



The *Emerging* FOODIES

Photograph by Rich Fletcher

 CUISINE

Downtown Oshawa

A new class of restaurants and cafes has emerged in Downtown Oshawa - embracing creative foods, architectural details, diet accommodations and variety. Bringing together celebration, education and comfort, these foodie hotspots are building community one dish at a time.

The restaurant market is forever changing and at a rapid pace. This scene in Downtown Oshawa has grown from 38 establishments in 2009 to 58 today. With this growth has come increased quality, creativity and variety.

The following pages will give you a special glance at a few of Downtown Oshawa's emerging establishments, including The Table, Buster Rhino's, Felicio's, Spicy Affairs, Berry Hill, Tutto, Viva Burritos, and Cocoa & Joe. Additionally, we'll explore live music clubs and places for late night eats, plus a detailed restaurant directory & map is included.

Cuisine Volume 8, City of Oshawa Economic Development,
Downtown Development Office, downtown@oshawa.ca

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The Table - Thoughtful Food
20 Simcoe Street South



The Table (cover photo & above) has led the recent emergence of foodies, with hyper local foods, daily fresh soups and a 75% vegetarian and gluten-free menu. Creating a sense of community is a guiding principle at the Table, as evidenced with their Euro-styled harvest-table patron area, community garden and a healthy-eating after school program. “I didn’t want to call myself a restaurant,” says owner Carol, “because it’s not. It is a place. It is a place to dwell, it’s a place to be.”

Even the most cautious eater can enjoy a Grilled Trio of Cheese sour dough sandwich with homemade ketchup, while the more discerning may prefer a Roasted Root Vegetable and Garlic Salad with a Spinach Paneer Soup.



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Buster Rhino's Southern BBQ
28 King Street East

Aside from being coined one of the top BBQ places in the GTA, Buster Rhino's has also taken the Ontario craft brew market by storm. In the last 6 months alone, Buster Rhino's has featured more than 114 Ontario craft beers and regularly hosts sold-out Tap Takeovers with special guest brewers.

Born and raised in Oshawa, Darryl Koster opened his downtown location in 2012.

Photograph by Jacob Moss

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Felicio's Cake Boutique
65 Albert Street

Alessandra Felicio learned the tricks of the baking trade in Brazil, her home country. There, 'doceria' is the term for the place to get sweet treats and in February 2013, Alessandra opened her very own doceria at 65 Albert Street in Downtown Oshawa.

These Brazilian-inspired foods are fresh and healthy – all baked goods are free of lard, shortening, preservatives and dyes, and all breakfast and lunch options are made with fresh ingredients with special accommodations for vegetarian and gluten-free diets.

Cake orders for pickup can be made directly from their website with 48 hour's notice. Her clients will tell you "This is not just cake, it's an experience".



Spicy Affairs Indian Cuisine 84 King Street West

At the family run business of Spicy Affairs service is fast and food is affordable. The Chef's mentality is "whatever the customer wants". They have created an special menu for local organizations such as DurhamVeg – packed with an assortment of vegetarian and vegan dishes. Must try: Gosht, Saag Aloo.

Sally Grande is an active member of DurhamVeg and #1 customer at Spicy Affairs. She is the key driver behind the local food initiative, Hot Roots Soups and is the artist behind the Creative Carrot. In Sally's words: "Carrots are the international symbol of people – to me, they come in all different shapes, sizes and colours, and have a personality."



Photograph by Jacob Moss

▲ Accommodating Vegetarians

SIDE NOTE

MAHARAJA INDIAN CUISINE

Indeed, visit Spicy Affairs as featured above, but if food from south-central Asia appeals to your palate - don't neglect to visit Maharaja as well at 74 Simcoe St N. We recommend that you begin with a Mango Lassi, which is a bit like a mango smoothie and will serve to protect your stomach from hot spices. Consider some appetizers such as Fish Pakora (very approachable fried fish pieces) and Chicken Kebab. After that, the sky is the limit.



Berry Hill delivers up life's simple pleasures: pastries baked fresh daily, summer's first strawberry, food made from scratch. Sarah, a returning Oshawa native and her partner Jorge, from Uruguay, make the perfect team with equal parts passion and customer service.

Sarah prepares the meal in front of you, all the while endeavoring to have a conversation about food with honest enthusiasm. She is creating institutions: unique forms of eggs benedict for Saturday brunch (pictured here), Friday is homemade pot pie days (bring home dinner at less cost than delivery pizza), and winter brings lamb shanks, short ribs and other specials. On occasions, food demonstrations bring education to vegan desserts and European chocolate making.

