



MORE MAPS



18 Hottest Restaurants in Los Angeles, January 2022

Where to eat right now around the City of Angels

by Matthew Kang | @matrasouille | Updated Jan 7, 2022, 2:31pm PST

Cento's classic beet spaghetti in West Adams. | [Wonho Frank Lee](#)

f t SHARE

The Eater LA heatmap has existed for more than 15 years as a place to answer the age-old question of "Where should I eat tonight?" Though the scene has gone through tremendous challenges in the past nearly two years, the city's spirit of breaking ground and exploring new cuisines continues with every month of openings.

This month, everything from a stellar new sushi counter to a pasta aficionado's studio have come to life, with a swanky Downtown Italian-American spot and a massive Hollywood property inspired by the recording industry debuting as well. It's an exciting time to explore what LA has to offer in terms of new restaurants.

Typically places on this list are less than six months old, giving a sense of what's new. For restaurants that have established themselves as one of the city's essential places to eat, check out the [Eater LA Essential 38](#). Restaurants are placed on the map in geographical order, from west to east.

Removed: Erta, Vida Modern Taqueria, Rumba Kitchen, Chef Tony

Added: Soko, Kinn, Cento, Sparrow, Grandmaster Recorders

Health experts consider dining out to be a high-risk activity for the unvaccinated; it may pose a risk for the vaccinated, especially in areas with substantial COVID transmission.

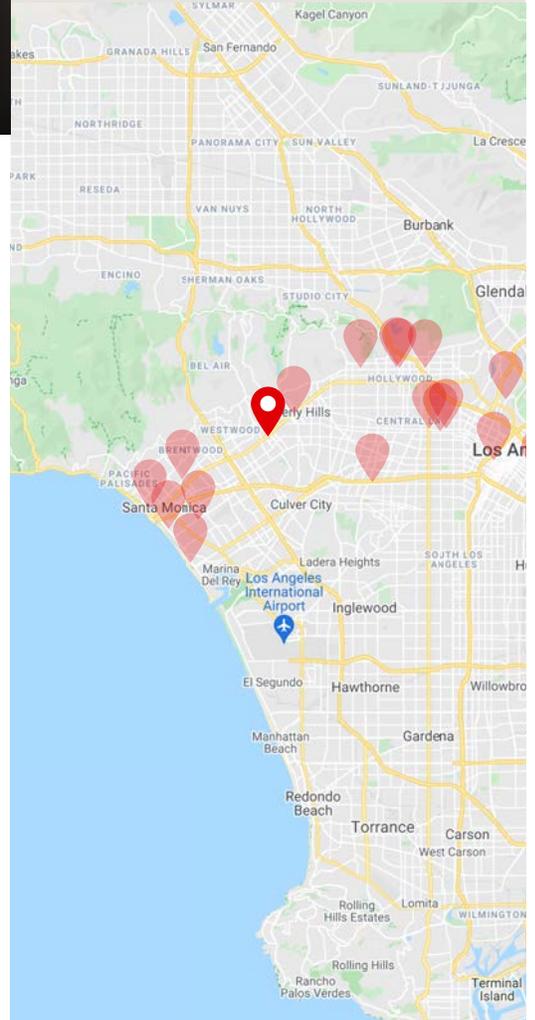
Note: Restaurants on this map are listed geographically.

1. Soko

101 Wilshire Blvd
Santa Monica, CA 90401

[Visit Website](#)

Santa Monica's Fairmont Miramar hides a little sushi alcove from one of the city's most talented chefs in Masa Shimakawa, who really loves to show off seasonal fish and especially numerous cuts of tuna from this eight seat bar (along with a few tables just outside the space). Instead of a specific omakase set, Shimakawa offers a fully a la carte menu that can be tailored to one's tastes, though cut rolls and sashimi platters are also on deck for those who don't want nigiri.





