch: t: (0)28 9261 0500 e: info@wineandbrine.co.uk w: www.wineandbrine.co.uk



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The Yellow Door Deli



We have Simon Dougan to thank for this gem in Portadown. You can buy his bread and scones all over Northern Ireland, but if you're in town, don't miss a visit to the deli to try some of the vast range of fresh food prepared on site. It's a real community café with customers coming from all arts and parts.

The décor is so cute. We love the lamps made from teacups and saucers and the boards telling you about seasonal produce.

Naturally, the artisan breads make gourmet sandwiches. They smoke and cure their own meat, fish and game.

Top marks too, for growing their own herbs, soft fruits, salad leaves and vegetables. Almost everything else comes from local suppliers. You'll be guaranteed to leave with at least one loaf and a jar of something yummy from the shelves.

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 8am-4pm



Get there: 74 Woodhouse Street, Portadown, Co Armagh, BT621JL Get in touch: t: (0)28 3835 3528 e: simon@yellowdoordeli.co.uk w: www.yellowdoordeli.co.uk









Co. Derry / LondonDerry

Derry-Londonderry is firmly established on the tourist map

thanks in no small part to a certain TV show called "Derry Girls", (you can even do a Derry Girls Tour with Afternoon Tea at the Everglades Hotel) but before that, the work done on Ebrington Barracks as a food, arts and culture hub plus the restored Guildhall, the Peace Bridge and the "LegenDerry" movement all mean that there is plenty to see and do in the Maiden City

There is plenty of history at the Museum of Free Derry and the Tower Museum, walk the 17th century Walls and you can even do some urban foraging on a food tour.

Chefs like Ian Orr are using multi-award-winning local ingredients like Dart Mountain Cheese and Donegal Prime Fish while Broighter Gold Rapeseed Oil near Limavady is an Economusee thanks in part to its commitment to raising sustainable crops. You will be surprised by the stunning beach at Benone.

Seamus Heaney's HomePlace Visitor Centre in the south of the county in Bellaghy is well worth a visit. See and hear how the local landscape and traditions shaped his poetry.

Not to mention the world's biggest Hallowe'en Carnival. Cracker! nigoodfood.com 102 Taste of Ulster Guide 2023

68 Clooney Restaurant at the White Horse Hotel



This restaurant ticks all the boxes for lunch or dinner, business or pleasure. The philosophy behind the food on offer is simplicity. It is fresh local produce prepared with a modern twist.

Head Chef Noel Ward and his highly qualified team have developed an imaginative and exciting menu which gives you an authentically North West dining experience. Each dish is packed with flavour, ensuring there is something to tantalise your taste buds!

The menu changes seasonally though you can expect dishes like Foie Gras and Chicken Liver Parfait accompanied with toasted sourdough and homemade Chutneys, Wild Atlantic Sea Food Chowder or maybe a Slow Cooked Wild West Meath Venison with Pearl Barley & Red Wine Stew topped with Crispy Potato Garnish. You have got to try the Eton Mess – Meringue, Cream, Granola, berries and Berry Compote, it is to die for.

The quality of the food offering has recently been recognized through the Northern Ireland Hotel Federation's Hotel and Guest House Restaurant Awards, with '68 Clooney' being awarded the coveted first prize.



Get there: 68 Clooney Road, Derry-Londonderry, BT47 3PA Get in touch: t: (0)28 7186 0606 e: sales@whitehorsehotel.biz w: www.whitehorsehotel.biz



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Ardtara



Set amidst 10 acres of Victorian gardens and woodlands, Ardtara is an elegant 19th century mansion in the heart of Northern Ireland. The Clark Restaurant at Ardtara is led by chef patron Ian Orr, renowned for his dedication to fresh seasonal produce and support of local suppliers. The multi award winning restaurant serves exquisite dinners, a more casual bar menu, sumptuous afternoon teas and of course, a superb Sunday lunch.

The dining room is traditional with an air of formality totally in keeping with the style of the house. The service is slick and attentive while remaining warm and friendly.

There is always the option to stay overnight in one of 9 uniquely and individually designed bedrooms with original working fireplaces and roll top baths in several of the rooms. And of course the breakfast is worth staying for, offering a choice of both Continental and cooked breakfast, made to order.

Recent Awards: AA 2 Rosette Dining, Hideaway of the Year, AA Breakfast Award, Romantic Hotel of the Year, and selected by National Geographic Magazine as one of the five best places to stay in Northern Ireland.



Castle Street Social





This casual dining restaurant is at the heart of the city. Here, they're all about using lots of local produce to create food made to share. Suppliers include Broighter Gold oils, Donegal Prime Fish, McAtamney Butchers, Corndale Farm, Earhart Gin and Dale Farm.

Head Chef / Owner David Lafferty changes the menu every month. Everything is home-made including breads and fresh stocks. The only thing they don't make from scratch is ice-cream but he is saving hard to buy a machine. Expect dishes like Lentil Cottage Pie (they have a great vegan menu), Smoked Chicken Caesar Salad Sandwiches, Fivemiletown Goats Cheese, Beetroot and Candied Walnuts, Pork Belly Panko Nuggets and Parmesan and Bacon Gnocchi. They also do steaks, burgers, pasta and fish.

Small plates start from around £7. If you have an independent Derry card, you can get 25 per cent off your drinks bill Monday-Wednesday. They are also proud members of the Legenderry Food Group.

Don't forget to leave room for desserts and cocktails. Booking ahead is advisable!

Opening Hours Mon Tues Thurs 5-9pm closed Wed Fri-Sat 12-10 sun 1-8



Get there: 12-14 Castle Street, Derry-Londonderry, BT48 6HQ Get in touch: t: (0)2871372888 e: castlestreetsocial@gmail.com



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Fitzroy's Bistro



Just outside the city's historic walls, Fitzroy's has been going strong for 30 years. It's a great little pit stop for shoppers (the Foyleside Shopping Centre is nearby) and it's also handy for the Millennium Forum.

If you're looking for good food and good value, you can't go wrong. The team source as many local ingredients as possible such as beef from surrounding farms, Silverhill Duck and Glenties pork, there is something to keep everyone happy at Fitzroys!

The recently refurbished restaurant and expanded bar has become very popular amongst tourists and regular diners. Accompany dinner with a glass from their extensive wine list, cocktail offerings or non-alcoholic options.

Light lunchtime offerings are available from 12PM-4PM, as well as a full a la carte menu running from 4PM-10PM. Bookings can be easily made online.



Get there: 2-4 Bridge Street, Londonderry, Co.Londonderry BT48 6JZ Get in touch: t: (0)28 7126 2211 e: info@fitzroysrestaurant.com w: www.fitzroysrestaurant.com



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Quay West



Opened in 1999, the clue about its location is in the title. It's on Queens Quay overlooking the River Foyle, so when the weather is good, you can eat al fresco and the eats are very good indeed!

The beef is from Northern Ireland cattle; the pork is from Glenties; even the ice-cream is from Ballymoney. These great local ingredients are given the star treatment by a talented team of chefs. Try the 50/50 or Spicy Chicken Penne Pasta.

Their light lunches are plenty filling enough. It's not easy to finish that club sandwich, but for just a few quid more, you can nosh on a honey roast gammon and open steak sandwich.

Of course, the food and location can be great, but if the service is bad, your whole meal can be ruined. That's not something you have to worry about here. The waiting staff are some of the friendliest around.



Get there: 28 Boating Club Lane, Londonderry, Co Londonderry, BT 487QB Get in touch: t: (0)2871266211 e: quay-west@btconnect.com w: www.quaywestrestaurant.com nigoodfood.com 107 Taste of Ulster Guide 2023

The Coach House Brasserie at Roe Park Resort



With an extensive menu on offer throughout the day, The Coach House Brasserie is the perfect location for a spot of lunch or casual evening meal.

Housed in the sympathetically restored 18th century Coach House, the Brasserie provides stunning views overlooking the golf course. A firm favourite with local clientele, ideal for families and extremely popular with guests and golfers!

The suppliers are local, and the mood is relaxed and casual. Every brasserie worth its salt does a decent duck dish and a stonking steak. Here is no exception. Their garlic mushrooms are particularly good. What is it about stuff deep-fried in breadcrumbs that we all love? And we love to see beef stroganoff on a menu.



Get there: 10 Lisnakilly Road, BT49 9FB Get in touch: t: (0)28 7772 3655 e: Reservations@RoeParkResort.com w: www.roeparkresort.com/restaurants-bars-londonderry/the-coach-house-brasserie twitter: @roeparkresort facebook: / RoeParkResort nigoodfood.com 108 Taste of Ulster Guide 2023

The Anchor Bar & Anchorage Inn



Everybody in Portstewart knows the Anchor Bar. It's been part of the town's furniture since 1898. That makes it the oldest traditional bar in the area and that experience shows in the wonderful food and excellent service. The location is hard to beat too- smack bang on the Promenade.

They're so child-friendly they give out colouring books to amuse the little ones until the food arrives, and the food here is very, very good.

Land and sea are both well represented in the main bar and in Madden's Restaurant. Expect mains like Seafood Chowder and Slow Roast Daube of Irish Beef which are both locally-sourced. Prices start at £4.90 for starters and £10 for mains.

It's a great live entertainment venue too, with entertainment often put on for free.



Get there: 87-89 The Promenade, Portstewart, Co.Londonderry BT55 7AS Get in touch: t: (0)28 7083 2003 e: info@theanchorbar.co.uk w: www.theanchorbar.co.uk

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The Grill at The Everglades Hotel



Within only a short drive of the City Centre, the Grill does bistro dining at its best and is a firm favourite with the locals in Derry-Londonderry and beyond. Everyone who goes here comments on how relaxing it is. It feels like it's out in the country but is closer to the city centre. The menu is filled with traditional dishes with a twist which only adds to the dining experience for the guests.

