



KEVIN M. COX/The Daily News

Owner Mickey Wooten has turned South Shore Grille in League City into one of the best places for brunch.

# Let's do brunch

By SUE MAYFIELD GEIGER | Correspondent

It isn't breakfast. It isn't lunch. It's brunch, where we gather with friends, sip on mimosas, Bellinis or Bloody Mary's and luxuriate in a lazy weekend morning.

Here's our guide to some of the best area brunch spots.



A Cuban omelet (LEFT) and a South Shore omelet (ABOVE) at South Shore Grille in League City.

## BERNARDO'S AT HOTEL GALVEZ

2024 Seawall Blvd., Galveston

409-515-2145

11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday

Known for its famous Champagne Sunday brunch, Bernardo's impressive menu ranges from bourbon-glazed ham and prime rib to a pasta and omelet bar.

Other offerings include fresh seafood, cheese blintzes and build-your-own Caesar salad, but the dessert table is the *pièce de résistance*.

Triple chocolate cake, double apple strudel, bread pudding, and assorted pastries are sweet temptations. Located in the historic Hotel Galvez, reservations are advised.

## CASEY'S

3801 Seawall Blvd., Galveston

409-762-9625 ext. 502

11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

Locals and tourists flock to this Gaido family eatery for their late morning meal. While omelets, waffles, egg wraps and French toast are hits, it's those 99-cent Bloody Marys and Screw Drivers that cause a buzz.

Oh, and the orange juice in the mimosas is freshly squeezed.

## CULLEN'S UPSCALE AMERICAN GRILLE

11500 Space Center Blvd., Clear Lake area

281-991-2000

11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday

Chef Paul Lewis sets the table with such dishes as orange-scented French toast with apricots, blueberry pancakes, malted Belgian waffles with strawberries, and the breakfast skillet (eggs, maple bacon, chorizo, cheesy grits and pico de gallo).

For a primo dining experience, call and reserve Macy's table, which is private and suspended above the main dining room.

## MARIO'S SEAWALL ITALIAN RESTAURANT

628 Seawall Blvd., Galveston

409-763-1693

11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday

For an authentic taste of Italy with a view of the Gulf of Mexico, Mario's pastas and hand-tossed pizzas adorn the buffet table as well as eggs, bacon, sausage, biscuits and gravy.

Don't overlook the antipasto bar, soups, salads, spiral ham, roast beef, chicken piccata and grilled vegetables as well as the assortment of homemade desserts and traditional gelato. Indoor and open-air dining.



COURTESY PHOTO

The brunch buffet at The Hotel Galvez includes a custom omelet station.

**MOSQUITO CAFÉ**

628 14th St., Galveston  
409-763-1010  
8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Saturday; all day Sunday

Corned beef hash tacos, Italian sausage quiche, scratch-made buttermilk pancakes topped with fresh fruit, and the classic Mosquito Benedict (scone covered with mushrooms, sautéed shrimp, sundried tomatoes, artichoke hearts, poached eggs and Hollandaise sauce) are just a few of the sumptuous breakfast and brunch items at this island favorite eatery.

Bakery items, hickory-smoked peppered bacon and premium coffee round out the menu. Casual and sunny atmosphere with outdoor dining.

**M&M RESTAURANT AND BAR**

2401 Church, Galveston  
409-766-7170  
11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday

Grilled asparagus, prosciutto and Gouda cheese make up the ingredients of the famous M&M omelet, but the stuffed French toast and the chorizo and eggs are equally famous.

Dig into the stuffed yellow bell pepper filled with potatoes, cheese, bacon, sausage and eggs or order a burger or rib-eye roll (with grilled onions and bleu cheese) from the Tavern menu. Built in 1844 and a survivor of the 1900 storm, this building has a rich history.

**OLYMPIA GRILL AT PIER 21**

Pier 21 and Harborside, Galveston  
409-765-0021  
11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

From the “Harbor Seafood Omelet”

to the “Rustic Cinnamon French toast” (with grilled plantains), Olympia Grill at Pier 21 also provides a dockside dining experience that will bring you up close and personal to some mighty big ships in port.