Soko at Fairmont Miramar Santa Monica. | Fairmont Miramar

[OPEN IN GOOGLE MAPS](#)

2. Cobi's



2104 Main St
Santa Monica, CA 90405

(424) 238-5195
[Visit Website](#)

Already packed to the gills in Main Street Santa Monica, Cobi's takes familiar Southeast Asian classics and puts them into a grandma-chic space that was once Dhaba. Except flavor-packed curries like beef rendang or butter chicken, as well as shareable plates like grilled branzino nestled into a yellow curry. Don't miss the excellent natural wine selections, and be sure to order Thai tea pudding for dessert.



Grilled fish at Cobi's | Katrina Frederick Studios

[OPEN IN GOOGLE MAPS](#)

ALSO FEATURED IN:

[17 Date-Worthy LA Restaurants That Are Actually Open on Monday Nights](#)

3. Fia Steak



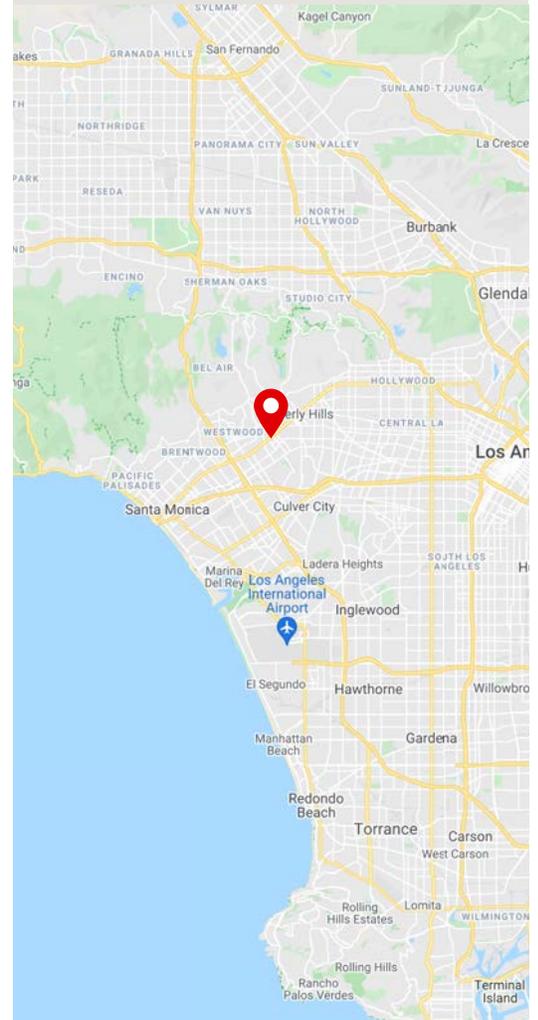
2454 Wilshire Blvd
Santa Monica, CA 90403

(424) 280-4196
[Visit Website](#)

Michael Greco and chef Brendan Collins have carved out a separate meat palace aptly called Fia Steak with an Italian approach to hulking pieces of grilled meat. The menu starts with luxe items like grand seafood towers, caviar service, and raw fish, stepping into classic steakhouse salads like wedge and baby gem caesar. Steak options included a massive costata di manzo, priced at \$12 an ounce and plenty of other dry-aged, premium cuts seared and then sliced before being presented at the table. This is the baller steakhouse Santa Monica has been waiting for.



[MORE MAPS](#) ▼



[OPEN IN GOOGLE MAPS](#)

ALSO FEATURED IN:

- [18 Feast-Worthy Steakhouses in Los Angeles](#)
- [18 Superb Santa Monica Restaurants](#)

4. Belles Beach House



24 Windward Ave
Venice, CA 90291

[Visit Website](#)

The breezy beach vibes at Belles Beach House seem timeless and already weathered thanks to heavy Tiki and Hawai'ian inspiration while Elephante chef Thomas Lim assembles a Japanese-inspired menu like sushi platters, karaage chicken nuggets, and a damn good cheese burger that appeals to the sceney Venice crowd. Prime tables are already difficult to get.



