Restaurants and bars in Colorado are non-smoking.
L = Close to LASP
P = On or close to Pearl Street Mall (Pearl Street Mall, at the center of Boulder’s historic shopping and business district, is a beautifully landscaped, four-block pedestrian mall with many restaurants, shops, and street performers.)
U = Whether the food is great or not, the experience is unique
* Laura’s favorites (she used to go on restaurant reviews with the Rocky Mountain News.)

AMERICAN/NEW AMERICAN/BISTRO

Arcana
909 Walnut St. (303) 444-3885
Highly regarded, Arana prides themselves in ingredients that honor our regionality. Lunch 11:30-2:30 Tue – Sun, Dinner 5-10 Tue – Sat and 5-9 Sun. They don’t accept reservations.

Blackbelly (and Blackbelly Market)
1606 Conestoga St., Ste. 3 – (Just west of Arapahoe & 55th) (303) 247-1000
Owned by Top Chef winner and well-known Boulder chef, Hosea Rosenberg, Blackbelly has an open kitchen with counter seating, as well as tables. The menu will is an *ever-changing, seasonal, farm-to-table roster that depending on what they are pulling from the earth and meats that were cutting on any particular day. 4:00 – 10:00pm and reservations are a must and can be hard to come by. (Grab and go breakfast and lunch available from the market next door 7:11am – 1:30pm)

Black Cat
1964 13th St., (303) 444-5500
Farm to table bistro. They serve inspired, organic cuisine based on the just-picked produce from their own 130 acre farm. By day, Chef-Farmer Eric Skokan cares for the vegetables out in his fields. Each evening finds him in the kitchen crafting dishes on his daily changing menu. A lovely, cozy atmosphere too. Great romantic spot. Open every night 5:30 to close. Reservations highly recommended.

Chautauqua Dining Hall
900 Baseline Rd, (303) 440-3776
At the Colorado Chautauqua which includes an 1100-seat auditorium for concerts, an academic hall, cottages, and the trailheads of many of Boulder’s most popular trails. Chautauqua Dining Hall is a grand lady in architectural and culinary terms. They serve breakfast, lunch, and dinner year-round. Chautauqua Dining Hall’s menu promotes seasonality and simplicity because superior flavor begins at the farm. They are well known for their patio brunches, overlooking the park. Hours vary through the year, but generally they are closed Monday, have brunch on the weekends and are open for dinner all year round. Reservations recommended.

Corrida
1023 Walnut Street #400, 303-444-1333
You definitely need reservations for this new, hot rooftop restaurant, bar and deck with killer views of the Flatirons. Before opening in 2018, it already had national press for their table-side gin and tonics and their Spanish-influenced cuisine and steaks. 5:30-10pm Sun- Thurs. 5:30-10:30pm Fri and Sat. Take elevator to 4th floor.

Jill’s Restaurant (in the Hotel St. Julien)
900 Walnut Street, (720) 406-9696
Jill’s is a modern bistro that encourages sustainable, organic farming practices and highlights contemporary American cuisine prepared with a French accent. Jill’s serves breakfast, lunch and dinner every day.

The Kitchen
1039 Pearl Street, 303-544-5973
As Boulder’s neighborhood bistro, the Kitchen's goal is to bring a fresh perspective on ingredients, preparation and guest comfort. The Kitchen carefully manages the sources of ingredients to ensure only the best quality. Wherever possible, they stay organic, natural and local to make the dishes straightforward and uncomplicated. From simple dishes like seared sea scallops with pea puree in the spring, to a lamb cassoulet in the winter. They also have an upstairs wine and tapas lounge with one of the only fireplaces in town, comfy couches and a warm atmosphere. Breakfast 8am-11am, Lunch 11:30am-2pm, Afternoon Menu 2pm-5pm, Dinner 5:30pm-close, Saturday and Sunday: Brunch 9am-2pm Dinner 5pm-close. Wine lounge Tues-Sat 4pm – midnight. Reservations recommended.
*Oak at Fourteenth
1400 Pearl Street, (303)-444-3622
Melding elements of Colorado’s rustic backdrop with Boulder’s hip and contemporary dining scene, it is a neighborhood restaurant featuring local and seasonal New American Cuisine focused around their one-of-a-kind, oak-fired oven and grill. Weekdays: 11am-10pm (Closed Mondays) Weekends: 10:30 -10pm.

Riff’s Urban Fare
1115 Pearl St. (303) 440-6699
A Boulder foodbar featuring moderately priced, liberal appetizer portions of chef John Platt’s artfully prepared diverse cuisine.