Jorge is a natural conversationalist and entertainer; it is not uncommon to see him holding court with a captive audience at the coffee bar. But, he brings sustenance as well: the best coffee roasted in Durham Region - it's a coffee-nut's paradise. Get a half dozen people together and Jorge will stage a personalized coffee demonstration with the roaster (photo below).



In our first trip to Tutto we quickly learned that you don't report directly to the register to order lunch - the puzzled look at the cash told us, politely: "you missed it already, mister."

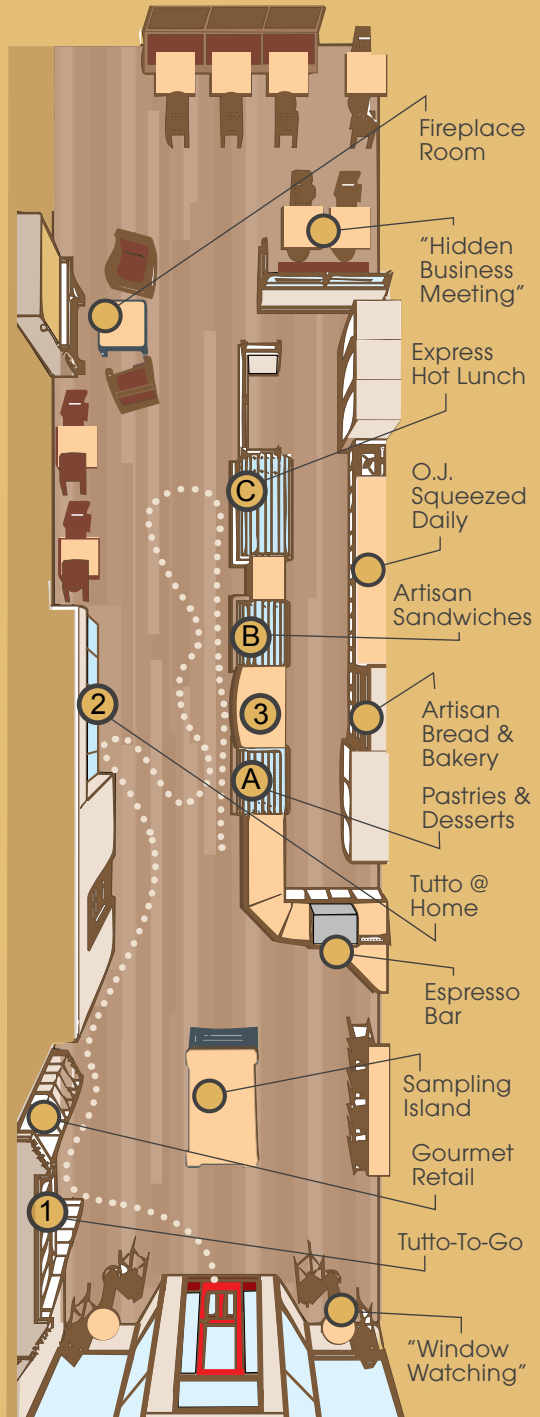
We quickly started over back at the front door. The navigation of Tutto is important - this is how we did it the second time:

○ As soon as you walk in, look left at Tutto-to-Go. Here you will find fresh fruits, salads, and sandwiches ready for consumption back at the office desk. A few steps further on is the drink cooler - S. Pellegrino anyone?

○ Stop by Tutto @ Home if you need supper for tonight, otherwise from here you need to travel contrary to the flow: ○ check out the sweets in the dessert window (wow, those cannoli look fresh), then ○ examine the artisan sandwiches in the second window, and finally before standing in line, ○ look at the hot food in the final window: vegetarian lasagne as big as your head, manicotti or a veal sandwich?

This is important: order your food as you pass the window of desired edibles, these will be delivered to the cash for you.

○ Pay, grab your food, sit down. The second lesson we learned about Tutto - go off peak (11:45am), if you can!