The chefs at the hotel don't just look for local ingredients because they are local. They care about how they have been produced and they want maximum flavour. Every dish is served with flair and consistency, and it is this high standard that has contributed to The Grill receiving a number of culinary awards and service accolades.

All the firm favourites are seen on the menu, from Caesar Salad and McKenna Breaded Mushrooms to start, to a slow braised Daube of Beef, Grant's Sugar Baked Gammon, Irish Salmon Fillet and Lisdergan Gourmet Burger and Sirloin Steak, and of course not forgetting a Vegan Burger and Vegetable Curry as well. For dessert how about some homemade Berry Cheesecake, to die for Sticky Toffee Pudding or a local twist on a classic with a Glastry Farm Ice Cream Silder!

If you're after a bit more fun when dining, let your hair down and become a Derry Girl for the day with the Everglades' famed Derry Girls Afternoon Tea. Inspired by the hit show, indulge on Cream Horns, a cone of Chips, Sausage Roll Baps (yes they're a thing!), Tayto Cheese; Onion Sarnie and a plethora of local tray bake favourites, all washed down with lashings of Thompson's finest tea.

Dinner Menu: Daily 5.30pm - 9.30pm

Sunday Lunch: 12.30pm - 3pm

Lounge Menu: Daily 12.30pm – 6pm

Afternoon Tea: Daily 12.30pm-4.30pm

Get there: Prehen Road, Londonderry, BT472NH Get in touch: t: (0)2871321066 e: res@egh.hastingshotels.com w: www.hastingshotels.com/everglades-hotel twitter: @EvergladesHotel facebook: /theevergladeshotel



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The Ponderosa Bar & Restaurant



Established in 1858, the Ponderosa is a site where history echoes and beauty flourishes. In 2014 a new chapter began seeing the entire building being transformed into an elegant restaurant and bar. The old building structure is still intact but now is home to a quality restaurant featuring fresh seafood, savoury steaks and favourite local dishes served with a special flavour of the area. Situated on the Glenshane Pass, they are perfectly placed half way between Derry and Belfast.

The owners and staff strive to make your visit to Ireland's Highest Bar and Restaurant an unforgettable experience providing outstanding food in a familiar and casual atmosphere. You'll find the charm of the Irish in every visit and always feel welcome!

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

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Get there: 974 Glenshane Road, Dungiven, Co. Derry BT47 4SD Get in touch: t: (0)2877741987 e: Info@theponderosabar.com w: www.theponderosabar.com



The Tap House Bar And Restaurant



This place has been described as a "hidden gem" but locals know it very well and now tourists do too thanks to the Seamus Heaney Homeplace centre nearby. Like all Taste of Ulster members, they do great food cooked with as many local ingredients as possible. Suppliers include McAtamney's Butchers, Glenshane Eggs, Newferry Gun Club and Keenan Seafood.

So, what can you expect to eat? Well, a weekend special might be Hay Smoked Venison with a split pea barley and beetroot. All our breads are freshly baked in house by chef Stephen McAteer.

Expect great value for money too and enjoy Steak Night on Wednesday's.

What are you waiting for?

Opening Hours: Monday-Sunday 12pm-8pm



Get there: 35-39 Main St, Bellaghy, Co Londonderry BT45 8HT Get in touch: t: (0)28 7938 7066 facebook: /Taphousebellaghy/







Co. Down



The magnificent Mourne Mountains dominate the countryside and

coastline in Co. Down. Adrenaline junkies will love climbing the peaks, but the gentler option is a walk along one of the many beaches or in a forest park like Tollymore or Castlewellan.

The unique micro-climate of the Ards Peninsula means the gardens at Mount Stewart National Trust property are home to many unusual species, while the vegetables are ready earlier, including the PGI Comber Early potato. The Comber Earlies Festival in June is an important date in the calendar with cookery demonstrations, tastings and talks. The potatoes are always highly sought after by chefs like Jim Mulholland at the Georgian House in the town as well as locals who say they are best eaten steamed and served with a knob of butter.

Chefs also know that the best langoustines in the world (according to TV's Rick Stein and James Martin) come from Strangford Lough, which is also where they source juicy scallops, prawns and mussels as well as beef, pork and lamb from the Great Taste Supreme Champion, Peter Hannan AKA the Meat Merchant in Moira. The lough is also where many water-based sports and wellness activities take place. Canoe and cake, anyone?

We can't forget the delectable Millbay Oysters from Rooney Fish-Blas na hEireann Irish Food Awards Supreme Champion in 2018 and repeat winners of 3 Great Taste gold stars.

There are lots of historic villages like Hillsborough (home to the King's official residence in Northern Ireland and the annual Honey Fair) and Killyleagh (home to another castle and a chocolate festival!) History buffs will also enjoy the Ulster Folk and Transport Museum at Cultra.

Round off the day with a snifter from one of the county's many craft distilleries and consider the time well spent in a place where the local larder is filled to bursting.

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Ardglass Golf Club



When visiting Ardglass Golf Club why not enjoy a drink and a bite to eat in their Lounge Bar which overlooks the First and Eighteenth Holes. Of course, you don't have to be a golfer to eat there.

The Lounge Menu has lots of crowd pleasers like Seafood Chowder with Brown Bread and Pork and Leek Sausages with Mash and Onion Gravy. The cooking will be spot on under Head Chef Gerard Sands and the ingredients will be as local as can be. Being in a fishing village means the best scampi is always on the menu. Everything else is updated weekly. Suppliers include East Coast and Keenan's Seafood, Dale Farm, Arnotts and Hendersons. They make their own bread inhouse. There are also Weekend specials.

There is also the MacAfee Suite which can hold up to 100 people, and is perfect for Birthday Parties, Christenings and Weddings.



Get there: Ardglass Golf Club 1 Castle Place, Ardglass BT30 7TP Get in touch: t: (0)28 4484 1219 e: golf@ardglassgolfclub.com w: www.ardglassgolfclub.com



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Ashvale Farm Shop and Tea Room



Ashvale Farm Shop & Tea Room is a family-run business nestled in the Bailesmills countryside close to Lisburn, County Down, Northern Ireland. Owned by local landowner and entrepreneur Edward Herron, Ashvale Farm Shop is dedicated to providing a quality customer-focussed premium-end farm shop experience to the people of Lisburn and visitors to the area.

Inside customers will find a warm and relaxed atmosphere, with friendly staff and a welcoming environment where customers from near and far can relax and take time to appreciate the rural setting. Indulgent lighting, soft furnishings and hearty wood burning stove all help to generate a homely and pleasant ambiance for all to relish and enjoy.

The Tea Room serves breakfast (9am-11:45am), lunch (11.45am-3:30pm) as well as Cream Tea and a wide variety of in-house sweet treats. The diverse and wide ranging menu is altered seasonally and offers customers lots of choice. All ingredients are of the finest quality and, where possible, are locally sourced. Dishes are prepared and cooked to order and therefore, if reasonable, chefs can alter the menu to accommodate specific tastes or dietary requirements.

Their bespoke blend of coffee is also enormously popular with visitors. And to accompany a great cup of coffee, customers can chose from an extensive assortment of exquisite desserts and pastries, all of which are created in our farm-style kitchen by gifted and artistic pastry chefs.

They also offer an increasingly popular Afternoon Tea each day from 2:30pm onwards. It is served on a traditional three tier stand and consists of a little "warmer" of homemade soup, a selection of gournet sandwiches, freshly baked scones served with clotted cream and fine preserve, a selection of sweet delights and little mini desserts, all served with a choice of pure leaf tea.

A takeaway menu is also available in addition to the opportunity to order bespoke desserts and dishes for outside catering.

Don't forget to pop into their Little Shop for some gifts.

Opening Hours Farm Shop 9am- 5pm, Tea Room 9am- 4:30pm and Little Shop 10am- 5pm.



Get there: Ashvale House, 11 Old Ballynahinch Road, Lisburn BT27 5PE Get in touch: t: (0)28 9263 8099 e: Ashvale1@aol.com w: www.ashvalefarmshop.co.uk



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Balloo House



If you are looking for a place that offers a luxury grill restaurant upstairs at weekends and relaxed pub dining downstairs in a beautiful part of the world, then look no further than Balloo House in Killinchy, Co. Down. Set near the shores of Strangford Lough, this historic country pub is part of a wider gastro-pub group in Co. Down called Balloo Inns which includes the Parsons Nose in Hillsborough and The Poachers Pocket in Lisbane.

Their E10 lunch menu downstairs is a great way to try their food. It also works as an early bird menu, but trust us, you WILL want to stay for dinner! Classic offerings in the pub include fish and chips, burgers, mussels and seafood chowder. You could also opt for Line Caught Cod with chill is ausage and crab tagliatelle, red pepper and olive oil or Co Down pigeon with pickled carrot and watercress salad with orange vinaigrette. Local ingredients include Millbay Oysters, Fivemiletown goats cheese, Mourne Mountain lamb and Ecclesgreen Farm pork. The wines are from JN Wines.

At Overwood upstairs, great steaks are cooked on the Kopa grill. Other dishes include whole stuffed plaice, prawns, bone marrow, samphire, almonds followed by chocolate orange cheesecake and frosted pecans. The covered fire-pit terrace is so popular it became a permanent feature. It opens Fri and Sat so make sure to book. The Early Bird is £35 for three courses Friday and Saturday from 5.00-6.30pm.