Salt
1047 Pearl Street, (303) 444-7258
Salt’s philosophy is that the best food travels the shortest distance from farm to table, menus should change with the seasons and locally sourced ingredients, combined with European technique and innovative thinking make for a truly remarkable experience. A comfortable blend of neighborhood and fun. Open every day, lunch and dinner. Reservations recommended.

Spruce (Farm & Fish) In the Hotel Boulderado
2115 13th Street 303-442-4880
Simple, fresh and natural using the highest quality ingredients from local farmers, artisans and ranchers in Colorado, when available. Breakfast Monday-Friday from 6:30am - 11am, Lunch from 11:00am - 2pm., Saturday and Sunday Brunch from 7am-2pm, Daily for Dinner from 5:00pm-10pm. Reservations recommended.

Steakhouse No. 316
1922 13th St. 720-729-1922
This very expensive, special occasion, traditional steak restaurant (out of Aspen) has been getting great reviews.

West Flanders Brewing
1125 Pearl Street, 303-447-2739
A brewery with pretty good pub food. If you can, sit upstairs in the glass room overlooking the Pearl Street Mall.

ASIAN
Chimera
2014 10th St. 720-835-2323
Just opened in April 2018, this is owned by the same people who own Zoe Ma Ma, which is a well-loved, authentic street food spot. So far Chimera is getting great reviews.

Spice China
269 McCaslin Blvd Louisville, 720-890-0999
Although this isn’t in Boulder it’s one quick exit down Foothills Parkway. Authentic, consistently delicious cuisine of two different types— their house recipes and original Shanghai dishes. Sushi too. Large menu, spacious and nice atmosphere. Some of the best Chinese in the area. Open every day lunch and dinner.

FRENCH/CONTINENTAL
Brasserie Ten Ten
1010 Walnut St., 303-998-1010
A popular dining and bar spot. Nice happy hour appetizers. Dishes include: Creamy goat cheese bisque, white-chocolate pistachio mousse, fresh mussels simmering in white wine broth, covered in pommes frites; crispy oysters Rockefeller, smooth ahi tartare with garlicky olive tapenade. New York strip glazed in sweet balsamic vinegar, seared sea scallops with a touch of lavender and orange, and tender rosemary-crusted chicken straight from the brick oven. Mon-Fri 11am-3pm, 5pm-11pm, Sat 5pm-11pm.

*The Flagstaff House
1138 Flagstaff Drive, 442-4640
Boulder’s most impressive, and though of as most expensive, restaurant. Up the mountain, with breathtaking views of the city. Fantastic European-inspired food, and amazing service. This is THE special occasion restaurant in Boulder. Or, go in the summer for aps and drinks on the patio. 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday through Friday, and opens at 5 p.m. on Saturday. Reservations highly recommended. They do have a dress code and the
following is not acceptable: shorts, t-shirts, athletic attire, tank tops, sweatsuits or jogging suits, ripped, torn or frayed clothing. Mon-Fri 11am-3pm; Sun-Thu 5pm-9pm; Fri-Sat 5pm-10pm.

L'Atelier
1739 Pearl St, 303-442-7233
Popular Denver-area Chef Radek Cerny's latest restaurant fills the house with laughing, talking diners and clanking silver. The chef’s known for his artistic creations and presentations. Start with a gigantic bowl of fresh mussels in the broth of the evening Entrees arrive like a work of art--platters of food surrounded with dabs of colorful truffle oils, blotches of balsamic reduction and swirls of herb sauces. Reservations recommended. Mon-Fri 11am-3pm; Sun-Thu 5pm-9pm; Fri-Sat 5pm-10pm.

Mateo
1837 Pearl St., (303) 443-7766
This Mediterranean and French bistro has marvelous food and a lovely atmosphere and is among the favorites of many a Boulderite. Dinner entrees start at $9 for a traditional croque monsieur to $16 for the Mateo bouillabaisse or lobster ravioli with herb fondue and watercress. Try the French onion soup gratinee and hearts of romaine with anchovy-garlic dressing and Parmesan cheese. Standout main courses: the porcini mushroom risotto with Parmesan; Provençal tomato and olive tart with fresh mozzarella; and braised Colorado lamb shank with soft polenta, roasted vegetables and lamb jus. Mon-Fri 11:30am-2pm, 5pm-10:30pm; Sat-Sun 5pm-10:30pm. Reservations recommended.

