

# *La Quinta*

## Dining Guide



THE ESTES PARK INSTITUTE

# SUGGESTED RESTAURANTS IN THE LA QUINTA AREA

By the Fellows of Estes Park Institute

Welcome to La Quinta! This list of restaurants was developed from personal experience, Internet research, and press reviews of the area's dining establishments. It is by no means a complete list of all the fine restaurants in or near La Quinta. As restaurants can change from year to year, we suggest that you reconfirm information with the concierge desk. They can assist in making dining selections and reservations.

We hope you enjoy the Estes Park Conference and your visit to the Coachella Valley!

---

---

## Dining at

### LA QUINTA RESORT & CLUB

The following restaurants are located at the La Quinta Resort & Club.  
For more information, call 760-564-4111 and ask for restaurant reservations.

#### Adobe Grill

---

Sample authentic regional Mexican cuisine passionately prepared in a colorful display, making every meal a fiesta. Enjoy table side prepared guacamole with local organic avocados, authentic moles, fresh vegetable salsas, and house made tortillas. Offering over 50 select tequilas and featuring all natural organic signature margaritas. Dine inside or on the patio overlooking the magnificent Santa Rosa Mountains and the Plaza. Dinner is served nightly, with live music Friday and Saturday.

#### Morgan's in the Desert

---

Enjoy exceptional fine dining at Morgan's in the Desert. Morgan's features contemporary American cuisine in a rustic, yet elegant, hacienda-style setting. Prepare to be treated to the bounty of the Coachella Valley and its environs with a seasonal menu that sources the best local and international products. Open nightly for dinner.

#### Twenty 6

---

Named to honor the year La Quinta Resort & Club was opened, this chic restaurant features an imaginative menu of American bistro favorites, including salads, sandwiches, and great steak and seafood dishes. Celebrated among the best Palm Springs restaurants for its vibrant atmosphere and tantalizing cuisine, Twenty 6 features indoor dining and an enchanting patio terrace. Enjoy breakfast, lunch, or dinner.

#### Centre Court Café

---

The casual and sporty setting of the Centre Court Café creates a relaxed atmosphere for lunch. It offers beautiful views of the Santa Rosa Mountains from its friendly patio. Enjoy appetizers, salads, and sandwiches while watching tennis action on Center Court from the air-conditioned dining room or the patio, abundant with beautiful flowers and under a brilliant blue sky. Centre Court Café serves lunch daily.

#### MD Burger Spot & Game Room

---

The MD Burger Spot at the Mountain and Dunes Clubhouse serves custom hamburgers with a side order of breathtaking golf course and mountain views. Soups, salads, and other American grill favorites are also featured. Lunch is served daily.

#### Ernie's Bar & Grill at PGA West

---

Ernie's Bar & Grill, located in the Tournament Clubhouse at PGA WEST, has quickly become the coolest new Palm Springs bar for sports fans. Choose from a distinct selection of beers on tap, wine, and a menu featuring local natural ingredients. Enjoy al fresco dining on the terrace, featuring cozy seating around two fire pits and fabulous views of the Stadium and Nicklaus Tournament courses. Open daily for breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

#### Wallaby's West at PGA West

---

Wallaby's West captures the spirit of the outback in a casual dining experience at the Greg Norman Clubhouse at PGA WEST. Enjoy fresh salads, sandwiches, and other light fare in the relaxed dining room or out on the patio around the fire pit. Open for breakfast and lunch daily.

To plan a private dining event in one of the hotel's banquet rooms, please contact Catering & Events at 760-777-5821.

## Arnold Palmer's Restaurant

78-164 Avenue 52  
La Quinta  
760-771-4653  
[www.arnoldpalmersrestaurant.com](http://www.arnoldpalmersrestaurant.com)

Enjoy a relaxing dinner at Arnold Palmer's Restaurant and never leave the course – there is a putting green just outside the dining room. The restaurant specializes in Palmer's favorite dishes and even features "Arnold Palmer" label wine.

### RESERVATIONS

Recommended - Online reservations available

### HOURS

Dinner: 5:00 pm - 10:00 pm, nightly

## Chez Pierre

44-250 Town Center Way  
Palm Desert  
760-346-1818  
[www.chezpierrebistro.com](http://www.chezpierrebistro.com)

Chez Pierre was voted "Best French Restaurant 2010" by readers of The Desert Sun newspaper. This romantic French Bistro features seasonal specials along with the traditional bistro dishes such as pate, onion soup, escargot, braised sweetbread, black pudding sausage, and sautéed veal kidney. The charming covered patio makes for an enjoyable setting in the spring.

