Dining Guide for ASHE Conference Participants
Neighborhood: Capitol

Africa / Middle East / South Asia

Casbah (http://www.thecasbahrestaurant.com/)
119 E. Main St. (~1.3 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-255-2272
Description: Steps off the Capitol square offering traditional Middle-Eastern cuisine. You can even try a hookah (but only outside due to Madison's smoking ban).
Prices: $6 to $34; Rating: ★★★★★

Asian

Restaurant Muramoto
106 King St. (~1.3 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-260-2680
Prices: $8 to $12; Rating: ★★★★☆

Café

Ancora Coffee (http://www.ancora-coffee.com/)
112 King St. (~1.3 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-255-0285
Description: Excellent small-batch roasted coffee and nice pastry selection.
Prices: $2 to $7; Rating: ★★★★★

Barriques Coffee Trader
127 W. Washington Ave. (~0.9 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-268-6264
Description: Coffee, wine, bakery one block southwest of the Capitol.
Prices: $2 to $6; Rating: ★★★★★

Marigold Kitchen (http://www.marigoldkitchen.com/)
118 S. Pinckney St. (~1.3 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-661-5559
Description: Popular breakfast and lunch spot on the Capitol Square.
Prices: $5 to $10; Rating: ★★★★☆

Eclectic

Cafe Montmartre (http://www.themomo.com/)
127 E. Mifflin St. (~0.9 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-255-5900
Description: Cozy, artsy, jazzy hangout with very nice, light dining menu. Antipasti is quite good, as are the pizzas (especially the prosciutto, artichoke and chevre). Mondays are usually half-price wine-by-the-bottle night -- accompanied with a Hammond Organ-centered jazz group. Rumor has it there will be a various-artists heavy metal cover show on the 6th. Music usually starts around 8pm.
Prices: $5 to $10; Rating: ★★★★★

Natt Spil
211 King St. (~1.3 miles from the Pyle Center), No phone
Description: You'll walk right by it. Seriously, I don't think there's a sign. Right around the corner from the Great Dane Brew Pub. Excellent late-night sandwich and pizza spot with a lively, eclectic crowd -- and often a good DJ spinning retro music.
Prices: $6 to $10; Rating: ★★★★★
Dining Guide for ASHE Conference Participants
Neighborhood: Capitol

**Italian**

**Peppino’s Restaurant**
111 S. Hamilton St. (~1 mile from the Pyle Center), 608-251-9500
*Description*: Old-school Italian just south of the Capitol Square.
*Prices*: $13 to $26; *Rating*: ★★★★☆

**Tutto Pasta Cucina Italiana**
107 King St. (~1.3 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-250-9000
*Description*: Very large menu and excellent location; food slightly higher quality than Paisan’s or Porta Bella...but that’s not a ringing endorsement.
*Prices*: $6 to $12; *Rating*: ★★★☆

**Pub**

7 W. Main St. (~1 mile from the Pyle Center), 608-255-2015
*Description*: Not a truly authentic Irish Pub, but they must have spent millions to make it look like one. Lots of space; fireplaces; nooks and crannies. Traditional session music on Sunday afternoons. Maybe the best potato leek soup and Irish soda bread west of Galway. The fish and chips are traditional and very well-prepared.
*Prices*: $8 to $18; *Rating*: ★★★★★

**Flatiron Tavern** ([http://www.flatiron tavern.com/](http://www.flatiron tavern.com/))
102 King St. (~1.3 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-287-1455
*Description*: Soups, salads, sandwiches -- right on the Capitol Square.
*Prices*: $7 to $15; *Rating*: ★★★★☆

**Great Dane** ([http://www.greatdanepub.com/](http://www.greatdanepub.com/))
123 E. Doty St. (~1.2 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-284-0000
*Description*: Huge (and very good) beer selection; lots of pool tables and an outdoor courtyard. Great gathering place.
*Prices*: $7 to $16; *Rating*: ★★★★★

