



Artisan 179

Wisconsin Restaurants

179 W. Wisconsin Avenue (Pewaukee)

\$18-\$48, Farm to Table, pasta, steak, pork, chicken, seafood, lamb, excellent wine list.

Closed Sunday

<https://www.artisan179.com>

RED = excellent

6/2/2024

GREEN = good

BLACK = visited



Balzac Wine Bar

Wisconsin Restaurants

1716 N. Arlington Place (Milwaukee)

\$7-\$23, small plates, cheese and charcuterie, great wine list including many dessert wines, can reserve wine tasting, some outdoor seating.
www.balzacwinebar.com

My 2018 review:

My wife and I were in town visiting family and seven of us stopped by yesterday. It was a gorgeous night and we were lucky to get a table on the patio. The patio is decent size and was a nice relaxing space to wine, dine and chat. It is next to a small, parking area with meters, but was not noisy at all.

Between the seven of us, we tried many different small plate options. They were all very good to excellent. Tasty, decent size for a small plate, and well presented. The only thing they did not have on hand was the swordfish.

Baked Brie – was excellent – we actually had two servings of this.

Roasted Cauliflower and Asparagus were fresh and tasty.

Crab Cakes were nice chunks of crab meat that were served in 3, small cakes.

Tuna Tartare was fresh and spiced just right.

Sea Scallops were large and seared just right – not underdone or overdone.

Margherita Flatbread was good.

Pork Belly – I did not taste this, but heard it was good.

Meatballs – excellent.

Churrasco Steak – excellent and very spicy. Loved it.

Duck nachos were in excellent as other have mentioned.

We also had a couple of desserts which were also done well – Flourless chocolate torte and strawberry shortcake.

Lots of nice wine choices as well. A number by the glass and by the bottle.

Most are reasonably priced and many that are not too common. So, you will likely find something to try here that you have not had before – isn't that the fun part of a wine bar – to try new things?

The service was excellent, and I like how they bring out the food as it is ready rather than all at once.

Our waitress was fairly new and could not answer the questions we had about the wine, but she was able to get the answers from more experienced staff inside.



Wisconsin Restaurants

Balzac Wine Bar (continued)

If we lived nearby, this would be one of my go to places for good food and good wine – especially in the summer when I can enjoy that outside on a patio.

Oh - almost forgot - lots of gluten-free options as well.

Braising Pan

1100 N Main St. (West Bend)

American, German, #3 on TA – especially great breakfast reviews. Patio.
Currently CLOSED (Burned down in Sept. 2022).

Friday fish fry (reservations suggested).

Closed Monday. Sundays 8am-2pm.

<https://thebraisingpan.com>

Casa Tequila

150 S. Main St. (West Bend)

Mexican - part of a small chain with locations in Hartford, Waukesha, Pewaukee

One of the best moles I have had outside of Texas. Tasty and a little spicy and the chicken was flavorful.

Flour tortillas were excellent – freshly made and held up well after putting food in them. Jan liked her enchiladas. They have a number of margarita's. We had the large La Casa (\$20). It was huge. I liked it, Jan thought it was a bit sweet.

The fried ice cream dessert was original and not Americanized with chocolate sauce.

Good service. Parking readily available.

<https://mycasatequila.com/>

Cooper's Hawk and Winery

Brookfield Square mall

\$25-\$33, Nice place for lunch or dinner. Excellent value priced wine list.

Nice appetizers, steak, pasta, seafood.

www.coopershawkwinery.com/



Wisconsin Restaurants

Bartolotta (ristorante)	7616 W. State Street (Wauwatosa)	\$75 – 4 course tasting, Italian, has a small patio (no reservations for the patio) Closed Monday-Tuesday. ★★★★ - Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Wine Spectator Award of Excellence winner since 2003 Named One of the 101 Best Restaurants in America for 2020 by The Daily Meal Named One of The 25 Best Italian Restaurants In America by Thrillist.com www.bartolottas.com/ristorante-bartolotta
Bibingers	3747 Cedar Creek Rd (Slinger)	Scratch cooking. \$24-\$29 Pork, chicken, salmon, duck. sandwiches, wraps. See below for fish fry. Patio. Closed Sunday, Monday. https://www.bibingers.com
Cabana Mexican Cantina	1102 E Paradise Dr (West Bend)	Mexican. Some outside dining with nice background music. Jan liked her chimichanga, but my chicken mole was nothing special. They only have basic margaritas which were not too good. Would not return mainly because of that. Service average.
Chancery	11046 N Port Washington Rd (Mequon)	\$14-\$20, pub food, burgers, tacos, pasta, fish fry, pizza https://www.thechancery.com/
Chinatown Kitchen	1446 W Washington St (West Bend)	Chinese. Closed Monday. Huge menu. Mostly carry-out, small inside dining. Curry chicken was very good with lots of onions, pea pods, carrots and some celery. It could have had a bit more chicken. Jan did NOT like her chicken chow mein. Way too many onions and very little chicken. https://www.chinatownwestbendwi.com/
Copper Dock	1474 E Friess Lake Dr (Hubertus) 19 minutes (13 miles) from home	\$24-\$42, steak, seafood, ribs, chicken, duck, lamb. Friday fish fry. Sunday brunch (\$33). Overlooking a lake, outdoor seating (try in summer). Closed Monday. http://thecopperdock.com/



