



Welcome to our guide to the best dining spots near our farmstead! As avid travelers and food enthusiasts, we've made it a priority to explore the range of flavors wherever we go. We have developed a soft spot for the local gems right here in Fort Wayne. Whether you're craving a cozy farm-to-table meal, something lighter, or just some bar food - we've got you covered with a diverse lineup of restaurants just minutes from the farm.

You'll find a great mix of cuisines, atmospheres, and price points - perfect for just about every taste and occasion.

Welcome to Fort Wayne!

- Lana and Marcus

Note: We do prefer bar seating, so that's where you will find us, splitting a few dishes to sample as much as we can. It's our favorite way to taste a variety of flavors - give it a try if you like to mix things up!

(the descriptions in this list are a work in progress)

Restaurants

NEW! Ducky's - Duck Pin Bowling, Bar, Restaurant 4.2 Miles

What even is Duck Pin Bowling? It's fun, that's what it is. Ducky's opened the first of April 2025, we were among the first to give it a try. Located in the brand new Pearl building, the space is wide open and full of natural light. It has 8 bowling lanes that you have to reserve for up to 6 people. We don't usually do "recreational" entertainment like this but we booked a lane for the 2 of us and had a lot of fun! They have a nice bar and the drinks and food we tried were great and high quality (not like a traditional dingy bowling alley with rum and coke and tin can nachos).

Our picks: the Mercado Margarita was good and the tuna poke is probably one of the best dishes in town.

NEW! Spoke and Ivy (Nearby) 3.6 Miles

This place just opened in February 2025 and we are already regulars. A beautifully renovated old brick building on Main St that is locally owned and operated. The green tile on the bar and big open windows are a vibe. They have some interesting drinks and a good wine selection. The food is inventive and most of the dishes are a slam dunk.

Our picks: Shrimp and Grits, stuffed mushrooms, oysters when they have them, "Ian" martini, bartender Ian makes his martinis with a 2:1 ratio and a twist that changed how we drink martinis.



Tower Bar and Grill (Nearby) 1.5 miles - blue collar bar with great drink prices, good bar food, great wings and close by. The bartenders all collectively take care of the entire place, which is busy most hours of the day.

Our picks: Tower grilled wings, mango habanero wings, cajun chicken salad, breakfast

Coyote Creek Golf Club (Nearby) 1.5 miles - it's a golf club but open to the public. It has a bit of an old, dusty lodge feel with a large but cozy bar rail. The drink prices are good, and it is very close to the farmstead if you're just looking to get out and grab a bar food bite or a cocktail.

Our picks: Honey Sriracha wings, Coyote Club sandwich

Biaggis (Nearby, Jefferson Point) 2.1 miles consistent, reliable Italian at a moderate price point that's nearby. They also recently renovated the bar, it has an upscale feel at not so upscale prices.

Our picks: beet salad, lobster fettuccine, classic martinis

Three Fires Pizza (Nearby) 2 miles locally owned and is the 2nd concept location of 800 degrees pizza. It's woodfired pizza with quality ingredients, a comfortable atmosphere and decent wine selection. They also have good vegan selections.

Our picks: 800 Pizza, Carne Pizza, Mista salad

Old Crown Coffee Roasters 4.4 miles

Not just coffee! I used to live in this neighborhood and practically live here as a lot of my work is done remotely. They roast their own coffee beans and have a rotating selection to buy or drink in the shop. They also have a full bar and vast selection of craft and other beers. Chris, the bartender, loves his job and makes a fun experience of trying new craft cocktails and tastes. They also have high quality wraps and sandwiches for lunch. I really hope they bring back their amazing dinner service someday (victim of Covid shutdowns).

Our picks: Smoked Turkey and Vermont Cheddar wrap, Reuben, Rock Hudson, classic martini

The Village Tap (East State Village) 4.1 miles

Located in the long time infamous Rib Room building, The Tap is a cozy bar and restaurant with tastes a bit more elevated than most typical bars. Say hi to Jeff V. and tell him Lana sent you!

Bangkok Bistro (East State) 5.2 miles



A bit further than most on this list but still not bad, it's pretty much straight down State Street. Best Thai food in town. The vibe is casual like most asian places but nice enough. Take your own wine, their wine is terrible. Great for takeout too.

Our picks: Curry Noodle Soup

Pho Indy 3.7 miles

Off of Coliseum Blvd in the Joann Plaza, this is a casual place that is my pick for Vietnamese in town. Saigon downtown is a very close second with a more authentic dingy feel but still prefer Pho Indy. Their wine selection is lackluster but I kind of consider it part of the program.