The healthy whole wheat pancakes with chopped toasted walnuts and the Kahlua coffee will inspire you to linger.

**SEABROOK CLASSIC CAFÉ**

2511 NASA Parkway, Seabrook  
281-326-1512  
8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Saturday and Sunday

This cafe is a top mainland favorite where locals have been hanging out for 25 years. Eggs, hash browns, bacon and sausage are always fresh.

Specialty items include the fajita omelet, huevos ranchero and Texas-style migas as well as New Orleans beignets. Save room for dessert because pies are baked daily and people drive for miles to partake of the apple pie.

**SEASIDE BISTRO**

6300 Seawall Blvd., Galveston  
409-744-1447  
10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

Now at The Victorian Resort, Seaside Bistro is back with its famous Eggs Novelle Orleans, Eggs Sardou, eggs Benedict, seafood crepes, French toast, and the traditional breakfast and brunch items enjoyed by islanders and mainlanders at the former location on Termini Road.

Order an omelet the way you like it and don't forget the German fries.



COURTESY PHOTO

Mario's on the seawall offers breakfast and Italian favorites on the brunch buffet.

**PERRY'S STEAKHOUSE & GRILLE**

487 Bay Area Blvd., Clear Lake  
281-286-8800  
11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday

Crabcake Benedict, chicken cordon bleu (chicken breast stuffed with sweet-shaved ham, baby Swiss cheese, encrusted with breadcrumbs and served with a garden sherry sauce and grilled asparagus) and Filet Creole Benedict (filet mignon medallions and poached eggs smothered with a spicy Tasso gravy) are top sellers here. Mimosas, Bloody Marys and frozen Bellinis available.

**SKIPPER'S GREEK CAFE**

1026 Marina Bay Drive, Clear Lake Shores  
281-334-4787  
5:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Saturday;  
5:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday

Serving country-style breakfast all day with the likes of corned beef hash, chicken-fried steak and eggs, pancakes, waffles and biscuits with gravy. Other favorites are the Gyro omelet with Feta cheese, the chili cheese omelet and pork chop with eggs. Family owned. Greek pastries are baked fresh daily

**SOUTH SHORE GRILLE**

2800 Marina Bay Dr., League City  
281-334-7700  
11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday

Fantastic omelets only available on Saturday. Your five choices are the Cuban with roasted pork and black beans; the “Gourmet” with bacon, avocado, grilled onions and cheese; the “South Shore” with onions, bacon and Swiss; the “Western” with ham, bell pepper, cheddar

and salsa; and the famous “Outstanding” with red potatoes, red peppers, prime rib, mushrooms, bacon and cheddar. Comes with one side order and toasted French bread.

**SOUTH SHORE HARBOUR HOTEL**

Paradise Reef Restaurant  
2500 South Shore Blvd., League City  
281-334-1000  
11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday

Breakfast begins at 7 a.m. with an omelet bar, waffles, French toast, biscuits, gravy and all the trimmings. But if can hold out until 11 a.m., the brunch entrees are worth the wait. Items change weekly, so be sure and call ahead.

Past offerings have included club steak with Hungarian red wine and paprika cream sauce; grilled tilapia over cherry tomato, sweet pepper and potato hash; and pistachio crusted salmon with pineapple salsa and citrus butter. Save room for the turtle cheesecake with caramel and cinnamon whipped cream.

**SUNFLOWER BAKERY AND CAFÉ**

512 14th St., Galveston  
409-763-5500  
8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

Start your day with filet mignon and eggs, or eggs with anything for that matter. This brunch menu serves up eggs with crabcakes, salmon, pork chops and steak. If something meatless suits your fancy, try sautéed crab on an English muffin or the spicy migas.

The bread pudding French toast is not to be ignored. Mimosas are made with fresh-squeezed orange juice.