



COOK LIKE A STAR!

SPECIAL TRAVEL
SECTION



Guy's*
BACK-TO-SCHOOL
SANDWICH
*by his son Hunter!

Melissa's
HOMEMADE
YOGURT

Duff's
MARYLAND
CRAB BOIL

AMERICA'S
BEST
PIZZAS

**BEST FAMILY
DINNERS**
133

NEW RECIPES

(like this tasty
summer pasta)

Bacon!

Free pull-out
recipe booklet

FUN DESSERTS

- PB&J Cake
- Pineapple S'mores
- Deep-Fried Strawberries

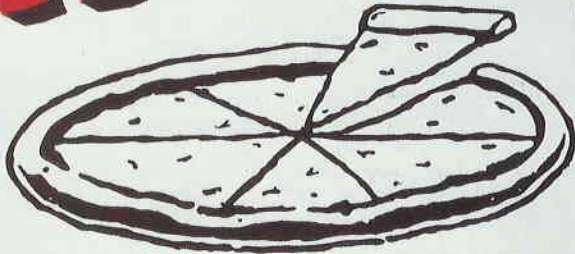
Win \$1,000! See page 160.



SEPTEMBER 2011 \$3.99



**FIFTY
STATES**



50

PIZZAS

food magazine

Turn to see the winning pies!

Visit 10 of our favorite spots on Cooking Channel's *Pizza Outside the Box*, August 21 at 8 p.m. ET. Then tune in to Cooking Channel for pizza week, August 21 to 27.



Before you look at one more star on this map, let's be clear: In regard to pizza, we, the editors and writers of this story, do not discriminate. When we set out six months ago to find the greatest pizzas in America, we did not insist on thin crust over thick or red sauce over white. We didn't even care if the pizzas were round. We just needed them to be awesome. Inevitably, some of you will be alarmed by our choices, shocked that so-and-so was snubbed because their crust has the perfect crunch or their cheese oozes just so. But wild disagreements about pizza reveal one great truth: There is no single best way to make it. On the following pages, you will see by-the-book classics right next to brash pies that break every rule. But all of them have one important thing in common: They're well worth the trip.





OREGON

★ Pesto

Dove Vivi, Portland

Dove Vivi is Italian for “where you live,” and this place lives up to its name by sourcing many of its ingredients locally. The prize on the menu is the pesto pizza, an appealing combo of ricotta and nutty spinach pesto on a crunchy cornmeal crust. The deli-style dining room isn’t exactly date-night material, but you can order a par-baked pie and finish it off in the oven at home. \$23; 2727 Northeast Glisan St.; dovevivipizza.com



SOUTH DAKOTA

★ Spicy Meatball and Sauerkraut

Charlie’s Pizza House, Yankton

Soon after he opened this place in 1959, Chicago native Charlie Chato gave up on it and moved on. He should have stayed: The restaurant became the longest-running, and one of the most popular, pizzerias in South Dakota. Loyal fans are particularly hooked on this pie, topped with spicy-sour meatballs, jalapeños and sauerkraut. Newcomers are often wary, until they bite in. \$9.50 to \$24; 804 Summit St.; 605-665-2212

PENNSYLVANIA

★ Parma

Osteria, Philadelphia

Osteria co-owners Marc Vetri (a James Beard award winner) and Jeff Michaud ate pizza all over Italy before they added one to the menu here. What did the two veterans of Italian fine dining learn? The simpler, the better. Their Parma pizza is nothing more than razor-thin prosciutto (cut on a hand-cranked slicer), mozzarella, fontina and sherry vinegar-dressed arugula, which is often pulled from a garden they planted nearby. \$20; 640 North Broad St.; site.osteriaphilly.com



TENNESSEE

★ Belly Ham

City House, Nashville

The chef-owner of this popular musicians’ hangout ordered pork bellies one day but didn’t know what to do with them—he didn’t have a smoker, so making bacon was out. Instead, Tandy Wilson brined the bellies for five days, then roasted them, and the result was pork belly ham. He puts chunks of it on this pizza, along with house-made mozzarella, oregano and a shot of chili oil, then he slips the pie into a wood-fired oven. \$13; 1222 4th Ave. North; cityhousenashville.com



