

Cheap eats: Summer dining specials in Naples

From biscuits and gravy to a spicy-hot chocolate chip cookie, here are the best things we tasted in Naples. Contact Shelby Reynolds at shelby.reynolds@naplesnews.com; 239-263-4829

The roads are clear. The beaches are no longer crammed with umbrellas and beach chairs. The restaurants have lulled to a quiet hum.

Season is over.

And to celebrate, several Naples restaurants have introduced summer dining specials friendly to the local budget. Time to break out the stretchy pants.

Barbatella

Barbatella announced its summer specials, including three daily deals:

- \$11.95 lunch at the bar, including a glass of house red or white wine, from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Happy hour at the bar, including two-for-one cocktails, beer and wine by the glass, from 3 to 7 p.m.
- \$28.50 sunset menu, including appetizer, entree and dessert from 5 p.m. to close

Other specials include:

- Monday: Buy one, get one pizza (regular pizza menu only)
- Tuesday: Lasagna Bolognese and a glass of red or white wine for \$16.95
- Wednesday: Half-priced bottles of wine under \$100 (no corkage fees)

Barbatella, 1290 Third St. S., downtown Naples, 239-263-1955. barbatellanaples.com

Bleu Provence

Bleu Provence is offering an early dining special from 5 to 7 p.m. Sundays through Thursdays this summer.

Bleu Provence is offering an early dining special from 5 to 7 p.m. Sundays through Thursdays this summer. Three courses — an appetizer, entrée and dessert — are \$32.99. The special is not available on major holidays and reservations must be made for no later than 6:45 p.m.

Entrée choices are Florida pompano, sautéed wild pink Argentinian shrimp, Mediterranean sea bass, duck leg confit and pork shank.

Bleu Provence also has an \$8.99 special for Quiche Lorraine and a glass of featured wine from 5 to 7 p.m. daily at the Bar at Bleu. The special coincides with the daily happy hour at the bar when patrons can purchase \$5 drinks, featured glasses of wine and small bites. Receive a complimentary glass of featured wine with the purchase of any entrée at the bar from 5 p.m. to close Sundays and Mondays.

Bleu Provence, 1234 Eighth St. S., Naples; 239-261-8239. bleuprovincenaples.com/early-dining

The Continental

The Continental rolled out its summer lunch specials menu, offering a choice of pick-two items for \$14, or a pick-two for \$18. First course options include: Continental salad, tomato, cucumber and ricotta salata; escarole Caesar, Parmigiano, brioche croutons; and soup of the day.

Second course options include: six-ounce Continental burger with bacon, cheese, tomato and Mac sauce; half-pastrami sandwich, caramelized onion and Gruyere cheese; herb-roasted salmon, potatoes, egg, roasted onions, mustard vinaigrette and watercress; half meatloaf sandwich, aged cheddar cheese, house pickles and horseradish mayonnaise; and half filet mignon sandwich, caramelized onions, tomato and horseradish aioli.

The pick-two for \$18 option also includes choice of two steak cuts or fish of the day.

The bar at The Continental also introduced a summer happy hour program, featuring 10, Prohibition-era cocktails for \$7 each, four wines for \$5 each, more than 20 beers and hard ciders for \$5 each and small plates for \$7 each. Happy hour is available from 3 to 6 p.m. daily

Other daily specials include:

- Sunday: \$50, three-course dinner for two, plus \$25 wine bottle options
- Wednesday: All-day steak and lobster for \$29.95
- Thursday: Half off all wine bottles under \$200

D'Amicos The Continental, 1205 Third St. S., downtown Naples, 239-659-0007. damicoscontinental.com

In the Know: [Frankie's brings authentic Italian deli to Naples area](#)

D'Amico & Sons

New daily specials were introduced for the summer at D'Amico & Sons:

- Monday through Saturday: Pick two for \$12 lunch menu
- Monday: Mussels appetizer for \$8.99 or mussel pasta dish \$17.99
- Tuesday: Half-priced wine bottles
- Wednesday: Ravioli night
- Sunday: Date night menu, \$50 three-course dinner for two

D'Amico & Sons, 4691 Ninth St., Naples, 239-430-0955. naples.damicoandsons.com

The French

A new lunch special kicked off Monday at The French. Offered from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. daily, the two-course, casual brasserie \$22 lunch will feature Chef Vincenzo Betulia's twist on the most beloved classic French dishes.

First course options include: petite French onion soup; tomato gazpacho, cucumber and Espellete; deviled farm eggs and caviar; petite market green salad; and steak tartare baguette and cornichons.

Second course options include garganelli, serrano ham, peas and cream; steamed mussels and vadouvan curry; Croque Madame, sauce mornay and fried farm egg; chicken salad croissant, apple and tarragon; duck leg confit, potato lyonnaise and mustard; and bacon and onion tart, crème fraiche and chive.

