

Henry's Guide to Boulder Restaurants

Boulder is loaded with excellent restaurants. I've chosen completeness over brevity. **This guide lists restaurants downtown (first part) and near 28th & Arapahoe (the Millenium Hotel), the site of the SPD 2009 conference for which I put this together. There's also a handy map at the end.**

Only a few are expensive, and I've noted those. 'Takeout' means order-at-counter, but most of these have seating areas too. I've eaten at every place on the list save for one or two, and many SwRI-ites can offer you their opinions as well.

Henry Throop
Resident Gastrologist, SwRI, June 2009

Downtown Restaurants (mostly near Pearl St. Mall)

'Best Of' Picks, Downtown:

Lunch (nearby and relatively fast, if you're already downtown):

The Med, Brasserie 1010, Japango, Crepes a la Cart, Juanita's, The Kitchen, Himalayas

Happy Hour, drinks:

The Rio, The Foundry, Corner Bar, West End Tavern, Boulder Chop House, Mountain Sun

Dinner:

Sushi Zanmai, Dushanbe Teahouse, Radda, Aji, Sushi Tora, Happy Noodle... plus all the lunch places above.

Joint	Phone	Address	Dist from SwRI (10th & Walnut)	Style	Patio (P)? Small Patio (SP)? Rooftop Deck (R)?	Kudos, Snark
14 th St Bar and Grill	303 444 5854	1400 Pearl	5 blocks	Casual	P	Not really a bar and grill, but fine place that serves local meats, fish, pasta, pizzas, and salads. Good patio location abuts the mall.

Aji	303 442 3464	1601 Pearl	7 blocks	Casual	SP	Slightly fancified South American (quinoa, plantains, peppers, weird tacos, Chilean malbecs, etc). Really quite good – never had a bad meal there.
Antica Roma	303 449 1787	1308 Pearl	4 blocks	Casual	P	The food has that 'Antique Aroma' making you think they made your meal last month and froze it. It'll be mostly thawed by the time it's served to you, but it comes with enough salt that you'll never notice. Very cute inside, but not worth visiting even for the \$8.95 lunch specials. (That being said, many people still like it...)
B-side Lounge	303 473 9763	2017 13 th (1/2 block N of Pearl)	4 blocks	Casual / Winebar	SP	Winebar-type place with decent local organic salads / fish / etc.; has music in the back late-nights. Seems like it should be better than it actually is.
Bacaro	303 444 4888	921 Pearl	2 blocks	Casual	P, R	Italian, with a large tapas menu. Good for large groups. Not dissimilar to the Med. Rooftop deck (views are a bit occluded by nearby buildings, though).
Bimbamboo	303 442 4575	1710 Pearl	8 blocks	Casual		Creative Asian fusion. Meals aren't that big, but they're not very expensive either. A few blocks off the mall.
BJ's	303 402 9294	1125 Pearl	3 blocks	Brewpub		California-based brewpub. Food is OK (pizza, burgers, etc.). The beer is a notch more interesting than that at the Walnut Brewery, e.g., the cherry-apple cider.
Black Cat Bistro	303 444 9110	1964 13 th (1/2 block S of Pearl)	3 blocks	Casual / Fancy		'Small plates'-style American food, some grown in the chef-owner's backyard. Fresh and creative – e.g., the rosemary citrus panna cotta is wild, but it's tiny and sets you back ten bucks (and nothing else is cheap, either). Poofy chairs and a nice open kitchen make it fun. Has 5- and 7-course tasting menus.
Bombay Bistro	303 444 4721	1942 Broadway @ Walnut	2 blocks	Casual	P	Nouveau-Indian, run by a nice guy from Bombay named Paul. Comfortable pillows and Bollywood movies. More creative than just saag paneer and aloo gobi. Dinner only.
Boulder Café	303 444 4884	1247 Pearl	3 blocks	Casual	P	Great location with a big patio on the mall. Your basic easy-going upscale sandwiches / soups / burgers / salads / seafood / etc.
Boulder Chop House	303 443 1188	921 Walnut	0.1 blocks	Casual / Bar	P	Another restaurant run by the 'Rock Bottom Brewery' people. Great \$2 happy hour app menu makes it a SwRI 5 PM favorite. Dinner is carnivore-friendly but not as value-priced as the happy hour.
Boulder Draft House	303 440 5858	2027 13th St	3 blocks	Brewpub	SP	On-site brewery and decent (if not outstanding) sandwiches / salads / meats. Used to be Redfish, until 2009. Now run by the same folks who do Foolish Craig's.
Brasserie 1010	303 998 1010	1011 [sic] Walnut	0.2 blocks	Casual	SP	Well-run French place (same management as The Med across the street). Food is fresh and light and not expensive.
Centro	303 442 7771	950 Pearl	1 blocks	Casual	P	Excellent Latin American / fusion chow, energetic, unusual drinks, etc. Bar and a big patio. 5280 Magazine recommends the smoked pork belly masa cake and the Manzarita (tequila, elderflower liqueur, apple juice, cinnamon. lime). Restaurant was renamed from Rhumba in 2007. Top Chef competitor Melissa (Season 5) was from here, and eliminated based on her Ahi Tacos. I can't comment on them, but the lobster-jalapeño soup is fantastic.
Cheesecake Factory	303 546 0222	1401 Pearl	5 blocks	Casual	P	Dining here is "akin to choosing to have lunch at the McDonald's on the Champs-Élysée," in the words of the Boulder Weekly.
Chez Thuy	303 442 1700	2655 28 th St (E of downtown)	2 miles	Casual		Boulder's long-standing Vietnamese winner. Huge menu, lots of veggie options, and a nice place inside. Hot pots, fried noodles, lemon grass sautéés, grilled fish, etc. Everything is fresh, and it's cheap to boot. Service is sometimes a bit rushed, but the food is consistently excellent.
Chipotle	303 544 9383	919 Pearl	1 block	Takeout	P	Store #3 (?) in the large chain. The founder is a Boulder High grad. The company used to be partly owned by McD's, but no longer. They specialize in fast and tasty foil-wrapped burritos.