Awards Opening hours AA Rosette for Culinary Excellence

Balloo House - opens every day 12pm closing Sun – Wed 8.30pm and Thur-Sat 9.30pm. Overwood opens Fri and Sat 5pm-9.30pm and Sun-Thu for private dining.



Get there: 1 Comber Road, Killinchy, Co.Down BT236PA Get in touch: t: 028 97 541 210 e: info@balloohouse.com w: www.ballooinns.com



Blend and Batch



This is an independent coffee shop – kitchen in Banbridge. They blend locally roasted coffee, batch bake a range of sweet and healthy treats in-house and craft delicious food served everyday by their talented chefs. The contemporary space they have created offers double height windows and a new extension for you to watch the world go by. Their modern style is best enjoyed on your plate! Inspired by urban trends from all over the world their food is wholesome, artisan and seasonal. Their menu has healthy or indulgent options, let your mood decide.

BREAKFAST & LUNCH (Monday to Sunday from 8am to 4pm)

They serve breakfast or lunch until 4pm daily. Options range from cooked breakfast, made to order pancakes and many other classic dishes such as smashed avocado, smoked salmon, poached eggs and Sriracha sauce on toasted sourdough. There is also a small vegan menu.

SWEET AND HEALTHY BATCH-BAKED TREATS ALL DAY.

Sweet baked treats are made in house every day. The sensational chocolate brownie caramel square is a firm favourite. Their range of healthy snacks is tasty and guilt-free.

EVENING CASUAL DINING (Monday to Saturday from 5:30pm)

Taking inspiration from the Continent, the evening menu has a wide selection of small plates which you can mix and match to create your own tapas feast. The BIG plates include favourites such as the Duo Double Decker Tacos, Chilli Soy Glazed Salmon, Burgers and Burritos. The weekly specials give our chefs the opportunity to showcase local and seasonal ingredients.

The evening menu is not available on Sunday evening however they do serve desserts, tray-bakes and homemade gelato if you fancy a little bite around a glass of wine.

OPENING HOURS: Monday to Saturday: 8am to 10pm, Sunday: 8am to 8pm, Breakfast & Lunch Menu: Monday to Sunday from 8am to 10pm, Evening Menu: Monday to Saturday from 5:30pm to 8:30pm (lost food order)



Get there: 104 Newry Street, Banbridge, BT32 3HE Get in touch: t: (0)28 4023 8050 e: info@blendxbatch.com u: www.blendxbatch.com facebook: /blendxbatch/ instagram: /blendxbatch/



Brunel's Restaurant



Since opening in 2014, Brunel's have been at the forefront of the local dining scene for over 8 years. Having moved to their current venue on the Down's Road, Newcastle in 2017 they continue to offer an excellent menu showcasing the best of locally sourced produce and complimented by an excellent cocktail and wine menu.

Firm favourites on the menu include their seafood chowder and chicken liver parfait starters, with a wide array of fantastic fresh fish with the highlight for meat lovers being their tomahawk or chateaubriand carved tableside.

They pride themselves on the quality and consistency of their food and service and are incredibly proud of their kitchen and front of house teams who put the customer experience at the heart of everything they do.

Whether it's a casual lunch with friends, a night out with a loved one, or a group celebrating that special occasion, Brunel's can cater for the most discerning customer's needs.



Get there: Brunel's Restaurant 32 Downs Road, Newcastle BT33 0AG Get in touch: t: 028 4372 3951 e: info@brunelsrestaurant.co.uk w: www.brunelsrestaurant.co.uk



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Café Marmalade





Head Chef Jonny Walsh knows what people want to eat, but he also likes to challenge people to try new flavour combinations. On a cold day, he might make a hearty mushroom soup with smoked cheese sourdough on the side. The weekly lunch special might be a red lentil and chickpea dahl mango chutney and charred lettuce.

He uses local suppliers such as Yellow Door, Carnbrooke Meats, Keenan Seafoods, French Village, Dale Farm and Mullins Ice Cream. Their latest Award is a dinger. As they say themselves, this is #notjustacoffeeshop. It is SO much more.



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Captain Jack's / Jack's Bistro



Nestled in the heart of Portaferry you will find Captains Jack's / Jack's Bistro with strong links the nearest fishing village Portavogie, you know the seafood cant get any fresher than traveling less than 6 miles away from the shore to their door everyday when the boats come in..... they do the real deal here and much besides. What about flaky award winning battered cod to homemade Portavogie scampi with proper chips? Or a slow cooked Sunday roast beef dinner? You might just fancy a proper homemade steak and Guinness pie?

Everything is cooked fresh with as many local ingredients as possible on the menu. That is the Taste of Ulster way. Their fully licensed bistro can comfortably seat up to 40 people so it perfect for parties.

The freshest local seafood, good local coffee & a stove to keep you warm on the coldest of nights all add to the attraction.

Opening hours:

Monday & Tuesday: closed Wednesday - Sunday: 12pm-8pm



Get there: 8-8c High Street, Portaferry, Newtownards, Co. Down BT221QT Get in touch: t: (0)28 4272 8003 e: higginsoncatering@gmail.com fαcebook: Captain Jack's Portaferry



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Cloud 9



Set within The Ulster Flying Club on the Portaferry Road in Newtownards, Cloud 9 is open to the public 7 days a week. With fantastic views up to Scrabo Tower, the chance to watch the planes and helicopters come and go while enjoying great food and coffee make this place pretty special.

Head Chef Chris Smyth knows what people love to eat. His local suppliers include Brakes, Orr's Farm and Down Wholesale.

Expect BLTs with Chunky Chips, Sunday roasts, Breakfast Hash. Steak Nights are really popular and great value. Don't miss their Afternoon Teas while you watch Elsa from Frozen or a Superhero arrive by helicopter.

Call on the mobile below to make your reservation. You will be on Cloud 9!

OPENING HOURS 9am-4pm 7 days a week



Get there: Cloud 9 at Ulster Flying Club 61 Portaferry Road, Newtownards BT238SG Get in touch: t: (0)7518384510 e: events@29eventcatering.co.uk



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Coq & Bull



There is much more than chicken and beef on the menu at this bistro in the Clandeboye Lodge Hotel - although that is from traditional farm-reared Irish breeds and delicious! Head Chef, Ian Lyttle and his team have been busy creating food based on the best of what is available locally and in season. They call it good, honest food and they are justifiably proud of it.

The vegetables are grown on the Ards Peninsula. The dairy produce is from grass-fed herds. The fish is freshly caught in the Irish Sea. It's all about working in partnership with suppliers and using their expertise to create dishes that surprise and delight.

For breakfast, tuck into the traditional fried Irish or a grilled version. Lunch is relaxed with kitchen favourites to classic grills and deli specials. Dinner follows in the same vein. For guests wishing to dine al fresco, they have a stunning heated, glass panelled terrace. The ingredients take centre stage and there is no formality, just great local food and drink- a true Taste of Ulster! Don't forget to try the epic Sunday lunch. You can even get Coq & Bull food delivered to your room. They've got it all covered!

Opening Hours From 12 noon – 9.00PM last orders



Get there: Clandeboye Lodge Hotel, 10 Estate Road, Bangor BT191UR Get in touch: t: (0)28 9185 2500 e: brasserie@clandeboyelodge.co.uk w: www.clandeboyelodge.com nigoodfood.com 123 Taste of Ulster Guide 2023

Kilmorey Arms Hotel



This listed hotel dates back to 1841 and has hosted visitors such as President Eisenhower and Winston Churchill. Its location in Northern Ireland's busiest fishing port in the heart of the Mourne Mountains means easy access to surf and turf.

The hotel restaurant produces top of the range, delicious meals for all occasions - serving food all day, every day.

The Kilmorey is well known for its local seafood dishes, tantalising steak meals and a very popular Sunday carvery.

The hotel has been refurbished to an excellent standard, and has been a Taste of Ulster member since 2018!

This thriving family run establishment boasts dishes made from the freshest locally sourced ingredients, serving outstanding food for excellent value for money.



Get there: 41-43 Greencastle Street, Kilkeel, Co. Down, BT34 4 BH Get in touch: t: (0)28 4176 2220 e: info@kilmoreyarmshotel.co.uk w: www.kilmoreyarmshotel.co.uk



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McKees Country Store & Restaurant



Three generations of McKees have run this thriving business. More than a farm shop and restaurant, it's a destination. The restaurant can seat up to 130 hungry people, but you won't be hungry by the time you leave.

Isn't it great when you can see the food being prepared in the kitchen? And don't you just love places where they rear their own chickens? Those eggs go into bestsellers like the barnstacker breakfast and the famous cakes and puddings.

The restaurant serves good honest food like sandwiches filled to the brim with County Down ham and smoked salmon and pies, burgers and lasagne. From farm to fork, quite literally.



Get there: 28 Holywood Road, Newtownards, BT23 4TQ Get in touch: t: (0)28 91821304 (0)77 6422 4363 e: orders@mckeesproduce.com w: www.mckeesproduce.com

Montalto Estate



This gem on the outskirts of Ballynahinch has a genuine wow factor. It is a stunning venue for many reasons; the grounds, the gardens, the buildings but the food and drink are of major appeal. This Café offers many fresh, locally inspired options created by their Head Chef, Paul Ferguson. Showcasing the produce of local, artisan suppliers and incorporating it into their dishes has enabled Montalto to nurture strong relations with them. Paul uses many suppliers including Springmount Farm, Ewing's Seafoods, Draynes Farm and Kennedy Bacon on the weekly menu and daily specials.

