



The World on a Plate

There's more than pasta and pizza on Rome's food scene. Tiffany Parks explores the city's ethnic dining options.

THE NEW WORLD

Be it North, South, or Central, American cuisine is one of the tastiest around. If, like many, Mexican is your favorite, head to **La Cucaracha** (p50), a vibrant restaurant serving enchiladas, chimichangas, guacamole, and everything in between. Travel further south for some little-known Peruvian cuisine at **Inka's Grill** (Via del Forte di Boccea, 96/100), where you'll find a variety of seafood, grilled meats and vegetables, and plenty of potato, rice, corn, and bean dishes on the side. If you prefer Brazilian fare, book a table at **Beber Churrascaria** (Via Ostiense, 253), and take advantage of their spacious terrace to enjoy a few of the last balmy nights before fall begins in earnest. Raise a glass of Patagonian wine to Pope Francis as you dig into a traditional Argentine steak at **Baires** (Corso Rinascimento, 1). Homesick Americans will get their fill of US-style comfort food at **The Perfect Bun** (Largo del Teatro Valle, 4) (they even serve brunch with pancakes and waffles on Sundays), or **Patties** (Via del Teatro Pace, 34/35), a brand-new spot offering oversized burgers and fantastic beer.

HURRAY FOR BOLLYWOOD!

While Rome might lag slightly behind other European capitals when it comes to ethnic food, one country whose cuisine gets plenty of attention is India. **Maharajah** (p38) is one of the most well known, serving North Indian specialties like *turka dal*, a hearty red lentil soup. **Krishna** 13 (p38) is another popular spot; try their spicy and tempting *vindaloo* specialties. **Jaipur** (p49) is a spacious, welcoming restaurant offering several options for a generous multi-course meal. **Mother**

India (p38) serves a wealth of tandoori options; try various types of meat, vegetables, or naan, roasted inside this distinctive clay oven. Dig into a heaping platter of *masala dosa* at **Shanti** (p50) or try a spicy curry dish at **Sitar** (p36). **Indian Affairs** (p38) is a cozy spot serving specialties from all over the subcontinent, and the prawn *vindaloo* is a favorite. Stray just north of the border to find Pakistani and Jain cuisine at **Himalaya's Kashmir** (p36).

ARABIAN NIGHTS

There's more to Middle Eastern cuisine than kebabs and falafel, and Rome has a number of restaurants that prove just that. For Syrian and Lebanese cuisine, **Zenobia** (Piazza Dante, 23) is a lively spot, serving plenty of vegetarian options and featuring belly-dancing performances on weekends. Sample tagine, couscous, and *b'stilla* at **Riad Nour** (p50), Rome's only Moroccan restaurant, where floor cushions and low brass tables complete the atmosphere. For traditional Persian fare, stop into **Arian** (Via Tacito, 54a), a casual, self-service restaurant offering *fesenjan* chicken stew, *kabab barg*, and *shawerma*.

GO EAST!

For the sophisticated flavors of Korean cuisine, try **Ari-rang** (Via Massimo d'Azeglio, 3f), or **I-Gio** (Via Roma Libera, 24/26). Get your sushi fix at **Kisso** (p47), **Taki** (p52), or **Hamasei** (Via della Mercede, 35/36), all three offering high-quality cuisine from the Land of the Rising Sun. Indulge in a Siamese feast at **Thai Inn** (Via Federico Ozanam, 94), a well-priced option for *pad Thai*, *tom yam kung*, and *massaman curry*, or, if your idea of heaven is a big bowl of *pho*, the only place to go is **Thien Kim** (Via Giulia, 201), an authentic Vietnamese eatery. **Court Delicati** (Viale Aventino, 39) serves intensely flavorful Malaysian specialties like *mee goreng* and *koay teow*, and if Chinese is your fave, go up-scale at **Green T** (Via del Piè di Marmo, 28) or join the local Chinese population at uber-casual **Hong Kong F&B** (Via G. Giolitti, 105). If choosing your favorite Asian cuisine would be harder than choosing your favorite child, have a little bit of everything at pan-Asian **Somo** (Via G. Mameli, 5).

EUROPA EUROPA

You don't have to leave Europe to find great foreign food. Feast on *moussaka* and *spanakopita* at Greek eatery **Akropolis** (Via S. Francesco a Ripa, 103), indulge in a pot of fondue at Swiss favorite **Charly's Saucière** (Via S. Giovanni in Laterano, 270), enjoy haute French cuisine at **L'Eau Vive** (Via Monterone, 85) or lighter fare at the brasserie **La Baguette** (Via Tomacelli, 24), nibble tapas or share *paella* with friends at **Toros y Tapas** (Via Nomentana, 79) or have a hearty meal at **Blanko** (p47), a traditional bierhaus serving Austrian specialties like goulash, onion soup, and suckling pig.