### RESERVATIONS

Recommended - Online reservations available

### HOURS

5:00 pm - 9:00 pm, Tuesday thru Sunday  
Closed Monday

## Cork Tree

74-950 Country Club Drive  
Palm Desert  
760-779-0123  
[www.thecorktree.com](http://www.thecorktree.com)

This newcomer to the restaurant scene has quickly established a reputation for fine food and excellent service. Enjoy French-influenced entrees such as duck leg confit or salmon with beurre blanc. The restaurant has a chef's table and a wine table for small parties. The wine list is stellar.

### RESERVATIONS

Strongly recommended - Online reservations available

### HOURS

Lunch: 11:30 am - 2:00 pm, Monday thru Friday  
Dinner: 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm, Sunday thru Thursday  
5:00 pm - 10:00 pm, Friday and Saturday

## Cuistot

72-595 El Paseo  
Palm Desert  
760-340-1000  
[www.cuistotrestaurant.com](http://www.cuistotrestaurant.com)

Cuistot has moved to a new, much larger space just a few doors from its original El Paseo location. The restaurant now features a large patio and clubby bar area. The French cuisine is enlivened with Asian flavors and market-fresh ingredients.

### RESERVATIONS

Recommended - Online reservations available

### HOURS

Lunch: 11:30 am - 2:30 pm, Tuesday thru Saturday  
Dinner: 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm, nightly

## Desert Sage

78-085 Avenida La Fonda  
La Quinta  
760-564-8744  
[www.desertsagerestaurant.net](http://www.desertsagerestaurant.net)

On arrival, one may be put off by the noise in the bar; but, after all, people are having fun. The dining areas are relatively quiet and the courtyard provides an outdoorsy atmosphere. The menu has a wide range of dishes filled with robust flavors. Good wait staff, too.

### RESERVATIONS

Recommended - Online reservations available

### HOURS

4:00 pm - 10:00 pm, Sunday thru Thursday  
4:00 pm - 11:00 pm, Friday and Saturday

## Hog's Breath Inn La Quinta

78-065 Main Street  
La Quinta  
760-564-5556  
[www.restaurantsofpalmsprings.com/hogs.php](http://www.restaurantsofpalmsprings.com/hogs.php)

Though no longer owned by Clint Eastwood, the restaurant still carries a "Dirty Harry" themed dining room. The food is pub grub, filling and tasty.

### RESERVATIONS

Recommended - Online reservations available

### HOURS

Lunch: 11:00 am - 3:00 pm, daily  
Dinner: 4:30 pm - 9:00 pm, Sunday thru Thursday  
4:30 pm - 10:00 pm, Friday and Saturday

## Jillian's

74-155 El Paseo  
Palm Desert  
760-776-8242  
www.jilliansfinedining.com

Jillian's is one of the area's most romantic restaurants. Dine under the stars in the outdoor courtyard or in the richly decorated dining room. The menu is a mixture of Northern Italian and Southern French cuisines.

RESERVATIONS  
Required

HOURS  
5:30 pm - Close, Monday thru Saturday  
Closed Sunday



## La Brasserie Bistro and Bar

78-477 Highway 111  
La Quinta  
760-771-4400  
www.labrasserielaquinta.com

The beautiful La Brasserie is a new restaurant in La Quinta. It specializes in casual French cuisine served in a relaxed dining room. Their patio is equipped with heaters and misters so it can be open year round. The food is getting very good reviews while the service is working out some kinks.

RESERVATIONS  
Recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS  
Lunch: 11:00 am - 4:00 pm, Monday thru Saturday  
Dinner 5:00 - 10:00 pm, Monday thru Saturday  
Closed Sunday

## La Spiga Ristorante Italiano

72-557 Highway 111  
Palm Desert  
760-340-9318  
www.laspigapalmdesert.com

Appropriately, La Spiga is housed in a Tuscan-style villa. The owners wanted to provide their guests with the perfect setting for classic Italian cuisine; therefore, the building, patios, and gardens were created. The kitchen uses the highest quality ingredients and prepares everything to order.