Conor O'Neill's	303 449 1922	1922 13 th (1/2 block S of Pearl)	3 block	Casual / Pub		Irish-themed bar – homey and friendly – with fine Irish-themed food. Nothing standout, but a cute place. If you have a sense of déjà vu, fear not: the owners run two joints by the same name, and the other is in Ann Arbor. Often has music.
Corner Bar	303 442 4880	2115 13 th @ Spruce	4 block	Casual / Bar		Nice bar inside the Hotel Boulderado. Good food (same kitchen as Q's), and daily \$2 beer specials. Excellent happy-hour apps, and a nice wood-and-brass old-style atmosphere in Boulder's oldest hotel (opened 1909 – take a tour of the lobby if you haven't, and be sure to check out the brass drinking fountain and ride the original, non-OSHA approved elevator).
Crêpes a la Cart	303 444 4191	Broadway, ½ block N of Pearl.	3 block	Takeout		Creative and tasty crêpes. Fast and cute place with dozens of options, from the German Apple Strudel crepe, to the Brie + Grape, to the BLT. Not quite big enough for a full meal, so you might get a pair. The owners also operate a crêpe cart in Breckenridge; thus the missing 'e.' (Note that Breckenridge itself has an extra 'e'; it was named after US VP Breckinridge, later expelled by the Senate for treason due to his Union leanings, and the Colorado town quietly changed its spelling as a result.)
Dot's Diner	303 447 9184	1333 Broadway; also 2716 28th	5 blocks	Diner		Funky hippie-Boulder-ized diner on University Hill, hidden in a one-building strip mall. Veggie everything and great fresh biscuits. A Boulder classic that used to be in a tree-sheltered gas station building on Pearl, now built over with condos. Breakfast/Lunch.
Dushanbe Teahouse	303 442 4993	1170 13 th (1 ½ blocks S of Pearl, at E edge of Central Park)	3 blocks	Casual	P	The building was donated by Boulder's sister city (Dushanbe, Tajikistan), and is almost fully covered in hand-made tiles and carved wood inside.. Lots of tea, full meals (mix-and-match from across the world – it is a full restaurant notwithstanding the name), and an heirloom rose garden outside next to the big patio overlooking the creek. Service tends to be hit-or-miss, but it's a unique enough place that you may not mind. The tiles and carvings sat in 55 crates at Boulder's water treatment facility for most of a decade before the city council annoyed many residents by forking over the \$\$ to build the building c. 1999, but the complaints died down soon after it opened. NB: Boulder's Celestial Seasonings offers a very fun, free tour through their tea factory every hour, 7 days a week. 303 581 1202, 5 miles away, off Hwy. 119 (the “Diagonal”).
Falafel King	303 449 9321	1314 Pearl	4 blocks	Takeout		Decent falafels, gyros, babaganoush, etc.
Flagstaff House	303 442 4640	1138 Flagstaff Dr (2 mi W of Baseline + 9 th)	3 miles	V. fancy!		Used to be Boulder's single stand-out once-a-decade restaurant. Has received recent competition from places like Frasca and The Kitchen, but still terrific. Emphasis on meats, but the veg's will still do well. The only restaurant in the foothills, with nice views looking down on Boulder. (Why is it outside of town? Boulder was dry for many decades, and the upscale restaurants with wine lists were strategically located just outside the city limits.)
Foolish Craig's	303 247 9383	1611 Pearl	7 blocks	Casual	SP	Serves crêpes and potatoes. Crepes are thick and hearty, not lite and delicate. Fun place, but food quality isn't what it used to be, what with an abundance of tepid potatoes and all.
The Foundry	303 447 1803	1109 Walnut	1 block	Bar	R	Excellent rooftop deck – often busy for good reason. Not much in the way of food besides apps, but the nachos are baked and good. Cavernous billiards / foosball area downstairs.
Frasca	303 442 6966	1738 Pearl	8 blocks	Fancy	SP	Terrific place a few blocks off the mall. Has won all sorts of national awards, and deserves every single one. Carefully prepared, honest, and flavorful Italian from the Friuli region (NE Italy). \$50/person + wine, but among the best in town. 'Best New Chef in America' – Food+Wine mag. The US has 100 'master sommeliers', and two of them are here. Owner and chef both worked at the French Laundry. Reservations usually needed, but several tables are always kept open for walk-ups starting at 5:30. Dinner only.
Glacier Ice Cream	303 440 6542	3133 28 th ; also a smaller store at 3150	2 miles			OK, it's not a restaurant, and it's not downtown, but this is the place to go for ice cream. 50+ flavors of ice cream, gelato, and sorbet, all made right there by a genius named Mark (who used to be pastry chef at Q's). From blood orange gelato, to coffee caramel crunch, to

