

## The Way to a Man's Heart is through His Stomach: Rolla, Missouri Eateries

Although long-term residents of the Rolla area may be weary of the restaurant choices, Rolla does offer a wide variety of cuisine, most of it at a reasonable price. From multiple Chinese, Mexican, Japanese, and Italian food restaurants, to steak and barbecue establishments, local pizza venues, quaint diners, and of course fast food, Rolla has a great deal to offer to satisfy your taste buds.

First, Rolla is host to a number of ethnic eateries. Chinese food restaurants include Mandarin Garden (with the largest buffet in town), Great Wall (another large buffet), Lucky House, and Fortune Inn (lovely if you are looking for atmosphere). Rolla also has multiple Mexican establishments, among them El Rodeo, El Maguey, La Posada, and Prima's. Certainly you can find the perfect Mexican food at one of these restaurants.

Relatively new to Rolla are two restaurants featuring Japanese cuisine, Kyoto and Wasabi. And finally, Da Vinci's Italian Restaurant and West of Italy round out the ethnic foods. With all of these options, no one can suggest that Rolla's eating establishments are not diverse.

If you are not interested in a specific ethnic food, Rolla also offers multiple establishments that serve a little bit of everything, like a local establishment, Bruno's Pub & Grill, Gordoz, and Applebee's. For a pricier version of the all-inclusive meal, check out Zeno's, another local establishment that has been in business for years. Recently relocated to the V Highway exit, Matt's Steakhouse (formerly 10th Street Dinner House) arguably has the best combo of salad, steak, and breadsticks the area has to offer!

A discussion of Rolla's restaurants would not be complete without a nod to pizza. From well-known chains like Domino's, Little Caesar's, Pizza Hut, and Papa John's; to popular buffets like Pizza Inn; Rolla truly runs the gamut of pizza places... and we have saved the best for last. Local favorites, Pryor's Pizza (with extraordinary thin crust) and Alex's Pizza Palace (with their famous shrimp pizza and other Greek cuisine) are both quality places to munch an Italian pie.

Finally, if you are longing for some privacy and good home-town cooking, Rolla offers a number of diners that epitomize the small-town feel. Located in good old downtown, The Bread Basket offers excellent lunch specials, while Alley Cats caters to the soup, salad, and sandwich crowd (I highly recommend the roast beef). G & D Steakhouse features a daily buffet, and Rolla Smokehouse wins hands-down in the meat department.

Round out the food choices with such fan favorites as buffet-types like Shoney's and Sirloin Stockade, health-minded Subway and Panera, and burger joints like Maid-Rite and Steak and Shake, and you can see how much Rolla has to offer in the way of food. If it is true that the way to a man's heart is through his stomach, you can be sure that in Rolla, no one ever goes hungry!