

It is a general consensus among New Yorkers—even Brooklynites—that Queens is the borough with the widest variety of inexpensive, authentic ethnic food. While Manhattan is packed with trendy eateries, and Brooklyn boasts more than its fair share of ancient culinary institutions, Queens plays host to countless nondescript, simply delicious restaurants catering to the borough's many recent immigrants. For those outsiders lucky enough to find one of these gems of the Queens gastronomic scene, eating becomes an experience less like visiting an outer borough and more akin to visiting a foreign country.

Underneath the elevated 7 train in Jackson Heights, where places like **Jackson Diner** (the city's tastiest Indian) share walls with working class Columbian chicken joints like **Gusty Chicken**, it is difficult to find an overpriced meal and nearly impossible to find a burger and fries. In Elmhurst, nestled amongst a strip

of mysteriously named ethnic restaurants, startlingly delectable Malaysian cuisine at **Taste Good** sits beneath an awning that reads "Chinese Noodles." Even Astoria, a neighborhood known city-wide for the more traditional Greek fare it provides at spots like **Stamatis**, serves up scrumptious Middle-Eastern and North African eat at eateries along Steinway Street such as **Mombar** and **Kabab Café**.

Of course, if you so desire, you can find an excellent steak in one of Queens' old school neighborhoods—try **Uncle Jack's Steakhouse** in Bayside. But Queens is truly unique for its ethnic fare, so take a trip to Flushing next time you're in the mood for beef. Visit **San Hai Jin Mi**, and chow down on delightful Korean *bulgogi* BBQed at your table any time of the day or night. It may seem like a trek, but its nothing compared to a flight to Seoul.

Key: \$: Under \$10 / \$\$: \$10-\$20 / \$\$\$: \$20-\$30 / \$\$\$\$: \$30+; *: Does not accept credit cards / †: Accepts only American Express.

Map 1 • Astoria

Agnanti	19-06 Ditmars Blvd	718-545-4554 \$\$	Wonderful Greek/Cypriot cuisine just across from Astoria Park.
Aliada	29-19 Broadway	718-932-2240 \$\$	Excellent Cypriot with deservedly famous lamb chops.
Bel Aire Diner	31-91 21st St	718-721-3160 \$\$	Voted best diner in Queens by the <i>Daily News</i> .
Bosna Express	31-29 12th St	718-932-5577 \$\$	Addictive Balken-style grilled meat sandwiches.
Christos Hasapo-Taverna Churrascaria Girassol	41-08 23rd Ave 33-18 28th Ave	718-777-8400 \$\$\$ 718-545-8250 \$\$	Excellent Greek-inflected steakhouse. Authentic Brazilian meals, including rodizio.
Djardan	34-04 31st Ave	718-721-2694 \$\$*	Bureks and other Eastern European delights.
Jour et Nuit	28-04 Steinway St	718-204-2511 \$\$	Exceptional Moroccan food, very friendly staff.
Kabab Café	25-12 Steinway St	718-728-9858 \$\$*	Kebabs and more cooked to order by friendly chef-owner, Ali.
Mombar Neptune Diner	25-22 Steinway St 31-05 Astoria Blvd	718-726-2356 \$\$\$ 718-278-4853 \$\$	Egyptian food in a beautiful setting. Rivals Bel Aire as the best diner in Queens.
Roti Rani's S'Agapo	33-21 21st St 34-21 34th St	718-956-7888 \$\$\$ 718-626-0303 \$\$\$	Indian food to go. Popular Greek restaurant with outdoor dining for the warmer months.
Sal, Chris, and Charlie Deli	33-12 23rd Ave	718-278-9240 \$\$\$	They don't call them the "sandwich kings of Astoria" for nothing.
Stamatis	29-12 23rd Ave	718-932-8596 \$\$\$	Top Astoria Greek, octopus and other grilled fish recommended. Try the Jimmy roll.
Tokyo Japanese Restaurant	31-05 24th Ave	718-777-1880 \$\$	
Trattoria L'Incontro Watawa	21-76 31st St 33-10 Ditmars Blvd	718-721-3532 \$\$\$ 718-545-9596 \$\$	One of the city's best Italian restaurants. Fresh, fresh sushi in a cozy Japanese setting.
Zenon	34-10 31st Ave	718-956-0133 \$\$*	Cypriot taverna with the best meze in town.
Zlata Praha	28-48 31st St	718-721-6422 \$\$	Hearty, cheap Czech food.

