



Japanese Blossoms

Sandwich

FIRST Place: Spiteri's Deli

971 East Ave., 891-4797

Spiteri's might be kind of a "hidden gem," tucked into an out-of-the-way strip mall on the north side of Highway 99, but the longstanding local icon is anything but a secret. Huge, traditional sandwiches served with a wide selection of deli sides have made this shop a Chico fave for many years.

SECOND Place: Fast Eddie's Sandwich Shop

1175 East Ave., 342-8558

THIRD Place: Kona's

965 Nord Ave., 894-1635; 138 Main St., 893-4344

Street Food

FIRST Place: Gnarly Deli

Locations vary (facebook.com/gnarlydeli)

First rule of Gnarly Deli: No french fries. (Carting around a fryer in a food truck is not fun.) Second rule of Gnarly Deli: Hot dogs are sammiches. Third rule? There are no more rules for the local fave with the endlessly creative menu of bread plus a bunch of good stuff, e.g., the Ooo Mommy Dog (with nori and teriyaki sauce); or the Liz Lemon, with pastrami, turkey breast, coleslaw, Russian dressing, Swiss cheese and potato chips on sourdough.

SECOND Place: Gordo Burrito

Eighth & Pine streets

THIRD Place: Tacos El Pinolero

Esplanade & Toney Way

Sushi

FIRST Place: Japanese Blossoms

2995 Esplanade, Ste. 104, 891-9022

Creating sushi is an art that takes years to master, and Japanese Blossoms has made a name for itself in Chico with his fun, creative menu. The art at his acclaimed restaurant ranges from simple sashimi (fish only) to nigiri (fish on rice) and, maybe most impressive, specialty rolls.

SECOND Place: Big Tuna Sushi Bistro

1722 Mangrove Ave., Ste. 18, 345-4571

THIRD Place: The Rawbar

346 Broadway, 897-0626

Taco

FIRST Place: Aca Taco

Two locations: 133 Broadway, 894-0191; 1000 W. Sacramento Ave., Ste. D, 343-0909

See Burrito.

SECOND Place: Gordo Burrito

1295 E. 8th St., 809-1211

THIRD Place: Aztlan

Two locations: 1645 Park Ave., 487-7062; 2599 Esplanade, 965-5984

Takeout/Curbside

FIRST Place: Bacio Catering, Takeout & Eatery

1903 Park Ave., 345-7787

See Caterer.

SECOND Place: Ginger's Restaurant

2201 Pillsbury Road, Ste. 100, 345-8862

THIRD Place: La Hacienda

2635 Esplanade, 893-8270

Vegetarian Cuisine

FIRST Place: OM Foods

142 Broadway, 965-5263

OM Foods specializes in fresh, organic and GMO-free foods, with a menu that is largely meat-free. Regulars swear by the Slawchos—vegan "nachos" with corn chips, brown rice, pinto beans, cabbage slaw, avocado, cashew cheese, cilantro sauce, chipotle sauce, salsa, cilantro, green onion and lime wedge.

SECOND Place: Live Life Juice Co.

220 Broadway, 566-3346

THIRD Place: Pizza Riot

206 Walnut St., Ste. A, 712-1647

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