Lana's pick: Pho Dac Biet (no meatball extra jalepeno), crispy wings.

Liberty Diner 1.5 miles

It's close, it's classic. It's breakfast. It also has Greek based dishes as the owners are Greek.

Mi Pueblo (Southwest) 3.5 miles

Not too far, traditional mexican can be found here, not the American-ized stuff (although I think you can still get that if you want it).

Paula's (Downtown) 2.5 miles

Upscale seafood. Not that much to say, it's nice, it's good, it's close. I wish they didn't get rid of the king crab knuckle bucket but I think that's the market we are living in now. Opens for dinner at 5 PM every day but Sunday.

Henry's (Downtown) 3.2 miles

Henry's is a regular stop for us. Some people say it looks like a dive bar from the outside. Some people who really don't know anything about anything say it's a gay bar. It's not either although it is a very welcoming and comfortable establishment in an older building right on Main St. The bar is old and pretty, the lighting dim, the drink pours generous and the food is fantastic pub food. Not the best for wine, just not that kind of place.

Our Picks: Cat bites, fried pickles, Indiana surf and turf (when available), black bean salad side, classic martinis.

Coney Island (Downtown) 3.5

It's a touristy place to try once for lunch or late night after you have had enough adult beverages. It's called "Fort Wayne's Famous". The coneys are actually really delicious, very low cost, and you can have them with a classic Coke in a glass bottle.



Powers Hamburgers (Downtown) 3.4 miles If you like White Castle, you will LOVE Powers. Also a Fort Wayne classic albeit not called famous. Don't wear nice clothes, the whole place smells like onions.

Hall's Old Gas House, Takaoka and The Deck (Downtown) 3.6 miles

Three restaurants in one site owned by the same people. Lana considers The Gashouse her "Cheers". You can make this place as upscale or as casual as you want, it has something for everyone. The Gashouse got its name because it is in an old gasoline distribution building, which is pretty cool. They only have prime rib at night now, I'm not sure if it's all nights. Owned by the Halls family - a legacy restaurant name in the area. A table is the way to go according to Marcus, he doesn't like the bar here.

Our picks: Fried chicken sandwich, chili, wings, filet, blackened shrimp and oca, bourbon bacon brussel sprouts, greek salad

PS: If you are there before 4 PM most days and Joy is bartending, tell her you are one of Lana's AirBnB guests, I don't know what that will get you but it can't hurt! 😊

Bistro Nota (Downtown) 3.5 miles

The Chef, Aaron Butts, is an owner and has a long history of making any restaurant he's with successful through excellent and creative dishes. This restaurant has a cozy, romantic, nice but not fancy or snooty vibe. Most of the dishes are on the hearty side and just fantastic. Sometimes we sell out here as much as we can but somehow our schedules seem to miss the open hours. They do not have a liquor license, beer and wine only.

The Saturday brunch until 2 PM is excellent.

Proximo (Downtown) 3.5 miles

Latin inspired. We like most things here, there is a large bar and tons of patio seating. One of the best things about Proximo is they are open, early morning to night 7 days a week. Great for brunch but often hard to get in on a Sunday without reservations.

Our picks: Cubano, Brunch Torta, Breakfast tacos (chorizo), Vegan Mushroom Barbacoa, Guava Glazed Salmon, Pachacutec, Cerulean Bee. We don't typically order the Milk Punch drink but it's tasty and interesting and also dangerous.

Mercado (Downtown on the Landing) 3.4 miles



Upscale mexican that we just put on the list - not sure why we didn't have it on here before. The Saturday brunch and dinner menus are much better than the lunch menu.

Our picks: whiskey flight, Mercado Margarita, dumpling app

Tolon (Downtown on the Landing) 3.4 miles

Farm to table.

Nawa (Downtown on The Landing) 3.4 miles

Thai food in a more upscale location than most Thai places with a full bar. A great place for lunch or dinner, the outdoor seating is nice for people watching on The Landing when the weather is right.

Lana's picks: Blueberry Basil lemonade, fresh roll, panang curry with chicken, pho. They usually have a good dry white wine available by the bottle.

JK O'Donnells (Downtown) 3.6 miles

Cozy, Irish pub downtown. Great for Old Fashioneds and other whiskey based cocktails and beers. The food is also wonderful, a bit heavy for our regular tastes but delightful nonetheless.