Foodie / Urban / Special Diet		Veg♥	OPEN M-F	OPEN Sat	OPEN Sun	WiFi	LLBO	Patio	Cater
		am	lunch	eve					
2	Berry Hill Food Company, 82 King St W	●	●●○	●●○	○○○	●	○	●	●
53	Cocoa & Joe, 44 Simcoe St N	●	●●○	●●●	●●●	●	●	○	○
6	Coffee Culture, 22 King St W	○	●●●	●●●	●●●	●	○	●	●
29	Felicio's Cake Boutique, 65 Albert St S	●	●●○	●●○	○○○	●	○	○	●
20	Isabella's Chocolate Cafe, 2 King St E	●	●●○	●●○	○○○	●	○	○	●
13	The Table - Thoughtful Food, 20 Simcoe St S	●	●●○	●●○	○○○	●	○	●	●
16	Tutto Market Café, 29 Simcoe St S	●	●●○	●●○	○○○	●	○	○	●

Live Music Clubs

32	Atria Bar & Grill, 59 King St E	○●●	○●●	○●●	○	●	○	○	○
24	Marquee Nightclub, 39 King St E	○○●	○○●	○○○	○	●	○	○	○
40	Moustache Club, 15 Simcoe St N	○○●	○○●	○○○	○	●	○	○	○
41	The Hub Bar & Grill, 15 Simcoe St N	○●●	○●●	○●●	○	○	○	○	○
37	The Junction Nightclub, 104 King St E	○○●	○○●	○○○	○	●	●	○	○
28	Wasted Space, 72 Celina St S	○○●	○○●	○○○	○	●	●	○	○

International, Americas

7	Beryl's Pepperpot, 14 King St W	○●●	○●●	○●●	○	○	○	●	●
3	Caribbean Choice, 70 King St W	○●●	○●●	○●●	○	○	○	○	○
26	Jimmy Guacos, 36 Athol St E	●	○●●	○●●	○●●	○	○	○	○
5	Viva Burritos, 12 Centre St N	●	○●●	○●●	○○○	○	○	○	○
44	Yola's Caribbean Cuisine, 9 Bond St W	●	○●●	○●●	○○○	○	○	●	○

International, East Asia

21	Chan's Garden, 20 King St E	○●●	○●●	○●●	○	●	○	○	○
27	Hong Kong House, 89 Simcoe St S	○●●	○●●	○●●	○	●	○	○	○
31	New Globe Restaurant, 60 Athol St E	○●●	○●●	○●●	○	●	○	○	○
54	Osaka Sushi, 46 Simcoe St N	●	○●●	○●●	○○○	○	●	○	○
46	Oshawa Thai Cuisine, 24 Bond St W	●	○●●	○●●	○○○	○	●	○	○

International, Central Asia

51	Curry Club, 38 Simcoe St N	○●●	○●●	○●●	○	●	○	○	○
38	Down East Donairs, 23 Bond Street East	○●●	○●○	○●○	○	○	○	○	○
55	Maharaja Indian Cuisine, 74 Simcoe St N	●	○●●	○●●	○●●	○	●	○	○
57	Mediterranean Gyroworks, 92 Simcoe St N	○●●	○●●	○●○	○	○	○	○	○
48	Oz Pita Wraps, 4 Bond St W	●	○●●	○●●	○○○	○	○	○	○
1	Spicy Affairs Indian Cuisine, 84 King St W	●	○●●	○●●	○○○	○	○	○	●
11	Zack's Sandwiches, 13 King St W	●	○●●	○○○	○○○	○	○	○	○

International, Europe

18	Avanti Trattoria, 17 King St E	●	○●●	○○○	○○○	○	●	●	○
15	Fazio's Restaurant, 33 Simcoe St S	○	○○●	○○○	○○○	○	●	○	●

BBQ / Burgers / Pubs

23	Buster Rhino's Southern BBQ, 28 King St E	○●●	○●●	○●●	○	●	●	●	●
30	Prospects Bar & Grill, 99 Athol St E	○	○●●	○○●	○○●	○	●	○	●
36	Riley's Olde Towne Pub, 104 King St E	○	○●●	○●●	○●●	○	●	●	○
42	Simcoe Fish & Chips, 24 Simcoe St N	○●●	○●●	○●○	○	○	○	○	○
39	Stag's Head Pub & Grill, 22 Bond St E	○●●	○●●	○○○	○	○	●	●	○
17	Stuttering John's Smokehouse, 19 Simcoe St S	○●●	○●●	○●●	○	○	●	●	○
22	The Patty Shack, 24 King St E	○●●	○●●	○●●	○	○	○	○	○
25	Thirsty Monk Gastropub, 36 Athol St E	●	○●●	○●●	○○○	○	●	●	○

