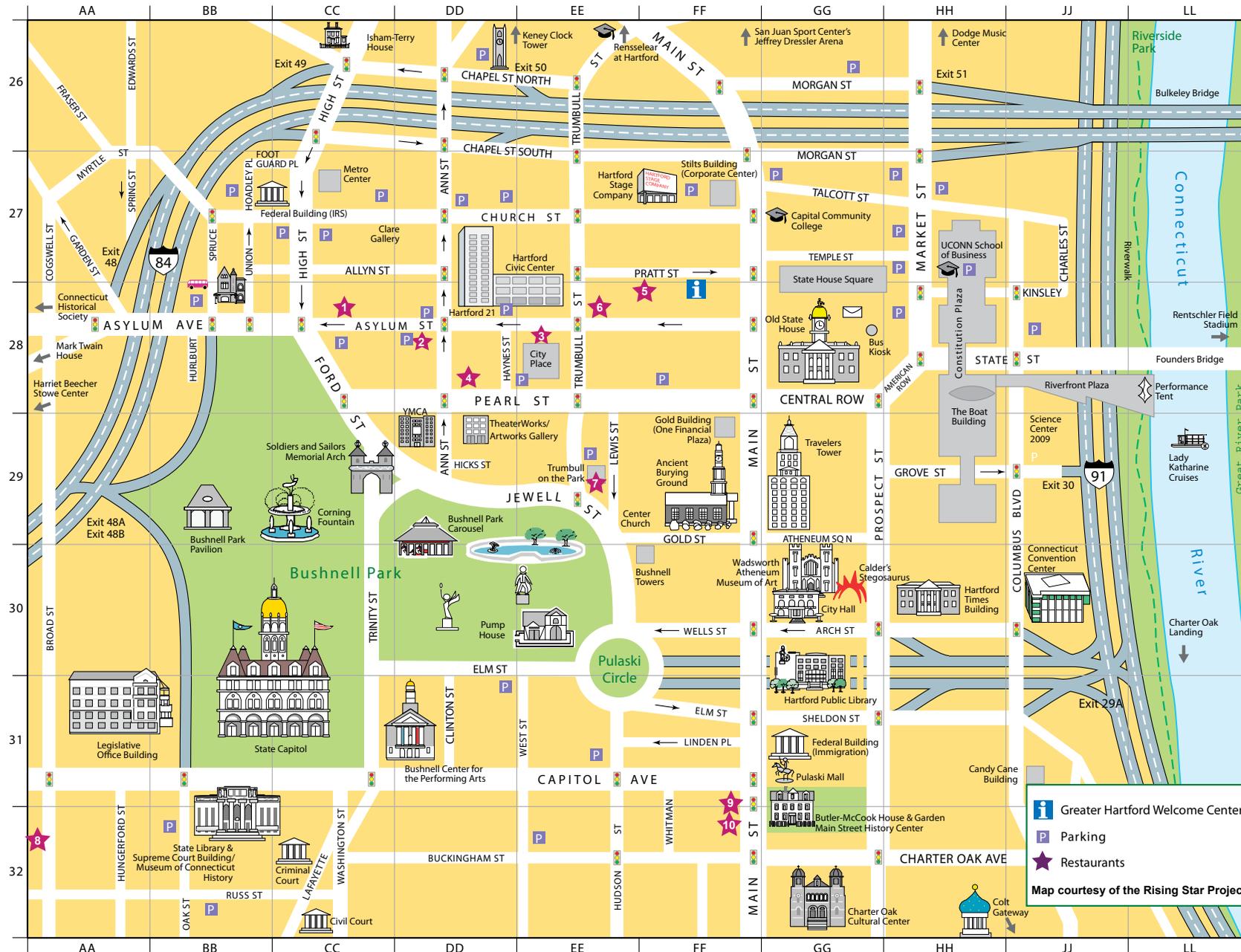


CONNECTICUT COMMISSION ON
CULTURE & TOURISM

GOVERNOR'S AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE
IN CULTURE & TOURISM

AND
DISTINGUISHED ADVOCATES AWARDS

RESTAURANT GUIDE





PLEASE ENJOY DINNER AT ONE OF THESE GREAT
HARTFORD RESTAURANTS FOLLOWING THE AWARDS!

1. Black-Eyed Sally’s BBQ and Blues • 350 Asylum Street

Sally’s celebrates traditional Cajun cuisine with home-style service and large portions. In addition to BBQ, the menu features catfish, fried oysters, okra, jambalaya, collard greens and cheese grits. Specialty beers also available. Music Wednesday through Saturday.

Cuisine: Cajun, Southern; *Price:* \$\$; *Website:* www.blackeyedsallys.com; *Phone:* (860) 278-7427; *Parking:* Street parking or public lots/garages

2. Mayor Mike’s Bistro • 383 Asylum Street

This lively, casual eatery features hearty and familiar food favorites. Family friendly with a wide-ranging menu including “famous” Clam Chowder, Sweet Chili Wings, Mediterranean Salad, Not Your Mamma’s Meatloaf, Mayor’s Bouillabaisse and Penne Vodka. Unusual cocktails are featured.