INTERNATIONAL/ECLECTIC

The Mediterranean
1002 Walnut Street, 303-444-5335
Cuisine from France, Italy, Greece, and Spain—tapas, paella and pizzas baked in a wood-burning oven, and chicken, seafood, steaks, salads, and pasta. Full bar, micro brews, and a diverse wine list. A great happy hour with fantastic and inexpensive tapas. Validated parking. Open for lunch Mon-Sat 11 am-3 pm; and dinner Mon-Wed 5-10 pm, Thurs-Fri till 11 pm, Sat 4-11 pm, Sun till 10 pm.

ITALIAN

Carelli’s
645 30th St., 303-938-9300
One of Boulder's best kept secrets, hidden in a 'strip mall', it’s not an impressive place from the outside. However, inside, it is warm and pleasant. The food is wonderful, the service is great, and the price is surprisingly reasonable. Lunch and dinner.

*Frasca
1738 Pearl St., 442-6966
This restaurant is special because it was opened in mid-2004 by French Laundry alums (thought by some to be the best restaurant in the US). Frasca is a neighborhood restaurant inspired by the cuisine and culture of Fruili, Italy. Executive chef-owner Lachlan MacKinnon-Patterson (one of ten of Food & Wine’s Best New Chefs in 2005), serves dishes such as the shaved pork plated with Colorado peaches and smoky pancetta, and the big-eye tuna salad haloed with a deviled egg sauce. Tue-Sat 5:30pm-10pm. Reservations hard to come by (often one month wait). However, if you go before they open the doors at 5:30 (I’d say 5:10), and get in line, you may snag one of the two 2-person tables or 10 barstools set aside for walk-ins.

Basta
3601 Arapahoe Ave., 303-997-8775
They are open for dinner 5-10pm 7 days a week. And, it is very hard to find. It’s in the middle courtyard of the Peleton condo building on Arapahoe…. Get in from 33rd or 38th. They have fabulous pizzas and amazing menu foods. The chef is very well regarded in Boulder and not just by patrons, but by other chefs as well.

Pizzeria Locale
1730 Pearl Street, 303-442-3003
The best pizza in Boulder. This elegantly-casual spot, opened by the owners of Frasca, is fashioned after authentic pizzerias in Naples, they pizzaolos are flow to Italy to train. Traditionally, the individual pizzas are moist in the center and not pre-cut.

Sforno Trattoria Romana
1308 Pearl Street, 303-499-1787
The food is quite nice at this latest Monnanni-family-owned restaurants. But the atmosphere even better. It’s decorated like you are in a piazza in Italy. Nice happy hour too.

**Via Perla**
901 Pearl St. 720-669-0100
This relatively new spot is owned by the well-loved, veteran restaurateurs who own The Med and Brasserie Ten Ten (including Antonio Laudiso who used to own Laudisio’s). The food is lovely and reasonable, the atmosphere is comfortable if not a bit lively, and the service just right. A good bet all around. Lunch 11-3 Mon – F, “Merenda” 3-6pm every day, Dinner 5-10 Mon-Fri, 5-11 Fri and Sat, 5—9 Sunday.

**JAPANESE**

**Japango**
1136 Pearl Street, (303) 938-0330
This techno-chic sushi place offers an escape from the bustle of Pearl Street Mall. Servers know their sushi and skilfully accommodate large crowds that swell during happy hour. Fresh, melt-in-your-mouth sushi; traditional and unique as well as a long list of traditional appetizers includes light tempura, dynamite lobster and beef gyoza. A bowl of tempura ice cream makes a fitting ending to the meal. Mon-Thu 11am-2:30pm and 5pm-10pm, Fri 11am-2:30pm and 5pm-11pm, Sat 12pm-2:30pm and 5pm-11pm, Sun 5pm-9pm.

**Kasa Japanese Grill and Bar**
1468 Pearl Street, (303) 938-8888
The most quiet of the sushi restaurants. Close to the true taste of Japan. Skewered meats cooked over a rare charcoal grill (a Binchotan). Delicious, fresh, artistic, sushi. Traditional marinades and sauces. Unique décor designed by renowned architect, Edward Suzuki, features ceiling made entirely of white Japanese umbrellas. Lunch: 11:30am-2:30pm, Dinner: 5:00pm-10:00pm. Closed Monday.