Our picks: Old fashioned, cod fish n chips, potato leek soup, brisket sandwich

Hoppy Gnome (Downtown) 3.6 miles

Same owner as Proximo - different vibe and menu.

Lana's picks: just about any of the tacos but always the brisket and the pork. Drink is the Lady Stark with tequila - it's also a very pretty drink.

Birdie's Rooftop (Downtown) 3.4 miles

An open air rooftop bar with nice views of downtown. It's also in a beautifully decorated hotel that's owned by the owner of Vera Bradley. Not good for Winter.

Copper Spoon (Downtown) 3.6 copper spoon

Ophelia's (Downtown North) 3 miles

Oyster Bar (Downtown South) 4 miles Fort Wayne's oldest restaurant. Burger Tuesdays



We go here a lot. It's old, it's cozy, they bring in fresh oysters from the PEI and other east coast locations that are still fresh, believe it or not.

Club Soda (Downtown) 3.5 miles

One of Fort Wayne's original higher end eateries. It's a staple, it's good, they have an upscale but approachable menu. They usually have live jazz and/or piano on weekends in the bar. Say hi to Madison the bartender for us!

Our picks: Grilled avocado salad, several of the lunch sandwiches, Vesper

Friendly Fox (Downtown South) 4.6 miles

Chance Bar (Downtown South) 4.9 miles Don't let the name fool you, this is a casual elegance restaurant albeit there is a small bar. It's farm to table, always unique dishes ½ priced wine bottles on Wednesdays

Joseph Decuis (Roanoke) 9.5 miles This place is a national experience and an event kind of dinner. The only restaurant in the US that also raises their own Japanese Wagyu beef nearby. Be prepared to spend \$\$\$\$

Tequila (Southwest) 3.2 miles

Mexican place with an upscale twist - creative and good flavors. The margaritas are made with a mix so you have to ask for a real one.

Catablu (Southwest) 3.3 miles

Upscale, don't let the facade of being in a strip mall fool you. This place is very nice.

Our picks: Lemon Feta dip, Thai Salmon, chop salad. I hear they have really great steaks too, we just don't usually order steaks out.

Chops (Southwest) 3.5 miles

Across the street from Catablu. There is a restaurant side and a winebar side.

Breakfast CLUBB (Southwest) 3.6 miles We have gone here for early breakfasts, quick lunch meetings, and when children are involved. Good for breakfast and lunch for a bargain price. Good for kids.

First Watch (Southwest) 3 miles



Upscale breakfast and lunch chain that's new to Fort Wayne. AND, it's nearby. We went there and loved it. The avocado toast was great, the chorizo was great and the fresh pressed kale juice was pretty great. We have not determined favorites yet.

Asakusa (North) 3.2

Best sushi in town. The restaurant is cozy and comfortable, we have eaten here a million times. There is no bar rail or full bar menu. Lately, we get carryout and enjoy it with our favorite white wine at home.

Our picks: Tokyo Roll, Mexican Roll, Salmon Sashimi although about everything on their menu is great

Black Canyon (North) 5.5 miles

Big bar, cozy atmosphere, lots of patio seating for when the weather is nice.

Hideout 125 (North) 6.4 miles

Dark and cozy, upscale speakeasy vibe. Old fashioned on tap.

Loving Cafe (North) 4.7 miles- vegan, simple, best for takeout

We don't actually go here often but have been there many times. For any vegans visiting us, we have you covered here, this is where you can find plenty of options. Service is slow but food is good.

THINGS TO DO

Sweetwater Sound and Venue Just a 3 min drive away is the world's largest online distributor of musical instruments. They have a nice cafe, store, recording studios and shows at their venue.

Clyde Theatre - Club Room at the Clyde

Fort Wayne Children's Zoo

Botanical Conservatory

Embassy Theatre

Parkview Field

Science Central

War Memorial Coliseum

Usually concerts and big events here

Walking west central neighborhood

Old Fort



Promenade Park

Upper Maumee Canoe and Kayak (Ohio)

Ok, I own this business with my dad so I'm a bit biased to tell you that it's a great outdoor activity option.

<https://www.facebook.com/maumeerentals/>

Fort Wayne Philharmonic

Headwaters Park Festivals - May - Sept is festival season in Fort Wayne

Johnny Appleseed Festival

Buckner Park

Eagle Marsh

YLN! Barr Street Farmers Market (downtown)

Saturdays during the season from 9 AM - 1 PM