

AIRSTREAM CHIC



One of our favorite discoveries in Austin: Airstream trailers selling everything from cupcakes and crêpes to tacos. Most have picnic tables nearby, so you can sit down and eat, and we love this new, much cooler approach to fast food.

Hey Cupcake! With three different locations, it's a popular stop for those in search of carrot, chocolate, or other flavors. We ordered a red velvet cupcake at the South Austin location and are vowing to return. Visit www.heycupcake.com for locations.

Flip Happy Crêpes If you have ever stopped on the streets of Paris for a crêpe, you know what to expect from this destination. Sweet or savory, these inspire long lines and a very satisfied clientele. (400 Jessie St., www.fliphappycrepes.com)

Torchy's Tacos This Airstream business tempts with \$2 breakfast tacos and \$4 lunch and dinner options. Choose from the enticing menu items, such as fried avocado tacos, or assemble your own. Visit www.torchystacos.com for locations.

MORE THAN TEX-MEX

Five restaurants that make Austin a food-lover's dream

● **Intimate Fine Dining:** Jeffrey's

1201 West Lynn St., 512/477-5584, www.jeffreysofaustin.com

Like many of the city's best restaurants, it is located in a little house in a quaint neighborhood. The food is excellent, and the atmosphere is conducive to good conversation. Insiders recommend the crispy oysters and martinis.

1 **Where the Wait Is Worth It:** Uchi

801 South Lamar Blvd., 512/916-4808, www.uchiaustin.com

We're not the only ones who think chef Tyson Cole is a sushi superstar. It's 5:30 on a Monday, and the place is quickly filling. No wonder. Cole's artful dishes combine fresh seafood from around the globe with local seasonal ingredients. The shag roll is a must. (A second location, called Uchiko, is set to open next year on North Lamar.)

● **Upscale Diner Fare:** Counter Café

626 North Lamar Blvd., 512/708-8800, www.thecountercafe.com

Order the grilled pimento cheese at this jewel-box-size diner that's known for serving local and organic ingredients several times a week.

2 **Quintessential Austin:** Shady Grove

1624 Barton Springs Rd., 512/474-9991, www.theshadygrove.com

This quirky restaurant is the place to meet up with friends, sit on the patio under shady pecan trees, and listen to live music while sipping margaritas. We vouch for their green chile-cheese fries.

● **One-of-a-Kind Brunch:** Fonda San Miguel

2330 West North Loop, 512/459-4121, www.fondasanmiguel.com

The elaborate spread of the Sunday brunch buffet is particularly noteworthy. Try the *enchiladas de mole poblano* and the caramel crêpes.