Zygos Tavern 22-55 31st St 718-728-7070 \$\$ Fairly priced Greek dining. Great homemade tazziki sauce with dill and diced cucumbers.

Map 2 • Long Island City / Hunter's Point

5 Stars Punjabi Bella Via	13-15 43rd Ave 47-46 Vernon Blvd	718-784-7444 \$\$ 718-361-7510 \$\$	Indian diner/cabbie hangout. Wonderful modern Italian dishes and brick oven pizza.
Brooks 1890 Restaurant Café Henri	24-28 Jackson Ave 10-10 50th Ave	718-937-1890 \$\$ 718-383-9315 \$\$	Classic American fare in historic setting. BYOB French bistro.
Court Square Diner Cup Diner	45-30 23rd St 35-01 36th St	718-392-1222 \$* 718-937-2322 \$\$	Reliable grub available 24 hours. Trendy diner open 24 hours.
Jackson Ave Steakhouse	12-23 Jackson Ave	718-784-1412 \$\$\$	Wood-paneled steakhouse with a busy happy hour.
Lil Bistro 33 Manducatis	33-04 36th Ave 13-27 Jackson Ave	718-609-1367 \$\$ 718-729-4602 \$\$\$	Café serving Asian-French cuisine. Classic Italian cuisine expertly prepared; a beloved neighborhood institution.
Tournesol	50-12 Vernon Blvd	718-472-4355 \$\$\$	Cozy French bistro with a great brunch menu.
Water's Edge	44th Dr & East River	718-482-0033 \$\$\$	Upscale American and continental cuisine with views of the skyline.

Map 3 • Sunnyside

Ariyoshi	41-13 Queens Blvd	718-937-3288 \$\$	How can you miss with a sushi roll named Sunnyside?
Bliss	45-20 Skillman Ave	718-729-0778 \$\$\$	Upscale New American for special occasions.
Dazie's	39-41 Queens Blvd	718-786-7013 \$\$\$	Sometimes you just want a plate of spaghetti.
El Comelon	41-04 Greenpoint Ave	718-392-7822 \$\$	Delicious Salvadorian/Columbian fare on the cheap.
El Triangulo	44-08 Greenpoint Ave	718-786-5919 \$\$\$	Columbian restaurant with baked goods.
Le Sans Souci	44-09 Broadway	718-728-2733	Tiny bistro serving simple, well-prepared French food.
Mama's Empanadas Rose Restaurant Sunlite Diner	42-18 Greenpoint Ave 44-07 Queens Blvd 39-14 Queens Blvd	718-729-1303 \$* 718-784-0745 \$\$\$ 718-937-2220 \$\$	35 variations on the tasty treat. Affordable eats steps from the subway. Don't go for the basics. Order the crazy stuff.
Tasty Thai Tony's Bagels Café	46-26 Greenpoint Ave 39-50 Queens Blvd	718-391-0180 \$ 718-392-8470 \$	A BYOB with a big menu. Bagels and a lot more.

Map 4 • Jackson Heights / Elmhurst

Armondo's	74-27 37th Ave	718-429-8552 \$\$\$	Classy Italian with great entrees and a Sunday brunch.
Arunee Thai Cuisine Bahar Afghan Cuisine David's Taiwanese	37-68 79th St 82-19 Queens Blvd 84-03 Broadway	718-205-5559 \$* 718-426-5822 \$\$ 718-429-4818 \$\$\$	More awesome Thai food. Authentic Afghan food, BYOB. One of the few strictly Taiwanese cuisine restaurants around. Try the oyster pancakes.
Deli Palace	37-33 74th St	718-507-0666 \$\$	Quality Indian cuisine with a sweet shop next door.
Fiesta Mexicana	75-02 Roosevelt Ave	718-505-9090 \$*	Eat delicious Mexican in a festive atmosphere with mariachis.
Georgia Diner	86-55 Queens Blvd	718-651-9000 \$\$	Former Best Diner in Queens, now with a Georgia peach theme. Where else can you get disco fries at 4 am?