		College (on The Hill, ¾ mi S of Pearl off of Broadway)					pomegranate, to chocolate pecan, to Ding Dong sorbet, he's got it all. Sometimes has a cart on the Mall.
The Gondolier	303 443 5015	1600 Pearl	7 blocks	Casual			Italian place that's been in Boulder for 40+ years. Skip the rest of the menu, but the thick all-you-can-eat home-made fresh pasta (\$8.95?) is terrific. Comes with a choice of four sauces (½ Marinara, ½ Garlic being the optimum combination).
Hapa Sushi	303 473 4730	1117 Pearl	2 blocks	Casual			The hippest sushi in Boulder, and the most inventive menu. Located on the site of the New York Deli, featured in Mork & Mindy. The deli was closed in the mid-90's due to tax evasion, but the Mork & Mindy Roll lives on (tuna, chives, salmon, and oranges). For fans of the series, also check out the house, at 1619 Pine St.
Happy Noodle House	303 442 3050	835 Walnut	2 blocks	Casual			Great Asian-inspired noodle bowls and dumplings, community tables, and a large and crazy bar menu from a top-10 national mixologist. Food is inexpensive but the drinks can add up! They have a large variety of handmade pickles to sample too. Much better than the aging family Italian restaurant on this site until recently.
Heidi's Brooklyn Deli	720 565 0448	908 Pearl	1 block	Takeout			Unremarkable Denver-based sandwich chain.
Himalayas	303 442 3230	2010 14 th (1/2 block N. of Pearl)	5 blocks	Casual			Indian-esque joint in the basement below the Boulder Theater. The \$8.95 lunch buffet is a good spread, and a better deal than the dinner entrees.
Illegal Pete's	303 440 3955	1447 Pearl	5 blocks	Takeout	SP		Locally famous burrito joint, with far more options (potato, fish, pesto, green chili, etc.) than the franchise competitor (Chipotle). Long lines at lunch, and most of the rest of the day too.
Japango	303 938 0330	1136 Pearl	3 blocks	Casual			Sushi + Japanese. Good bento boxes and \$6.95 lunch specials.
Jax Fish House	303 444 1811	928 Pearl	1 block	Casual			Lots of fish, oysters, and their relatives. Can be a bit loud. Run by the same people as West End and Centro. Bravo TV's show Top Chef named Jax chef Hosea Rosenberg their final winner during 2009 season 5, and he's received a lot of well-deserved publicity since then.
Jill's	720 406 7399	900 Walnut	1 block	Casual			Inside the St. Julien hotel. Fancy, but the food is not particularly memorable (thin-crust pizzas are like crackers). The bar often has good finger food if you ask for it (spicy peanuts, olives, and wasabi peas).
Juanita's	303 449 5273	1043 Pearl	1 block	Casual			Good quality old-fashioned Tex-Mex with lots of iceberg lettuce and orange cheese. Praise the Lard!
Kasa Japanese Grill	303 884 7008	1468 Pearl	5 blocks	Casual	P		When they opened up in early 2007, they specialized in very small, expensive, and mediocre portions of charcoal-grilled Japanese vegetables. Finding an appropriate lack of interest, they revamped a few months later and changed over to a more standard but unexciting sushi-based menu.
Khow Thai	303 447 0273	1600 Broadway (3 blocks S. of Pearl)	5 blocks	Casual / Takeout			Tasty, friendly, and value-priced Thai. The curries are good; the noodles are occasionally over-sauced. The owner, Larry, acts a lot crankier than he really is. Sometimes a line at lunch, but it moves fast. Former home of The Gondolier, two score years ago.
The Kitchen	303 544 5973	1039 Pearl	2 blocks	Casual / Upscale	SP		A terrific, relatively new Boulder restaurant. Emphasis is on upscale natural-ish creative food. Moderate-to-pricy, but the food is often spectacular. Absolutely one of the best in Boulder. The owner's brother, Elon Musk, started PayPal, sold it for \$1.5B, and is now running a commercial rocket company (SpaceX), building high-end electric cars (Tesla Roadster), and has an office on the 2 nd floor of the SwRI building trying to overtake Facebook.