**Upscale**

**Blue Marlin**
101 N. Hamilton St. (~1 mile from the Pyle Center), 608-255-2255
*Description*: Upscale seafood-focused menu, right on the Capitol square. Small outside terrace.
*Prices*: $10 to $50; *Rating*: ★★★★★☆

**Cafe Continental** ([http://www.znbar.com/index.html](http://www.znbar.com/index.html))
108 King St. (~1.3 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-251-4880
*Description*: Casual atmosphere; a bit noisy. Excellent food and wine.
*Prices*: $5 to $35; *Rating*: ★★★★★☆

**Capitol Chophouse** ([http://www.capitolchophouse.com/](http://www.capitolchophouse.com/))
9 E. Wilson St. (~1.3 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-255-0165
*Description*: Expense account steakhouse at the Hilton Hotel next to the Monona Terrace.
*Prices*: $8 to $37; *Rating*: ★★★★★☆
Dining Guide for ASHE Conference Participants
Neighborhood: Capitol

Cocoliquot
225 King St. (~1.3 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-255-2626
Description: Lots of small dishes; great presentation.
Prices: $4 to $20; Rating: ★★★★

Harvest ([http://www.harvest-restaurant.com/](http://www.harvest-restaurant.com/))
21 N. Pinckney St. (~1.2 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-255-6075
Description: Quite possibly the best overall dining experience in Madison. Many "slow-food" offerings; melt-in-your-mouth good. Try the pan-roasted sturgeon if offered.
Prices: $18 to $28; Rating: ★★★★★

Johnny Delmonico's ([http://www.foodfightinc.com/delmonicos.htm](http://www.foodfightinc.com/delmonicos.htm))
130 S. Pinckney St. (~1.3 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-257-8325
Description: Good steak place, but pricey. Try the Tornado Room or Café Continental instead.
Prices: $20 to $36; Rating: ★★★★★

25 N. Pinckney St. (~1.1 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-251-0500
Description: Long considered by many to be Madison’s finest dining experience, but has recently undergone an ownership (and executive chef) change. Well-known for its focus on locally raised produce. Very expensive.
Prices: $25 to $40; Rating: ★★★★★

Ocean Grill ([http://www.foodfightinc.com/oceangrill.htm](http://www.foodfightinc.com/oceangrill.htm))
117 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. (~1.2 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-285-2582
Description: Upscale seafood-focused menu, right off the Capitol Square (a more trendy alternative to Blue Marlin though the food is not as good).
Prices: $5 to $30; Rating: ★★★★★

120 East Wilson St. (~1.4 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-258-8787
Description: Extremely flavorful main dishes melding old-world Spanish attention to high quality ingredients. The tapas and ceviche never fail to impress. Incredible wine selection and excellent flight of Spanish cheeses. Can be noisy. Music on weekends.
Prices: $19 to $35; Rating: ★★★★★

116 S. Hamilton St. (~1 mile from the Pyle Center), 608-256-3570
Description: Arguably the best steaks in Madison. Traditional steak-house menu. Atmosphere is a mix of rat-pack and supperclub. You won't be disappointed.
Prices: $17 to $42; Rating: ★★★★★

White Horse Inn ([http://www.thewhitehorseinn.com/](http://www.thewhitehorseinn.com/))
202 N. Henry St. (~0.7 mile from the Pyle Center), 608-255-9933
Description: Upscale American cuisine and a well-regarded Sunday Brunch. Just off State Street, right across from the dazzling Overture Center and the world’s only courthouse with a red neon “death-ray” hanging over the entry. Just look and say we’re not crazy.
Prices: $4 to $25; Rating: ★★★★★
Dining Guide for ASHE Conference Participants
Neighborhood: East Side

Asian

Bahn Thai
944 Williamson St. (~1.9 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-256-0202
*Description:* Good Thai; Lao Laan Xiang is better.
*Prices:* $6 to $13; Rating: ★★★★

