Dining in Iowa City

Listed below are Ryan’s recommended local restaurants. There are many other local and chain options which you will find by walking around or browsing www.yelp.com. The names are mostly self-explanatory, and I believe all these places have legitimate vegetarian options (i.e. not just fries). I’m always happy to answer questions or further discuss your food options!

Remark 1. All below are within 2-3 blocks of the conference site unless otherwise noted.
Remark 2. Some places may be closed for lunch or dinner certain days. I can’t include hours for every restaurant here, but I tried to note such closures for the further away ones, at least. You may want to check their website before traveling to a further one.

Counter or Self Service

These are the most casual options, and will be easiest for groups of more than 4.

- **Mesa Pizza** $ slices with all sorts of crazy toppings (114 E Washington St)
- **Dumpling Darling** $ dumplings in a variety of international styles (closed Sunday, 213 Iowa Ave)
- **Nodo Downtown** $ elaborate sandwiches and wraps (5 S Dubuque St)
- **Mama’s Deli** $ sandwiches and soups (Sat. lunch only, closed Sunday, 125 E Washington St)
- **Z’Marik’s noodle cafe** $ mostly noodle and rice dishes (19 S Dubuque St)
- **Bread Garden Market** $ large variety self-serve hot bar and salad bar, pay by weight (225 S Linn St in the ped mall)
- **Heirloom Salad** $ massive salads, also soups and sandwiches (211 E Washington St)
- **The Encounter cafe** $ Breakfast/sandwich+salad+coffee place owned and operated by Mennonites (lunch only, closed Sunday, 376 S Clinton St, 0.4 miles)
- **Oasis Falafel** $ Great variety of Mediterranean foods (206 N Linn St, 0.5 miles)
- **Big Grove Brewery and Restaurant** $$-$-$ Very ample seating, good for large groups, diverse food options. Fire pits outside and a variety of games inside. Beers made on site (no lunch Monday, 1225 S Gilbert St, 1.2 miles)
- **La Regia taquería** $ this is Ryan’s favorite but you need a car (closed Monday, 436 Highway 1, 1.4 miles)
- **Local Burrito** $ fresh, local ingredients (food truck with varying location and hours)
- **Island Vybz Rasta-rant** $ Jamaican food (food truck with varying location and hours)

Table Service

- **The Dandy Lion** $$ Breakfast and lunch with cocktails/coffee later in the day (111 S Dubuque St)
- **Clinton Street Social Club** $$ Gastropub with speakeasy feel and creative cocktails (18 1/2 S Clinton St, easy to miss: the entrance is a small door then go up steep stairs)
- **Short’s Burger and Shine** $$ variety of fun burgers and craft beers (18 S Clinton St)
- **Basta** $$ Italian (121 Iowa Ave)
- **Masala** $$ casual Indian (9 S Dubuque St)
- **India Cafe** $$ casual Indian (227 E Washington St)
Pullman $$ Higher quality Midwest diner food with craft cocktails and beer. *(This place can be very loud inside, 17 S Dubuque St)*

One Twenty Six $$-$$$ Bistro serving organic, locally sourced French-American fare in a candlelit brick-walled setting *(126 E Washington St)*

Osaka $$-$$ Japanese *(122 E Washington St)*

Takanami $$ Japanese *(219 Iowa Ave)*

Forbidden Planet $$-$$$ creative pizzas, cocktails, and arcade games *(111 S Dubuque St on the ped mall)*

Baroncini $$$ higher level Italian *(104 S Linn St)*

Devotay $$-$$$ classic & inventive Mediterranean small plates plus cocktails & wine *(0.5 miles, 117 N Linn St)*

Brix Wine bar $$ charcuterie, sandwiches, salads, and snack, no big entrees *(0.5 miles, 209 N Linn St)*

Sanctuary $$-$$ very quiet and relaxed with OK food but excellently curated beer selection. Some seating for larger groups. *(0.6 miles, 405 S Gilbert St)*

Mosley’s BBQ $$ *(Not great vegetarian options, 0.7 miles, 525 S Gilbert St)*

Orchard Green $$$ This is the best restaurant in the area *(0.7 miles, 521 S. Gilbert Street)*

Coffee/Dessert

Yotopia. We have surprisingly many frozen yogurt places, I guess it’s not cold enough outside for some people. This one is locally owned *(132 S Clinton St)*

Molly’s cupcakes. People love fancy cupcakes nowadays *(14 S Clinton St)*

Cortado. New coffee place, I haven’t been there but it is the closest to the conference site and looks nice through the window *(26 S Clinton St)*

Java House. Classic IC coffee joint, second closest to department now *(211 E Washington St)*

Prairie Lights Cafe. The coffee bar is upstairs. The bookstore is quite well known among people that are really good at reading *(15 S Dubuque St)*

High Ground. My favorite, which is why the conference provided coffee comes from here. They have a ton of other pour-over options in store. Not quick but worth the wait! Especially if you’re on your way back from Oasis...*(0.5 miles, 301 E Market St)*