







Avalon recently put its first year in the books; and nobody can argue the significance this swanky mixed-use development has brought to the Alpharetta landscape, especially from a culinary standpoint.

I'm sure I speak for many when I say the powers that be at Avalon should each be handed some sort of fancy award — golden forks or, something — and never be forgotten by Alpharetta foodies when Christmas card season rolls around. Think about it, they lured Ford Fry — to the suburbs! — and landed not one, but two Charleston, SC-based Indigo Road concepts. All that while signing popular inside-the-perimeter dough-slinger Giovanni Di Palma of Antico Pizza on the dotted line.

Did I mention that this is the suburbs? Well it is, and we have compiled our sure-bet dining destinations to help you navigate your way the next time you need to get your eat on at Avalon.

BOCADO BURGER BAR

2820 Old Milton Pkwy • Alpharetta, GA 30009 • Tel: 678.248.5223

bocadoburger.com

This hopping laid-back burger joint is a spinoff of Bocado, a hip Westside eatery whose burger received so many accolades it sparked this Alpharetta outpost solely dedicated to the meaty, double-stack sandwich. But don't think typical burger joint. This fun burger shop has a little more to say about local ingredients than most; and the cocktail list is at least a tad edgier. Into craft beer? No problem, the small but eclectic brew selection should suffice the most snooty beer enthusiasts. So sit back, relax, enjoy a burger and fries — and a boozy shake — on the lazy patio watching others try their hand at bocce ball.

COLLETTA

900 3rd St • Alpharetta, GA 30009 • Tel: 678.722.8335 collettarestaurant.com

Avalon has been a highly anticipated big deal for Alpharetta that has finally come to fruition. And now that time is actually telling we are starting to see the cream rise to the top. Colletta, the latest concept by Charleston-based Indigo Road, is without a doubt among the cream. The best of the entrees is a well-executed smoky beef rib agnolotti. An appetizer of meatballs — despite the \$14 price tag — is a must try along with the octopus and buttery white beans. Sitting at the bar? Perfect. Cocktails at this sleek Italian eatery are as good as it gets at Avalon.

OAK STEAKHOUSE

950 3rd St • Alpharetta, GA 30009 • Tel: 678.722.8333 oaksteakhouseatlanta.com

Here's the beef! This handsome, wood-toned steakhouse is an offshoot of the popular Charleston, SC original run by — you guessed it — Indigo Road Hospitality Group. Get your cow on with both wet and dry-aged cuts of Certified Angus. Who says beef can't rise to the top? Aside from steak, the menu is filled with plenty of other worthy options and the kitchen sources locally whenever possible. Start with a lightly broiled, bubbly, oysters Rockefeller with Benton's bacon and a slather of hollandaise, and then move on to a heartier dish of housemade papardelle bolognese with micro basil.

ANTICO PIZZA AVALON

3185 Avalon Blvd • Alpharetta, GA 30009 • **littleitalia.com** A recreation of the notorious Westside pizzeria near Georgia Tech, this Alpharetta outpost puts out those same blistery Neapolitan style pies that turned the in-town spot into a foodie stampede. Well, it didn't take long for a similar foot-stomping herd to overrun this Avalon hot spot and they don't appear to be moving on any time soon.

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