Speaking about the seasonal menu, Paul said: "I wanted to create a gourmet menu that would tantalise taste buds for both breakfast and lunch. I curated the breakfast menu with a wide variety of people in mind, from those who like traditional options such as French Toast and Montalto Fry to those who want to try something more adventurous such as our Citrus Smashed Avocado. My lunch menu changes with the seasons. In spring and summer, we offer pasta dishes and freesh salads using sustainably, locally produced ingredients where possible. Later in the year, we offer autumn inspired salads, and warming winter soups to enjoy before a walk in our Trail & Gardens."

Montalto takes the concept of food provenance to its heart. There are areas on the 400 acre estate where the gardening team, led by Head Gardener, Lesley Heron grows quite a bit of produce for use in their café.

The Café of this 5* rated visitor attraction offers an attractive outdoor seating area. Booking is not required to visit their café as it operates a walk-in service.

Montalto Café Opening hours: Wed – Sun 9:30am – 4pm (Hot food service finishes at 2.30pm)



Get there: Spa Road, Ballynahinch BT24 8PT Get in touch: t: (0)28 9756 6100 e: info@montaltoestate.com w: www.montaltoestate.com



Mulhollands on the Square



Situated in the heart of the historic town of Dromore, Co. Down. This old pub has been situated here for a very long time, previously as The Central Bar and Hotel and for the last 60 years as Mulhollands on the Square. Food is a recent addition to the venue, having been operated as a traditional pub. Under new ownership since 2019, the opportunity to add food arose. In July 2020 Mulhollands on the Square opened an exciting new kitchen and menu with local Head Chef, Ian Hilland.

Local suppliers include Lisdergan Meats, Keenan Seafoods, Down Wholesale and Draynes Farm Ice Cream. They cook all food fresh daily and to order. Menus are changed based on the seasonality and daily specials. They serve an All-Day menu at 12 Noon on Tuesday-Sunday. A few of the favourites include the Wednesday night Steak night, Chilli Chicken pasta and the fresh Scampi. There are vegetarian and gluten free options, followed by freshly made desserts. Kids will also be happy with some of the favourites with other great options including pasta, roast beef, sausages and local Draynes Ice cream for dessert.

The Beer Garden also provides space for weekend trade and also private parties and outdoor drinking and eating. They also have a function room for birthday parties, engagements or business meetings. There is a range of Draft Lagers, Ales, and Stout with local Craft brewers such as Whitewater Brewery, Castlewellan plus a selection of international beers, 0% Alcohol beer and cider and Gluten Free Beers also. The Cocktails and Spirits list also includes local Gin brands such as Jawbox and Boatyard all served with premium mixers. There is Live music on Saturday 9pm to late and they also show live sports.



Get there: 13-15 Market Square, Dromore BT25 1AW Get in touch: t: (0)28 9269 2527 w: www.mulhollandsonthesquare.co.uk



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No 14 At The Georgian House



You may know Jim Mulholland from his days at Head Chef at Ballyrobin Lodge near the airport and as Executive Head Chef at the AC Novelli Hotel in Belfast. He has serious pedigree as a chef and he has mentored many rising stars. This is his first place of his own in the very foodie town of Comber.

He says he chose Comber because of the "beautiful food culture around the Ards Peninsula and the wealth of local artisan suppliers such as Ballymakenny Farm and of course Indie Fude is close by".

The setting is fantastic in a Georgian house which dates back to 1722. There are two separate dining areas including a courtyard and private dining for up to 30 people. The house also has its own walled garden which can be hired out for private events or as a wedding venue with private dining menus available.

Expect dishes like starters of smoked duck egg, black bacon, brown bread and ferments. There is a full vegan menu too. Trust us, this place is the real deal.

Opening hours: Mon & Tues 10AM-5pm. Wed-Sat 10AM-9pm. Sunday 10AM-8PM



Get there: 14 The Square, Comber, Co. Down Get in touch: t: (0)28 91871818 e: No14atthegeorgianhouse@gmail.com



Pier 36



Situated on the quayside of one of the most pictures que harbours on the coast, Pier 36 is a fine example of a well managed restaurant, bar and guest house family business. From the moment you arrive, the intimate atmosphere and warm welcome from courteous, well-trained staff is memorable.

The Guardian named it one of the Top 6 Fish Restaurants in the UK. Pier 36 has been named Pub of the Year an impressive three times since it opened!

They cook with the best local fish from both sides of the Peninsula including shellfish from Strangford Lough and crab claws and prawns from the Irish Sea. Meat eaters need not worry either, they hang their own beef and lamb, so it's all perfectly tender. To top it off their vegetables couldn't be any more local coming right from farms in Donaghadee and Comber when in season.

Try the senior special lunch menu, £12.95 for 2 course or the Chefs weekend special; Two courses with a glass of wine or cocktail just £29.95 Friday and Saturday. They also have great BBQ events throughout spring & summer.

You can now also see Pier 36 on BBCs Hope Street as 'The Commodore' as Donaghadee becomes Port Devine.



Get there: 36 The Parade, Donaghadee, Co Down, BT21 OHE Get in touch: t: (0)28 9188 4466 e: info@pier36.co.uk w: www.pier36.co.uk

Quails at the Gallery



If you love a bit of culture then Quails at the Gallery is just the ticket. The Gallery in question is the F.E. McWilliam Gallery & Studio near The Outlet at Banbridge. Frederick Edward McWilliam was an internationally renowned sculptor who was born in Banbridge. The café overlooks the sculpture garden, so it's a real room with a view.

You can't eat a view though. Their soups with Quails' Great Taste awardwinning wheaten bread are not to be missed. It comes from their deli and café in Banbridge town centre.

Starters include the likes of Chicken Parfait and Salt & Pepper Squid. For main courses you'll have the choice of dishes like Ham & Gruyere Quiche (Fernando's quiche was runner up in the Great Taste Awards Signature Dish Category) and Reubens Sandwich, made with Quails own homemade pastrami. Their steaks are from the award-winning Quails butchers and the roulade from the deli-cious deli too.



Get there: 200 Newry Road, Banbridge, Co. Down, BT32 3NB Get in touch: t: (0)28 4062 9667 e: info@quailsfinefoods.co.uk w: www.quailsfinefoods.co.uk f: www.facebook.com/quailsfinefoodsbanbridge





Quails Café



There's been a Quails butcher's shop at this site in Banbridge town centre since 1898, but the café is a relatively new kid on the block, having opened in 1996. This foodie family knows what their customers like. Their Great Taste awardwinning cooked meats, like honey roast ham go into their super sandwiches; the chicken and ham pie is a top seller and the soups and stews are to die for.

You have to leave room for something sweet. Everything here is baked on site from the scones and wheatens to the tray-bakes and local Bramley apple tarts. Being farmers themselves, the Quails know how important it is to buy local, so the coffee is from Johnsons and the teas from SD Bells and Suki. You can have wine though, if you're in the mood. Most of what they buy in is from a 15-20 mile radius.

For a delicious bite to eat in a contemporary, friendly atmosphere, look no further.



Get there: 15 Newry Street, Banbridge, Co. Down. BT32 3EA Get in touch: t: (0)28 40662604 e: info@quailsfinefoods.co.uk w: www.quailsfinefoods.co.uk f: www.facebook.com/quailsfinefoodsbanbridge



Salt Kitchen



Salt Kitchen is a modern Irish restaurant at The Boulevard, Banbridge. They use fresh, seasonal ingredients sourced from some of the finest local and artisan producers in the country "keeping it local" serving brunch, lunch and dinner with a fully licensed bar.

You might have a Traditional Ulster Fry or a breakfast burrito, lunch might be smoked haddock and leek chowder, choice from the burger list, meat feast pizza or Nicoise salad.

Local suppliers include Draynes Farm Dairy, Hannan Meats, Grange Farm Moy, Carnbrook Meats, Keenan Seafood, SD Bells, Wilson's Country Potatoes, Armagh Cider Company and Troughtons Mixers.

Private Parties and Outside Catering also available.

Opening Hours: Mon – Wed 10 – 6pm. Thur – Fri 10 – 9pm. Sat 9am – 9pm. Sun 12 – 6pm. Last kitchen orders an hour before closing time



Get there: Unit 1, The Boulevard, 1 Cascum Avenue The Boulevard Outlet Park, Banbridge BT434GJ Get in touch: t: (0)28 4062 6957 e: info@saltkitchenbanbridge.co.uk w: www.saltkitchenbanbridge.co.uk



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Sugarcane Café Bistro



Brunch or do lunch at this uber-trendy spot.

Husband and wife owners Peter and Emma McCleery are real globetrotters and the ideas they've picked up on their travels are evident in this European style eaterie. They want you to feel as at home sipping a glass of Sauvignon Blanc as taking a cup of Suki tea or Segafredo coffee.

The customer may be kings and queens but so too are the network of local suppliers of the best vegetables, cheese, beef and fish. Brunchers will love the porridge and raisins and eggy bread. The lunchtime salads and sandwiches are completely classy. The BBC (bacon, brie and cranberry) is a particular favourite.

Naturally Comber potatoes feature widely! Try Walter Ewing's smoked salmon, capers, crème fraiche and house wheaten and Peter Hannan's sirloin with Irish portabello mushroom and roasted cherry tomatoes.