Wisconsin Restaurants

Fox & Hounds

1298 Friess Lake Road (Hubertus)
20 minutes (14 miles) from home

\$39-\$52, steak, ribs, chicken, duck, pasta, seafood, fish fry, beautiful scenery, some outside seating, reservations required.

Friday fish fry.

Supper club setting. Live entertainment on some Saturdays.

Most menu items are buy 1 get 1. So, the above prices would end up being the cost for two meals.

<https://foxandhoundsrestaurant.com/>

Gary's Place

110 Wisconsin Street (West Bend)

\$12-\$30, casual, burgers, panini's, wraps, sandwiches, tacos, pizza, ribs, steak, open for lunch and dinner. Lots of beers on tap. No wine to speak of. Large patio. Closed Mondays.

Patio was very nice. I had the blackened cod tacos that were 3 tasty tacos, but not too spicy. Jan had a Reuben that was very good – a nice chunk of corned beef rather than thin slices or shaved meat.

<https://garysplacewb.com/>

George Webb's

852 S Main St (West Bend)

A good standby any time of the day for breakfast or burgers.

<https://georgewebb.com>

Good Day Cafe

2400 W Washington St (West Bend)

Breakfast and lunch only.

Arrived on a Saturday at 11:30am and had to wait to be seated for 30 minutes – it was very busy.

I had the kielbasa and eggs and pancakes. The sausage and eggs were good, but the pancakes were cold.

My wife had the pancakes as a full order and hers were hot and good.

Only maple syrup. The food came quickly, but the server did not stop by again to refill coffee or water until we were almost done.

Service needs to be more attentive than that.

<https://www.gooddaycafereviews.com>

Hank's Restaurant &
Drinkery

11 S Main St (Hartford – 20 minutes)

Bar food. **Try their chili and Chicago dogs** when in the area.

RED = excellent

GREEN = good

BLACK = visited

6/2/2024

Page 5



Wisconsin Restaurants

Heileman's	5723 W Lake Dr (West Bend)	Bar and pizza only. Opens at 4pm weekdays and 11am on the weekend. Rents pontoons. https://www.houseofheilemans.com/
Jug's Hitching Post	5781 Main Street (West Bend)	\$11-\$19 Burgers, sandwiches, pizza, patio. Tuesday is Mexican food night - \$12-\$18 Wednesday is rib night - \$16-\$24 Thursday and Saturdays are steak night (filet, prime rib, lobster) - \$24-\$35 Charges 4% for using a credit card. https://jugshitchingpost.wordpress.com/
Jumbo's	1014 S Main St (West Bend)	Custard, burgers, sandwiches, hot dogs, small patio https://jumbosfrozenscustard.com/
Krimmer's	114 North Main Street (West Bend)	\$39-\$46 , steakhouse, also has seafood and chicken, limited wine list, closed Tuesday, Sunday https://krimmersrestaurant.com/
Linden Inn (Closed?)	4919 State Hwy 144 (Hartford)	\$22-\$46, steak, ribs, seafood, chicken, pasta, pizza, Friday fish fry, on Big Cedar Lake – some outside seating. Sunday brunch - \$16, Saturday prime rib. Closed Monday-Tuesday. A lot of bad reviews – great view, but bad food. http://www.linden-inn.com/
Little Red Inn	4900 Hwy 175 (Hartford)	\$20-\$45, Steak, veal, Wiener Schnitzel, prime rib on Saturday Veal dishes were just ok – nothing special. Joshua had a veal chop stuffed with cheese and prosciutto, but some parts were either under cooked or tough. Small wine list, but good prices. Full bar. Closed Monday, Tuesday. https://www.littleredinn.com/