L'Atelier	303 442 7233	1739 Pearl	8 blocks	Fancy	SP	Creative and interesting European-esque, in a sort of upscale candle-lit artsy museum-like atmosphere, run by a Czech man named Radek. Lots of fish. Very good, with huge artfully decorated plates and beautiful desserts. 'Top 10 New Restaurants in America' said Zagat when it opened c. 2000.
Lazy Dog	303 440 3355	1346 Pearl	5 blocks	Sports Bar	R,P	Well, it's a sports bar. Food is about what you expect, maybe a bit better. They do serve breakfast, for anyone with a baseball-omlette fetish.
Leaf	303 442 1485	1601 Pearl (1/2 block N of Pearl, really)	7 blocks	Casual		Perhaps Boulder's only 100% vegetarian restaurant (though largely a moot point, because you can find good veggie meals nearly anywhere in town). Not a hippie-dippy place, but creative and bold world fusion-type with plenty of oddities and surprises, such as the artichoke guacamole and lemongrass vodka, and the black rice pudding. Can be a bit pricy by the time you're done, but very good.
Lucile's	303 442 4743	2124 14 th (1 block N of Pearl)	6 blocks	Casual		Louisiana-based food in a cute old house: blackened catfish, beignets, and large breakfasts. Long lines on Saturday mornings. Breakfast/lunch only.
Mateo	303 443 7766	1837 Pearl	9 blocks	Casual		French country foods, a couple of blocks off the mall. Good; run by the same guy who runs the outstanding Radda. Good value meals for lunch, but you'll have to race to make it back in time.
The Med	303 444 5335	1002 Walnut	<1 block	Casual	P	Excellent southern Italian place, with some Spanish/Greek. Consistent, reliable, tasty, and fast, and inexpensive. Good for small and large groups. Great tapas in addition to regular menu of fresh pasta, wood-fired thin-crust pizza, paella, grilled everything, etc. A perennial SwRI favorite.
Moongate Asian	720 406 8888	1628 Pearl	7 blocks	Casual		Thai & Chinese. The food and the restaurant always look beautiful, though taste-wise it's consistently a bit of a let down.
Mountain Sun	303 546 0886	1535 Pearl	6 blocks	Brewpub		The best! Well, if you're in a hippie-brewpub-sort-of mood. Usually 15+ freshly brewed beers on tap (Illusion Dweller IPA, Annapurna Amber, Java Porter...). Food is home-made and natural, but not standout... the beer and atmosphere is the reason to go. Busy and loud; fills up fast after 6 (and often has music after 8).
Mustard's Last Stand	303 444 5841	1719 Broadway (2 blocks S of Pearl)	3 blocks	Takeout	SP	Freshest handmade fries and a variety of dogs and burgers, including the Vienna Beef, veggie dogs, and a tofu reuben which is a lot better than it sounds. Space inside is a bit tight; good place to go if you don't have any friends.
Noodles & Co.	303 440 4340	1245 Alpine (1/2 mile N. of Pearl, 1/2 block E of Broadway)	9 blocks	Takeout	P	Store #1 in the Boulder-run franchise of tasty noodlerias.
The Oasis (RIP)		11 th + Canyon		RIP		SwRI's longtime favorite happy-hour brewpub closed at the end of 2004, to be replaced by a ghost of its former self. The building at 11 th and Canyon was finally bulldozed in November 2007 to make way for new high-rise condos. NASA failed to intervene.
Old Chicago	303 443 5031	1102 Pearl	2 blocks	Pub/Sports Bar	P	Another operation run by the 'Rock Bottom Brewery' people. Lots of good beers to wash down the mediocre pizza. Astonishingly popular given the marginally adequate quality of the food. Kitchen is open late (midnight?). Also astonishing, OC is the oldest restaurant on the Mall.
Paradise Bakery	303 442 3965	1207 Pearl	3 blocks	Takeout / Café	SP	Colorado-based national bakery / soup / salad chain. Panera, a larger competitor, is similar and much better run than Paradise, unfortunately. Paradise's food is adequate, but you can