RESERVATIONS  
Required

HOURS  
5:30 pm - 9:30 pm, Monday thru Saturday  
Closed Sunday

*One to two week wait  
for a reservation*

## Las Casuelas Quinta

78-480 Highway 111  
La Quinta  
760-777-7715  
www.lascasuelasquinta.com

Las Casuelas Quinta blends Mexican and contemporary California cuisine. It is more upscale than the usual Mexican restaurant.

RESERVATIONS  
Recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS  
10:30 am - 9:30 pm, daily

## Lavender Bistro

78-073 Calle Barcelona  
La Quinta  
760-564-5353  
www.lavenderbistro.com

The French-born chef arrived in La Quinta after working in several European and San Diego gourmet restaurants and teaching at the San Diego Culinary Institute. The patrons of Lavender enjoy the fruits of such an experienced chef.

RESERVATIONS  
Recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS  
5:30 pm - 9:00 pm, nightly

## LG's Prime Steakhouse

78-525 Highway 111  
La Quinta  
760-771-9911

[www.lgsprimesteakhouse.com/laquinta.html](http://www.lgsprimesteakhouse.com/laquinta.html)

Winner of Zagats "best steak in town" award, LG's Prime serves awesome steaks, lamb, and fresh seafood. The beef is dry aged on the premises. Service is excellent.

### RESERVATIONS

Recommended - Online reservations available

### HOURS

5:30 pm - 10:00 pm, Sunday thru Thursday  
5:30 pm - 10:30 pm, Friday and Saturday

## Morton's The Steakhouse

74-880 Country Club Drive  
Palm Desert  
760-340-6865  
[www.mortons.com/palmdesert](http://www.mortons.com/palmdesert)

The name says it all – it's the place for steak. Go to Morton's for their trademark hand-cut steaks cooked to perfection and served with large portions of salads and vegetables. Consistency is their other trademark.

### RESERVATIONS

Recommended, especially for larger parties  
Online reservations available

### HOURS

5:30 pm - 10:00 pm, Monday thru Thursday  
5:30 pm - 11:00 pm, Friday and Saturday  
5:00 pm - 10:00 pm, Sunday

## Okura Robata Grill & Sushi Bar

Point Happy Plaza  
78-370 Highway 111  
La Quinta  
760-564-5820  
[www.okurasushi.com](http://www.okurasushi.com)

Okura is the place to go for a truly interesting dining experience. The menu fuses European-Japanese cuisines in preparations of lamb with red onion wasabi oil and sea bass with water chestnuts and shiitake mushrooms. Choose the sushi bar or robata grilling for a more pure Japanese meal.

### RESERVATIONS

Recommended - Online reservations available

### HOURS

4:30 pm - 9:30 pm, Sunday thru Thursday  
4:30 pm - 10:00 pm, Friday and Saturday

## Pacifica Seafood Restaurant

73-505 El Paseo  
Palm Desert  
760-674-8666

[www.pacificaseafoodrestaurant.com](http://www.pacificaseafoodrestaurant.com)

Pacifica Restaurant of Del Mar has opened a restaurant in Palm Desert. Enjoy the freshest of seafood prepared by chefs trained at the Del Mar location.

### RESERVATIONS

Required - Online reservations available

### HOURS

11:30 am - 9:00 pm, nightly

## Ristorante Mamma Gina

73-705 El Paseo  
Palm Desert  
760-568-9898  
[www.mammagina.com](http://www.mammagina.com)

This is the American version of the Florentine original. It's almost as good. The pastas, bread, and desserts are made on the premises.

### RESERVATIONS

Strongly recommended

### HOURS

Lunch: 11:30 am - 2:00 pm, Monday thru Saturday  
Dinner: 4:30 pm - 9:30 pm, nightly

## Sam's Sushi

79-485 Highway 111  
La Quinta  
760-771-8285

Sam's Sushi gets rave reviews for its sushi and service. Enjoy creative sushi rolls as well as cooked Japanese standards. Sam's is very popular locally.

### RESERVATIONS

Recommended

### HOURS

11:00 am - 9:30 pm, Sunday thru Thursday  
11:00 am - 10:00 pm, Friday and Saturday

## Sense

73-675 Highway 111  
Palm Desert  
760-341-2900  
[www.sensepalmdesert.net](http://www.sensepalmdesert.net)

Serving a Contemporary American menu, Sense is a new restaurant near the El Paseo shopping area. The seasonal menu features local produce, natural beef and chicken, and wild seafood. It has the makings of a neighborhood gem.