Wisconsin Restaurants

Main Street Café

817 S Main St (West Bend)

Breakfast, lunch and dinner, casual, mostly tables, some booths
Lots of choices for breakfast including crepes and omelets.
We had breakfast here (plain crepes and gyro omelets). Very good.
Fee to pay with a credit card. Service was average. Have to pay at the bar.
<https://www.mainstreetcafewi.com/>

MJ Stevens Pub and Restaurant

5260 Aurora Road (Hartford)

steak, ribs, sandwiches, fish fry on Friday, pasta, prime rib special on Thursday and Saturday. Sunday - brunch only - looks to be average.
Dark, wood interior – supper club feel.
Had lunch here in July 2023. They have a large patio with resin tables and chairs, but would not seat us here for lunch as they did not have enough staff working that day.
<https://mj-stevens.com/>

Norbert (The)

115 South Main Street (West Bend)

\$14-\$32, #1 on TA, Small plates, tapas. Small wine list.
A few tables outdoors. Closed Sunday, Monday.
<https://thenorbert.com>

Olde Cedar Inn

5802 State Rd. 144 (West Bend)

\$10-\$40, burgers, wraps, steak, fish fry, frogs legs, broasted chicken, prime rib and rib specials on Saturdays, closed Monday-Tuesday.
Burgers were ok, but nothing special. Gourmet burger did have lots of bacon. The dining room is noisy when the bar is crowded. Service was average.
<https://oldecedarinn.com/>



Orville (The)

Wisconsin Restaurants

518 Poplar St. (West Bend)

\$25-\$36, Italian, medium sized menu and wine list. All wines except one were under \$50. Has line caught Icelandic cod fish fry (\$20).

½ priced wine on Thursdays. **Closed Sundays**. Large patio. Seating on the first floor and second floor. There is a bar on the second floor as well. We had an excellent meal here. We ate here on a Thursday, so the wine was ½ price. We chose the most expensive bottle on the list, Penfolds Bin 389 (normally \$98, we paid \$49).

I started with the steak tartare appetizer (\$17) that was maybe the best I have ever had – nice flavored meat with a touch of horseradish on two, large crostini topped with finely, finely shredded parmesan cheese.

Jan had the Orville salad (\$10) which was a large tasty bowl of greens with apricots, bleu cheese and pecans.

For our entrees, we both had a fresh, home made pasta dish. I had the Bolognese (\$22) and Jan had the gnocchi (\$20). Both were excellent, large portions.

We had tiramisu (\$9) for dessert. It was also excellent – very delicate and you could taste the coffee liqueur.

We also had a ruby port (\$10) with the dessert.

Service was excellent and nothing was rushed or too slow.

The owners also own The Nobert.

<https://www.theorvillewb.com/>

Parkside Twenty Three

2300 Pilgrim Square Drive (Brookfield)

\$14-\$36, varied farm to table menu. ½ priced wine on Wednesday.

Large selection of beer. Friday fish fry (\$20 – cod).

Special outdoor tasting menu in July and August.

Closed Sunday.

Owners of Chancery, Original Pancake House and Jose's Blue Sombrero

<https://www.parkside23.com>



Wisconsin Restaurants

Pearl of Can Ton

102 S Main St (West Bend)

Chinese, Sushi. Closed Monday.

Jan liked her Kung Pao and I liked my curry chicken. They were both large portions with a lot of chicken. My curry was served in a hot, cast iron pan that helped to keep everything nice and hot.

The crab Rangoon were large and hot a lot of cream cheese.

Service was fast and friendly. They have a few beers and cocktails as well as some value priced wine. Parking on the side streets.

<https://www.pearlofcanton.com>

Riverside Brewery

255 South Main Street (West Bend)

\$25-\$35 (higher for steak, burgers \$16), #1 on TA, craft beers, lunch, dinner. Steak, chicken, ribs, jambalaya, pasta, burgers
Friday fish fry, Saturday prime rib.

A few tables on a patio along the creek.

Ate on the patio for lunch in 2022 and enjoyed it.

Closed Monday and Tuesday.

<https://riversidebreweryandrestaurant.com>

Skinny Vic's

804 W Paradise Dr (West Bend)

Breakfast and lunch only.

I had the cheesesteak omelet (\$15). It had tenderloin steak, onions, green peppers and mozzarella cheese. Plenty of steak and cheese – very good.

Jan had the cheese omelet, but they did not have American cheese.

Coffee was better than average. Service was fine, but we had to wait about 10 minutes to be seated even though there were 5-6 open tables.

Staffing issue?

Closed Monday. They are a small chain with restaurants in other parts of the state.