Get there: Unit 2, The Square, Comber, Co Down, BT235DT Get in touch: t: (0)2891873388 e: info@sugarcanecafebistro.com w: www.sugarcanecafebistro.com twitter: @sugarcanebistro facebook: /SugarcaneCafeBistro?sk=app_2309869772



Temple Golf Club



The Drumlins Restaurant is set in the picturesque Temple Golf Club where the conservatory restaurant offers stunning views of the course and further afield towards the Dromara Hills. You will find only the highest quality food, sourced locally from the finest food suppliers. All food is cooked to order and caters for all dietary requirements.

Expect crowd-pleasers like soup, chicken wings and burgers. The unexpected will be the Bang Bang Pork with Satay sauce, the Baked Cod a la Francaise and the Chilli and Lime Beef Brisket Tortilla. The delicious weekly specials offer something to tickle everyone's taste buds and you will soon become a regular visitor.

Catering well for families, you will find a very friendly, sociable atmosphere. Booking is essential!

Opening Hours Wed: 10:30am-10pm (Last orders 7:30pm) Thurs: closed Friday: 10:30am-10pm (last orders 8:30pm) Sat: 10:30am-11pm (Last orders 8:45pm) Sun: 10:30am-8pm (last orders 6:45pm)



Get there: 60 Church Road, Boardmills, Lisburn BT276UP Get in touch: t: (0)28 9263 9213 e: info@templegolf.com w: www.templegolf.com/restaurant/



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The Cuan Licensed Guest Inn



This licensed guest inn is situated on the shores of Strangord Lough, has more than 30 years of providing excellent food, drink and accommodation. Naturally, seafood is a speciality. Seafood Chowder is their signature dish with Scampi and the Gold Award Winning Smoked Haddock proving exceptionally popular. During the summer season treat yourself to the ultimate fish experience; The Cuan's Seafood Platter containing on average 12 varieties of fish.

You are guaranteed fresh premium fish from their suppliers East Coast seafood, just four miles along the coast. They get all their beef from Killen's farm in Crossgar. Try the fillet, sirloin and ribeye steaks or the Roast of the Day. Their mince is the main ingredient in the ever popular Cuan Lasagne.

You can see their menus online, but there's also a great Specials board at the weekends. As ever, they're inspired by seasonal ingredients which come from local suppliers where possible. Check out their Events Booklet on their webpage too.

The service is second to none and you can always stay in one of the darling rooms upstairs if you've eaten too much.



Get there: 6-12 The Square, Strangford, Co Down BT307ND Get in touch: t: (0)28 4488 1222 e: info@thecuan.com w: www.thecuan.com

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The Cultra Inn



Nestled in the grounds of the Culloden Estate, the Cultra Inn is a traditional Irish pub and Bistro. Filled with welcoming yet relaxing atmosphere, take in the stunning views across the Estate and sit down to enjoy a drink or delicious meal.

While it may not offer the fine dining experience of the Culloden Estate & Spa's inhouse restaurant Vespers, the Cultra Inn follows suit in carefully sourcing and selecting only the freshest and best local ingredients. The Cultra Inn is located beside Cultra Train Station so is easily accessible from Belfast, not to mention the onsite car park. Their wholesome menu is available each day for a spot of lunch or night out for dinner.

There is something for everyone on the menu straight from the offing with a choice of starters including Pork Belly, Portavogie Scampi, Seafood Chowder and Whipped Goat's Cheese. The mains are no different where you can enjoy a Lisdergan Sirloin Steak, Pan Roasted Chicken, Fish and Chips, as well as Vegan options including a Burger and Curry. If you have a sweet tooth you won't be disappointed with their choices of Apple Crumble, Cheesecake served with Glastry Farm Ice Cream or Panna Cotta to name but a few options.

On a Sunday the Cultra Inn offers the perfect place to relax. Take a stroll along the nearby beach front paths before or after a two or three course Sunday Lunch. You won't be leaving disappointed after dining on a Sunday...or any day of the week for that matter!

Dinner Menu: Monday to Saturday 12pm – 9pm and Sunday 4pm – 9pm

Sunday Lunch: 12pm – 2.30pm



Get there: 1 Cultra Station Road, Holywood BT18 OAU Get in touch: t: (0)28 90421066 e: res@cull.hastingshotels.com w: www.cullodenestateandspa.com



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The Galley Restaurant



This gem of a restaurant is found in the shadows of the Mourne mountains in the picturesque coastal village of Annalong. A warm welcome awaits you. Whether you are in the mood for a freshly baked scone, a Galley fry, a smooth blended coffee, a hearty lunch, a healthy salad, their famous fish & chips, delicious homemade desserts or traybakes. You will find it all in the Galley restaurant.

To ensure quality and freshness they make every effort to secure their supplies locally. Mourne farmers supplies most of potatoes and vegetables with the Kilkeel fishing fleet providing freshly landed fish.

Open 7 days a week. They offer an extensive menu with specials every weekend.



Get there: 43 Kilkeel Road, Annalong, Co. Down, BT34 4TJ Get in touch: t: (0)28 4376 7253 e: office@thegalleyannalong.co.uk w: www.thegalleyannalong.co.uk nigoodfood.com 137 Taste of Ulster Guide 2023

The Harbour and Company



We do like to be beside the seaside, and that's exactly where you'll be at this shore side place in Donaghadee. Harbour & Company is about bringing good things together-food, flavours, people and company. Great food and great company go hand in hand.

Their passion for great food means they pay attention to the detail; from fresh organic vegetables delivered straight from the farmlands of Saintfield, to the way they source and dry age their own beef for up to 35 days, often knowing which farm it has come from in the area, or how they ensure freshness by getting daily catches straight from local fishermen. Well, they are mere metres away.

Cooking on a wood fired grill the flavours and taste are a memory that will keep you coming back for more. Chefs also prepare freshly, made to order pizza and great tasting local butchers burgers - perfect for a snack in the bar.

The tables have been designed to make the most of those stunning views across to the Copeland Islands and beyond.

Opening Hours: The bar opens 7 days a week but the kitchen takes a break on Mondays. Families Welcome.



Get there: 31 The Parade, Donaghadee, Down, BT21 OHE Get in touch: t: (0)28 9188 4466 e: info@harbourandcompany.com w: www.harbourandcompany.com



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The Hillside



The Hillside is a charming, rustic pub situated in the historic Georgian village of Hillsborough, County Down, only 15 minutes drive from Belfast city centre. The Hillside first opened its doors to patrons in 1752 and has been enjoying a busy trade ever since thanks to its excellent food and drinks selection and friendly, welcoming service. It is renowned for roaring open fires in the winter and a pretty cobblestoned beer garden in the summer.

Gastronomes will delight in their mouth-watering seasonal menu, which is complemented by a comprehensive selection of daily specials. Their Head Chef always endeavours to make the most of the wonderful local produce so abundantly available in County Down. The restaurant is family friendly, offering a fantastic children's menu to suit all tastes.

Needless to say a good pub would be nothing without an excellent drinks selection to enjoy with the wonderful food. They are one of a very few local bars to offer real pump ales as well as craft ciders, lagers and stouts. They also have an extensive wine list and a wide range of spirits including some fine Irish whiskeys.



Get there: 21-23 Main St, Hillsborough, Lisburn BT26 6AE Get in touch: t: (0)28 9268 9233 e: info@hillsidehillsborough.co.uk w: www.hillsidehillsborough.co.uk twitter: @TheHillside facebook: /thehillsidehillsborough



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The Kingfisher Kitchen at Castle Espie



The Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust, Visitor Centre, Castle Espie near Comber is a place well worth visiting for its wealth of wildlife but this café makes a visit even more attractive. Open for breakfast, lunch, drinks and coffees, they serve home-cooked hearty breakfasts, seasonal specials, and light lunches.

They have also hand-picked a selection of quality fair-trade coffee and teas, plus a great range of refreshing soft drinks – the perfect match for their signature scones, tempting tray bakes, moreish muffins and homemade cakes and tarts.

There are lots of menu options for little ones, child-friendly facilities, a soft play area and plenty of room for buggies too.

As for the phrase "a room with a view", it was practically invented for the Kingfisher Kitchen. It has unrivalled and uninterrupted views of the nature reserve's lake across to Scrabo Tower.

After enjoying the Kingfisher Kitchen, you can round off your visit by exploring the tranquil Sensory Garden and the Castle Espie Gallery, which are also admission free.

Opening hours: Seven days a week, 10AM-4PM

Refer to website for breakfast and lunch menu



Get there: 78 Ballydrain Road, Comber BT237EA Get in touch: t: (0)28 9187 4146 e: info.castleespie@wwt.org.uk w: www.kingfisherkitchen.com/castle-espie/



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The Lobster Pot



There are few places with better shellfish than the shores of Strangford Lough in County Down and nowhere better to eat it than overlooking those same shores. This cosy restaurant and bar in the Heart of Strangford village has those stunning views for you to enjoy.

Enjoy a drink in the comfortable front bar by the wood-burning stove before heading into the restaurant with its soft furnishings, delicate lighting and historical pictures. There you can feast on lobster (of course) or maybe a seafood chowder or Strangford Lough mussels. If you fancy something else, there will always be a range of steak, chicken and vegetarian dishes to choose from followed by mouth-watering home-made desserts. The Lobster Pot prides itself in using the finest ingredients sourced from local suppliers.

The function Lounge at the back is light and spacious with double doors leading to a hidden beer garden. It also caters for weddings, private functions and conferences.