The French Brasserie Rustique, 365 Fifth Ave. S., downtown Naples; 239-315-4019. thefrenchnaples.com

I Burnt Mine BBQ

with potato salad and baked beans on the side at I Burnt Mine, 3802 U.S. 41 E. (Photo: Staff)

I Burnt Mine BBQ will bring back its local-friendly summer special: just say "I'm a local" to receive 10 percent off your food order, either dine in or carry out. Happy hour pricing is also available for weeknight dinner orders (dine in only):

- Buy one dinner, get one half-priced (or buy four and get one free)
- Half-priced beer and wine from 4 to 6 p.m. weekdays
- Five lunch specials available from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily
- Share an [I Burnt Mine BBQ Facebook](#) post and check-in to the restaurant to get a 20 percent off coupon on your next visit (can't be combined with other offers)

I Burnt Mine BBQ, 3802 U.S. 41 E., East Naples; 239-234-5260. iburntmine.com

Lamoraga

Lamoraga introduced a new summer dinner menu from 4 to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The seven entrée options (\$19 to \$25) include Piri-Piri swordfish over soft polenta and sautéed arugula, beef short ribs with homemade mashed potatoes and the vegetable of the day, truffle fettuccine, grilled pork with a cucumber salad, sautéed Gulf snapper over polenta, grilled chicken rigatoni, and a four-ounce filet mignon.

Lamoraga, 3936 U.S. 41 N., Naples; 239-331-3669. lamoragarestaurant.com

Mel's Diner

Mel's Diner rolled out its lineup of summer dining specials at each of its Southwest Florida locations.

For breakfast, diners can choose from:

- Three eggs, three pancakes and three pieces of bacon for \$ 5.99
- Two eggs, ham, potatoes and two pancakes for \$7.99
- Blue Zone egg whites, spinach and avocado wrap for \$7.99

And for lunch:

- Black Angus cheeseburger with French fries and coleslaw for \$6.99
- Fajita salad for \$7.99
- Pulled pork sandwich for \$7.99

A dinner special is available for two people for \$20, and includes a homemade soup or salad, a choice of entree — barbecue meatloaf, baked fish Athena, barbecue pork chops or cantina chicken — and a shared banana split or brownie sundae.

Mel's Diner, 3650 U.S. 41 N., North Naples; 12035 Collier Blvd., Golden Gate; 28601 Trails Edge Blvd., Bonita Springs; 4820 Cleveland Ave., Fort Myers; 1331 NE Pine Island Road, Cape Coral. melsdiner.com

Noodles

Noodles Italian Cafe & Sushi Bar introduced a summer dinner for two for \$50 available from 4 to 10 p.m. daily. The meal includes a bottle of house wine, choice of house or Caesar salad, choice of entree — chicken and broccoli, homemade meatball with spaghetti, Italian sausage onion and peppers, homemade fettuccine chicken carbonara, chicken Parmesan, chicken Marsala or homemade lobster raviolis — and one large cannoli.

Live entertainment and happy hour is also available in the lounge from 4 to 9 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday.

Sushi is 25 percent off from 4 to 10 p.m. Saturday for dine-in orders only. Complimentary sake with purchase of \$50 or more. Mention this promotion at time of visit.

Noodles Italian Cafe & Sushi Bar, 1585 Pine Ridge Road, suite 5, North Naples; 239-592-0050; noodlescafe.com

Ridgway Bar & Grill

summer promotions, including two fixed price dinner options. (Photo: Michael Caronchi/Submitted)

The following summer promotions are now available at Ridgway Bar & Grill:

- Two prix fixe dinner menus are available daily from 4:30 p.m. to close, at \$29 or \$39 for two courses per person, featuring a selection of appetizer and entree options from the regular a la carte dinner menu
- Half-priced drinks by the glass (cocktails, beer and wine) from 3 to 6 p.m. daily at the bar
- Niman Ranch rib dinner special on Wednesday

Ridgway Bar & Grill, 1300 Third St. S., downtown Naples; 239-262-5500. ridgwaybarandgrill.com

Ristorante Ciao

Ristorante Ciao is now offering its \$25 summer dining special from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. The special includes a salad, a choice of five entrees and a bottle of pinot grigio or Montepulciano wine for two people.

Ristorante Ciao, 835 Fourth Ave. S., downtown Naples; 239-263-3889. ristoranteciao.com

Sea Salt

Sea Salt announced its summer specials, including three daily deals:

- \$12.95 lunch at the bar, including a glass of house red or white wine, from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

- Happy hour at the bar, including half-priced cocktails, beer and wine by the glass, from 3 to 7 p.m.
- \$34 chef's sunset menu, including appetizer, entree and dessert, from 5 p.m. to close

Other specials include:

- Monday: Half-priced bottles of wine less than \$100 (no corkage fees)
- Sunday: \$2 oysters and \$5 mimosas or bloody mary
- Thursday through Sunday night: Live music

Sea Salt, 1186 Third St. S., downtown Naples, 239-434-7258. seasaltnaples.com

More: [Dining in Naples: Five of the best things we tasted in April](#)

Skillets

A budget menu will be available weekdays from June 1 through Sept. 30 (except holidays) at all Southwest Florida Skillets restaurants. Children younger than 10 eat free on Tuesdays with one adult meal.