<https://skinnyvicswestbend.com/>



Wisconsin Restaurants

Texas Roadhouse

800 W. Paradise (West Bend)

Steakhouse. Lots of steak options: prime rib, NY strip, rib eye, T-bone, porterhouse, “filet”. Their filet was not filet mignon, but was very good and cooked correctly. You can choose 2 sides including salad and chili. Limited beer selection.

Bread/rolls were excellent. Chili was good. Jan did not like the baked potato – too salty. Fast service.

If you want peanut sin the shell, grab a bag as you enter. They have buckets at the table for the shells.

Timmer’s

5151 Timmer Bay Rd (West Bend)

\$26-\$42, steak, fish, chicken, ribs, pork chop, fish fry, patio looks like a nice wine list. Closed Sunday-Monday
Small menu and small wine list. Menu is focused on steak, but does have some burgers, chicken and seafood. Great onion rings. Service was average.

They also have a reserve wine list that you can ask to order from.

Nice, cabin/lodge décor inside, and patio faces the lake.

Reservations required.

<https://timmersresort.com/>

West Bend Creamery

600 N Main St (West Bend)

New in 2023. Custard, burgers.

Lot of patio seating at picnic tables plus some seating inside.

Vanilla custard tasted good, but was a little grainy. Mint chocolate chip was creamy, but only had a few chips.

<https://westbendcreamery.com/>

Wissota Chophouse

101 Park Avenue (Hartford)

\$44-\$99, steakhouse, some seafood and burgers

Steakhouse feel inside, has patio. Closed Sunday and Monday.

<https://www.wissotachophouse.com/hartford>



Zin

Wisconsin Restaurants

629 Main St (Delafield)

\$16-\$28, Italian. One of our favorite places so far. A couple of outside patios.

Nice list of appetizers and soups, pasta, pizza, chicken, short ribs, burgers, steak. Closed Sunday.

www.zincredible.com



Wisconsin Fish Fry

* Caleb Westphal reviews: <https://milwaukee-record.com/tag/fish-fry/> and <https://milwaukee-record.com/food-drink/the-best-fish-frys-in-milwaukee-and-beyond/>

5 O'clock club

N28W26658 Peterson Drive (Pewaukee)

Long wait. Last ate here in 2020. It gets rave reviews, but we thought it was nothing special and not worth a repeat visit. <https://the5oclockclubpewaukee.com>

* Bibinger's

3747 Cedar Creek Rd (Slinger)

Haddock \$15. See above for food other than fish fry. 3 pieces of dense fish with light breading. Good tarter, unique coleslaw not too creamy or spicy. Homemade kettle chips were excellent, seasoned fries were average. Good choice of beers, we liked MKE Louie's Demise best. Raised Grain Guitar City Lager was also good. Lots of bourbon and whiskey choices. Reservations are available. When we arrived our table was ready – no waiting. The ceilings are low and made of wood – it was very noisy. Fast service. Excellent fish, reservations available, but very noisy. They have a VIP membership where you can earn points and get discounts on food. Open 4-8 Tue-Thu, 4-9 Fri-Sat, closed Sunday, Monday. <https://www.bibingers.com>

* Clifford's Supper Club

10418 W. Forest Home Ave. (Hales Corners)

Fish Fry 7 days a week 4.5* <https://www.cliffordssupperclub.com/>

Jug's Hitching Post

5781 Main Street (West Bend)

\$12-\$21, cod or haddock. patio. Charges 4% for using a credit card. See above for other food. <https://jugshitchingpost.wordpress.com/>



Wisconsin Fish Fry

* Caleb Westphal reviews: <https://milwaukeeerrecord.com/tag/fish-fry/> and <https://milwaukeeerrecord.com/food-drink/the-best-fish-frys-in-milwaukee-and-beyond/>

* Kegel's Inn

5901 W. National (West Allis)

\$15-\$33, German, \$16 Friday fish fry (cod), potato pancakes \$2 extra, large patio

Joshua loves their fish fry.

<https://kegelsinn.com/>

Nuckleheadz Bar & Grill

3680 County Hwy NN (West Bend)

\$14-\$16, cod, perch, blue gill, lots of good reviews on Goggle. Closed Monday and Tuesday.

<https://www.facebook.com/nuckleheadz.bargrill>

Lakefront Brewery

1872 North Commerce Street (Milwaukee)

\$19, beer battered cod. We liked their beer and brats. Need to try the fish fry (4pm-9pm).

They take limited reservations on Fridays for seatings from 4-5pm.