						do better. This location used to be a Panera, until it was closed down for non-payment of taxes.
Pasta Jay's	303 444 5800	1001 Pearl	1 block		P	Very cute, with a nice patio. But what's up with all the re-heated and over-boiled food? The sub-par food is very similar to Antica Roma's. For fresh and more interesting Italian, go somewhere else (The Med, Radda, Bacaro, The Gondolier – all conveniently located).
Pearl Street Pub	303 939 9900	1108 Pearl	2 blocks	Bar	SP	Kitchen open late (midnight?). Standard bar menu, but a chef at the St. Julien tells me the pastrami sandwich is the best ever, so I may not be giving it enough credit.
Pizza Colore	303 442 5790	1336 Pearl	4 blocks	Takeout		Decent thin- and superthick-crust pizza; slices always available ('til 2 AM on weekends).
Pupusas Sabor Latina	303 444 1729	4457 Broadway	3 miles	Takeout		Popular tiny strip-mall taqueria selling pupusas (fresh fried corn tortillas stuffed with queso y carne), tacos, flan, and plantains. There are scores of pupusarias in DC, but I've never had them filled with fiddlehead ferns like they do here.
Q's	303 442 4880	2115 13 th @ Spruce	5 blocks	Casual / Upscale		Upscale place inside the beautiful and historic Hotel Boulderado. Nice food. The 'Q' is for former chef Dave Query, who now runs Jax / West End / Centro on Pearl (all excellent). Used to be the Teddy Roosevelt Grill, featuring big game heads on the wall, but times have changed...
The Rib House	303 442 7427	1801 13th	2 blocks	Casual	SP	Smoky KC-style BBQ joint. Food gets moderate reviews; I haven't been there. KT's BBQ on Alpine and 13th is alleged to be closer to the real deal.
The Rio	303 444 3690	1101 Walnut	1 block	Casual	R, P	Another great rooftop deck, with Tex-Mex food and high-test margaritas. Friendly and always busy, so the less-than-exciting food is not much of a detractor.
Radda	303 442 6100	1265 Alpine (1/2 mile N. of Pearl, 1/2 block E of Broadway)	9 blocks	Casual	P	Excellent Northern Italian place: think truffles, artichokes, and fennel. Good vegetables, good thin-crust pizzas, good apps, and not expensive. Can have a bit of wait (call ahead – they'll sometimes save you a table, and sometimes not). One of the best new restaurants in Boulder.
Scotch Corner Pub	303 545 2000	Broadway @ Walnut	1 block	Casual / Pub	SP	Scottish pub fare: haggis, meat pies, bangers + mash, etc., with a good veggie selection. Food is consistently 'OK', which may mean it's very authentic. Lots of whisky.
Seven	303 625 1057	1035 Pearl	1 block	Casual		Fine but undistinguished moderately upscale European/Fusion-esque food, in an atmosphere that tries hard to be hipper and more metro than you are. Nothing wrong with it, but no compelling reason to go there, either. Dinner only.
Sherpa's	303 440 7151	825 Walnut	1 block	Casual	P	Cute Himalayan / Tibetan place run by sherpas in a non-sequitur Victorian mansion. Tasty noodles, dumplings, and a few Indian-like dishes. Large patio in the garden outside. During the climbing season, they will guide you up Everest if you tip well enough (for real).
The Sink	303 444 7465	1165 13 th (1/2 mile S. of Pearl, 1 block W of Broadway)	7 blocks	Casual		Hot and thick hand-tossed pizza (served with jars of honey for the crust) in Boulder's oldest continually operated restaurant. Robert Redford worked here when he was a student at CU. Busy college hangout in a densely packed basement in the heart of 'The Hill,' covered with entertaining and enlightening graffiti on all interior walls.
Sunflower	303 440 0220	1701 Pearl	8 blocks	Casual		One of Boulder's first chef-owned, non-hippie upscale natural restaurants. Still nice. Similar to The Kitchen, but a little slower and more homey, and little less zesty and creative.
Sushi Tora	303 444 2280	2014 10 th @ Pearl	1 block	Casual		Nice sushi and other Japanese foods. Quieter than Sushi Zanmai or Japango: more bamboo, more noodles, fewer mirrors, less Tokyo.
Sushi Zanmai	303 440 0733	1221 Spruce (1 block N of	4 blocks	Casual		Energetic sushi bar. Nice sit-on-the-floor rooms for groups in the back (reserve ahead of time).

