

Susan and Dayne's Curated Chicago Restaurant List

Downtown/River North

1. Cocoro (full menu Japanese in modest trappings)
2. Avec River North, Bar Avec (rooftop with smaller menu)
3. Shaw's Crab House (40 year Chicago institution)
4. The Purple Pig (sharable plates; Cheese, Swine & Wine is their rallying cry!)
5. MingHin (Chinese dim sum and full menu/2 locations in Streeterville)
6. Eataly (food court)
7. The Gage (across from Crown Fountain in MP) <https://thegagechicago.com/frida-kahlo>
8. The Exchange (across from Art Institute)
9. Cindy's Rooftop at Chicago Athletic Association Hotel (spectacular view; near Art Institute)
10. Rick Bayless' Frontera Grill and Topolopambo
11. Li'l Babareba (Tapas)
12. Steak 48 (Steakhouse)
13. Bavette's (Steakhouse)
14. Indienne (Michelin star Indian fusion)
15. Sifr (Middle Eastern)
16. Lou Malnati's (Pasta/Pizza)
17. The Franklin Room (American tavern fare, cocktails and rare spirits)
18. Bar Mar (Jose Andres)

West Loop/Fulton Market

1. Boqueria (tapas)
2. Avec West Loop (notable Chicago restaurant for 22 yrs)
3. Aba (Mediterranean/Middle Eastern)
4. Mako (high-end omakase menu mainly Japanese)
5. Italian Homemade Pasta (order and sit Italian)
6. Pasta Veneta (Italian)
7. Fire (new tasting menu restaurant from the Alinea group and Grant Achatz)
8. Bisous (high quality cocktail bar)
9. The Publican (farmhouse fare in a European beer hall atmosphere)
10. Time Out Chicago (food court in the center of Fulton Market)
11. Gaijin (okonomiyaki)
12. Momotaro (high end Japanese steak, seafood)
13. Nobu Chicago (Japanese restaurant bar, lounge with rooftop)
14. Perilla (high end Korean barbeque-401 N. Milwaukee location)