

Award-Winning Chefs

Michael Symon. Cleveland native and James Beard Award-winning chef Michael Symon brought Cleveland's food scene to the national spotlight. Today, Symon operates [B Spot Burger](#) and [Mabel's BBQ](#) in Cleveland.

Zach Bruell. Chef Zach Bruell is known for his fusion cuisine and ability to cook a wide variety of styles. He shows off his mastery at French brasserie [L'Albatros](#) and contemporary, global restaurant [Table 45](#).

Doug Katz. James Beard-nominated chef Doug Katz showcases his expertise at Amba, a stylish Indian fusion small plates restaurant, and [Zhug](#), which features Mediterranean and Middle Eastern flavors and was named one of the "[Best New Restaurants in America](#)" by Esquire magazine in 2020.

Karen Small. A pioneer of the local food movement and farm-to-table before it was trendy, James Beard-nominated chef Karen Small highlights fresh and refined dishes at [Juneberry Table](#) and [Pearl Street Wine Market & Café](#).

Jill Vedaa. Two-time James Beard semifinalist chef Jill Vedaa brings small plates to the forefront at the nationally recognized [Salt+](#) restaurant. She opened [Poppy](#) in March 2023, a revamp of a longstanding neighborhood restaurant in a restored Craftsman-style home.

Jeremy Umansky. Known for his innovative work in foraging and fermentation, Jeremy Umansky opened [Larder Delicatessen and Bakery](#) – a James Beard semi-finalist – in the historic Ohio City Firehouse. The modern take on an old-world delicatessen offers house-made breads, pastries, koji-cured pastrami and root beer fermented in-house.

Dante Bocuzzi. With experience working at Nobu/Milan and restaurants in Italy, France and England, chef Dante Bocuzzi mastered his craft abroad before returning to his hometown. Twice nominated for a James Beard Rising Star Chef Award and awarded a Michelin Star, Dante now operates multiple restaurants in the Cleveland area, including Japanese fusion at [Goma](#), modern American restaurant [DANTE](#), underground sushi spot [Ginko](#) and live music venue [CODA](#).

Neighborhood Noms

AsiaTown. A few blocks east of Downtown, visitors will find the bustling markets and restaurants of [AsiaTown](#). A beacon for foodies, restaurants and shops offer savory dumplings, spicy Szechuan dishes and sweet and chewy Hong Kong waffles. Popular destinations are [Li Wah](#) for dim sum, [Superior Pho](#) for warming bowls of the namesake dish, [Ball Ball Waffle](#) for dessert treats and [Koko Bakery](#) for steamed buns, green tea mousse and Japanese style cheesecake.



Detroit Shoreway. The hip and hungry can seek out the latest bistros and bars in the [Detroit Shoreway](#) neighborhood. The theaters and stages of the Gordon Square Arts district are joined by eclectic restaurants such as [Il Rione Pizzeria](#), [Ninja City Urban Asian Cuisine](#) and [Astoria Café & Market](#). For a sweet treat, [Brewnuts](#) offers the delicious combination of fresh doughnuts made with local craft beer.

Little Italy. The [Little Italy](#) neighborhood is known for its family-owned restaurants and bakeries, intimate art galleries and a Feast of the Assumption celebration that fills the streets with music, food and wine. Visitors can dive into sprawling pizzas at [Mamma Santa's](#), classic dishes at [Guarino's](#) and contemporary Italian at [Mia Bella](#) and [La Dolce Vita](#). Saving room for cannoli at [Presti's Bakery](#) or cassata cake at [Corbo's Bakery](#) is a must.

Ohio City. One of Cleveland's oldest neighborhoods, [Ohio City](#) is located just across the Cuyahoga River from Downtown. Known as the unofficial brewery district, it is a craft beer lover's paradise with [Great Lakes Brewing Co.](#) starting the trend in 1988. The area is home to the historic West Side Market, one of the country's [largest urban farms](#) and diverse eateries like [Larder Delicatessen and Bakery](#), modern Mexican at [Momocho](#), Mediterranean flavors and natural wines at [Alea](#) and the headquarter kitchen for [Mitchell's Homemade Ice Cream](#).

Tremont. With a blue collar legacy, the [Tremont](#) neighborhood features onion-domed churches, remarkable downtown views, independent artists' galleries, award-winning restaurants, laidback pubs and boutique shops. One of the city's original foodie hot spots, visitors can enjoy a leisurely brunch at [Lucky's Cafe](#) or [Grumpy's Café](#), fine dining at [Dante](#) and [Fahrenheit](#) or visit neighborhood fixtures like [Prosperity Social Club](#), [The South Side](#) and [Fat Cats](#).