

# must do!



## DINING

Sarasota serves up a creative menu...

...From casual crab shacks on the beach to European-style al fresco dining, Sarasota and its surrounding area - offers an award-winning restaurant scene that attracts travelers as much as the numerous art galleries, theaters and museums that abound in the destination.

Boasting one of the highest concentrations of Zagat-rated restaurants in all of Florida, Sarasota restaurants are known for serving up creative menus that blend unique local ingredients with international flavor and taste bud altering talent.

### Best Place to Come by Boat!

#### [Nokomis] **Pop's Sunset Grill**

Popular with area locals for the friendly staff, casual waterfront attitude and abundance of food, it's commonplace to see the restaurant's onsite dock lined up with boaters waiting for an open slip, on a sunny afternoon.

Appetizers, deemed Mooch's Munchies for the resident dolphin that inhabits the waters near the restaurant, sound like they could be meals in themselves and range from fried gator bites to calamari. Entrees feature Sunset Signature Sandwiches including a Mahi Reuben and Crab Salad. Children's entrees and "fry" baskets are available.

Unique to Pop's Sunset Grill is the convenience of account access. Guests may customize their ordering by reviewing, editing, or changing past orders online.

941-488-3177 | [www.popssunsetgrill.net](http://www.popssunsetgrill.net)

### Best Place for a Cocktail!

[Sarasota] Situated on Hillview Avenue's hottest corner, **Big Sugar Restaurant & Rum Bar** has taken a taste of the Caribbean and applied it to its menu with appetizers that include St. Martin Shrimp Fritters and Guava Chicken Wings. For a more hearty selection, both "land" and "sea" menu selections provide diners with food assortments such as the Sugar Cane Caramelized Pork Tenderloin, Big Sugar Jerk Chicken Breast, Tobago Wahoo and Antigua Tilefish. Vegetarian items are delectably served for those who prefer a lighter fare.

Big Sugar Restaurant and Rum Bar is open for lunch and dinner Monday through Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.,

We're not what you're used to:  
We're what you want!



Bring in this ad and receive  
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Restaurant & Rum Bar

1900 HILLVIEW STREET  
SARASOTA

(941) 388-7679

[www.bigsugarsarasota.com](http://www.bigsugarsarasota.com)

"Old Florida" at its finest! A Waterfront-dining "Oasis".

## Pop's Sunset Grill

*Come by land or boat.*

*Fresh seafood, burgers, baskets, salads and more.*

*Lunch & Dinner - 11am - 9pm (seasonally)*

*Open Year-Round*

*Enjoy indoor and outdoor dining.*

*To see our complete menu, check  
calendar of events or to place your next current  
or future takeaway order on-line.*

*[www.popssunsetgrilltogo.com](http://www.popssunsetgrilltogo.com)*



**941-488-3177**

Pop's Sunset Grill - 112 Circuit Road - Nokomis, Florida

Directions: U.S. 41 into Nokomis. Go West. on Albee Road., just prior to Gulf Harbor Marina and Intracoastal bridge, turn left on Circuit Road., restaurant is one block on the right.

Friday from 11:30 a.m. - 2 a.m. and Saturday for dinner 5:00 p.m. to 2 a.m. Outdoor patio seating is available.

941-388-7679 | [www.bigsugarsarasota.com](http://www.bigsugarsarasota.com)

**Best Place for Authentic Italian Delights!**

**[Sarasota] Café Epicure**

If you're walking down Sarasota's gallery-lined Palm Avenue, you will come across Café Epicure, an Italian trattoria sitting on the corner of Main Street.

The vibrant atmosphere of Café Epicure welcomes guests at the door and invites them on a journey to a great dining experience.

Chef Stefano Sasso, a native of Ischia, an island off the Naples coast, prepares each dish carefully using only the freshest ingredients. The pizza chef, Giuseppe del Sole, also a native of Ischia, bakes the real pizza napoletana, in a state-of-the-art wood burning oven. There is a new and beautiful martini bar inside the restaurant and under the supervision of Alessandro di Ferdinando, a native of Abruzzi, provides guests with fresh fruit cocktails and tropical mixtures, unique to many restaurants.

There's a wide variety of choices on the Café Epicure's menu, each one true to the original recipe of the Italian region it was created in and prepared with the finest ingredients available on the market.

In addition to the main course, visitors cannot leave the restaurant without strolling by the dessert case, a breathtaking display of homemade gelato, cakes and pastries, prepared fresh daily by pastry chef Oren. The restaurant's wine list offers over 200 bottles of wines divided by Italian regions and worldwide, all carefully selected by the owner Giovanni Migliorini, also the host at this establishment. **941-366-5648**

**Can't Decide?**

Those looking for a more casual approach to great food have many options in Sarasota as well. Patrick's downtown offers an inviting place to mingle with the locals and bite into an all-American burger. Those looking for home-cooking and farm-fresh flavor should head to Sarasota's Amish-Mennonite restaurants such as Yoder's (especially for a sampling of their apple pie), and for the best views in town, guests should visit the Crow's Nest Marina Restaurant in Venice, Old Salty Dog on City Island and Marina Jack's downtown.

From the jumbo stone crab claws at Crab & Fin on St. Armand's Circle, to flounder stuffed with brie, spinach and crab at Mattison's City Grill, to fresh, organic and locally grown cuisine offered at Vernona at the Sarasota Ritz-Carlton, travelers are greeted by an imaginative array of choices sure to please even the most discriminating of palates. \*

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