RHODE ISLAND

★ Summer

Al Forno Restaurant, Providence

Grill-marked crusts were practically unknown in America when Johanne Killeen and George Germon pioneered the grilled pizza at Al Forno in 1980. They wanted to make pizza but didn’t have a brick oven, so they improvised with a wood-fired grill. Al Forno’s best is the Summer pizza, topped with tomato sauce, fresh herbs, scallions, a blend of fontina and pecorino cheese, a spicy oil and corn right off the cob. \$20; 577 South Main St.; alforno.com



TEXAS

★ Hill Country

West Crust Artisan Pizza Pies, Lubbock

In a state renowned for smoky barbecue, fiery chili and massive chicken-fried steaks, the Hill Country pie at this pizza place highlights the lighter side of Texas. A brick-fired thin crust supports layers of mozzarella and feta cheese, along with turkey bacon, red onion and—the surprise ingredient—glazed pecans. Locals will tell you to add jalapeños for a Texas kick. \$15; 6012 82nd St., Suite A; www.westcrust.com

SOUTH CAROLINA

★ Pistachio Pesto

EVO, North Charleston

EVO started as a basic pizza stand at the Charleston Farmers Market, but once the owners set up permanent shop, they started getting creative—and this amazing pizza was born. Co-owner Matt McIntosh grinds pistachios with olive oil and salt to create a “pesto” base, then tops the pie with mozzarella, goat cheese, parmesan and finely ground toasted pistachios. \$11 to \$13; 1075 East Montague Ave.; evopizza.com



UTAH

★ Roasted Corn

Pizzeria 712, Orem

Owners Joseph Macrae and Colton Soelberg have pizza-making down to a science: They keep their wood-burning oven at precisely 712 degrees, the magic number at which they think pizza crusts char perfectly. Among the best of their pies is the least traditional one: roasted corn, fresh chiles, grana padano and gremolata, an Italian herb mixture. \$13; 320 South State St., Suite 147; pizzeria712.com





Holiday Inn

PRESENTS

CULINARY ROAD TRIPS

No matter where your love of food takes you, Holiday Inn® hotels are the one place on the road where you can be yourself. Here are some of our top picks—each the perfect place to kick back and relax (until your next meal!).

California

1500 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, California 94109

Colorado

3333 East Quebec Street
Denver, Colorado 80207

Florida

5905 Kirkman Road
Orlando, Florida 32819

Illinois

350 West Mart Center Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60654

Maine

303 Sable Oaks Drive
South Portland, Maine 04106

New York

125 West 26th Street
New York, New York 10001

Oregon

2333 NW Vaughn Street
Portland, Oregon 97210

Texas

8111 Kirby Drive
Houston, Texas 77054

Washington

211 Dexter Avenue North
Seattle, Washington 98109

Wisconsin

1109 Fourier Drive
Madison, Wisconsin 53717



To plan your cross-country culinary adventure, visit holidayinn.com

America's Best Pizzas

ALABAMA

Trattoria Centrale,
Birmingham
207 A 20th St. North;
trattoriacentrale.com

ALASKA

Capri Pizza,
Anchorage
4505 Spenard Rd.;
caprihalalpizza.com

ARIZONA

The Parlor Pizzeria,
Phoenix
1916 East Camelback
Rd.; theparlor.us

ARKANSAS

Damgoode Pies,
Little Rock and
Fayetteville
damgoodepies.com

CALIFORNIA

Pizzaio, Oakland
5008 Telegraph Ave.;
pizzaiooakland.com

COLORADO

Pizzeria Locale,
Boulder
1730 Pearl St.;
pizzerialocale.com

CONNECTICUT

Frank Pepe Pizzeria
Napoletana,
Statewide
pepespizzeria.com

DELAWARE

Pizza By Elizabeths,
Greenville
3801 Kennett Pike;
pizzabyelizabeths.com

FLORIDA

Michael's Genuine
Food & Drink, Miami
130 Northeast
40th St.;
michaelsgenuine.com

GEORGIA

Vinnie Van Go-Go's,
Savannah
317 West Bryan St.;
vinnievangogo.com

HAWAII

V lounge, Honolulu
1344 Kona St.;
vlounehawaii.com

IDAHO

Pizzalchik, Boise
7330 West State St.;
pizzalchik.com

ILLINOIS

Pequod's Pizza,
Chicago
multiple locations;
pequodspizza.com

INDIANA

The Rolling
Stonebaker,
Beverly Shores
location on Twitter,
[@Stonebakerpizza](https://twitter.com/Stonebakerpizza)