Budget breakfast options cost \$8.95. Those options are:

- Noreen's breakfast with steamed spinach, grilled tomato slices, avocado slices, poached egg, wheat toast and fruit cup
- Breakfast skillet: two eggs your way over potatoes; includes bacon or sausage, toast, fruit cup
- Skillet omelet with bacon, tomato and Swiss cheese topped with potatoes; toast and fruit cup
- PanEgger includes one buttermilk or whole wheat pancake, two eggs your way, bacon or pork sausage and a fruit cup

Budget lunches cost \$8.95. Those options are:

- Grilled chicken cheese quesadilla with roasted peppers, salsa and ranchero sauce with a small house salad
- Mediterranean wrap with romaine lettuce, Kalamata olives, cucumber, tomato and Greek dressing (add \$1 for chicken), with a bowl of fruit
- BLT sandwich with chips
- Ham and cheese panini on a croissant with chips

Skillets, 9174 Bonita Beach Road, Bonita Springs, 239-992-9333; 5628 Strand Blvd., North Naples, 239-596-8202; 5461 Airport-Pulling Road N., North Naples, 239-566-1999; 7711 Collier Blvd., Lely, 239-732-9786; 4170 U.S. 41 N., Naples, 239-262-3788; 847 Vanderbilt Beach Road, North Naples, 239-330-2515; 10950 Eagle Village Drive, Suite 330C, Fort Myers, 239-471-0553; skilletsrestaurants.com

Timeless

Due to the overwhelming popularity of its National Grilled Cheese Day special, Timeless is continuing its special through the summer. Every Tuesday, indulge in Chef David Nelson's three previously sold-out grilled cheese creations: fried green tomato and bacon on sourdough bread for \$14; smoked brisket and cheddar on caraway rye for \$16; and the Timeless signature top-selling lunch dish, French Onion Grilled Cheese featuring caramelized onions, gruyere, cheese curds and rosemary butter.

Timeless: An MHK Eatery, 90 U.S. 41 N., Naples; 239-331-4325. TimelessEatery.com

Dining review: [Timeless a destination for modern American dining](#)

Truluck's

Truluck's "summer escape menu" features three courses — five entree choices — for \$55. Live entertainment is also available nightly.

Truluck's, 698 Fourth Ave. S., downtown Naples; 239-530-3131. trulucks.com

The Warehouse

It's summertime at The Warehouse. New daily specials are available at the restaurant, but cannot be combined with its already existing early dining special (20 percent off entire check), which is available from 4 to 5:30 p.m. daily in the dining room only.

Here's what's new:

- Tuesday: Double points for all loyalty program members
- Wednesday: Half-priced wine bottles and glasses of wine less than \$100
- Thursday: Half-priced all beers (draft or bottle)
- Sunday: Children eat free with purchase of an adult entree

New menu items will also begin June 1.

The Warehouse Cuisine and Cocktails, 9010 Bellaire Bay Drive, North Naples; 239-231-4073. thewarehousenaples.com

Wharf Tavern

Wharf Tavern added new summer specials to its lineup of regular deals and discounts. Here's what's new:

- Happy hour from 4 to 6 p.m. daily at the restaurant and bar
- Two live Maine lobster specials: \$21.99 for a single, or \$35.99 for two
- \$7 off fried seafood with purchase of a beverage and with coupon found in Friday and Saturday's Naples Daily News
- Buy one, get one free entrees available 4 p.m. to close Sunday through Thursday with coupon found in Wednesday's Naples Daily News

*Wharf Taverns Restaurant & Lobster house, 909 10th St. S., Naples; 239-331-4053.
wharftavernnaples.com*

ZAZA Kitchen

ZAZA Kitchen announced its daily summer specials. Each day it offers fajitas for two with a bottle of wine or pitcher of sangria or ZAZARITA for \$34.95; or a free glass of wine with any chef special featuring meals of filet mignon, fresh salmon, carne asada, chicken Parmigiana and pasta.

Other daily specials are:

- Sunday: Two-for-one sangria
- Monday: Two-for-one ZAZARITA and children younger than 12 eat free
- Tuesday: Happy hour all day and \$2 tacos (ground beef)
- Wednesday: Two-for-one wine
- Thursday: \$4 sangria and ZAZARITA and children younger than 12 eat free
- Friday: Children younger than 12 eat free; chicken fajitas for \$9.99

ZAZA Kitchen, 1095 Bald Eagle Drive, Marco Island, 239-970-5205. eatatzaza.com