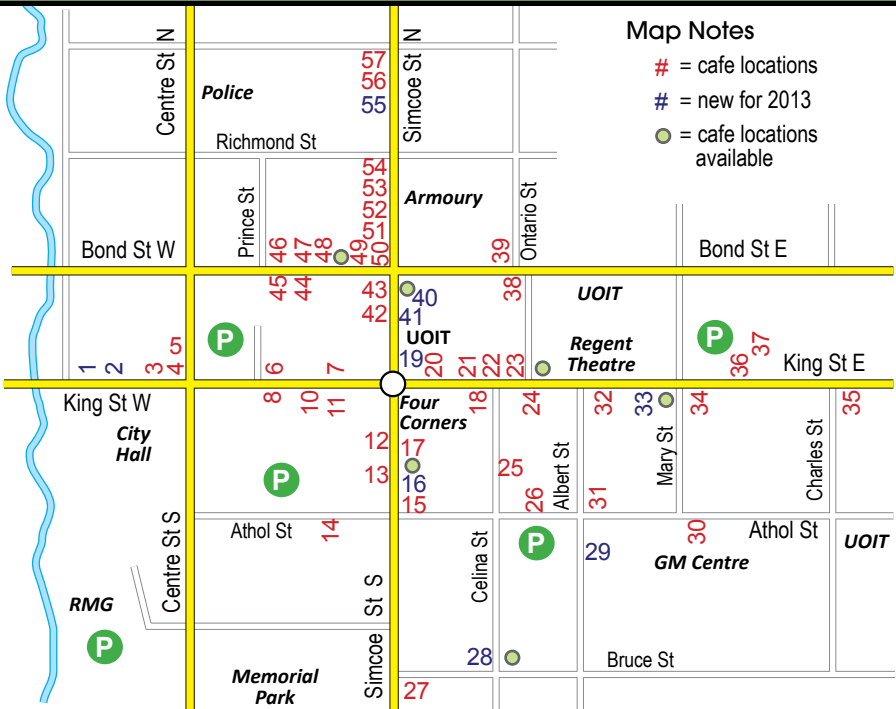


Chart Notes

1) VEGETARIAN FRIENDLINESS is difficult to rate, so we studied menus and interviewed vegetarians to arrive at the following scale:

○ = a few choices ● = should be pleased ● = vegan too!

2) OPEN HOURS - there are 3 columns: Monday-Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Each has 3 circles: morning, lunch & evening open hours. ○●● A white dot means "not open", a yellow dot means "open", while a grey dot means "sometimes open".

Diners

	Veg	OPEN M-F	OPEN Sat	OPEN Sun	WiFi	LLBO	Patio	Cater
		am lunch eve						
47 Diamonds Grill, 10 Bond St W		●●●	●●○	●●○	●	●	○	○
43 Joe Bean Coffee & Eatery, 28 Simcoe St N		●●○	●●○	○●○	●	○	○	○
8 Mother's Kitchen, 19 King St W		●●○	●●○	●●○	○	●	○	○
56 Rainbow Family Restaurant, 82 Simcoe St N		●●○	●●○	●●○	●	●	○	○
10 Sunnyside Eatery, 4 King St W		●●○	●●○	●●○	○	○	○	○

Fast Food / Pizza / Fries

52 241 Pizza, 42 Simcoe St N		○●●	○●●	○●●	○	○	○	○
4 Country Style Bistro, 62 King St W	○	●●●	●●●	●●●	●	○	○	●
49 Montreal Steames, 36 Simcoe St N		○●●	○●●	○●○	○	○	○	○
19 Extreme Pita, 1 Simcoe St N	●	○●●	○●○	○●○	○	○	○	●
35 Pizza Pizza, 129 King St E		○●●	○●●	○●●	●	○	○	○
34 Quiznos Sub, 97 King St E		○●●	○●●	○●●	○	○	○	○
45 Reginos Pizza, 15 Bond St W		○●●	○●●	○●●	●	●	○	●
33 Smoke's Poutinerie, 75 King St E		○●●	○●●	○●●	○	○	○	○
12 Subway Restaurant, 10 Simcoe St S	○	○●●	○●●	○●●	○	○	○	●
14 Tim Hortons, 17 Athol St W	○	○●●	○●●	○●●	●	○	○	○
50 Wing It!, 36 Simcoe St N		○●●	○●●	○●●	○	○	○	○

