

## DINING

## Pick up dinner to go, enjoy the sunset, concert

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Dining out under the stars is one of summer's luxuries. Whether you're planning a sunset supper, or grab and go dinner to enjoy during a concert in the park, local restaurants are ready to satisfy your appetite for something simply delicious.

It's best to place your order a couple of days in advance to make sure the foods you want are available.

■ **Dogwood's Deli** - 33179 Grand River, Farmington, (248) 474-3800 - offers a variety of sandwiches and salads sure to please everyone. Call at least three hours ahead for a boxed lunch, consisting of potato salad, relish, garnish, 1/2 of a hard cooked egg, cookie, and deluxe sandwich.

Open: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Saturday.

■ **La Shish** - with lots of locations all over metro Detroit is a wonderful place to stop for picnic fare. Order some flavorful dips - hummus or baba ghanoush, or salads, fattoush, tabbouli, finger foods like grape leaves, sandwich, or freshly squeezed juice.

Metro Detroit locations include, Canton, 1699 Canton Center Road at Ford Road, (734) 883-9000; Farmington Hills, 37010 W. 12 Mile Road at Halsted, (248) 553-0700; West Bloomfield, 6303 Orchard Lake Road, (248) 538-0800, and Livonia, 37307 Newburgh, corner of Six Mile Road, (734) 464-8200.

Open 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, and 10 a.m. to midnight Friday-Saturday.

■ **Fine Land** - with restaurants in Farmington Hills, 33320 Farmington Road, at 12 Mile Road, (248) 324-1163; and Westland, 8207 Middlebelt Road, between Ann Arbor & Joy Roads, (734) 421-0884; is another good place to stop for Arabic fare.

Open: 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Monday-Sunday.

■ **Laurel Market & Deli** - 39000 Schoolcraft, Livonia, (734) 779-4525 - has everything you'll need for a memorable sum-

mer dining experience - fresh baked Italian bread, deserts, sliced meats and cheeses, sandwiches, subs & pitas, salads, even beer, wine, assorted juices, flavored teas, and sodas.

If you're in a time crunch, this is the place to go. Try Deirdre's Italian Vegetarian Sandwich - Mozzarella cheese, roasted peppers, and sautéed greens served on focaccia bread, or Cathy's Classic Chicken Croissant.

Open 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday-Friday, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.

■ **At the Sweet Spot Cafe** - 37575 Five Mile Road, Livonia, (734) 464-4200 - you can pick up easy to pack and carry "Pita Twist" sandwiches in a variety of combinations from Turkey with Swiss cheese, lettuce, tomatoes, mild pepper, and dressing to Greek, a vegetarian delight of Feta cheese, lettuce, tomatoes, onions, mild pepper, olives and Greek dressing. The Sweet Spot also offers sensational salads to serve as a main course or round out your meal including Garden, Greek, Julianne, Chef's, and Tuna.

But desserts are the real reason you'll want to stop at the Sweet Spot - they're to die for - Key Lime Pie, Tiramisu, cheesecakes, tarts and tortes in a variety of flavors.

They also offer mini, finger-size desserts including tarts and cannolis. Julia Bou-Maroun, who owns the cafe with her husband Charles, recommends chocolate dipped strawberries for a fun dessert.

The Sweet Spot Cafe is open 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday-Saturday, noon to 10 p.m. Sunday.

■ **Mr. Muster's** - 37665 Five Mile Road, Livonia, (734) 464-3939 - also offers a variety of fresh salads and roll-up sandwiches. Those with heartier appetites will want to order chicken, Mandarin Chicken - Romaine lettuce, fresh tomato wedges, purple onion slices, chicken breast, chow mein noodles and Mandarin oranges served with poppy seed dressing in an elegant main dish salad that's sure to please. Try Lany's Chicken Caesar salad too.



Boxed lunches, which include choice of a roll-up or deli sandwich, pasta salad or fresh fruit, chips, soda and fresh baked brownies are available for \$7.95.

For gatherings of 10 people or more, consider ordering a Lavash Roll-up Sandwich or Mini Croissant Sandwich Tray.

Open 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday, 4-9 p.m. Saturday, and by appointment Sunday.

■ **Kat's Deli** - 36111 Plymouth Road, Livonia, (734) 525-6830 - offers deli sandwiches, deserts, and a variety of salads including garden, chef, chicken breast, Greek, Antipasto and taco.

Three different box lunches are available - deli sandwich with fruit, potato salad and brownie, \$7; chicken breast with fruit or pasta salad, chips and muffin, \$8.75, or Lite Site - tuna or chicken salad with fruit or pasta salad, chips or cookie, \$5.75.

Open 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday-Saturday.

■ **Harvey's Old Village Deli** - 696 N. Mill St., Plymouth, (734) 453-3705 - offers pita wraps, deli and specialty sand-

wiches, and main dish salads.