600 Williamson St. (~1.5 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-255-6910
*Description:* Indonesian cuisine (featuring Rijsttafel) in the lively Willy Street area. But if you have had it before you may want to skip it here.
*Prices:* $7 to $15; Rating: ★★

Lao Laan Xang
1146 Williamson St. (~2.2 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-280-0104
*Description:* Fantastic Lao-Thai cuisine. There are two locations; the one closer to the Capitol fills up quickly and doesn't take reservations. Anything with sticky rice is fantastic. The squash curry alone is worth the trip.
*Prices:* $9 to $11; Rating: ★★★★★

Café

Bon Appetit Cafe
805 Williamson St. (~1.7 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-283-4266
*Description:* Very cozy Mediterranean-oriented restaurant. Great value for money.
*Prices:* $5 to $20; Rating: ★★★★★

1250 E. Washington Ave. (~2.2 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-294-6868
*Description:* Madison is a city with an excellent coffee tradition. Independent, small roasters thrive here. This is the latest coffee shop in town (they have a new location on Mineral Point Road as well). Coffee is roasted in 38 pound batches on a custom-built Sivetz (hot air) roaster. The flavor is unlike traditional drum-roasted coffees -- brighter, more lively and intense. You will almost never drink coffee that was roasted more than 5-6 days ago. The African coffees, in particular, love this method of roasting -- displaying the winey, citrusy flavors they are justly prized for. Free wireless internet.
*Prices:* $3 to $7; Rating: ★★★★★

Lazy Jane’s Cafe
1358 Williamson St. (~2.5 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-257-5263
*Description:* Breakfast only on weekends; closes at 8pm other nights. Great cafe/coffee house with some of the best sandwiches in town. Great attention to ingredient quality -- even the side salad served with the sandwiches is excellent -- field greens with a rich, garlicky yogurt dressing.
*Prices:* $3 to $8; Rating: ★★★★★

Eclectic

1128 E. Washington Ave. (~2.1 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-257-6877
*Description:* Wisconsin supper club featuring a traditional fish boil nightly.
*Prices:* $5 to $28; Rating: ★★★
Dining Guide for ASHE Conference Participants
Neighborhood: East Side

1344 E. Washington Ave (~2.3 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-251-8700
Description: Supper club atmosphere; excellent steaks.
Prices: $7 to $25; Rating: ★★★★

Gaston’s
2105 Sherman Ave. (~2.8 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-301-0532
Description: A little out of the way, but truly excellent cajun/creole food. Preparation and seasoning are authentic - and delicious. Almost always quiet and uncrowded.
Prices: $10 to $12; Rating: ★★★★★

Weary Traveler
1201 Williamson St. (~2.3 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-442-6207
Description: Very flavorful and creative menu; stays open late, but service can sometimes be slow. Vegetarian friendly, but the bad breath burger is excellent -- pickapeppa sauce, caramelized onions, garlic and bleu cheese.
Prices: $4 to $12; Rating: ★★★★★

Latin

Eldorado Grill ([http://www.foodfightinc.com/eldorado.htm](http://www.foodfightinc.com/eldorado.htm))
744 Williamson St. (~1.7 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-280-9378
Description: Best Tex-Mex on Willy Street.
Prices: $8 to $20; Rating: ★★★

Jolly Bob's Jerk Joint
1210 Williamson St. (~2.3 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-251-3902
Description: Very popular (and quite excellent) Jamaican food and drinks. If the weather's nice, the outside courtyard with the koi pond is lovely. The nut-crusted catfish and coconut shrimp are perfect every time. Informal.
Prices: $10 to $16; Rating: ★★★★