RESERVATIONS  
Recommended

HOURS  
5:00 pm - Close, Tuesday thru Saturday  
Closed Sunday and Monday

## Sirocco

Renaissance Esmeralda Resort & Spa  
44-400 Indian Wells Lane  
Indian Wells  
760-773-4444, Ext. 62  
[www.renaissanceesmeralda.com/restaurants-9.html](http://www.renaissanceesmeralda.com/restaurants-9.html)

One of the top-rated Northern Italian restaurants in Coachella Valley, Sirocco uses organic produce, fresh seafood and meat to create a classic, yet creative, menu. Enjoy one of their many "made fresh daily" pastas.

RESERVATIONS  
Recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS  
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm, Sunday thru Thursday  
6:00 pm - 10:00 pm, Friday and Saturday

## Solano's Bistro

78-075 Main Street  
La Quinta  
760-771-6655  
[www.solanosbistro.com](http://www.solanosbistro.com)

This is a new location for Solano's, not too far from their previous one. Their seasonal menu usually includes a fresh seafood special along with beef short ribs, bacon-wrapped filet mignon, and rosemary chicken ravioli.

RESERVATIONS  
Strongly recommended - Online reservations available

HOURS  
5:00 pm - 9:00 pm, Monday thru Saturday  
Closed Sunday

## The Crab Pot Restaurant and Bar

78-121 Avenida La Fonda  
La Quinta  
760-564-7333  
[www.crabpotlaquinta.com](http://www.crabpotlaquinta.com)

The Crab Pot is a casual, family-style restaurant. The seafood is fresh, and daily specials may include Hawaiian ahi, Baja California sea bass, Alaskan halibut, or Northwest salmon. The Sea Feast is the restaurant's specialty. A variety of fresh fish and shellfish are steamed with corn and potatoes then poured on to a paper-covered table. A roll of paper towels accompanies the Feast!

RESERVATIONS  
For larger parties only

HOURS  
11:00 am - 9:00 pm, Sunday thru Thursday  
11:00 am - 10:00 pm, Friday and Saturday

## Trattoria Tiramisu

72-655 Highway 111  
Palm Desert  
760-773-9100  
[www.trattoriatiramisu.us](http://www.trattoriatiramisu.us)

This elegant, 14-table restaurant serves authentic Italian/Sicilian cuisine. Delight in rich pastas before indulging in the signature dessert, tiramisu, of course!

RESERVATIONS  
Strongly recommended

HOURS  
Lunch: 11:30 am - 2:00 pm, Monday thru Friday  
Dinner: 5:00 pm - 10:00 pm, nightly

## Venue Sushi Bar and Sake Lounge

73-111 El Paseo, Suite 103  
Palm Desert  
760-346-1500  
[www.thevenuepalmdesert.com](http://www.thevenuepalmdesert.com)

Enjoy endless sushi created by some of the best sushi chefs in Coachella Valley. It's one of the Gayot Guide's 2011 "Hot 10 Palm Springs Restaurants."

RESERVATIONS  
Recommended

HOURS  
5:00 pm - 9:00 pm, nightly

# ENTERTAINMENT

## Weather

---

Average Temperatures in March  
Highs in the lower 80's, lows in the mid 50's

## Golf

---

Pete Dye Mountain Course at La Quinta Resort  
760-564-5729  
[www.laquintaresort.com/golf/pete\\_dye\\_mountain\\_course](http://www.laquintaresort.com/golf/pete_dye_mountain_course)

Pete Dye Dunes Course at La Quinta Resort  
760-564-5729  
[www.laquintaresort.com/golf/pete\\_dye\\_dunes\\_course](http://www.laquintaresort.com/golf/pete_dye_dunes_course)

TPC Stadium Course at PGA West  
56-150 PGA Boulevard, La Quinta  
760-564-5729  
[www.laquintaresort.com/golf/tpc\\_stadium\\_course\\_at\\_pga\\_west](http://www.laquintaresort.com/golf/tpc_stadium_course_at_pga_west)



Jack Nicklaus Tournament Course at PGA West  
56-150 PGA Boulevard, La Quinta  
760-564-5729  
[www.laquintaresort.com/golf/jack\\_nicklaus\\_tournament\\_course\\_at\\_pga\\_west](http://www.laquintaresort.com/golf/jack_nicklaus_tournament_course_at_pga_west)