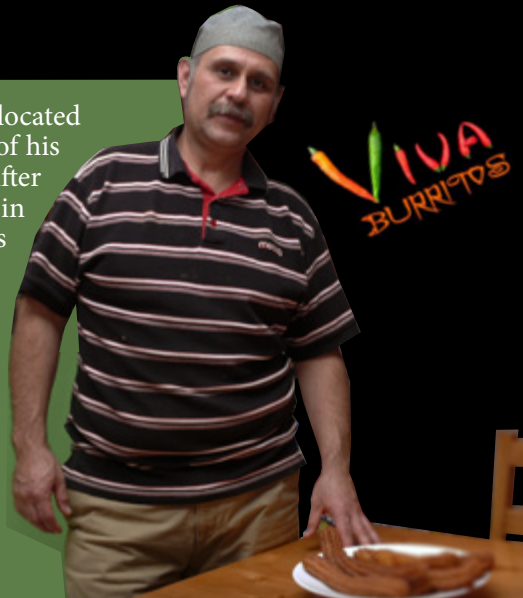
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Viva Burritos

12 Centre North

Jesus Pena, the owner of Viva Burritos located at Centre and King, spent the early days of his career as a Systems Engineer in Mexico. After moving to Canada to continue his work in Oshawa, he decided instead to make his dream of becoming a restaurant owner a reality and quickly became a staple in Downtown Oshawa's growing food district.

At Viva Burritos, customers return for authentic Mexican-inspired favorites from burritos and tacos to tortilla soup. Jesus prepares his own homemade salsas and proudly uses fresh ingredients in every dish.



53

Cocoa & Joe

44 Simcoe North



Sharon is celebrating 4 years in business at 44 Simcoe North as the sole proprietor of Cocoa & Joe. She has had a passion for nutrition for over 40 years.

Cocoa & Joe's first mission is to provide a unique and popular selection of gluten-free and vegan baked goods, but Sharon has also ventured into offering freshly made organic juices and smoothies, such as a wild blueberries, beet root, and ginger root juice.

Patrons additionally enjoy lattés, coffees and teas. The space has been transformed to accommodate live music nights and showcases a rotation of works by local artists.

The combination of a liquor license, smoothies, live music and art sometimes leads to an eclectic gathering in a small space; nevertheless, Sharon greets everyone with the same charm.

The music scene in Downtown Oshawa is a story of ebb and flow, with one of the highest tides spawning bands like Cuff the Duke. Local music has been welcomed at supportive restaurants like the Thirsty Monk, The Atria and Murphy's, while all ages bands are at home in supportive cafes - Isabella's, Berry Hill and Cocoa & Joe.

Dedicated "live music clubs" have recently emerged. At The Hub, The Moustache Club and Wasted Space, food has become secondary to the priority of great music. These establishments are off-beat, creative, and offer a physical space for local and travelling talent. Event schedules are readily available on [www.facebook.com/: add - thehuboshawa/events](http://www.facebook.com/:add-thehuboshawa/events), [MoustacheClubOshawa/events](http://www.facebook.com/MoustacheClubOshawa/events), or [WastedSpaceOshawa/events](http://www.facebook.com/WastedSpaceOshawa/events).

In addition to these venues, look for occasional live music events at The Vault (www.facebook.com/thevault.19simcoe) and The Robert McLaughlin Gallery (www.rmg.on.ca/events.php).

LIVE MUSIC CLUBS



Dedicated Rhythms ▲

28

Wasted Space
72 Celina St S


40

Moustache Club
15 Simcoe St. N

41

The Hub
15 Simcoe St. N

LATE NIGHT TWITTER *Feeding*

A smartphone is held in a hand, displaying a tweet. The tweet text is: "burrito-eater nothing better than @JimmyGuaco on friday nite 2:05AM Sept 21". Below the tweet, a close-up photo of a large, filled burrito is visible. The burrito is cut in half, showing a filling of meat, cheese, and vegetables. The background of the phone screen is a blurred image of a burrito.

burrito-eater nothing better than
@JimmyGuaco on friday nite
2:05AM Sept 21

33

Smoke's Poutinerie
75 King St E

26

Jimmy Guacos
36 Athol St E

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact Service Oshawa; Tel: 905-436-3311; T.T.Y.: 905-436-5627; email: service@oshawa.ca.

It's the inevitable picture of a half-eaten burrito or smothered fries from a late night, post-bar-closing twitter handle. Electronic enthusiasm depicted in a blurry bliss of gooey oozy food. Although, healthy eating and/or variety have not been over-written, the choice is there.

Jimmy Guacos Border Town Burritos is a rising star amongst Oshawa born franchises, espousing clean eating, limiting additives and heavy on fresh ingredients. While new-to-Oshawa Smoke's Poutinerie has shown that they are not shy when it comes to a goal of global domination by way of poutine. It may not be an overly health conscious midnight offering, but selecting from 30 core menu items definitely brings new meaning to create-your-own.