Belles Beach House in Venice | Wonho Frank Lee/Eater LA

[OPEN IN GOOGLE MAPS](#)

[FOURSQUARE](#)

ALSO FEATURED IN:

- [20 Delightful Places to Sip Cocktails Outside in LA](#)
- [14 Worthy Restaurants For a Wandering Day in Sunny Venice](#)

5. Jyan Isaac Bread



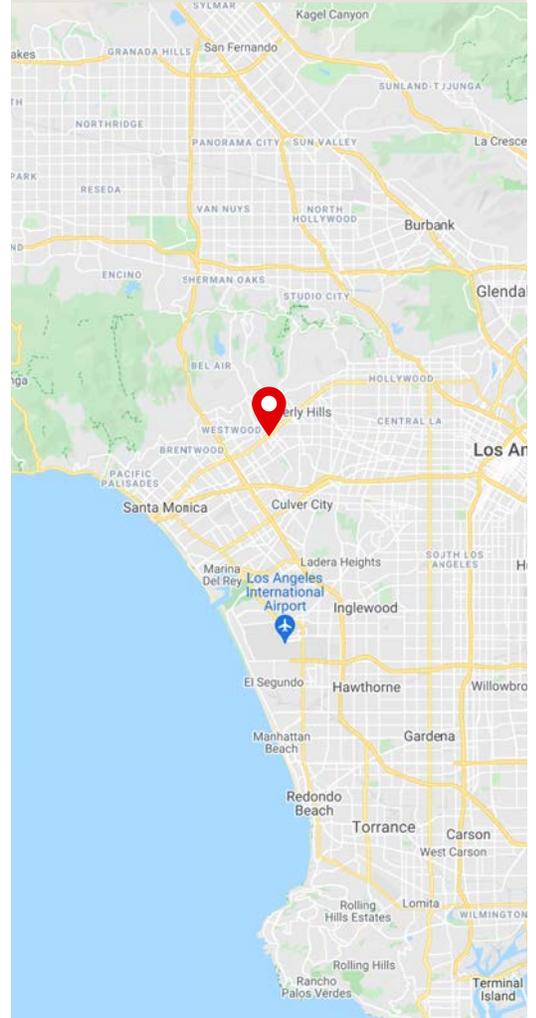
1620 Ocean Park Blvd
Santa Monica, CA 90405

[Visit Website](#)

Young but **no longer a teenager**, baker Jyan Isaac Horwitz opened his bakery to extensive lines in Santa Monica's Ocean Park neighborhood. The 20-year-old operator focuses on well-sourced flour, sourdough leavening, and a tight **menu** of other beautifully baked morning fare. Go early or else the good stuff will all be sold out.



[MORE MAPS](#) ▼



OPEN IN GOOGLE MAPS

6. Ramen Nagi



10250 Santa Monica Blvd Ste. #2850
Los Angeles, CA 90067

[Visit Website](#)

One of Tokyo's best ramen shops first descended on the Bay Area, drawing massive lines for its dense, intensely umami tonkotsu bowls. And from the moment it debuted here in Century City, the lines have formed, with ramen fans waiting their turn for spice-laden or black garlic-infused broth in a stylish, minimalist space. Nagi is already one of the LA's best new ramen shops to open in years.



Ramen Nagi in Century City. | Jakob N. Layman

OPEN IN GOOGLE MAPS

ALSO FEATURED IN:

[16 Essential Ramen Shops in Los Angeles](#)

E
Eater LA

Sign up for our newsletter.

Email (required)

By signing up, you agree to our [Privacy Notice](#) and European users agree to the data transfer policy.