4* <https://lakefrontbrewery.com>

Little Red Inn

4900 Hwy 175 (Hartford)
15 minutes from home

Family Style Fish Fry with AYCE Icelandic cod (\$15.95), hand breaded perch (\$18.95).

The fish is served with fries and potato pancakes. The cod are small chunks of lightly battered fish. Tarter sauce was nothing special. Coleslaw was excellent – similar to KFC.

Large parking Lot. Seating in the first and second floors. We were seated right away and the service was excellent. The food was also served quickly. Nice ambiance, not too noisy.

<https://www.littleredinn.com/>



Wisconsin Fish Fry

* Caleb Westphal reviews: <https://milwaukeeerrecord.com/tag/fish-fry/> and <https://milwaukeeerrecord.com/food-drink/the-best-fish-frys-in-milwaukee-and-beyond/>

Olde Cedar Inn

5802 State Rd. 144 (West Bend)

\$13-\$18, beer battered haddock (AYCE - \$18), haddock, perch
small dining room and a bar area when waiting for a table. The bar makes it noisy on the dining room.

The initial serving is about 5 pieces of fish and may be enough for most people. It is a light beer batter with large, dense pieces of fish. Very good overall. Tarter is smooth and tasty, slaw had more of an oily sauce with some pepper – unique and tasty. I had German potato salad as my side and it was very good. The steak fries were basically a half of a potato cut into 4 large slices.

They DO take reservations.

<https://oldecedarinn.com/>

Orville (The)

518 Poplar St. (West Bend)

Dinner here was excellent. Large patio.

Has line caught Icelandic cod fish fry (\$20)

<https://www.theorvillewb.com/>

* Pat's Oak Manor

1804-15th Avenue (South Milwaukee)

\$12 beer battered cod, \$14.50 all you can eat cod, also has beer battered walleye, blue gill, perch, catfish
Top rated.

* Randy's Neighbor's Inn

6922 W. Becher (West Allis)

Range Line Inn

2635 W Mequon Rd (Mequon)
40 minutes from home. Try when in the area?

Quite place to dine in a cozy atmosphere.

Highly rated.

List Riverside here for ff

Serb Hall

5101 W. Oklahoma Ave. (Milwaukee)

Served 3:30pm-8:30pm, classic cod, Serbian style Icelandic cod, haddock, perch

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Wisconsin Fish Fry

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Sloppy Joe's Saloon & Spoon

3723 Hubertus Rd. (Hubertus)
20 minutes south

beer battered haddock (\$11.99 / \$2 for additional pieces), baked haddock (\$13.99), and beer battered lake perch (\$15.99)
<https://gosloppyjoes.com/>

Timmer's

5151 Timmer Bay Rd (West Bend)

\$14 cod - 2 pieces, \$19 cod – 4 pieces, perch, walleye, patio
<https://timmersresort.com/>

* Top of the Ridge

113 Cedar Ridge Drive (West Bend)

Icelandic cod \$12 for 2 pieces, \$16 for 4 pieces. Fish pieces are very large – 2 is generally enough. Large, moist and tasty fish and a nice light beer batter – excellent. Coleslaw and bread were good. German potato salad side was very good.
Also available: perch=\$15, pan seared walleye=\$16, catfish=\$13
Best fish fry so far.



Wisconsin Pizza

DeMarinis

N88 W15229 Main Street (Menomonee Falls)

We prefer this because they do not cook the cheese as long.

<https://demarinispizzeria.business.site/>

DeMarinis (Dom & Phil)

1211 E. Conway St. (Bay View)

Closed Monday. Small patio. They cook the extra cheese until it is a caramel/brown color.

www.demarinisdomandphils.com

Marco's

Does not have pizza with mozzarella cheese!

<https://www.marcos.com/>

Maricio's

1726 Barton Ave (West Bend)

Closed Monday and Tuesday. Some outside tables. The guests choose their table, order at the bar, and pay at the bar when they're ready to leave.

<http://www.mariciosinbarton.com/>

Night Clubs

At Random

2501 S Delaware Ave. (Bay View)

Excellent cocktails, great place for a date night. Small patio. A few heated huts/igloos in the winter (can reserve these).

Closed Mondays.

www.atrandommke.com

Bibingers

3747 Cedar Creek Road (Slinger)

Comedy club and restaurant

<https://www.bibingers.com/upcoming-featured-events>

Bryants

1579 S. 9th St. (Milwaukee)

Excellent cocktails, great place for a date night.

Closed Mondays.

www.bryantscocktailounge.com

Comedy Sportz

420 South 1st Street (Milwaukee)

\$12 Friday and Saturday performances. Has bar food.

<https://cszmke.com>