



EAT, DRINK AND BE MERRY

**Portland's Nob Hill Neighborhood
Has A Standout Food Scene**

By Kathryn Streeter

Northwest 23rd Avenue is the heart of Portland's leafy Nob Hill, a compact, walkable cluster of cafes, bars and signature restaurants. The historic area's food scene is set to please, from award-winning fine dining and mouth-watering fresh pastries to personality-driven Cuban fare and quintessential Portland favorites. To get a true taste of the neighborhood, embark on a day of exploration with stops at the area's destination dining and beloved bars — from your morning coffee to a theatrical nightcap.

MORNING RITUALS

Start the morning right with an unhurried coffee and buttery pastry at Ken's Artisan Bakery, an acclaimed landmark since 2001.



Ken's Artisan
Bakery

Owner Ken Forkish, author of the James Beard Award-winning book "Flour Water Salt Yeast" on baking bread, masterfully spins out tasty morsels, from flaky veggie quiche and jambon sandwich to morning buns and croissants. Order the must-try decadent Oregon Croissant, with hazelnut cream, Oregon blueberries and marionberries. Offering outdoor sidewalk seating lined with trees, the corner cafe has prime real estate for sitting back and slowly watching the neighborhood come to life. kensartisanbakery.com

LINGERING AFTERNOONS

When it's time to refuel, step into Lela's Bistro, a restaurant in a restored 1908 craftsman house. Known for fresh, made-from-scratch Vietnamese food, the restaurant's menu is credited to the family matriarch, "Grandma Chef." Cozy up inside surrounded by local art or outdoors on the porch in rocking chairs or at picnic tables. Sip a traditional Vietnamese Iced Coffee while tucking into fan favorites — Beef Pho or Lemongrass Chicken Banh Mi Combo. lelasbistro.com

If, instead, you're looking for quirky Oregon energy, head straight to McMenamins Tavern & Pool, the famed Pacific Northwest brewery chain, for a pint of Hammerhead or Sunflower IPA with some Cajun Tater Tots and a burger. Relax and play pool, darts or shuffleboard. Before leaving, visit their Bottle Shop next door for some brew to take home. mcmcnamins.com

Photos of Langbaan by Christine Dong; Ken's Artisan Bakery by Alan Weiner Photos, Marielle Dezurick and Theo Taylor; Love Shack by Carter Hiyama; Palomar by Jordan Hughes; McMenamins courtesy of McMenamins

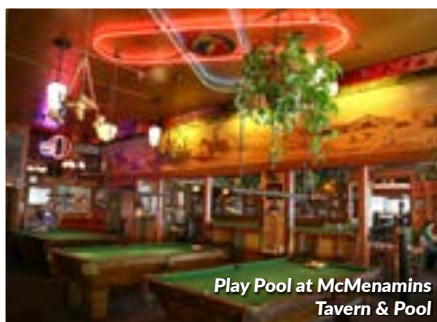


AFTER DARK

Winner of the 2024 James Beard Outstanding Restaurant award, the Thai restaurant Langbaan is fit for a milestone occasion. Serving just 24 guests, the setting is intimate and atmospheric, with the chef's counter seating being the premier spot for a rarefied culinary experience. Savor a multi-course tasting menu that includes authentic dishes such as scallops with coconut cream, beef noodles and southern curry crab. langbaan.com

Offering a contrasting aesthetic, cocktail bar and restaurant, Palomar drops you into mid-century Havana with Cuban-inspired, rum-forward craft elixirs like Papa Doble. Decked out with throwback 1950s pink-and-turquoise accents, the vibe is effortlessly cool and the food is tasty. Start with crowd-favorite ceviche, followed by Cuban Fried Rice, and end with Tres Leches Cake. barpalomar.com

Ready for a theatrical nightcap, infused with beach party vibes? With draping thatched palapas and a sea-glass bar, the award-winning Love Shack just off the main strip on 21st Street bewitches with a roving bar cart filled with tiny 'tinis and other mini cocktails and snacks. Sit back and let the dimly lit room and the frothy espresso martinis from a Ketel One nitro tap deliver a magical finale to the day. theloveshackpdx.com 📍



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