SUBSCRIBE

7. Tatel Beverly Hills



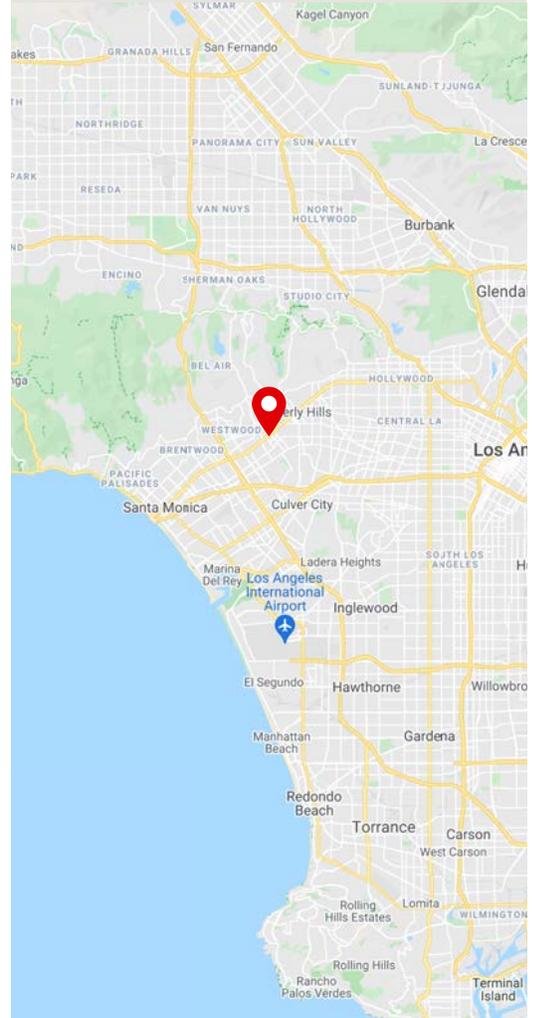
453 N Canon Dr
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

(424) 380-7902
[Visit Website](#)

LA isn't really aching for celebrity-riddled restaurants, but it's hard to think of a flashier opening in recent memory than this Spanish spot co-owned by tennis star Rafael Nadal, soccer legend Cristiano Ronaldo, and Laker hall of famer Pau Gasol. The midcentury modern-inspired decor couples well with classy jamon iberico, pan con lechon, and paella. Impromptu dancing, well-garnished cocktails, and live music add to the true party vibe of the place.



MORE MAPS





Tatel Beverly Hills | Tatel

[OPEN IN GOOGLE MAPS](#)

8. Horses



7617 Sunset Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90046

[Visit Website](#)

In a bit of a surprise turn the former Coach and Horses-turned-The Pikey has become simply Horses, a California-American restaurant with tasteful artwork, a timeless dining room, and equally timeless food. Chef Liz Johnson, who earned a James Beard chef nomination at Freedman's and then went onto to helm Catbird Seat, along with co-chef Will Aghajanian, bring an elegant touch to the menu, serving things like pork rilletes, caesar salad, veal sweetbreads, and roasted Cornish game hen with dandelion panzanella.



Dining room at Horses in Hollywood. | Wonho Frank Lee

[OPEN IN GOOGLE MAPS](#)

ALSO FEATURED IN:

- [The 21 Best Dishes Eater LA Editors Ate in 2021, Mapped](#)
- [14 Festive Options for Dining Out on New Year's Eve](#)