Cuisine: Eclectic; *Price:* \$\$; *Website:* www.mayormikes.com; *Phone:* (860) 522-6453; *Parking:* Street parking or public lots/garages

3. Max Downtown • 185 Asylum Street

One of Hartford’s most established and elegant restaurants, with innovative dishes (Bacon and Cheddar Brioche Bread Pudding, Alaskan Halibut a la Plancha, Lamb with Fava Bean and Mascarpone Tortellini) as well as a selection of traditional Chop House classics. Lighter fare, as well as specialty martinis, served in the tavern. Jackets preferred.

Cuisine: Steak, Seafood, Contemporary American; *Price:* \$\$\$ *Website:* www.maxrestaurantgroup.com; *Phone:* (860) 522-2530; *Parking Details:* Valet during dinner, parking in City Place Garage free after 5pm.

4. Bin 228 Panini & Wine Bar • 288 Pearl Street

Small plate specialties and extensive list of wines by the glass make this intimate setting in the center of downtown a perfect place for lighter fare. In addition to tasty variety of Italian style sandwiches, the menu includes salads, bruschetta, soup and a daily risotto.

Cuisine: Italian small plates; *Price:* \$-\$\$; *Website:* www.bin228winebar.com; *Phone:* (860)244-9463; *Parking:* Street parking or public lots/garage
** Special Offer: 20% off entrees*

5. Feng Asian Bistro • 93 Asylum Street

An interesting change of pace for diners in the market for something a little more out of the ordinary. The extensive mix-and-match possibilities include both traditional and fusion-style sushi and sashimi, rolls, hand rolls, platters, main dishes (Soba Halibut, Veal Porterhouse, Lemon Pepper Duck) and sides. Hip, dramatically lit, urban atmosphere.

Cuisine: East – West Fusion, Japanese; *Price:* \$\$\$ *Website:* www.FengRestaurant.com; *Phone:* (860) 549-3364
Parking: Street parking.

6. The Russell • 103 Pratt Street

This cozy multi-story space with couches, easy chairs and woodwork, features a menu of small plates, sandwiches, salads, and entrees inspired by the flavors of the Caribbean and Southwest. Curry Shrimp Quesadillas, Jerk Chicken Pizza, and Wild Mushroom Ravioli with Cajun Cream Sauce are just some of the inventive offerings.

Cuisine: Contemporary Fusion; *Price:* \$ - \$\$; *Website:* www.therussellct.com; *Phone:* (860) 727-4014; *Parking:* Street parking or public garages

7. Salute • 100 Trumbull Street

Downtown’s newest restaurant is already a popular dining destination. Experience warm hospitality in a contemporary, comfortable setting over-looking Bushnell Park while exploring a menu of flavorful pastas and other Italian-styled dishes. The four-cheese garlic bread is a must. Large wine, beer and cocktail selection.

Cuisine: Italian-inspired; *Price:* \$\$-\$\$\$; *Website:* www.salutect.com; *Phone:* (860) 899-1350; *Parking:* Street parking or public garages
**Special Offers: 20% off entrees*

8. Firebox Restaurant • 539 Broad Street

Located in the historic Billings Forge, this highly-acclaimed restaurant serves seasonal American cuisine and features local farm products. The back dining rooms are casually designed with white-washed brick walls, a fireplace and Amish farm tables. Highlights: Housemade Charcuterie, Grilled Berkshire Pork Loin, Stonington Flounder and artisan cheeses.

Cuisine: Contemporary American; *Price:* \$\$ - \$\$\$; *Website:* www.fireboxrestaurant.com; *Phone:* (860) 246-1222; *Parking:* Private lot with evening valet service
** Special Offer: 20% off entrees*

9. Masala Indian Bar & Restaurant • 391 Main Street

Upscale Indian Cuisine in relaxed, nicely appointed rooms that create a friendly atmosphere for conversation and dining. An unusual assortment of regional appetizers is offered. Main course specialties include Lobster Masala, Tandoori Prawns, Peppercorn-Crusted Duck and Rogan Josh (spicy lamb in a tomato cream sauce).

Cuisine: Contemporary Indian; *Price:* \$\$; *Website:* www.masalafinedining.com; *Phone:* (860) 882-0900; *Parking:* Street parking, valet service also available.

10. Peppercorn’s Grill • 357 Main Street

Modern creativity and artisan tradition come together at this award-winning restaurant. Specialties include Roman Artichokes, Ravioli with Spinach in Orange Sauce, Gnocchi Bolognese, Grilled Yellow Fin Tuna, and Seafood Risotto. Extensive menu and wine list. The warmly elegant dining area has been recently enlarged.

Cuisine: Contemporary Italian; *Price:* \$\$-\$\$\$; *Website:* www.peppercornsgrill.com; *Phone:* (860) 547-1714; *Parking:* Street parking, valet service also available.
** Special Offer: 20% off entrees*

** Please present your Governor’s Award program to receive the special offer **

Refreshments at the awards ceremony donated by Wood-n-Tap (Hartford Restaurant Group).