For something elegant order the Grilled Chicken Salad Club Pita Wrap - fresh homemade chicken salad, Prevotone cheese, bacon, lettuce and tomato all folded in a grilled pita leaf.

Open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., closed Sundays and holidays.

■ **Penniman Deli** - 820 Penniman, Plymouth, (734) 453-3570 - is a great place to stop before attending a concert in Kellogg Park. They offer lots of sandwiches and salads, including the very popular Field Green Salad - Gorgonzola Cheese, shaved almonds, mixed greens, and sun-dried cherries topped with raspberry vinaigrette.

Box lunches - sandwich of your choice, small salad, fruit, soda and cookie - can be ordered in advance.

Open: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Wednesday & Saturday, 8-9 p.m. Thursday-Friday, noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

■ **N.Y. Deli & Catering** - 19216 Newburgh Road, Livonia, (734) 591-DELI, near Greenwood Historical Park - offers lots of delicious salads and sandwiches to go. Customized box lunches can be ordered 24

## Northern destinations

If you're headed north to Meadow Brook Theatre or the DTE Energy Music Theatre it's OK to bring food, but leave beverages and glass containers at home.

Here are some nearby restaurants that offer box lunches, and other dinner to go options.

## Ridley's Muffins

Sure, Ridley's makes muffins.

But the Troy deli stuffs a lot more than dessert into its box lunches.

"We get a lot of orders for box lunches because they're so easy and they're individual. And it's not just any sandwich. It's homemade. That's the best part," says Chris Heeder, who co-owns the eatery with Jacqui Ridley.

Homemade, as in bread that's fresh from Ridley's ovens.

Box lunches cost \$7.95 and include a sandwich, side salad and gourmet cookie. Or a salad, roll, potato chips and cookie. Combo-style includes a half deli sandwich and half roll-up wrap sandwich.

Add \$1.50 for a gourmet box lunch, which includes gourmet jelly beans, beverage and potato chips, in addition to the salad, sandwich and cookie.

"We can work with a same day order, as long as we get it in the morning for the afternoon (pick-up)," Heeder added.

He likes a 24-hour notice for sandwich trays, which include enough homemade sandwiches for four people.

"It comes on a round woven tray. It's for four people but we can increase or decrease the

amount." The sandwich tray costs \$39.95 and comes with four side salads and four gourmet cookies.

Both box lunches and trays include plates, napkins, utensils and condiments.

Ridley's is located at Watlies and Rochester Road. Fax orders to (248)689-1772 or call the eatery at (248)689-8638. Visit its web site at [www.ridleysbakery.com](http://www.ridleysbakery.com)

## Gregg's Gourmet Cafe

Skip the fancy box and basket and head to this downtown Clarkston eatery for picnic fare you can easily tote to a concert under the stars.

"I do it with my own family when we go to concert in the park," says cafe owner Michelle Ryeson.

She packages a few personal gourmet pizzas, some cookies and bread with the cafe's "awesome cheese dip," adds beverages and welcomes the weekend with Clarkson's outdoor concert.

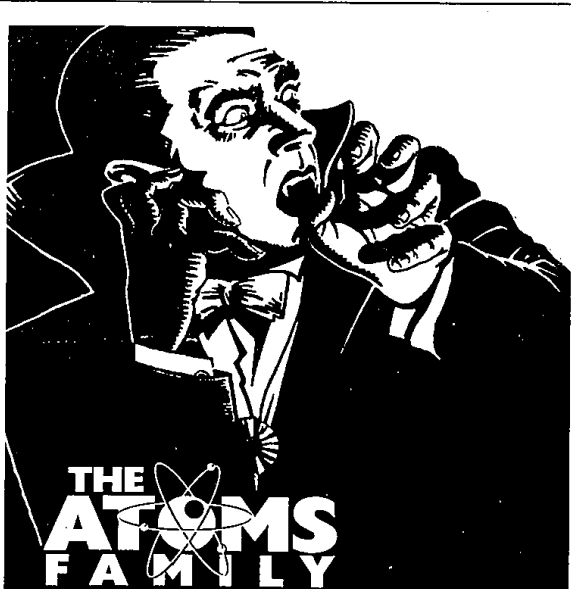
Picnic prices vary, depending on the carry-out items.

A personal-sized Cobb salad costs \$5.50 and comes with garlic bread. Or try a whole turkey submarine sandwich - enough for two - and buy two gourmet cookies, two large soda pops and a half pint of Greek cole slaw. Total tab for two: \$10.55.

Gregg's Gourmet Cafe is open from 10:30 a.m.-9 p.m., Monday-Tuesday; 10:30 a.m.-10 p.m., Wednesday-Saturday and noon-9 p.m., Sunday. It's located at 6914 Ortonville Road (also known as South Main), in Clarkston. (248)825-6512.

hours in advance.

Open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday.



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