Pub

Essen Haus ([http://www.essen-haus.com/essenhaus.htm](http://www.essen-haus.com/essenhaus.htm))
514 E. Wilson St. (~1.5 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-255-4674
Description: OK German fare, but almost 300 beers from around the world are available (many on tap). The traditional "boot" (~1 liter glass boot filled with your favorite bier) is a Madison institution. Oom pah bands may be heard on a regular basis.
Prices: $9 to $35; Rating: ★★★★★
Dining Guide for ASHE Conference Participants
Neighborhood: Monroe/Regent Street

Africa / Middle East / South Asia

Dardanelles (http://www.thedardanellesrestaurant.com/)
1851 Monroe St. (~1.5 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-256-8804
*Description:* Reasonably priced casual Mediterranean restaurant in the heart of Monroe Street.
*Prices:* $5 to $17; *Rating:* ★★★★

Yirgalem (http://www.yirgalem.com/)
2623 Monroe St. (~2.3 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-231-6242
*Description:* Nice, out-of-the-way spot for a great Ethiopian dinner.
*Prices:* $11 to $16; *Rating:* ★★★★★

Asian

SukhoThai Restaurant and Deli
1441 Regent St. (~1.2 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-255-1313
*Description:* A Thai restaurant that's very popular with students, given its location on the Regent Street student apartment corridor.
*Prices:* $11 to $16; *Rating:* ★★★

Café

Bluephies (http://www.foodfightinc.com/bluephies.htm)
2701 Monroe St. (~2.3 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-231-3663
*Description:* Large menu selection, but a mixed bag -- good vegetarian offerings, but some seem to be stretching their kitchen talent on the more exotic offerings.
*Prices:* $8 to $16; *Rating:* ★★★★★

Michael's Frozen Custard (http://www.ilovemichaels.com/index.asp)
2531 Monroe St. (~2.2 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-231-3500
*Description:* Skip a meal and save the calories for a true Wisconsin original -- frozen custard. There is none better than Michael's. Frozen custard is to ice cream as gelato is to sherbet. Try the hot lava sundae (hot fudge with cherry sauce) or the turtle (caramel, fudge and more pecans than you'll know what to do with).
*Prices:* $1 to $4; *Rating:* ★★★★★

Relish Deli
1923 Monroe St. (~1.6 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-255-8500
*Description:* Excellent deli -- highest quality ingredients and breads.
*Prices:* $6 to $9; *Rating:* ★★★★

Italian

Greenbush Bar
914 Regent St. (~0.8 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-257-2874
*Description:* Very good thin-crust pizza. Excellent antipasti.
*Prices:* $6 to $13; *Rating:* ★★★★
Dining Guide for ASHE Conference Participants
Neighborhood: Monroe/Regent Street

**Latin**

**La Hacienda**
515 S. Park St. (~1.3 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-255-8227
*Description:* Authentic Mexican restaurant on Park Street south of campus.
*Prices:* $1 to $11; *Rating:* ★★★★

**Pasqual's Southwestern Deli** ([http://www.pasquals.net/](http://www.pasquals.net/))
2534 Monroe St. (~2.2 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-238-4419
*Description:* Madison's original "Fresh-Mex." Great chips and guac.
*Prices:* $2 to $8; *Rating:* ★★★★
Dining Guide for ASHE Conference Participants
Neighborhood: State Street

Africa / Middle East / South Asia

Chautara
334 State St. (~0.6 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-251-3626
_Description_: Right on State St. Very well-regarded Nepalese dining; many vegetarian options. Well-priced.
Prices: $6 to $24; Rating: ★★★★★

Himal Chuli
318 State St. (~0.6 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-251-9225
_Description_: Another very well-regarded Nepalese restaurant (just 3 doors down from Chautara...only in Madison -- or Nepal, I guess). Dining space is very limited and the restaurant closes early.
Prices: $7 to $13; Rating: ★★★★★

Husnu's
547 State St. (~0.4 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-256-0900
_Description_: Turkish and Italian dining very close to campus on State Street.
Prices: $5 to $13; Rating: ★★★★★