		Pearl)					
Tahona	303 938 9600	1035 Pearl	1 block	Casual / Bar			Yucatan-styled 'modern Mexican' – no refried beans. Food is decent but not standout. Enough tequilas and margaritas for an army. Dinner only.
Tandoori Grill	303 543 7339	619 S Broadway (3 miles S)	3 miles	Casual			Fine-quality N. / E. Indian. Has quite a loyal following.
Taste of Philly	720 565 0248	1911 Broadway (1/2 block S of Pearl)	2 blocks	Takeout			Cheesesteaks and their brethren. According to SwRI's Philadelphia expat, this place is a bit subpar on the freshness scale. But you may always calibrate differently!
Trattoria on Pearl	303 544 0008	1430 Pearl	5 blocks	Casual	SP		Flavorful modern Italian. Nothing revolutionary, but good quality and worth a trip.
Walnut Brewery	303 447 1345	1123 Walnut	1 block	Brewpub	SP		Store #1 in the Boulder-based 'Rock Bottom Brewery' chain empire. Good quality brewpub fare; the beer is unexciting. Large and busy. Boulder's oldest brewpub (but not its oldest brewer: that's Boulder Brewery, which is E of downtown.) Trivia: SwRI currently occupies the space formerly used as RB's headquarters.
West End Tavern	303 444 3535	926 Pearl	1 block	Casual / Bar	R		It used to be a long-time Boulder dive bar, with a great rooftop deck. The view from the deck is now partially blocked by a new condo building, but the food is far better than it ever was in the past. Re-invented brewpub fare; upscale, fun, and tasty. Lots of whiskey drinks.
Yaki Maki	720 974 0388	1175 Walnut	1 block	Casual	P		Mediocre Asian / sushi. Cheap and close, but the other places downtown are better (Sushi Tora, Sushi Zanmai, Japango).

And a few downtown **coffeeshops** too. I believe all have free WiFi.

Amante	303 546 9999	1035 Walnut	1 block	Coffee			Need coffee with a shot of liquor? Or trying to watch soccer or the Tour de France? It's all here; bring the Lycra and the Oakleys. Tiny.
Bookends Café	303 443 8277	1109 Pearl	2 blocks	Coffee / Café	SP		Cute place for a quick sandwich or bowl of green chili (or tamales, Tuesdays only). Check out the large and friendly Boulder Bookstore next door.
Boulder Public Library	303 441 3100	Canyon @ 11th	1 block	Coffee / Café			Coffee and sandwiches in the covered skybridge crossing Boulder Creek.
Breadworks	303 444 5667	2644 Broadway	7 blocks	Coffee / Bakery			Excellent and very large bakery: deserts to bread to soup to cakes.
Jill's	303 406 9696	900 Walnut	1 block	Coffee			High tea in the lobby on Saturdays!
Saxy's	303 786 8585	2018 10th @ Pearl	1 block	Coffee / Cafe			Good sandwiches.
Starbucks	303 245 9368	1427 Pearl	5 blocks	Coffee			I will restrain myself from any further unsavory anti-chain commentary, but...
Tee and Cakes	720 406 7548	1932 14 th @ Pearl	5 block	Coffee / Café			My personal vote for the best cookies in town. Not low-fat organic anything.
Trident	303 443 3133	940 Pearl	1 block	Coffee	SP		One of the instigators of the 'books + coffee' format, c. 1982. Lots of tea; often packed with Buddhist academics; next to a small used literary bookstore.
Wild Oats	303 442 0909	1651 Broadway (2 blks S of Pearl)	3 blocks	Super-market / Café / Coffee			One of several local outposts of the Boulder-based natural/organic grocer (recently bought by Whole Foods). Has by-the-pound salads, salad bar, slices of lukewarm pizza, etc.