Opening Hours:

Bar	Sun-Thurs: 12pm-close
	Fri & Sat: 12pm-1am
Restaurant	Monday-Sunday 12 noon – 9pm



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The Old Post Office



The Old Post Office Lisbane, licensed cafe and tea rooms, has long been a feature on the Comber to Killyleagh road. A listed thatch with a homely atmosphere, the cafe is a popular meeting place where a warm welcome awaits all who cross their door. Noted for serving the finest local produce the menu offers exceptional food at a fair price. Whether you drop by on a sunny Saturday or snuggle up in front of the log fire on a cold, wet winters Wednesday and enjoy lunch with a glass of wine you'll be so glad you popped in. From breakfast, lunch, right through to 'Afternoon Tea' (one of their noted specialties!) - all dishes are made on site. From their scones to artisan breaks, signature lasagne and fresh salads!

Their 'Kitchen' shop stocks their own fresh home-baked breads, scones, cakes and pastries as well as their delicious 'Steak & Guinness' and Fish pies, pastas and salads for you to take away. Perfect if you're thinking about dinner or a family function.

'NOBOCO' gift shop is an amazing place to find something just that little bit different. Costume Jewellery, Skin Care, Candles, Ceramics, Scarves & Bags, Art, Cards & Wrap.

Be sure to pop in when you next visit!

Opening hours: Tuesday-Saturday 9:3--4:30



Get there: 191 Killinchy Road, Lisbane, Comber, Co.Down BT236AA Get in touch: t: (0)28 9754 3335 e: info@oldpostofficelisbane.co.uk w: www.oldpostofficelisbane.co.uk



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The Parson's Nose



They treat you like royalty at the Parson's Nose and the food is definitely fivestar.

This is a gastro pub you will want to visit again and again and following a recent refurbishment and extension, it also houses a wood-fired oven, giving the menu a welcome selection of wood-fired foods including authentic sour dough pizzas.

The Belfast Black stout and treacle wheaten bread will whet your appetite for the likes of the Parson's Gourmet Burger topped with Young Buck blue cheese, guanciale and red onion marmalade. Portion sizes are so generous you'll be hard pushed to do three courses, but do try.

The décor is totally in keeping with the Georgian building but feels modern too. Top marks for supplying local brews.

Opening hours: Sun & Monday 12pm – 8:30pm, Tuesday – Saturday 12pm – 9:30pm



Get there: 48 Lisburn Street, Hillsborough, Co Down, BT 26 6AB Get in touch: t: (0)28 9268 3009 e: info@theparsonsnose.co.uk w: www.theparsonsnose.co.uk



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The Pheasant



This place has a very loyal local following as well as a good amount of custom from further afield. It is the sister restaurant of The Plough in Hillsborough village. People come for the great local food, service and atmosphere. You can do fine dining in the restaurant or go casual in the Highland Bar and Snug. There is also a function room for weddings, parties and conferences.

The menus change with the seasons. You can expect Ardglass Crab in your pasta, award-winning Sugar Pit Pork Chop from Hannan Meats with sprouting broccoli, caramelized onion and garlic pomme puree with pickled apple infused jus. There are Curry Nights on Tuesdays, a variety of cuts from the Butchers Block are available for Steak Nights are Monday-Thursday, they do craft artisan breads.... You get the picture.

Local suppliers include Hannan and Lisdergan Meats, East Coast and Keenan's Seafoods, North Down Group, Draynes Farm and Clements Eggs. They also take game from the nearby Larchfield Estate.

Now open for Breakfast at weekends. Their regular Gourmet evenings and Sunday lunches are really popular. This place has it all, space, great food, atmosphere and service. Check it out if you are not a regular already



Get there: 410 Upper Ballynahinch Road, Annahilt, Hillsborough BT26 6NR Get in touch: t: (0)28 9263 8056 e: info@thepheasantrestaurant.co.uk w: www.thepheasantrestaurant.co.uk



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The Plough Inn



The Plough Inn is an outstanding restaurant, café and bar, situated in Royal Hillsborough, Co.Down. Overlooking Hillsborough Castle and Courthouse, it is one of the village's hidden gems. Established in 1758, the family-run business remains an old favorite, offering traditional dishes with a contemporary twist at an affordable price.

Using fresh, local produce, every meal is professionally prepared with care by inhouse chefs. The team have a wealth of experience ensuring you receive the best dining experience. They strive to use the highest standard of ingredients from local suppliers such as Draynes, Hannan Meats, Carnreagh Farm, Eastcoast Seafood and seasonal wild Game from the neighboring Larchfield Estate. The downstairs bar is quaint with a vintage feel and offers a warm welcome with live acoustic evenings and a wide range of well-known beverages.

Located a stone's throw from Hillsborough Forest Park, the café is a popular spot to relax with friends and family to enjoy a light bite to eat following a nearby stroll or visit to the Castle's gardens. Take away pastries also available. There are outdoor beer gardens to the rear, offering cover to those who enjoy the fresh air and wish to bring their 4-legged friends along too. With two restaurants, café and bar they accommodate everyone whether it's pub grub, a tasty lunch or a finer dining experience, open daily 11:30 -22:30.



Get there: 3 The Square, Hillsborough BT26 6AG Get in touch: t: (0)28 9268 2985 e: info@theploughhillsborough.co.uk w: www.theploughhillsborough.co.uk



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The Poacher's Pocket



The Poacher's Pocket, situated in the heart of picturesque County Down, is a country pub and restaurant that oozes modern country charm. The restaurant is very much in keeping with the style of establishment developed by Balloo Inns – a dining pub with a firm emphasis on good honest food and local suppliers.

Happily you can also purchase the freshly baked breads, soups, sauces and local artisan produce to take home from the adjoining food and fine wine shop, The Poacher's Pantry.

On their main menu you will find dishes like Strangford crab on grilled focaccia, Hannan's salt-chamber aged steaks and glazed ham hock in Ale & Comber honey.

Opening Hours: Food served daily from 12pm Last reservations Sunday-Wednesday 8pm Last reservations Thursday-Saturday 9pm (Food service closed 3pm-4pm Monday – Thursday)



Get there: 181 Killinchy Road, Lisbane, Comber, Co Down Get in touch: t: (0)28 97541589 u: www.poacherspocketlisbane.com



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The Portaferry Hotel



We just love the view from this 18th century landmark hotel. It overlooks Strangford Lough- where some of the best langoustines in the world come from. They obviously feature strongly on the menu here but so too does the freshest local produce available in season. North Down is unique in having a microclimate that produces superb vegetables as well as lush green grass for livestock to graze on. All of that means a healthy larder for the kitchen team.

If gin is your thing then these guys nail it, with 3 distilleries nearby and more than 40 craft gins available, it's definitely a must!

You can eat casually in the bar, try fine dining in the restaurant or book a private room for that special occasion. The restaurant holds AAA Rosettes and has won RAC Restaurant of the Year.

There are 14 rooms, most with views of Strangford Lough, so why not stay the night after dinner? We would!

Opening hours: Open for food 12pm-8pm every day



Get there: 10, The Strand, Portaferry, Co. Down BT221PE Get in touch: t: (0)28 4272 8231 e: info@portaferryhotel.com w: www.portaferryhotel.com



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The Red Berry



Every neighbourhood needs a great coffee shop which serves proper coffee, good food and opens late. Enter The Red Berry in Bangor. It has absolutely everything you might need. It is popular with people who need to bash out emails while they sip a Fairtrade coffee, tea or even a hot chocolate. The food is made to order by a great team of chefs. Of course, they use local ingredients where possible.

You might want a 'Posh Pig Panini', a 'Goats Cheese Salad' or a tasty sweet treat. If you are in the mood for ice-cream, pop in for a poke.

Being so close to the Marina, they have a great view of the seafront so try this place the next time you are Bangor way.

Opening Hours

Mon-Fri: 9am-10pm Sat & Sun: 9am-5:30pm nigoodfood.com 148 Taste of Ulster Guide 2023

The Rosehip Bakery and Café



Northern Ireland is very proud of our tradition of great independent home bakeries and the Rosehip (formerly the Windsor) is a prime example. It's been churning out soft loaves and sticky buns to its loyal customers since 1957.

The interior is bursting with colour. The paper lanterns are a real statement. They like to think their place is for food lovers, coffee drinkers, family gatherings and friendly greetings.

It's open six days a week for brilliant breakfasts, luscious lunches and the in-betweens. The uber-popular Sunday brunch could be a classic Ulster Fry, a veggie version, eggs any way or porridge to name a few options.

Sweets-wise, there are all the usual bakery treats you would expect like chocolate brownies and cupcakes as well as Glastry Farm ice-cream from the counter. Their yummy afternoon tea includes sandwiches, scones with jam and cream, fresh cream pastries and your favourite traybakes all served with tea or coffee.

Opening hours: Open Mon-Sat: 7am-5:30pm



Get there: 30 Bridge Street, Banbridge, BT32 3JS Get in touch: t: (0)28 4062 5177 e: rosehipbanbridge@gmail.com



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The Smugglers Table



If you want great locally produced food and drink in a place with an open fire and more than a nod to the nautical, then this is the place for you.

The Smugglers Table is in picturesque Killyleagh beside the shore of Strangford Lough.

Locally produced ingredients where possible are always on the menu. Fish dishes are a favourite. Depending on the weather and the season, you can feast on Strangford Lough mussels, cod, seabass, or crab claws all from local shores.

Opening times Mon-Wed: closed, Thursday: 5pm-8:45pm, Friday: 12pm-2:30pm, 5pm-8:45pm, Saturday: 12pm-2:30pm, 5pm-8:45pm, Sunday: 9:30am-7pm

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The Stillhouse Of Moira



You would be right in assuming that craft drinks are as important as the food in this establishment in the picturesque village of Moira. Owners Stuart and Barbara Hughes are also the producers of the multi-award winning RubyBlue spirits range.