Kabul Restaurant
541 State St. (~0.4 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-256-6322
_Description_: Very popular Afghan restaurant; good food and very close to campus on State Street.
Prices: $5 to $11; Rating: ★★★★★

Asian

Takara
315 State St. (~0.6 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-268-0188
_Description_: Excellent hibachi table show, but the real star is the sushi. Highlights include the "Naruto roll" -- spicy tuna, avocado and tempura flakes wrapped inside a paper made of thinly sliced cucumber.
Prices: $2 to $17; Rating: ★★★★★

Vientiane Palace
151 W. Gorham St. (~0.5 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-255-2848
_Description_: Hot hot hot! Order anything over 3 stars and you need to sign a waiver! Very good noodle dishes.
Prices: $8 to $13; Rating: ★★★★★

Wasabi Japanese Restaurant and Sushi Bar
449 State St. (~0.4 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-255-5020
_Description_: Lots and lots of sushi rolls. Very good quality.
Prices: $3 to $18; Rating: ★★★★★

Café

Sunroom Cafe & Gallery
638 State St. (~0.2 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-255-1555
_Description_: Salads, soups, sandwiches -- nicely done, right on State Street.
Prices: $4 to $13; Rating: ★★★
Eclectic

Kennedy Manor Dining Room & Bar
1 Langdon St. (~0.5 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-256-5556
Description: A 4-block walk up the hill on Langdon Street (which fronts the Pyle Center) leads to classic continental cuisine in a very "olde worlde" dining room.
Prices: $9 to $28; Rating: ★★★★★

Le Chardonnay (http://lechardonnay.homestead.com/)
320 W. Johnson St. (~0.6 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-268-0372
Description: French bistro cuisine just off State Street. Often has all-you-can-eat mussels and fries for $14.95 on Tuesdays.
Prices: $14 to $29; Rating: ★★★★★

Orpheum Theatre's Grand Lobby
216 State St. (~0.5 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-255-2594
Description: Location, location, location. In the heart of State Street in a sweeping old-school movie theatre lobby. Great place for Sunday brunch.
Prices: $5 to $28; Rating: ★★★★★

Italian

Paisan's (http://www.paisansrestaurant.biz/)
80 University Square (~0.2 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-257-3832
Description: Huge menu and very interesting décor. Pasta tends to be gluey with cloying, flavorless sauces. Huge portions.
Prices: $6 to $11; Rating: ★★★★★

Porta Bella (http://www.portabellarestaurant.biz/)
425 N. Frances St. (~0.4 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-256-3186
Description: Very romantic ambiance; food is below-average in flavor and preparation -- well above average in quantity.
Prices: $11 to $27; Rating: ★★★★★

Latin

Casa de Lara
341 State St. (~0.6 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-251-7200
Description: Very popular Mexican restaurant in the heart of State Street.
Prices: $5 to $15; Rating: ★★★

Pub

Nitty Gritty Restaurant and Bar (http://www.nittygrittybirthdayplace.com/index.html)
223 N. Frances St. (~0.4 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-251-2521
Description: Famous for the "Gritty Burger" (it's better than it sounds) and for free stuff on your birthday. Near the Kohl Center.
Prices: $6 to $9; Rating: ★★★★★
Dining Guide for ASHE Conference Participants
Neighborhood: State Street

Plaza Tavern & Grill (http://www.theplazatavern.com/)
319 N. Henry St. (~0.6 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-255-6592
Description: The "plaza burger" (with its "plaza sauce") is justifiably famous.
Prices: $2 to $5; Rating: ★★★★

State Street Brats (http://www.statestreetbrats.com/)
603 State St. (~0.2 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-255-5544
Description: Unless you're a vegetarian, you cannot escape Madison without having a brat. Probably the best place to get a brat and beer is right outside of the Pyle Center -- at the Memorial Union terrace on the lake. But that's because of the view. In terms of brat gastronomy, you can't beat State Street Brats (especially the "red" brats). Very collegiate -- UW-Madison-style. The kinda place where if you can eat the 4 pound burger, they'll give it to you for free.
Prices: $3 to $6; Rating: ★★★★★