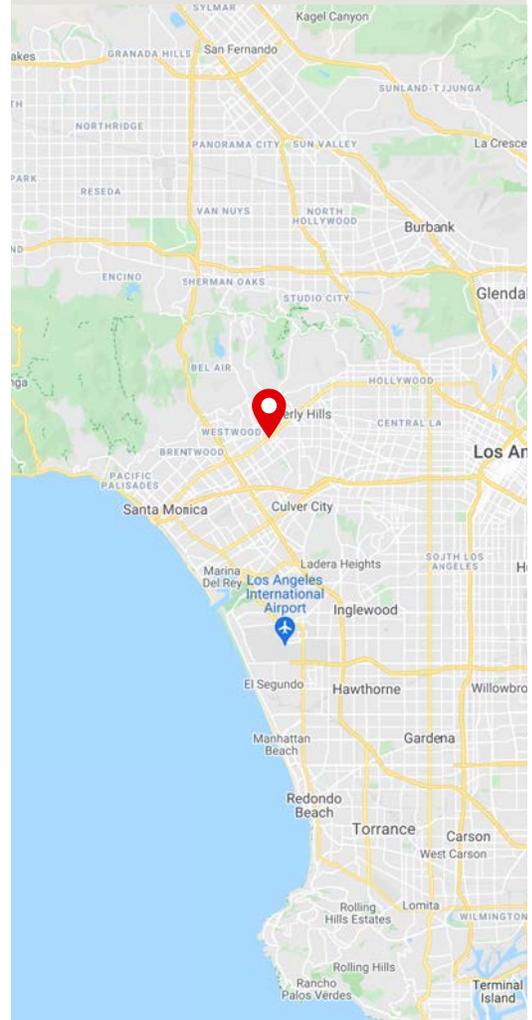
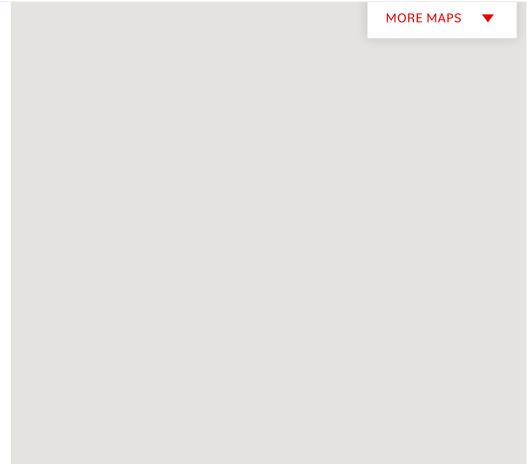
9. Cento Pasta Bar



4921 W Adams Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90016

(323) 998-0404
[Visit Website](#)

Avner Levi prepared some of the city's more daring pastas at Downtown LA's Mignon for years before finally finding a permanent spot in West Adams. This is where pasta aficionados go for beet spaghetti, uni- and burrata-topped pasta tinted with saffron, and squid ink mafaldine. Beef osso buco, grilled orata, and cedar-smoked salmon are a few of the larger plates to share after finishing the pasta courses.





Outdoor patio of Cento in West Adams. | Wonho Frank Lee

[OPEN IN GOOGLE MAPS](#)

ALSO FEATURED IN:

[19 Restaurants to Get Pasta Takeout and Delivery in Los Angeles](#)

[14 Decadent Burrata Dishes to Start Off Meals in LA](#)

10. Bar Lis



1541 Wilcox Ave
Los Angeles, CA 90028

(323) 410-6210
[Visit Website](#)

There might not be a classier rooftop venue than Bar Lis, which opened over the summer at the new Thompson Hotel in Hollywood. With sweeping views of the Hollywood hills and a sprawling lounge area, Bar Lis is more of a place for lighter fare and French-inflected cocktails (the Tuesday jazz nights are especially compelling). The bites are surprisingly good though, with blistered shishito peppers, hamachi crudo topped with shaved fennel, and a comté-topped burger highlighting the menu.



Bar Lis at the Thompson Hotel in Hollywood. | Michael Mundy

[OPEN IN GOOGLE MAPS](#)

11. Grandmaster Recorders



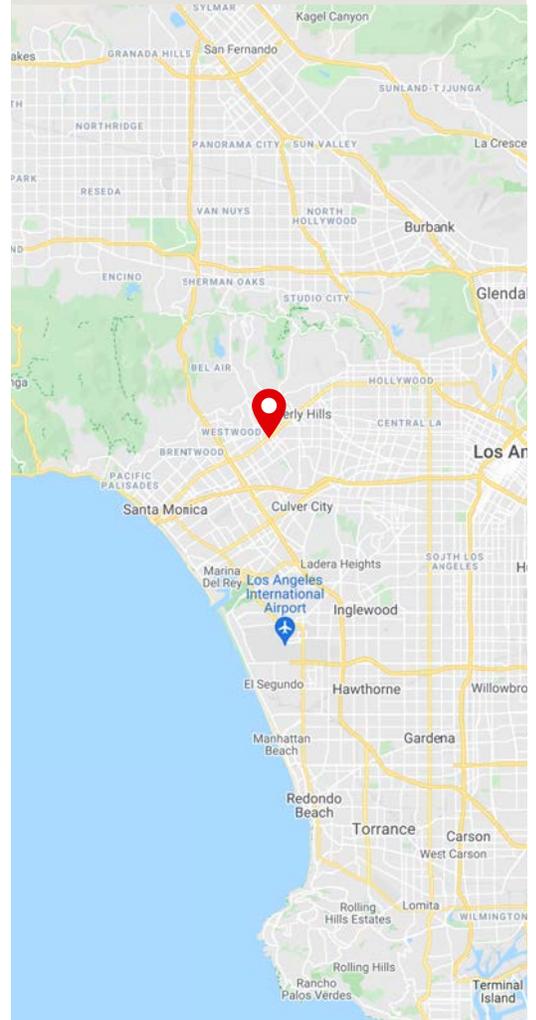
1518 N Cahuenga Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90028