Restaurants near the Millenium Hotel (28th & Arapahoe)

Joint	Phone	Address	Dist from Millenium	Style	Patio (P)? Small Patio (SP)? Rooftop Deck (R)?	Kudos, Snark
Chez Thuy	303 442 1700	2655 28 th St, S of Valmont	1 mile	Casual		Boulder's long-standing Vietnamese winner. Huge menu, lots of veggie options, and a nice place inside. Hot pots, fried noodles, lemon grass sautéés, grilled fish, etc. Everything is fresh, and it's cheap to boot. Service is sometimes a bit rushed, but the food is consistently excellent.
Dolan's	303 444 8758	2319 Arapahoe	3 blocks	Upscale		Dark wood, steak-and-seafood, continental American. More of an older crowd, but plenty of people like it.
Ras Kassa's	303 447 2919	2111 30th	6 blocks	Casual	P	Ethiopian. Cute place, a bit hard to find. If you're lucky, the African woman who runs it will hand-feed you your first bite of spicy lentils / potatoes / cabbage, while you sit down at squat round tables. Definitely a winner.
Rincon del Sol	303 442 0541	2350 Arapahoe	3 blocks	Casual	SP	Exactly what you'd expect from 'family Mexican dining': servicable enchiladas and bean dip underneath brightly-painted plaster suns. 2-for-1 Coronas with lime, of course, or you could have a syrupy margarita instead.
Siamese Plate	303 447 9718	1575 Folsom	3 blocks	Casual		Nice Thai with a big menu including all your favorites (pad thai, green curry, eggplant, etc.). Food is always well-done and reliable.
Sumida's	303 449 8404	1575 Folsom	3 blocks	Casual		Sushi and Japanese, with tempura and noodles. Quiet and friendly. Nothing innovative here, but perfectly good. Shares a kitchen with Siamese Plate upstairs.
Tibet Kitchen	303 440 0882	2359 Arapahoe	3 blocks	Takeout		A small Tibetan place with noodles and dumplings on styrofoam plates, underneath a nice poster of Lhasa. Can be a bit salty. In case your Tibetan is not up to snuff, los cocineros hablan español tambien.
Village Coffee Shop	303 442 9689	1605 Folsom	3 blocks	Diner		Greasy breakfasts in a decaying strip mall. The place has been there forever and the hashbrowns and blueberry pancakes are hugely popular, from families to lycra-wearing bikers. You won't find any tofu or soy cheese here (thank you!).

The **Arapahoe Village** strip mall just north of the Millenium Hotel has a Red Robin burgers franchise, just west of the large Safeway on 28th, and:

