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SEMINOLE COUNTY RESTAURANTS OFFER PLEASURE FOR DIVERSE PALATES

LONGWOOD, Fla. – A smorgasbord of fresh Florida seafood, ethnic and haute cuisine, Southern cooking and everything in between, awaits visitors to Seminole County.

An outstanding collection of family-operated restaurants, signature dining rooms and local mini-chain franchises complement a cornucopia of regional and national chain favorites. From fast food to fine dining, Seminole County's cosmopolitan culinary experiences truly offer something for everyone.

Listed below is a representative sample of mid- to upper range restaurants in the area.

ALL-NATURAL FOODS

Chamberlin's Natural Foods -- set in a natural food store; low fat "gourmet" dinners featuring natural wine, range-fed chicken, farm-raised seafood, gourmet vegetarian entrees; Casselberry; (407) 678-3100; Longwood; (407) 774-8866

BARBECUE

Uncle Jones' Bar-B-Que -- Florida "cracker"-style ambiance; authentic pit barbecue, extensive soul food dinner buffet; Altamonte Springs; (407) 260-2425

DELIS

Toojay's -- bright, upscale dining; homemade soups, sandwiches, salads and desserts; Altamonte Springs; (407) 830-1770

COUNTRY CLUB DINING

Timacuan Bar and Grille -- picturesque golf course view; extensive daily lunch menu; limited public evening dining; Lake Mary; (407) 321-0012

Sweetwater Golf & Country Club—from causal to gourmet; enjoy a variety of options for breakfast, lunch and dinner all made with premium ingredients and superior culinary techniques; Altamonte Springs; (407) 889-4743

CUBAN

Rolando's Cuban Restaurant— authentic and family owned Cuban cuisine; lunch and dinner menu as well as catering and take-out options provided upon request; Casselberry (407) 767-9677

DINING/ENTERTAINMENT

Rivership Romance --

Peter Scott's -- reminiscent of a time when supper clubs were all the rage, Peter Scott's offers an elegant 1940's-type dinner and dining experience; patrons can feast on gourmet cuisine such as escargot chanterelles, smoked carpaccio, lobster bisque, rack of lamb Provencale, Long Island duck, Dover sole and venison grand veneur; Longwood; (407) 834-4477

Terrace Restaurant (Orlando Jai Alai) -- leisurely upscale dining amid pari-mutuel wagering; tiered seating; steak, seafood, veal, poultry and pasta entrees; cover charge; Fern Park; (407) 331-9191

FONDUE

Colorado Fondue Company -- Western-themed outpost featuring three fondue preparations including a 600-degree Fahrenheit "hot rock" granite slab; Casselberry; (407) 767-8232

The Melting Pot -- stylish contemporary ambiance; serving two fondue preparations; best bet is the "fondue for two combo" sampler; divine desserts; Longwood; (407) 862-8773

FRENCH

Maison & Jardin -- perennial state Golden Spoon award-winner; elegant villa, garden setting; legendary Sunday brunches; formal service; menus change seasonally; Altamonte Springs; (407) 862-4410

GRILLS

Patio Grill -- casual family atmosphere; menu ranges from home-style pot roast to grilled chicken over pasta; full bar; Longwood; (407) 331-0929

Stonewood Grill & Tavern—casually elegant new restaurant will excellent grilling and service; all daily fresh ingredients seared, grilled, sautéed and presented with the utmost standard of service; Lake Mary (407) 333-3292 and Winter Springs (407) 699-4444.

INDIAN

Clay Oven -- traditionally spicy Moghlai cooking; themed dining room; weekday lunch buffet; Longwood; (407) 696-7775

ORIENTAL

Korean House -- Central Florida's only exclusively Korean restaurant; outstanding side dishes, entrees; Longwood; (407) 767-5918

Thai Delight -- serving Thai cuisine only, featuring homegrown ingredients, Longwood; (407) 339-6612

ITALIAN

Enzo's -- festive, special occasion dining in charming lakeside Mediterranean-style villa; gourmet Northern Italian cuisine; Longwood; (407) 834-9872

DaVinci Restaurant—located in Downtown Historic Sanford; romantic dining atmosphere that is also appropriate for causal dining, large groups, special occasions and business dining; Sanford (407) 323-1388.

Papa Tony Italian Restaurant -- neighborhood standout; gourmet pizza, creatively prepared Northern and Southern Italian dishes; Winter Springs; (407) 327-8943

Mona Lisa Restaurant -- intimate, informal setting; authentic Northern Italian cuisine; Lake Mary; (407) 330-1299

MIDDLE EASTERN

Aladdin's Cafe -- formal ethnic dining; belly dancing and live musical entertainment nightly; Casselberry; (407) 331-0488

PERSIAN

Ali Baba -- elegantly themed ethnic dining room; authentic Middle Eastern cuisine; weekday lunch buffets, Sunday brunch; Longwood; (407) 331-8680

STEAK AND SEAFOOD

Black Hammock Restaurant -- casual dining in fish camp setting; specializing in farm-raised gator and catfish; Oviedo; (407) 365-2201

Wolfy's on the Water -- casual marina dining overlooking scenic Lake Monroe; seafood, chicken, burgers, steaks, and salads; Sanford; (407) 322-2150

Gators Riverside Grille -- informal indoor/outdoor dining overlooking the St. Johns River; menu includes Southern fare such as gator, catfish and grouper, burgers and sandwiches, and appetizers; Sanford; (407) 330-1612

Loftons -- casual, upscale dining; fresh herbs grown on premises in chef's organic garden; featuring cut-to-order steaks, fresh Florida seafood, pasta, veal, chicken and pork; Orlando North Hilton, Altamonte Springs; (407) 830-1985

Straub's Seafood -- bright, Florida casual dining; a perennial Central Florida fresh seafood favorite; entrees

may be grilled, broiled or fried; Altamonte Springs; (407) 831-2250

Toucan Willie's -- casual, eclectic dining; featuring chicken, beef and ribs, excellent soups; Oviedo; (407) 366-6225

Shula's 347 Grill—chic and energetic atmosphere; design features photos and highlights of local sports stars and legends; fine dining offering everything from gourmet salads to premium black angus beef selections; Lake Mary (407) 531-3555

Ruth's Chris Steak House – fine dining; elegant and comfortable atmosphere that accommodates a dinner for two or an important business meeting; Lake Mary (407) 804-8261.

TEX-MEX

Las Margaritas—southwest themed, casual dining; a local favorite, serving potent margaritas, authentic Tex-Mex fare; Casselberry (407) 657-2748

TEA ROOMS

Rose Cottage Tea Room -- intimate, authentic-looking Victorian cottage; formal table settings, period server uniforms, classical music; serving homemade breads and soups, fresh salads and high-tea; Sanford; (407) 323-9448.

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Just a stone's throw away from all the major attractions of Central Florida, and within a 15-minute drive from its tourist-magnet neighbor Orlando, Seminole County offers great accommodations, fine dining, upscale shopping, superb golf courses, and state-of-the-art sports facilities and training complexes - flanked by charming historical villages.

Surrounded by the beauty of natural Florida, Seminole County also offers the classic Florida experience of peaceful rivers, fishing, boating, hiking and more.

Getting to Daytona can truly be a day at the beach from Seminole, and visitors are in prime position to take off for Florida's famed Space Coast, too.

For destination information call 1-800-800-7832 (USA and Canada) or 407-665-2900 (outside the USA) or visit www.visitseminole.com.