(323) 963-7800
[Visit Website](#)

The folks behind E.P. and L.P., Botanical Hospitality, have finally opened their massive Hollywood restaurant Grandmaster Recorders. Start with an array of raw fish like sea urchin with orange and chives or a Baja tuna insalata with pickled permission. Venture into pastas, hearty mains like a bone-in porterhouse or a Maine lobster stew, and then finish with pastry chef Jaci Kulodrovic's music industry-inspired desserts. This 15,000 square foot, three-story lounge, bar, rooftop area, and full dining restaurant is a maximum space turned up to 11 for Hollywood's new era of dining.



MORE MAPS



Grandmaster Recorders restaurant dining room in Hollywood, California. | [Wonho Frank Lee](#)

[OPEN IN GOOGLE MAPS](#)

12. Tacos Don Manolito



5553 Sunset Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90028

(323) 366-2688
[Visit Website](#)

Popular Mexico City-style tacos a la plancha has arrived in Los Angeles from one of the Mexican capitol's top chains. Tacos Don Manolito has plancha-seared cecina, longaniza, and chicharon topped with caramelized onions and served with bright, flavorful salsas. Keep it simple or order up the specials like the vegan rajas con crema for a tasty of CDMX in Hollywood.



Tacos Don Manolito in Hollywood, CA | [Wonho Frank Lee/Eater LA](#)

[OPEN IN GOOGLE MAPS](#)

ALSO FEATURED IN:

[38 Essential Tacos to Try in Los Angeles](#)

[16 Fantastic Budget-Friendly Restaurants in Los Angeles](#)