Head Chef Dave McClelland is at the helm in the kitchen. Local products on the menu include ox cheeks and sausages from Carnbrooke Meats, fish and shellfish from Keenan's Seafood and dairy products from Draynes Farm among many others. They bake their own bread in-house too.

There are daily specials and the entire menu is updated in line with what is seasonally available every month. Expect gastro-pub style dishes like Ham Knuckle Pork Pie and Black Pudding Sausage Rolls. Dessert might be a Blackcurrant and Beetroot Brownie. Yum!

Opening Hours:

Sunday to Thursday 12 noon to midnight, Food served until 8pm Friday and Saturday 12 noon to 1:30am, Food served until 9pm



Get there: 61 Main Street, Moira, Co. Down, BT67 OLQ Get in touch: t: (0)28 9278 0735 e: hello@stillhousemoira.com w: www.stillhousemoira.com facebook: /TheStillHouseMoira twitter: @StillHouseMoira





The Vault



This is a collaboration between two long-established business in Banbridge ; Quails and Telepizza

The Vault has a proper wood-fired oven for those beauties. There are fourteen varieties with everything from the Classic Pepperoni and Mozzarella to Pancetta, Fig and Shaved Parmesan.

Starters include variations on the ever-popular garlic bread as well as a platter of antipasti and a Caprese Salad.

The wine list is a real corker with a good variety of reds, whites, pink and bubbly with more than one option for glasses and carafes.

Opening hours:

Mon-Tue: closed Wed: 4:30pm-8:30pm Thu: 4:30pm-9pm Fri: 4:30pm-9:30pm Sat: 12pm-9:30pm Sun: 4pm-8:30pm



Get there: 50b Bridge Street, Banbridge BT32 3SL Get in touch: t: (0)28 4062 0662 w: www.thevaultpizza.com







Co. Fermanagh



Boats and water in general are big in this neck of the woods. One of the most famous products is the award-winning Boatyard Gin and Vodka – whose HQ is actually a former boathouse on the lake.

Jetskiing, sailing, canoeing, fishing and sailing are all part of the tourist scene. A more sedate option is a cruise or a water taxi but that fresh air does work up an appetite which can be sated at the Lough Erne Resort or the Killyhevlin Hotel.

Belleek Pottery is world-famous. A trip to the Visitor Centre will no doubt end up with some purchases. So, too will a wander around the Buttermarket's many craft shops in Enniskillen. Climb to the top of Cole's Monument for a stunning view of the island town.

There are more stunning views from on high on the Cuilcagh Boardwalk Trail through pastures and blanket bog. Locals call it the Stairway to Heaven. Don't miss out on the Marble Arch Caves Geopark and see the difference between stalagmites and stalagtites.

There is a stunning walled kitchen garden at the National Trust's property at Florencecourt. Well worth a visit. Crom Castle or Castle Coole are also the perfect places to channel your inner Downton Abbey. After all that, you will have earned a pint at Blakes of the Hollow Victorian pub where you can tick another Game of Thrones carved door off your list. nigoodfood.com 154 Taste of Ulster Guide 2023

Killyhevlin Lakeside Hotel and Lodges



You can pretty much eat round the clock at this long-established, family-run four star hotel. The Killyhevlin Lakeside Hotel is as much a part of the landscape as its stunning lakeside setting.

Cassidy's eggs from Derrygonnelly, Sprotts Bacon and sausages from Graham's in Lisbellaw make their way into the breakfast Ulster fry. Truly, it will set you up for the day, but come lunchtime, why not enjoy one of their famous carvery roasts?

Local goodies are great with morning coffee or the uber-trendy afternoon tea on vintage china.

Kove is a stylish restaurant with art-deco interior. The restaurant's menu which offers a varied range of wholesome yet innovative dishes prepared from only the freshest local produce and served with great care and attention to detail.



Get there: Killyhevlin, Enniskillen, Co.Fermanagh, BT74 GRW Get in touch: t: (0)28 6632 3481 e: info@killyhevlin.com u: www.killyhevlin.com twitter: @killyhevlin facebook: /Killyhevlin



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The Catalina Restaurant at Lough Erne Resort



A unique culinary experience awaits every visitor to Lough Erne Resort. Every dish on the menu promises to take diners on a sensory journey, discovering the finest ingredients and showcasing modern Irish cuisine. The elegant offering in The Catalina includes tempting signature dishes of Lough Neagh Eel with Armagh Apple Butter, Kilkeel Scallops and Lisdergan Beef Fillet. The menu is truly inspired with many creations including the very best locally produced delicacies at the 3 AA Rosette restaurant.

The Blaney Bar at the Resort offers lighter bites with comforting dishes including Slow Braised Daube of Beef with colcannon and The Loughside Bar; Grill's menu is filled with flavoursome dishes such as the 20oz Lisdergan Tomahawk Steak.

And finally, the delectable Afternoon Tea is a perfect treat which is quintessentially delicious.



Get there: Lough Erne Resort, Belleek Road, Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh BT93 7ED Get in touch: t: (0)28 6632 3230 e: reservations@lougherneresort.com w: www.lougherneresort.com instagram: /lougherneresort



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The Manor House Country Hotel



Decisions, Decisions! Whether you are seeking a culinary experience or a quick bite to eat, The Manor House Hotel's restaurant offers a wonderful range of mouth-watering menus. Choose formal and casual dining and entertainment mid week or weekends, the decision is yours.

The Belleek Fine Dining Restaurant is a jewel in the Manor House crown.

They are proud of their Belleek Restaurant and its achievements and when you book a table they ensure we live up to their AA Rosette status.

The Cellar Door Bar and Bistro is located on the lower ground floor of the hotel. It is a very popular place for friends and family to meet, enjoy lunch or dinner, have a drink or two and enjoy live music at the weekend.

Their menus celebrate Lough Ernes glorious food heritage - contemporary, the country house cooking with a lightness of touch that is wonderfully satisfying. The head chef is constantly inspired by the wealth of produce on our doorstep, such as - Fermanagh Black Bacon, Fermanagh Organic Beef, Baronscourt Venison, Killybegs Fish and a portfolio of small local suppliers including Fermanagh Honey, Erin Grove Preserves and Jams and of course the unmistakeable Boatyard Gin.



Get there: Killadeas, Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh BT941NY Get in touch: t: (0)28 6862 2200 e: info@manorhousecountryhotel.com w: www.manorhousecountryhotel.com









Co. Tyrone



Tyrone is steeped in ancient history, folklore and outstanding natural

beauty. Walk in the footsteps of early Bronze Age settlers at the Beaghmore Stone Circles in the heart of the stunning Sperrin Mountains. These mythical monuments continue to inspire artists and writers.

This off-the-beaten-track county is the perfect place to switch off and unwind among the Dark Skies, but that doesn't mean you have to go hungry or thirsty.

The sika deer which roam the huge Baronscourt Estate are now known far and wide for their superb flavour. The loin won the Golden Fork at the Great Taste Awards in 2022. You can also land a beauty in their fishing runs.

For more history, book into the William and Mary era Corick House Hotel. Make sure to have a local tipple from Baronscourt Brewery, Woodlab or the Wild Atlantic Distillery. A Moocha Kombucha will suit teetotallers.

The Ulster American Folk Park is always a treat for those who want to step back in time to the 18th century. Head to Dungannon and visit the Hill of the O'Neill and Ranfurly House Museum. The O'Neills were once one of Ireland's most powerful dynasties. The stories of that clan are well worth hearing before you eat at The Tailor's House.

Make sure to visit the mighty Lough Neagh-home of the eel which has PGI status. The pollan fish also has a special status of PDO but look out for the other native freshwater fish – the dollaghan which also swims in these waters.

A class at Wee Buns Cookery School in the Moy will teach you all the tricks of the trade, and more.

So many reasons to visit Northern Ireland's largest county.

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Corick House Hotel and Spa



This idyllic 17th Century Country House Hotel boasts a choice of dining experiences. Using a mix of traditional and modern cooking techniques, sourcing and foraging only the finest, you are sure to enjoy whatever dish you choose at this award-winning County Tyrone 4-Star establishment.

The Blackwater Bar and Grill with elegant soft furnishings and open log fires is the ideal place for casual dining. The Carleton Restaurant with a contemporary Irish European menu for an exceptional dining experience, in partnership with excellence in service, ensures guests who visit Corick House Hotel and Spa will want to return.

Afternoon Tea is served Monday to Sunday in the opulent surroundings of the conservatory overlooking the superb walled gardens with views of the Clogher Valleys and Mountains.



Get there: 20 Corick Road, Clogher, Co. Tyrone, BT75 OBZ Get in touch: t: (0)28 8554 8216 e: reservations@corickcountryhouse.com w: www.corickcountryhousehotel.com

The Tailor's House



This bar, restaurant and B&B is really well-known for its great food. Head Chef David McClelland changes his menu with the seasons. In the restaurant, you can expect starters like cheddar and leek tart with watercress, the steak you might have for mains will be from Quinn's butchers and be served with Bushmills peppercorn sauce, triple cooked chips and tobacco onions - and why not go for Guinness sticky toffee pudding for dessert. The breads will be home made.

The bar food menu has all the crowd pleasers like soup, fishcakes, fish and chips, curry, pasta and burgers. Local suppliers include Keenan Seafood. There is room for more than 60 people to eat here. Lots of them come for Sunday lunch by the fire. It is also really popular for evening meals and drinks in the new outdoor space. There is an extensive wine and cocktail menu.

The beautifully decorated bedrooms provide sanctuary at the end of a busy day, and, unsurprisingly, a delicious breakfast will set you up for the day ahead!