Upscale

Admiralty Room
666 Wisconsin Ave., in the Edgewater Hotel (~1.3 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-661-6582
Description: Can't beat the view; food is good to very good. If you want the view (and not the $$$$), we suggest that "Café on the Pier" or "The Cove Lounge," also at the Edgewater Hotel, are great spots for drinks overlooking the lake. Then have dinner elsewhere.
Prices: $10 to $30; Rating: ★★★★

Nadia's (http://www.nadiasrestaurant.com/)
508 State St. (~0.4 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-257-1740
Description: French haute cuisine overlooking State Street. Very well regarded -- and prices to match.
Prices: $17 to $26; Rating: ★★★★
Dining Guide for ASHE Conference Participants
Neighborhood: West Side

Africa / Middle East / South Asia

India Garden
6119 Odana Rd. (~8.1 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-277-8070
Description: Good, spacious Indian restaurant. Lunch buffet is a steal.
Prices: $10 to $12; Rating: ★★★★

Lulu’s Deli and Restaurant
2524 University Ave. (~1.9 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-233-2172
Description: Meals are generally good to very good. Soups and salads are reliable. Some diners find the table water too strongly spiked with orange blossom or rose water. Somewhat expensive for a casual Middle Eastern restaurant.
Prices: $5 to $23; Rating: ★★★★

Asian

Firefly (http://www.foodfightinc.com/firefly.htm)
2701 University Ave. (~2 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-231-3473
Description: Very good fusion cuisine; dishes are well-prepared and reasonably priced.
Prices: $7 to $20; Rating: ★★★★

New Seoul
2503 University Ave. (~1.9 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-238-3331
Description: Good, quiet Korean restaurant serving a very nice BBQ. The rock cooker bi bim bop is excellent.
Prices: $5 to $22; Rating: ★★★★

Sa-Bai Thong (http://www.sabaithong.com/)
2840 University Ave. (~2.2 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-238-3100
Description: Solid-performing Thai restaurant in a clean strip mall setting. Easy parking. The Musaman curry is very good; so is the fried catfish with holy basil.
Prices: $7 to $11; Rating: ★★★★

Eclectic

Eno Vino Wine Bar and Bistro (http://www.eno-vino.com/modules/web/index.php/id/1)
601 Junction Rd. (~11.3 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-664-9565
Description: Very creative menu focusing on small dishes. Great for large group of foodies who want to share a little bit of everything.
Prices: $6 to $30; Rating: ★★★★★

Pub

Blue Moon Bar & Grill
2535 University Ave. (~1.9 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-233-0441
Description: Excellent (and cheap) burgers and pub food. Upstairs pool table and darts.
Prices: $4 to $8; Rating: ★★★★
Dining Guide for ASHE Conference Participants
Neighborhood: West Side

Upscale

**Lombardino's Restaurant** ([http://www.lombardinos.com/](http://www.lombardinos.com/))
2500 University Ave. (~1.9 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-238-1922
*Description*: Never had a meal here that wasn't excellent. Part of the "slow-food" movement. Anything braised (especially the short ribs) is likely to be fantastic. Excellent antipasti; the fried calamari is perfect.
*Prices*: $15 to $31; *Rating*: ★★★★★

**Smoky's Club** ([http://www.smokysclub.com/](http://www.smokysclub.com/))
3005 University Ave. (~2.4 miles from the Pyle Center), 608-233-2120
*Description*: Either love it or hate it, Smoky's serves up excellent broiled steaks in a somewhat bizarre supper club atmosphere. If you like to swear, go somewhere else -- they've been known to kick out cursing patrons.
*Prices*: $8 to $37; *Rating*: ★★★★☆