Big City Burrito	720 565 2489	Arap Vill, W side	1 block	Takeout		Small Colorado-based chain of good but undistinguished foil-wrapped burritos.
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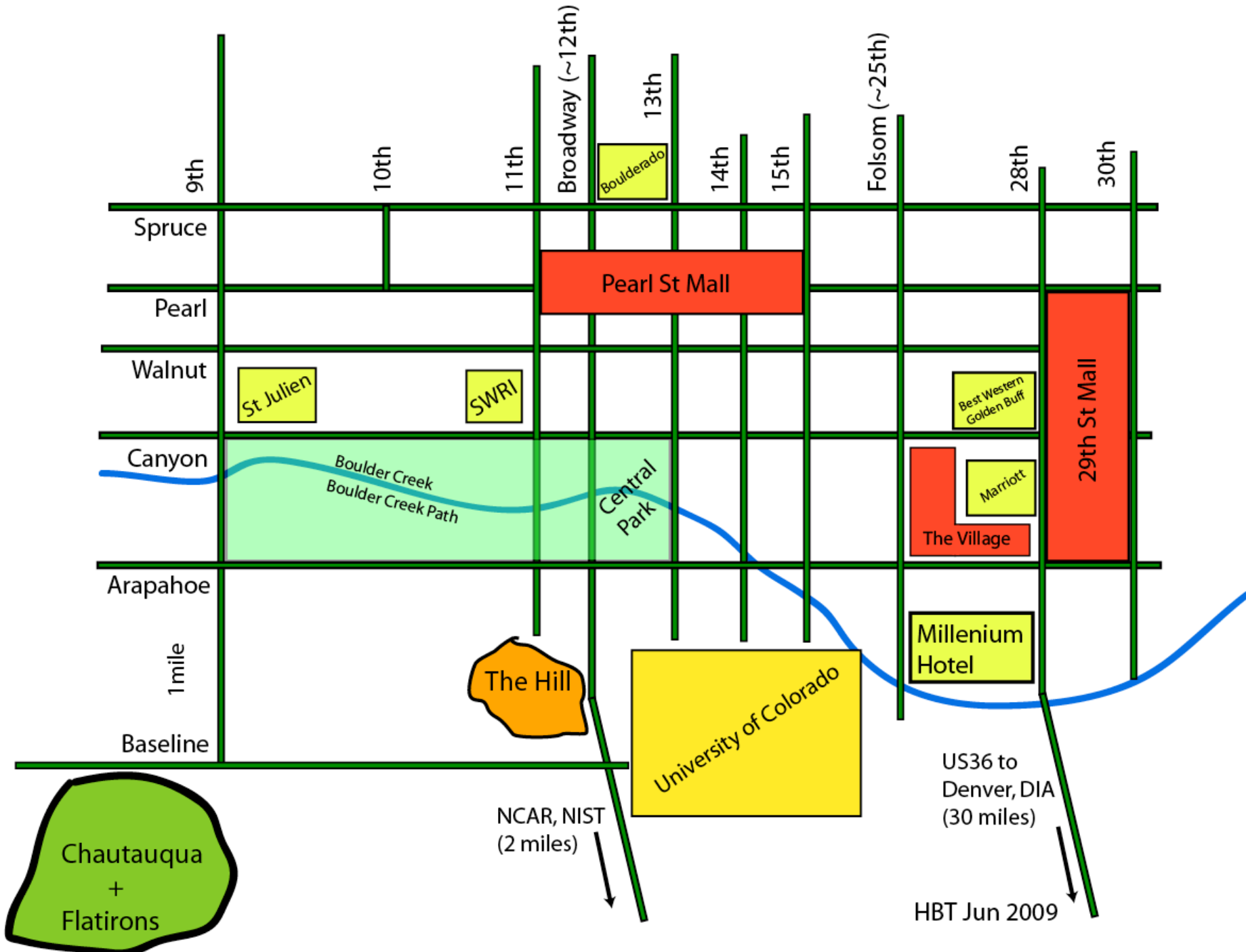
The new **Twenty Ninth Street** shopping mall between (you guessed it) 28th and 30th, and Arapahoe and Canyon, is 2 blocks NE of the Millenium. Nothing spectacular dining-wise there, but there are the usual assortment of chains: California Pizza Kitchen (the best of the bunch), Pei Wei (a take-out asian PF Chang's spin-off), Cantina Laredo (above-average sit-down Mexican), Panera, Chipotle, Islands Burgers, Rhumbi Island Grill (stay away), Peets, and Starbucks. The non-chains include:

Ai Sushi & Steak	303 406 9696	29th Street (S center)	3 blocks	Casual		Nicely presented and tasty sushi from the middle of a mall parking lot.
Laudisio	303 442 1300	29th Street mall (SE)	3 blocks	Casual		Very good mediterranean / Italian, with lots of olive oil and red wine. Run by the same people who do The Med downtown (an all-time SwRI favorite). Dining room is heavy on

		center)				style and can be a bit loud.
Mad Greens	303 443 8277	29th Street mall (W side)	3 blocks	Take-out		Creative salads and sandwiches. Same idea as a salad bar, except they make them rather than you, which in my case is usually a better idea. Can be a little disorganized, but a good place. More for lunch than dinner.

The Village shopping center is between 26th (Folsom) and 28th, just north of Arapahoe and 1.5 blocks north of the Millenium. Mostly retail, but a few restaurants.

Alba	303 938 8800	The Village (N, facing Canyon)	2.5 blocks	Casual / Upscale		Northwestern Italian – think Turin and mountains. New and I haven't been there yet (take me!). The owner had a long-running fancy Italian place elsewhere in The Village that was consistently creative and good.
McGuckin's	303 443 1822	The Village (center)	2 blocks	Hardware		You won't find any food here, but do check out the amazing selection of bolts, boots, and blenders from the legendary locally run hardware store, which has continued to do well regardless of Home Depot's opening up across the street.
Tokyo Joe's	303 443 1555	The Village (S, facing Arapahoe)	1.5 blocks	Casual		Small Denver-based chain of Japanese-inspired noodles and soups. Not bad at all.
Zolo	303 443 8277	The Village (S, facing Arapahoe)	1.5 blocks	Take-out	P	Re-invented southwestern, with variations on tamales, tacos, steaks, and poblanos. The menu frequently changes, and I've never had a bad meal there. Run by the same crew as Jax, Centro, and several others downtown. Lots of margaritas and 140+ tequilas. Can be loud, but it's an energetic loudness.



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