

## There's so much to sample during Restaurant Week

Jan 30, 2011

It's time again to take advantage of the year's biggest culinary event, coming to Birmingham this week. Our sixth annual Restaurant Week will be offered from Jan. 31 through Feb. 4 and Feb. 7 through Feb. 11.

Restaurant Week was first offered in New York City in 1992 and quickly spread to various cities across the globe. Birmingham was the first to bring Restaurant Week to the Detroit area in 2006. Since then, patrons from the community and from surrounding areas have shown overwhelming support for the event, which satisfies not only our checkbooks and our appetites, but also boosts the local economy.

Foodies from near and far can expect to find extraordinary meals at the area's finest restaurants for a fraction of the usual prices. Three-course lunches are offered for just \$15, while three-course dinners are offered for \$30 at participating Birmingham restaurants. With 21 of the area's choicest eateries participating (including six newcomers), this year's event includes more restaurants than ever before.

What else makes the event special? In

addition to unbeatable pricing, Birmingham's talented chefs create unique menu items specifically for Restaurant Week.

If you're still deciding whether or not to take part in this culinary extravaganza, let's take a look at just a few of the delicacies you'll find throughout the next two weeks. Featured lunches include Seared Salmon Steak, Maple and Pecan Crusted Chicken, Butternut Squash Soup, Lobster Pot Pie, Pan Seared Beef Tips, etc. Select dinner entrees will include Lasagna Verdure, Lobster Tagliatelle, Braised Beef Short Rib, Chicken & Mushroom Cream Penne, Sautéed Veal Marsala, Filet Mignon, etc. And for your sweet tooth, dessert delicacies include Fried Kahlua Ice Cream, Strawberry Mascarpone Cheesecake, Tiramisu, Triple Chocolate Mousse Torte, etc. Don't miss your chance at sampling these mouth-watering selections offered for a limited time only.

Now that you have all the facts, there's only one thing left to decide. Which restaurant(s)

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will you choose? Select from these outstanding options: 220, Big Rock Chop House, Cafv© Via, Cameron's Steakhouse (new this year), Chen Chow, Commonwealth Cafv© (new this year), Elie's Mediterranean Cuisine, Fleming's Steakhouse, Forest Grill, Fortv©, Mitchell's Fish Market, Peabody's, Phoenicia, Quattro Pizzeria and Wine Bar, The Rugby Grille, Salvatore Scallopini, South, Streetside Seafood, Tallulah Wine Bar and Bistro (new this year), Toast (new this year) and the new Zazio's restaurant.

Check out menus for each restaurant at [www.enjoybirmingham.com/rw](http://www.enjoybirmingham.com/rw). Bon appv©tit! For details about more upcoming downtown Birmingham events, visit [www.enjoybirmingham.com](http://www.enjoybirmingham.com).

John Heiney is the executive director of the Birmingham Principal Shopping District.

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The advertisement features the USA TODAY logo at the top left. The main title "AutoPilot" is in large, bold, black font, with a blue airplane icon to its right. Below the title, a smartphone displays the app's interface, showing a "USA TODAY Meeting" for Sep 21, 2009, with flight details for A6 (BNA to IAD) and weather for Washington (IAD). To the right of the phone, the text reads "The new travel app for iPhone® and iPod touch®". Below this, it says "Presented by: Hampton" with the Hampton logo. At the bottom right, a blue box contains the text "SEE HOW IT WORKS »".

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