13. Kinn



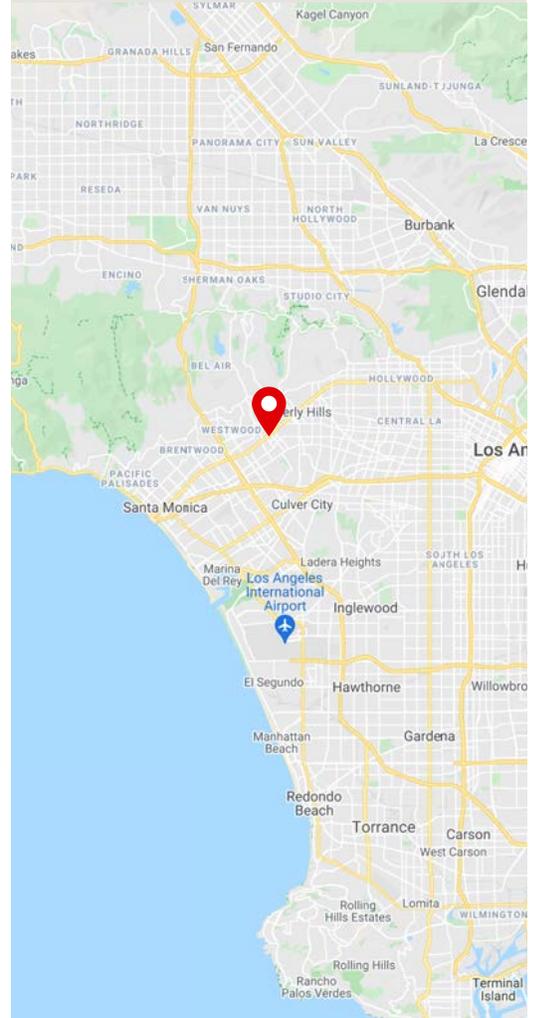
3905 W 6th St
Los Angeles, CA 90020

(213) 291-0888

Chef Ki Kim comes to LA with a long history of preparing modern Korean fare in New York City, partnering with the team behind Hanchic in this minimalist Koreatown space. To open, Kim is serving a five-course menu competitively priced around \$60 (before tax, tip, or drinks) that goes well with the fine selection of easy-drinking wines. The octopus, Norwegian mackerel, and beef tartare will have you thinking of the early days of Trois Mec or Orsa and Winston but through a Korean American lens.



[MORE MAPS](#)



14. Hot Tacos

3515 Wilshire Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90010

[Visit Website](#)

Austin's famed Veracruz All Natural has expanded to the West Coast, with Reyna and Maritza Vazquez operating out of a food truck around the Line Hotel property in Koreatown. Expect the family's signature migas breakfast tacos in flour tortillas, agua frescas, plus favorites like grilled chicken, steak, fish, cochinita pipil and vegan options.



Hot Tacos | Hot Tacos

[OPEN IN GOOGLE MAPS](#)

15. Tokki LA

3465 W 6th St Suite 90-100
Los Angeles, CA 90020

[Visit Website](#)

Koreatown has a burgeoning wave of modern Korean restaurants, and Tokki LA is one of the newest installments of the genre. Chef Sunny Jang, previously of NYC's Atomix and San Francisco's Quince, has playful but polished dishes that recall Korean drinking fare, but with sometimes luxurious ingredients like truffle and uni. That cast iron truffle kimchi fried rice and the gently sweet, slightly crisp daechang beef intestine rice bowl are already home runs.



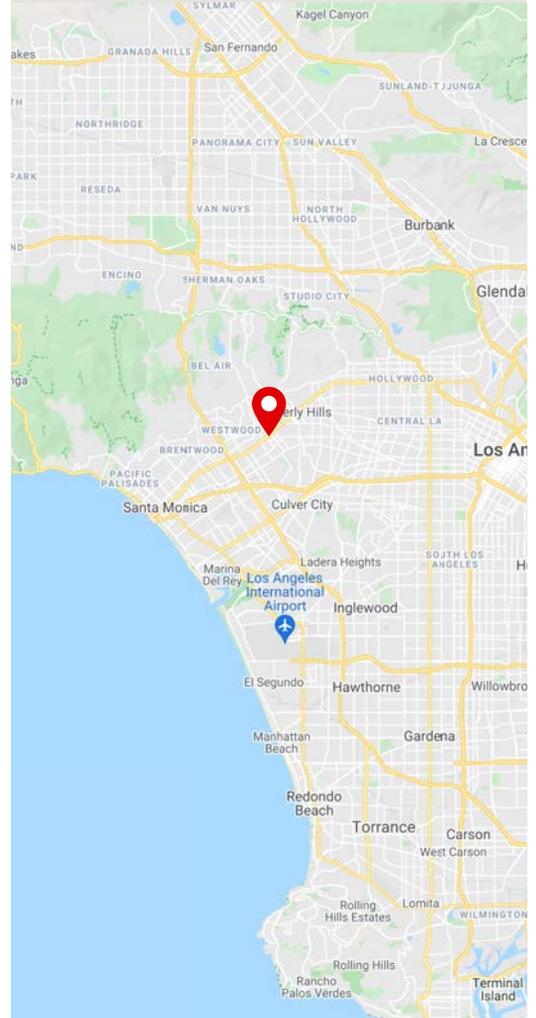
Truffle kimchi fried rice at Tokki LA | Wonho Frank Lee

[OPEN IN GOOGLE MAPS](#)

[FOURSQUARE](#)

MORE IN MAPS

[15 Brilliant LA Restaurants Changing the Way Angelenos Eat](#)



16. Sparrow



939 S Figueroa St Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90015

(213) 660-3032
[Visit Website](#)

Downtown's Hotel Figueroa has a new Italian-American restaurant with a wonderful poolside perch and semi-open dining room (plus a larger indoor seating area) serving well-made pastas, tuna tartare, and Italian-inspired mains grilled branzino that fit right in with the kind of Mediterranean fare that Angelenos love. The wide menu, friendly but professional service, and upscale digs make it an easy choice for something before a basketball game or live show at LA Live.