Opening hours Thursday 5pm- 8.30pm, Friday 12pm- 9pm, Saturday 12pm- 9.30pm, Sunday 12pm- 7pm



Food Activities



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BREWING EXPERIENCES

HILLSTOWN BREWERY

an Economusee where the cows on the Co Antrim farm are fed the leftovers from the beer-making process. See how this thriving craft brewery exists in tandem with a beef farm. www.hillstownbrewery.com

LACADA BREWERY

a multi-award-winning co-op which established and hosts the Portrush Beer Festival every October www.lacadabrewery.com

WHITEWATER BREWERY

Visit the home of the place where the Great Taste Golden Fork 021 was created-Krema de la Kremlin Stout- tour the brewery, taste at the Tap Room or try making your own brew at the Brew School www.whitewaterbrewery.com

CIDER TOURS

ARMAGH CIDER TOURS

The Troughtons of Ballinteggart near Portadown have opened their farm to let you see what their apples go through to get into your glass. There are several types of tours including the Blossom to Bottle Walking Tour and the Orchard Picnic where you sample ciders and farm shop treats. The 17th century barn adds real atmosphere to the proceedings.

www.armaghcider.com

KILMEGAN CIDER EXPERIENCE TOURS

Meet Andrew and Karen Boyd at their small garden orchard on the County Down coast to learn about the different varieties of apples and see how the cider is made using a traditional rack and press. Relax in the tasting lounge and enjoy a tutored cider and apple juice tasting accompanied by freshly baked homemade wheaten bread, cheese, local ham and chutneys.

www.kilmegancider.com

LONG MEADOW CIDER TOURS

The McKeever's Long Meadow Orchards are just across the yard from their cidery. After a tour of the orchards, taste their products and hear how they are made. Tours take place in Apple Blossom season and year-round on request. Enjoy some homemade griddle bread with your drink in the new Bramble Barn.

www.longmeadowcider.com

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DISTILLERY EXPERIENCES

There are so many distilleries and breweries in Northern Ireland now, it's hard to keep up. The stalwarts have been joined by some new kids on the block- all contributing to a proud heritage.

BOATYARD DISTILLERY

hear how Joe McGirr and his team make their gins and vodka with local botanicals from their farm on the shores of Lough Erne in Co. Fermanagh. Then taste but not in a gin balloon! You can even label your own bottle to take home with you.

www.boatyarddistillery.com

COPELAND DISTILLERY

See, hear and taste the story of this craft producer of gin, rum, single malt and pot still whiskey. There was quite a bit of smuggling and seized contraband in the area! www.copelanddistillery.com

ECHLINVILLE DISTILLERY

From field to glass; hear how they sow, grow, harvest and floor malt all their own barley on their distillery farm. They make whiskey, gin and poitin here. Café and walking trails as well as Spirits and Cheese Pairings and Private Events.

www.echlinville.com

HINCH DISTILLERY

Learn about making gin and develop your own recipe at this gin school experience where you will take home your own labelled 500ml bottle. This is not a typical classroom!

www.hinchdistillery.com

OLD BUSHMILLS DISTILLERY TOUR

A guided walking tour through the working core of the world's oldest working distillery- home of Bushmills and Black Bush whiskeys. The longer Premium Tour includes a tasting.

www.bushmills.eu

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DISTILLERY EXPERIENCES

RADEMON ESTATE DISTILLERY

Visit the purpose-built home of Shortcross Gin and Shortcross Whiskey. Their resident experts will do guided tastings. You take home a branded glass and get a £5 voucher to spend in the shop.

www.rademonestatedistillery.com

WILD ATLANTIC DISTILLERY

A new gin school where the botanicals are sourced along the nearby Wild Atlantic Way. They also age whiskey here. You can do a tour, create your own bottle and have a light lunch of local charcuterie or do a cocktail class.

www.wildatlanticdistillery.ie

WOODLAB DISTILLERY

The home of Symphonia Dry Gin, Apple Gin and Fruit Cup is a veritable Wonka factory where organic chemist Ric Dyer makes drinkable art. You can do a tour where you hear about the history of gin and try some drinks, make your own gin or do a cocktail masterclass.

www.symphoniaspirits.com

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Waterman House Cookery School



This cookery school in Belfast's Cathedral Quarter is owned by Niall McKenna of James St fame. He had a cookery school at the James Street South site, but relocated it to the iconic Waterman House. It was previously home of the Bushmills bonded warehouse.

The ground floor of the Grade II listed building can accommodate groups of up to 18 with state of the art workstations and the latest kitchen equipment.

The class schedule is jam packed and includes culinary classics, customer favourites and some exciting new cooking challenges incorporating our newly installed wood burning oven. With a diverse schedule suited to chefs of all levels – from beginner to master chef- there's something for everyone to enjoy a great day out.

Try Curry and Beer, the Perfect Steak or the Masterclass in Fish and Shellfish or even French Bistro, Italian Cooking or the Best of France.

At the end of most classes, you will sit down together to enjoy the food that has been cooked along with a glass of wine, coffee or tea.

NEED TO KNOW

Book online at www.waterman.house Street Parking, Private Classes, Gift Vouchers



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Wee Buns Cookery School



The owner of Wee Buns Cookery School, Mary Anne Mackle has serious culinary pedigree. She has worked in the famous River Café in London as well as a stint in Paul Rankin's Roscoff restaurant in Belfast. She is Ballymaloe-trained.

Her ethos is Cooking with the Seasons. You might be making buttermilk scones or Victoria Sponge with buttercream icing. All the ingredients used are local where possible. Classes include Traditional Irish Baking, Cake Making and Decorating and Children's Baking Classes. They are both hands-on and demonstration.

Her modern, purpose-built kitchen has beautiful views of the countryside. Wee Buns Cookery School has been listed in the Discover Northern Ireland list of Top 10 things to do in Northern Ireland.

Great idea for a gift, a get-together, for family time and corporate team building. Gift Vouchers available.

Book online or use the contact details below.



Want tobe in our 2024guide?

Apply here!



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These days we're all becoming very conscious of what we're eating and making the right choices. But how can you do the same when you eat out? You can't tell the hygiene standards of an eatery by the food, interior design or even the cost.

Now there's no need to guess as food businesses, such as restaurants, cafes and supermarkets, are legally required to display their food hygiene rating where you can easily see it before going in to purchase food. Businesses in Northern Ireland are legally required to display their ratings at or near each customer entrance like the front door, entrance or window of the business. Stickers must be displayed in a location where they can be readily seen and easily read by customers before they enter the establishment when it is open for business.

All businesses in Northern Ireland must provide information on their rating verbally if requested in person or over the phone.

The Food Hygiene Rating Scheme is operated by the FSA in partnership with district councils. It provides you, the customer, with the 'behind the scenes' information of how seriously a food business takes food hygiene before you even step across the doorway.

Each business is inspected by a local authority food safety officer and given a rating between 0 and 5. The top rating of 5 means a business has 'very good' hygiene standards and every outlet should be able to reach this.

At the inspection, the officer will check the following three elements:

- how hygienically the food is handled how it is prepared, cooked, re-heated, cooled and stored
- the physical condition of the business –including cleanliness, layout, lighting, ventilation, pest control and other facilities
- how the business manages ways of keeping food safe, looking at processes, training and systems to ensure good hygiene is maintained. The officer can then assess the level of confidence in standards being maintained in the future.

Ratings are also available to check online at food.gov.uk/ratings. If the distinctive green and black rating sticker is not displayed where you can easily see it, you can ask and the business must, by law, tell you what their rating is when asked verbally. If you are concerned about a business' hygiene practices then you can report any food problems to the district council.

Go to food.gov.uk/ratings and check before you choose where to eat.



Useful Numbers

Food NI (Taste of Ulster) 028 9024 9449 Visit Belfast Welcome Centre 028 9024 6609 Causeway Coast & Glens 02870327720 Fermanagh Lakelands Tourism 028 6634 6736 George Best Belfast City Airport Tourism Information Office 028 9093 5372 Belfast International Airport 028 9448 4848 City of Derry Airport 02871810784 Belfast Harbour 028 9055 4422 Larne Harbour 028 2887 2100 Visit Derrv 02871267284 Coleraine Visitor Information Centre 02870344723 Newcastle Visitor Information Centre 028 4372 2222 Armagh Visitor Information Centre 028 3752 1800 Translink Bus and Train Services 028 9066 6630 Aircoach 0870 225 7555

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Graphic Design bu **Cavalier** Design

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Printed by GPS Colour Graphics

4 Marshalls Road, Belfast BT5 6SR 028 9070 2020 www.qpscolour.co.uk

All information are views of the author and details correct at the time of print.

Taste of Ulster Charter

The Taste of Ulster Vision:

"We will strive to source, use and promote the finest Northern Ireland produce, while delivering a positive and rewarding dining experience for all visitors who are welcomed to this establishment."

Article 1: The member's duty is to source, use and promote local food where possible.

Article 2: The member will not intentionally mislead the customer's good faith by serving food not sourced from the local origin stated.

Article 3: A member will work to deliver a positive experience for domestic and foreign visitors.

Article 4: A member will display the correct Taste of Ulster plaque in their establishment.

Article 5: A member will promote and interact with Taste of Ulster/Food NI on digital media platforms.

Article 6: A member will engage in Taste of Ulster activities and events where possible.

Article 7: A member should aspire to inform and educate their staff of the provenance of local food in their establishment.

Article 8: It is every member's responsibility to promote innovative local suppliers to consumers.



www.nigoodfood.com/restaurants/