IOWA

Fong's Pizza,
Des Moines
223 Fourth St.;
fongspizza.com

KANSAS

Wichita Pizza
Company, Wichita
1520 South Webb Rd.,
#120; wichitapizza.com

KENTUCKY

Boombozz Pizza &
Taphouse,
Louisville
multiple locations;
boombozz.com
taphouse.com

LOUISIANA

Cascio's Market
Bistro, Bossier City
2750 Shed Rd.,
Suite G;
cascioitalian.com

MAINE

Otto Pizza, Portland
multiple locations;
ottoportland.com

MARYLAND

Joe Squared,
Baltimore
133 West North Ave.;
joesquared.com

MASSACHUSETTS

Scampo, Boston
215 Charles St.;
scampoboston.com

MICHIGAN

Tomatoes Apizza,
Farmington Hills
multiple locations;
tomatoesapizza.com

MINNESOTA

Black Sheep Pizza,
Minneapolis-
St. Paul
multiple locations;
blacksheeppizza.com

MISSISSIPPI

Tony's Brick Oven
Pizzeria, Gulfport
2417 14th St.;
tonysbrickoven.com

MISSOURI

PizzaBella,
Kansas City
1810 Baltimore Ave.;
pizzabellakc.com

MONTANA

When in Rome, Bigfork
8270 Highway 35;
bigforkpizza.com

NEBRASKA

La Casa Pizzeria,
Omaha
4432 Leavenworth
St.; lacasapizzeria.net

NEVADA

Metro Pizza, Las
Vegas and Henderson
metropizza.com

NEW HAMPSHIRE

MT's Local Kitchen &
Wine Bar, Nashua
212 Main St.;
mtslocal.com

NEW JERSEY

De Lorenzo's,
Trenton
530 Hudson St.;
609-695-9534

NEW MEXICO

Rooftop Pizzeria,
Santa Fe
60 East San
Francisco St.;
rooftoppizzeria.com

NEW YORK

Kesté Pizza & Vino,
New York City
271 Bleeker St.;
kestepizzeria.com

NORTH CAROLINA

Wingzza, Charlotte
location on Twitter,
[@Wingzzatruck](https://twitter.com/Wingzzatruck)

NORTH DAKOTA

A&B Pizza, Bismarck
and Mandan
aandbpizza.com

OHIO

Bar Cento, Cleveland
1948 West 25th St.;
barcento.com

OKLAHOMA

Hideaway Pizza,
Statewide
hideawaypizza.com

OREGON

Dove Vivi, Portland
2727 Northeast
Glisan St.;
dovevivipizza.com

PENNSYLVANIA

Osteria, Philadelphia
640 North Broad St.;
site.osteriaphilly.com

RHODE ISLAND

Al Forno Restaurant,
Providence
577 South Main St.;
alforno.com

SOUTH CAROLINA

EVO, North
Charleston
1075 East
Montague Ave.;
evopizza.com

SOUTH DAKOTA

Charlie's Pizza House,
Yankton
804 Summit St.;
605-665-2212

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City House, Nashville
1222 4th Ave. North;
cityhousenashville.com

TEXAS

West Crust Artisan
Pizza Pies, Lubbock
6012 82nd St., Suite A;
www.westcrust.com

UTAH

Pizzeria 712, Orem
320 South State St.,
Suite 147;
pizzeria712.com

VERMONT

Parker Pie Co.,
West Glover
161 County Rd.;
parkerpie.com

VIRGINIA

Crozet Pizza, Crozet
5794 Three Notch'd
Rd.; crozetpizza.net

WASHINGTON

Solstice Wood Fire
Café, Bingen
415 West Steuben St.;
solsticewoodfire.com

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Comet Ping Pong
5037 Connecticut
Ave. Northwest;
cometpingpong.com

WEST VIRGINIA

Pies & Pints,
Fayetteville and
Charleston
piesandpints.net

WISCONSIN

Ian's, Madison and
Milwaukee
ianspizza.com

WYOMING

Grand Avenue Pizza,
Laramie
301 East Grand Ave.;
grandavenue.com

Tear out this list and hit the road!