**Sushi Bistro Tasuki**
1575 Folsom St., (303) 447-9718
A hidden gem close to Boulder. Frequent mostly by Japanese, this restaurant has a great sushi chef and owner, both originally from Sushi Tora. There are plenty of non-sushi items on the menu too. Mon. – Sat. 5:00 – 10:00pm.

**Sushi Zanmai**
1221 Spruce Street, 303-440-0773
Sushi prepared by skilled chefs at the full-view sushi bar. Entrees include tempura, yakitori, teriyaki salmon, sukiyaki, salad with mixed organic greens, vegetarian dishes, and specialties such as tuna carpaccio, shrimp dynamite, LSD roll, death roll, Buddha roll, and the favorite Z-No. 9 roll. Open for lunch Mon-Fri 11:30am-2pm; dinner Sun-Fri 5-10pm, Sat till midnight. Can get lively.

**MEXICAN/SOUTHWESTERN**

**Blue Agave Mexican Bistro (Agave)**
2845 28th St. (near Valmont), 303-444-2922
Not your average Tex-Mex. They have chiles en nogada (chiles stuffed with meat, raisins and nuts with a walnut sauce), mocaigate dishes (baked and served in stone mortars), and guacamole prepared tableside. They have a full tequila bar and amazing selection. Great lunch specials where you choose three items from a list. And, the ambiance is really lovely. It’s getting great reviews, although I hear the service can sometimes be slow so be prepared (I didn’t experience that though at lunch.) Lunch and dinner every day.

**Centro Mexican Kitchen**
950 Pearl Street, 303-442-7771
Mexican and Latin food and refreshments. Enjoy a seat in the warm rustic dining room or at their unique indoor/outdoor bar while you munch on appetizers or a full meal. Lunch Mon-Fri 11:30-4; Happy Hour Everyday 3:00-5:30 & Sun 9pm-11; Dinner Everyday at 4; Brunch Sat & Sun 9:30am - 3:00

**Rio Grande**
1101 Walnut St., (303) 444-3690
This popular Boulder restaurant serves “clean and healthy” Mexican food. They are particularly known for their strong margaritas, of which they limit guests to three. Mon-Wed 11am-2pm and 5pm-10pm; Thurs 11am-2pm and 5pm-10:30pm; Fri & Sat 11am-10:30pm; Sun 11am-10pm.

**Zolo Grill**
2525 Arapahoe Avenue, 303-449-0444
Delicious southwestern cuisine, many vegetarian items, award-winning desserts, extensive wine list, microbrews, margaritas, and more than 60 tequilas. Open for lunch and dinner Mon 11 am-9 pm, Tues-Sat till 10 pm; dinner only Sun 4-9 pm. Reservations not accepted.

**NATURAL/VEGETARIAN**

**Leaf Vegetarian Restaurant**  
2010 16th Street, 303-442-1485  
Small, serene, and nothing like the vegetarian restaurants of the 1960’s. Lovely, unique dishes in small plates, salads/soups and entrees. M-F 11:30-3pm; Brunch Sat and Sun. 10-3pm; Happy Hour 3-6pm every day; Dinner Fri-Sat 5-10pm.

**SEAFOOD**

**Jax Fish House**  
928 Pearl Street, 303-444-1811  
Fresh seafood prepared in a contemporary American way with southern, Cajun, and Asian influences. Oyster bar and seafood samplers, fried oysters, peel-and-eat shrimp, steamed mussels and clams, chowders and gumbo, and a variety of grilled fish, cioppino, steaks and vegetarian dishes. Excellent martini, wine, beer, and cocktail list. Named “Top Seafood Restaurant in the Rocky Mountain Region” (Zagat Survey) and “Best Seafood Restaurant 2002” by Boulder Weekly readers. Opens daily at 4 pm. Reservations not accepted.

**Wild Standard**  
1043 Pearl St., 720-638-4800  
This “Land and Sea” restaurant featured locally sourced and globally influenced, fresh, seasonal seafood and offerings from the farm. The Pearl Dive in the cellar is a great place for a late night cocktail from their award-winning cocktail program. Happy hour 3-6pm, brunch and lunch Wed – Sun 11-3pm, Dinner 5-close.

**STEAK**

**Boulder Chophouse and Tavern**  
921 Walnut Street, 303-443-1188  

**Boulder Cork**  
3295 30th Street, 303-443-9505  
Southwestern/continental. A long-standing favorite of local carnivores and slightly more upscale than Boulder Chophouse. Prime rib, steaks, seafood, lamb loin chops, and pastas. Open for lunch and dinner.

**Corrida**  
*See listing under American above*