



So Cheesy

When you walk into **Antonelli's Cheese Shop**, you are struck by the pungent scent of cheeses mingling in the air. And then your eyes take in the abundant selection. Want a mineral-tinged blue? A grassy brie? A buttery ricotta? Antonelli's has it—and the friendly owners will let you have a taste. It's not surprising that Kendall and John Antonelli ended up in the cheese business; the two had their first date sharing a steaming pot of fondue, and they ran a gourmet grilled cheese club (think dinner club but with only grilled cheese sandwiches). The husband-and-wife cheesemongers and co-owners, who opened the shop between Hyde Park Bar & Grill and Julio's in February, have trained under the best. John interned at Kerbey Lane Cafe and Hervé Mons in France, and they both took intensive classes at Murray's Cheese Shop in New York. Now they are eager to share their knowledge with Austin. In addition to cheese, Antonelli's sells chocolate, charcuterie, wine and beer and does some wholesale and catering business. The duo is constantly changing the offerings in their cheese case. "We never want customers to get bored," says Kendall. "Plus, it's an opportunity for us to try new things." *Antonelli's Cheese Shop, 4220 Duval St., 531-9610, antonellischeese.com* —TERRY N. MARTINEZ

MUSASHINO Considered by many to be Austin's finest sushi restaurant, Musashino also has among the swankiest decor in town. But the real draw here is the fish. Lunch Tue-Fri; dinner Tue-Sun. 3407 Greystone Drive, 795-8593 \$\$\$\$

PIRANHA KILLER SUSHI The Marry Me Roll, with shrimp tempura, ginger cream, avocado, tuna and strawberry, will have even sushi agnostics pledging their undying love for this downtown place. 207 San Jacinto Blvd., Ste. 202, 473-8775 \$\$\$\$

PHO SAIGON NOODLE HOUSE Enjoy the hip decor of Chinatown Center's Pho Saigon while you wait for a bowl of hot noodles or Vietnamese iced coffee. Lunch and dinner daily. 10901 N. Lamar Blvd., 821-1022 \$\$\$\$

SATAY Owner Dr. Foo Swasdee is a nationally recognized food scientist and restaurateur. The duck with red curry and the vast array of noodle dishes are favorites. Lunch and dinner daily. 3202 W. Anderson Lane, 467-6731 \$\$\$\$

SEOUL RESTAURANT & DK'S SUSHI BAR This family-owned establishment has been popular for years thanks to its well-executed Korean cuisine and fresh sushi bar offerings. For an Austin-weird experience, don't miss Monday night karaoke. Lunch and dinner Mon-Fri; dinner Sat. 6400 S. First St., Ste. C, 326-5807 \$\$\$\$

SHANGHAI RESTAURANT This place offers what many consider the best dim sum in town. A small selection is available daily for lunch, but weekends at Shanghai are the real deal, with a multitude of noodle, stir-fry and seafood dishes. Lunch and dinner daily. 6718 Middle Fiskville Road, 458-8088 \$\$\$\$

SUBSIN'S AUTHENTIC THAI FOOD This South Austin eatery goes no-frills, all-flavor with its curries and noodle dishes. Don't let the unassuming exterior dissuade you from the delicious tom kah soup. Lunch Mon-Sat, dinner daily. 5517 Manchaca Road, 462-1450 \$\$\$

SUSHI SAKE Delicious udon soup and piping-hot chicken yakitori might bring you in the

first time, but the great sushi will keep you coming back. Lunch Mon-Fri, dinner daily. 9503 Research Blvd., Ste. 500, 527-0888 \$\$\$

SUSHI ZUSHI The all-things-Japanese chain from San Antonio will please any diner, whether they're down with raw or not. Sample delicious sushi rolls or comfort food like chicken katsu curry. Don't miss the extensive sake menu. Lunch and dinner daily. 1611 W. Fifth St., 474-7000 \$\$\$

SUZI'S CHINA GRILL Suzi's grilled items are all very good, especially the shrimp with basil and lemongrass. And be sure to try the sesame chicken, which has just the right kick. Lunch and dinner daily (dinner only on Sat). 7858 Shoal Creek Blvd., 302-4600; 1152 S. Lamar Blvd., 441-8400; 2745 Bee Cave Road, 347-7077, suzischinagrill.com \$\$\$\$

TC NOODLE HOUSE TC's offers a mind-boggling array of egg, rice and lo mein noodles cooked in a variety of Chinese and Vietnamese dishes. The menu features interesting appetizers including xiu mai and barbecue pork buns. Lunch and dinner daily. 10901 N. Lamar Blvd., Ste. B-203, 873-8235 \$\$\$\$

T & S SEAFOOD CHINESE RESTAURANT

If you're ready for fresh fish, order the tilapia, live from the tank. The salt and pepper shrimp is a favorite among local chefs, who frequent this unassuming hideaway. Lunch and dinner daily. 10014 N. Lamar Blvd., 339-8434 \$\$\$\$

THAI FRESH This deli-style restaurant is not just a great place to eat, but a specialty market and a cooking school. Get one dish or sample a few with two- and three-item plates, all of which can be had for less than \$10. Open daily. 909 W. Mary St., Ste. B, 494-6436 \$\$\$\$

THAI PASSION You'll find a mix of elegant dishes at this establishment, including koong pla (grilled shrimp and onion with a lemongrass, lime and Thai pepper sauce) and the tom-yum soup. Lunch and dinner daily. Downtown, 472-1244; South Austin, 382-0057 \$\$\$\$

TOMODACHI SUSHI An unassuming Parmer Lane strip mall provides the unlikely location for one of Austin's most stylish and delicious sushi joints. Both modern and traditional sushi is offered. The "Ex-Girlfriend" roll is a favorite. Lunch and dinner Mon-Sat. 4101 W. Parmer Lane, Ste. E, 821-9472 \$\$\$\$

UCHI Celebrity Chef Tyson Cole and his crew have drawn national accolades for their artistic dishes, such as the maguro sashimi with goat cheese and the hot rock wagyu beef with ponzu sauce. Uchi is all about great food in a fabulous setting. Dinner Mon-Sun. 801 S. Lamar Blvd., 916-4808 \$\$\$\$

ZEN JAPANESE FOOD FAST Zen's great service and delicious dishes will keep you coming back for more. The sushi is fast, affordable and ready to go. Rice bowls are healthful and satisfying. Lunch and dinner daily. Anderson Lane, South Congress, The Drag, Brodie Lane, eatzen.com \$\$\$

BAKERIES/ COFFEEHOUSES

A TRIP TO BOUNTIFUL Embracing the comfort-food tradition, owner Becky Nichols has created a timeless menu with modern twists, such as the fried green tomato, Swiss, cheddar and bacon panini. There are daily blue-plate specials, as well. Breakfast and lunch Mon-Sat. 3201 Bee Caves Road, Ste. 106, 328-7100; 13011 Shops Pkwy., Ste. 600, 402-0043 \$\$\$