Greg Norman Course at PGA West  
81-405 Kingston Heath, La Quinta  
760-564-5729  
[www.laquintaresort.com/golf/greg\\_norman\\_course\\_at\\_pga\\_west](http://www.laquintaresort.com/golf/greg_norman_course_at_pga_west)

# ENTERTAINMENT

Oasis Country Club  
42-330 Casbah Way, Palm Desert  
760-345-2715  
[www.theoasiscountryclub.com](http://www.theoasiscountryclub.com)

Desert Willow Golf Resort  
Firecliff Course and Mountain View Course  
38-995 Desert Willow Drive, Palm Desert  
760-346-7060  
[www.desertwillow.com](http://www.desertwillow.com)

---

## Tennis

La Quinta Resort & Club features 18 hard courts and 5 Har-Tru clay courts. Ten courts are lighted for night play.  
760-564-7655  
[www.laquintaresort.com/tennis](http://www.laquintaresort.com/tennis)

---

## Spa Services

Spa La Quinta  
Spa La Quinta offers a peaceful sanctuary and therapeutic treatments. Choose from a spectrum of advanced skin care science, innovative bodywork and massage techniques, al fresco water therapies, and more.  
760-777-4800  
[www.laquintaresort.com/spa\\_wellness](http://www.laquintaresort.com/spa_wellness)

---

## Shopping

The Shops at La Quinta  
Conveniently located at the resort, The Shops at La Quinta feature an eclectic assortment of shops and boutiques showcasing a diverse range of fashions and unique gift ideas.  
[www.laquintaresort.com/activities/shopping](http://www.laquintaresort.com/activities/shopping)

El Paseo Shopping District  
Palm Desert  
The world famous El Paseo Shopping District of Palm Desert features over 300 world-class shops, clothing boutiques, art galleries, jewelers, restaurants, and more.  
[www.palm-desert.com/elpaseo](http://www.palm-desert.com/elpaseo)

## Museums & Arts

---

Palm Springs Art Museum  
101 Museum Drive, Palm Springs  
760-322-4800  
[www.psmuseum.org](http://www.psmuseum.org)

Palm Springs Air Museum  
745 North Gene Autry Trail, Palm Springs  
760-778-6262  
[www.palmspringsairmuseum.org](http://www.palmspringsairmuseum.org)

Desert Art Source  
Full-Service Art Gallery  
41801 Corporate Way, Palm Desert  
760-346-7893  
[www.desertartsource.com](http://www.desertartsource.com)

## Activities & Attractions

---

Indian Canyons  
760-323-6018  
[www.indian-canyons.com](http://www.indian-canyons.com)

Tahquitz Canyon  
500 West Mesquite Avenue, Palm Springs  
760-416-7044  
[www.tahquitzcanyon.com](http://www.tahquitzcanyon.com)

Joshua Tree National Park  
74485 National Park Drive, Twentynine Palms  
760-367-5500  
[www.nps.gov/jotr](http://www.nps.gov/jotr)

The Living Desert Zoo & Gardens  
47900 Portola Avenue, Palm Desert  
760-346-5694  
[www.livingdesert.org](http://www.livingdesert.org)

Palm Springs Aerial Tramway  
1 Tram Way, Palm Springs  
1-888-515-TRAM  
[www.pstramway.com](http://www.pstramway.com)

## ENTERTAINMENT

Historic Palm Canyon Drive  
Palm Springs  
[www.palmcanyondrive.org](http://www.palmcanyondrive.org)

Knott's Soak City Water Park  
1500 South Gene Autry Trail, Palm Springs  
760-327-0499  
[www.knotts.com/public/park/soakcity/palm\\_springs](http://www.knotts.com/public/park/soakcity/palm_springs)

Fantasy Springs Resort Casino  
84-245 Indio Springs Parkway, Indio  
800-827-2946  
[www.fantasyspringsresort.com/casino/casino.html](http://www.fantasyspringsresort.com/casino/casino.html)

For additional information, please contact  
the La Quinta Resort & Club concierge at  
760-564-4111.



**THE ESTES PARK INSTITUTE**

**ESTES PARK.ORG**

**P.O. BOX 400, ENGLEWOOD, CO 80151**

**1-800-727-8225 ■ FAX 724-548-1383**