Blue fin tartare at Sparrow. | [sparrow](#)

[OPEN IN GOOGLE MAPS](#)

[FOURSQUARE](#)

ALSO FEATURED IN:

[The Best Cocktails to Try in Miami and Fort Lauderdale](#)
[Where to Sip Magnificent Martinis in Chicago](#)

17. Bacetti



1509 Echo Park Ave
Los Angeles, CA 90026

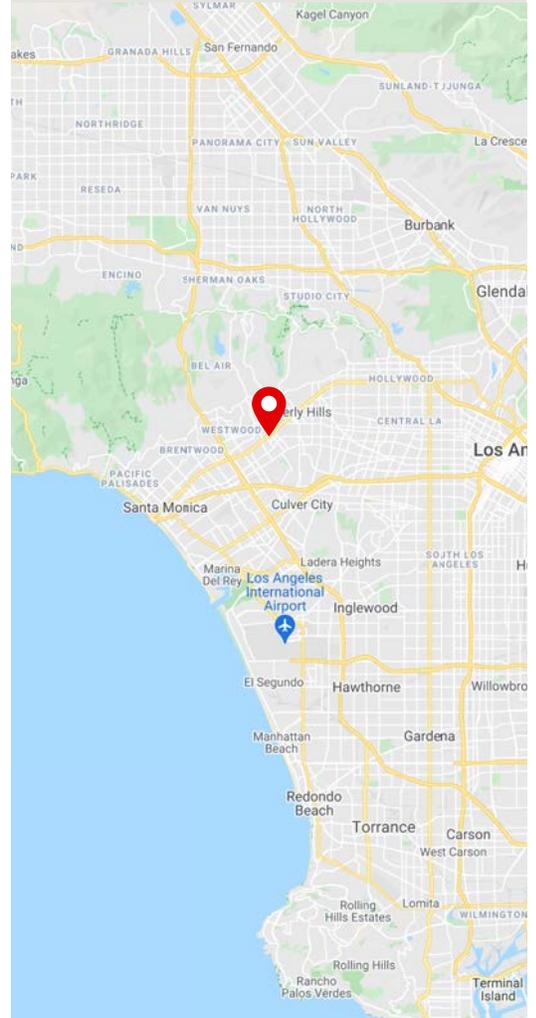
(213) 995-6090
[Visit Website](#)

Echo Park's newest Italian restaurant is already drawing accolades for its incredible design and well-executed Roman menu with pasta, grilled steaks and branzino, as well as pizzas. The arresting, well-appointed space just beckons the stylish set picking at grilled octopus with romano beans or pulling apart an olive-laden focaccia.



Dishes from Bacetti Echo Park. | [Dylan + Jeni](#)

[OPEN IN GOOGLE MAPS](#)



Link copied to the clipboard.

1850 Industrial St
Los Angeles, CA 90021

(213) 405-1434
[Visit Website](#)

Brazilian chef Rodrigo Oliveira has teased LA for years about opening a restaurant here. Now he's working with chef Victor Vasconcellos to do a modern Brazilian eatery that this city has never seen, with Oliveira's signature crispy tapioca cubes all the way to a fantastic carne de sol with dry-aged beef. Make sure to order up some seasonal caipirinhas to start.



Caboco Arts District. | Uylan + Jeni

[OPEN IN GOOGLE MAPS](#)

MORE IN MAPS

[Los Angeles's 15 Most Delectable Doughnut Shops](#)

[16 Essential Coffee Bars in Los Angeles](#)

[18 Lovely Heated Outdoor Dining Rooms in Los Angeles](#)

Loading comments...

© 2022 Vox Media, Inc. All rights reserved.

