

1 1/2 miles south -
1/2 block past
Howard St.



Evanston-area Lunch Spots

Where to go within walking distance after the Saturday Farmer's Market and before Dinner - note that this is a personal, incomplete, possibly quirky list - it avoids chains and other places I consider uninteresting, and also doesn't include places that may be excellent and fascinating, but aren't open for lunch on Saturday.



[Evanston Farmers' Market](#)

Where it begins



[Immanuel Lutheran Church](#)

Dinner!



[Wiener and Still Champion](#)

Outstanding Chicago-style hot dogs, top-quality hamburgers, plus creative options, like the falafel burger, freshly-made, hand-dipped corn dog, fried pickles, and country-fried bacon. Known for having some of the best French Fries in the Chicago area, with a wide variety of dipping sauces for them. Quite possibly, this unassuming spot could be your most surprisingly interesting lunch spot, if you appreciate independently-owned fast food restaurants.

Full disclosure - the owner is a friend of mine (no financial relationship). But that doesn't change the fact that this plain-looking joint has won awards for its food. Don't go for the decor.



[Cozy Noodles and Rice](#)

Inexpensive Thai food in a fun, toy-filled atmosphere.



[Tommy Nevin's Pub](#)

Irish Pub, good fish & chips, great for Sunday late afternoon Irish music jam.



[Prairie Moon](#)

Tavern with good beer, regional American food, and nice enclosed outdoor patio where you can hear the El trains rumble by.



[Life Vegan](#)

The name says it all



[Ruby of Siam](#)

Well-regarded Thai food



[Carmen's Pizza](#)

Longstanding place for deep dish and other pizza styles



[Evanston Chicken Shack](#)

Possibly some of the best traditional fried chicken you'll find anywhere. KFC it ain't.



[Thai Sookdee](#)

Possibly the nicest Thai restaurant in the area, well-regarded by some.



[That Little Mexican Café](#)

Tablesideside guacamole preparation, with all the typical Mexican standards done well.



[Olive Mountain](#)

Excellent, inexpensive Middle Eastern food in a nice atmosphere



[Celtic Knot](#)

Irish Pub, known for particularly good food



[Mt. Everest](#)

Northern Indian and Nepalese cuisine with a nice ~~middle~~ buffet



[Blind Faith Café](#)

Slightly upscale vegetarian fare



[Bat 17](#)

Pub, deli - they try to do it all, using fresh and often locally-sourced ingredients. Some consider it a bit pricey. Full bar.



[Deta's Café](#)

If you're walking, it's a bit of a hike. But in case you don't have a grandmother from Montenegro, stop in this tiny place and you'll feel like you do, almost as if you're eating in Deta's home. Be sure to request a burek.



[Hecky's BBQ](#)

Not the Chicago-area's best BBQ, but the tips, links, and fried chicken are good. Mostly take-out, but if you're a big enough group, you can ask to be seated in the secret dining room, two doors down the street.



[Merle's](#)

BBQ and more, in a honky-tonk atmosphere



[Trattoria Demi](#)

Decent Italian with a nice sidewalk space.



[Unicorn Café](#)

Laid-back independent coffee shop with good bakery items



[Lucky Platter](#)

Retro-funky restaurant with diverse menu



[Cross-Rhodes](#)

Popular Greek restaurant known for its gyros and fries



[Dixie Kitchen](#)

New Orleans-inspired food, fun atmosphere



[Phoenix Inn](#)

Very old Amer-Chinese spot, dating back to the 1920s when Chinese food was hot and trendy. Not so much now.



[Pine Yard](#)

Good option for Chinese food.



[Gio](#)

Slightly upscale Italian - some love it, some are less impressed



[Tapas Barcelona](#)

A nice outdoor patio is a good site for interesting, competent small bites



[Ethel's Chocolate Lounge](#)

















A retail concept from M&M Mars, with chocolates and other treats available to eat in-store
















[Pita Pete's](#)

Mediterranean-based fast food

Evanston Area Lunch Spots - 2

-  [Siam Pasta](#)
Good Thai food with a very nice outdoor rooftop seating area
-  [Noodle Garden](#)
Thai that focuses on various noodle-based dishes
-  [Dream About Tea](#)
A traditional Chinese teahouse
-  [Lulu's Dim Sum and Then Some](#)
Pan-Asian, not completely authentic, but always tasty
-  [Cafe Mud](#)
Yet another independent coffeeshop for Northwestern students and others
-  [Addis Abbeba](#)
Nice Ethiopian food - try the tej
-  [Wild Dogz](#)
The name is a reference to Northwestern's sports team, the Wildcats. Basic hot dog stand
-  [Kuni's](#)
Traditional sushi - not a lot of fancy maki rolls with mayonaise. Kuni-san is a true master of the craft.
-  [Blu](#)
Upscale sushi in the Orrington Hotel
-  [Big Ka Hoo Na Hawaiian BBQ](#)
New, casual Hawaiian restaurant
-  [Clarke's Pancake House and Restaurant](#)
Good breakfast fare and diner food.
-  [Davis Street Fishmarket](#)
Fresh fish and raw bar in a nautical atmosphere
-  [Dozika](#)
Casual Pan-Asian with good sushi bar
-  [Joy Yee's Noodles](#)
Casual outpost of a popular Chinatown restaurant, known also for bubble teas
-  [Koi](#)
Chinese and sushi in a nice atmosphere
-  [Lupita's](#)
Creative Mexican

-  [JK Sweets](#)
Looking like a baked goods and ice cream shop, it also features Korean and some Japanese food
-  [Trattoria D.O.C.](#)
Thin crust pizza from a wood-burning oven, with other Italian classics
-  [Omaggio](#)
Nice Italian dining on one side, more casual deli-style on the other
-  [Sabai](#)
Thai in a nice, bright room
-  [Pomegranate](#)
Cheap Middle Eastern fast food with sit-down space
-  [Sashimi Sashimi](#)
Fresh sushi to go
-  [Gigio's](#)
New York Style pizza by the slice
-  [Café Mozart](#)
Coffee, ice cream and pastries
-  [Cafe Express](#)
Coffee and pastries, especially for those going to or coming from the Dempster St. El station
-  [Zoba, The Noodle Bar](#)
New Pan-Asian, featuring house-made noodles, made fresh daily
-  [Wild Tree Café](#)
Organic breakfast and lunch place with free WiFi
-  [Buffalo Joe's](#)
Fast food - known for wings
-  [Reverence Café](#)
Off-beat, mostly organic spot in an off-beat location close to the Evanston Farmers' Market. Just added respected Italian chef Donatella Majore.