

EVERYTHING

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SHOP BOUTIQUES • TOP RESTAURANTS • NEIGHBORHOODS

YOU EVER WANTED

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TO KNOW

SARASOTA
ANNA MARIA
LONGBOAT
BRADENTON
LAKEWOOD
RANCH
SIESTA KEY
VENICE
DOWNTOWN



FEATURING GUIDES TO SHOPPING, BEACHES AND PARKS PLUS THE HISTORY OF THE AREA

SRQ ACCESS™
THE IN-ROOM DESTINATION GUIDE



MACADAMIA CRUNCH, SIGN OF THE MERMAID / MANGO FREEZE, BLUE DOLPHIN CAFÉ



Must Do #13 *Happy Hour at SKOB* from 3pm-6pm features live music and drink specials—not to mention an always-jovial, after-beach crowd. **5238 Ocean Blvd., Siesta Key, 941-346-5443.**

BRUNCH & BREAKFAST

It is said that breakfast is the most important meal of the day. Luckily for visitors, Sarasota boasts a group of beloved breakfast joints that help to make the idea of facing a long day of mental repose altogether bearable.

Diners take note: Early risers are rewarded in Sarasota, especially on the weekends, as breakfast tends to be one of the more popular occasions to dine out, which can cause mega waits. We guarantee, however, that any wait under an hour for the following hot spots is entirely worth it.

New York natives Tom and Kay Kouvatso have owned the Village Café on Siesta Key since 1995. In that time, the couple has welcomed a healthy mix of local regulars and out-of-towners with their menu of fresh, healthy offerings. Kouvatso substitutes grilled chicken for dishes, such as gyros, that call for less healthful meats. But the main difference when it comes to breakfast in Sarasota is, you guessed it, the mentality. “People come in bathing suit tops and bare feet,” says Kouvatso. “They’re laid back, they take the time to enjoy themselves.”

In its new location on Siesta Key, The Broken Egg restaurant has become a great place to catch a glimpse of local celebrities while indulging in some of the area’s best omelettes.

For those looking to pepper their morning with a walk on the snazzy side, a few local eateries offer jaw-dropping prix fixe gourmet brunches. The Ritz-Carlton, Sarasota and the Colony Beach & Tennis Resort lead the fancy-schmancy brunch brigade with their multi-stationed approach to gourmandizing Sunday-morning bliss.

Blue Dolphin Café When it comes to Sarasota restaurateurs, nobody brings more unbridled passion and fun-loving sensibility to brunch than owner Rob Ball. More than a chef and restaurateur, Ball is a brunch scholar, versed in all things delicious that may be consumed on the weekends between the hours of 7am and 3pm. **SERVES BREAKFAST AND LUNCH DAILY. 5370 GULF OF MEXICO DR., LONGBOAT KEY, 941-383-3787. \$**

Broken Egg A favorite of local celebrities and vacationers, the Broken Egg serves brunch favorites daily. As the name suggests, Broken Egg offers plenty of savory omelet and fritula options. Be sure to check their specials board for cleverly-named soups, sandwiches and omelettes. Ask for your corned beef hash crispy and you’ll want seconds. **OPEN FOR BREAKFAST AND LUNCH DAILY FROM 7:30AM TO 2:30PM. 140 AVENIDA MESSINA, SIESTA KEY, 941-346-2750. 6115 EXCHANGE WAY, LAKEWOOD RANCH, 941-388-6898. \$**

Buddha Belly Donuts This delightful little bakery specializes in pastries of a “holey” persuasion. The Willy Wonkas of doughnuts, owners Bill and Laura Thompson have inspired a following with Sarasota locals for continually demonstrating their creativity. The cookies and cream doughnuts and the show-stopping split yeast doughnuts—filled with apple pie filling, glazed with white icing and topped with warm, gooey streusel—are heavenly. Two different vegan doughnuts are on the menu everyday, so there is literally something for everyone. Each batch is cooked fresh, offering the perfect treat for any sweet tooth. **1990 MAIN ST., SARASOTA, 941-952-0700. SUNDAY THROUGH WEDNESDAY, 7AM-3PM, THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY 7AM-8PM. \$**

Island Creperie Tiny restaurant. Long lines. If you’re lucky enough to get a table at this Bradenton Beach mainstay, you’ll enjoy some of the most authentic crepes Florida has to offer from French chef Oliver Rose. **OPEN FOR BREAKFAST AND LUNCH DAILY FROM 8:30AM TO 2PM AND DINNER MONDAY-SATURDAY FROM 5:30PM-9PM. RESERVATIONS RECOMMENDED FOR DINNER. OPEN 365 DAYS A YEAR. 127 BRIDGE ST., BRADENTON BEACH, 941-778-1011. \$\$**

Sierra Station The local’s favorite for their all-day breakfast, Sierra Station is a perfect treat for a sunny outdoor meal. **SERVES BREAKFAST AND LUNCH DAILY. SIERRA STATION CAFÉ, 400 N. LEMON AVE., SARASOTA, 941-906-1400. \$**

Word of Mouth Diners are known to come for Word of Mouth’s breakfast alone, which features several varieties of pancakes, blintzes, crepes and the awe-inspiring Three Amigos Breakfast Burrito. The lunch menu serves a variety of yummy soups, sandwiches and salads. **OPEN FOR BREAKFAST AND LUNCH. DINNER SERVED AT THE OSPREY AVENUE LOCATION, 6604 GATEWAY AVE., SARASOTA, 941-925-2100; 3981 CATTLEMEN RD., SARASOTA, 941-377-0239; 711 S. OSPREY AVE., SARASOTA, 941-365-1800. \$**