

The 20 best diners in America

Dig into luncheonette classics like fries, burgers and milkshakes in comforting settings at the best diners in America



Photograph: Eileen Skudris

As American as American eating gets, our country's great diners fulfill a very urgent need, providing craveable comfort food at an affordable price and, often, at all hours of the night and day. Choice is the name of the game at our favorite diners: they offer a wide range of fryer and grill-top classics such as the [best French fries in America](#), the [best burgers in America](#) and the [best pies in America](#). From a classic New England railcar diner to a steadfast Brooklyn luncheonette, these are the best diners in America.



Tops Diner in East Newark, NJ

Jersey might as well be known as the Land of Diners, considering how many top-notch ones dot the state. Of all of them, Tops is a statewide legend, its shinily retro steel exterior calling in eaters like a beacon seven days a week. Serving tri-staters since 1972, Tops boasts an enormously talented kitchen staff—the food here is fresh, hot and on-point. Hits from the massive menu include a selection of excellent eggs Benedict, an indulgent meatloaf dowsed in mushroom gravy and an aptly named Fatty Melt: a hamburger snuggled between two grilled cheese sandwich “buns” and crowned with pickles and bacon.

Photograph: Courtesy Yelp/Chris E.