

# iLatin Allentown!

**A very partial and ever-evolving list of resources**

## **Latin Foods:**

### **Taquería Los Amigos**

515 N. 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
Allentown, PA 18102  
610-434-1316

Although on weekends the menu expands a bit to include soups, this is a **real taquería with an appropriately limited menu** (*taquería* = place where tacos are sold). Having said that, the few items they serve are done simply and very, very well. Be brave! Try the *tacos de tripas* (beef tripe) or *de cabeza* (beef cheeks)! Or try the excellent, vegetarian *sopes* (fried hand-formed tortillas with *hongos* (mushrooms) or *papas* (potatoes, onions, and peppers)). The décor is pleasant, this is a good place to sit down with friends and family for a great meal. No credit cards, but quite inexpensive. **On Tuesday all tacos are \$1.50!!!**

### **La Placita México**

158 North 12<sup>th</sup> Street (12<sup>th</sup> and Turner)  
Allentown, PA 18102  
610-821-4549

Authentic, home-style Mexican dishes and groceries. Excellent *pozole rojo* and *pozole blanco* (hominy corn-based soups) and very good, very cheap tacos. A wide variety of Mexican sodas is available. There is a small seating section at the rear of the restaurant, beyond the long deli-style counter. No credit cards, but very affordable. Take-out party trays are available and very well done!

### **El Rey Mexican Restaurant**

602 North 12<sup>th</sup> Street  
Allentown, PA 18102  
610-432-1191

open Monday-Saturday 10 am - 9 pm. Closed Sunday. Free delivery.

Allentown's newest Mexican eatery, El Rey is on the first floor of a rowhouse. They serve a complete menu, including authentic a la carte specialties, mixed platters, and a wide range of nachos. Their salsa is fresh made and surprisingly hot!

### **El Patrón**

407 N. 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
Allentown, PA 18102  
856-655-4596

open daily 11 am - 10 pm

Newly opened restaurant in the location of Allentown's first real Mexican restaurant. Their tacos (\$1 on Tuesday and Thursday!) have received high praise, and a recent pair of diners reported that they "had a great lunch. HUGE amounts of food. And good too. It was terrific. [We] had flautas (4 huge ones and salad for \$6) and tacos (3 huge ones for \$5) and [...] a huge, football-

sized burrito for \$6. [The burrito] was REALLY spicy.” From another visit: “I took a group of 13 people to El Azteca. Chips, salsa and guacamole were all quite good. Then rice and beans, also good. The steak tacos were OUTSTANDING. The steak bits had a really nice flavor and the soft taco shells are double-wrapped. [...] We also had a ton of chicken and cheese quesadillas. Everything was quite good, but the steak tacos were superb. Everybody in our group left happy, FULL and quite satisfied with the quality of the food. Last time we went, we had a burrito and it was the size of a small football. And very good too.” Ample seating in an attractive setting. No credit cards. **On Thursday all tacos are \$0.99!!!**

### **La Cabañita Restaurant**

2720 S Pike Ave  
Allentown, PA 18103  
<http://www.orderlacabanita.com>  
484-274-6277  
Open daily 10 am – 9 pm

### **Home Made Mexican**

Allentown Fairgrounds Farmers’ Market  
Chew Street, between 17<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Streets  
Allentown, PA 18104  
(610) 841-3220  
open Thursday 9am - 8pm, Friday 8am - 8pm, Saturday 8am - 6pm  
A nice variety of baked empanadas and other Mexican specialties to go.

### **Burrito Nacho Mexican Grill**

1507 S. 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Allentown, PA 18103  
610-709-9992  
<https://www.burritonacho.com/>  
Open Mon, Tue, Thur. 9am - 7pm; Fri. & Sat. 9am - 8pm; Sunday 10am - 7pm;  
Closed Wednesdays  
Offering a full menu of Mexican and Tex-Mex specialties for three meals a day. Not as inexpensive as some of the downtown options, but still reasonable. Attractive decor and plates are a nice touch too! Credit cards accepted.

### **La Cabañita**

2720 S Pike Avenue (off South 4<sup>th</sup> Street, between Emaus Ave. and Rte. 78)  
Allentown, PA 18103  
484-274-6277  
Open daily 11 am – 9 pm  
<http://orderlacabanita.com/>  
A new and somewhat more upscale Mexican restaurant. **Be the first to review for the list!**

### **Wow Qué Rico Rotisserie**

1326 W. Tilghman Street  
Allentown, PA 18102  
<https://www.facebook.com/wowbakerytilghman/>  
484-350-3444  
Sunday-Thursday 7 am – 9 pm, Friday-Saturday, 7 am – 10 pm

Be the first to review this *lechonera* (roaster of tender suckling pigs) and *rostería* (roisserie of any other meat)! The focus is on Dominican treats, especially those of the pork persuasion. Also featuring a wide range of *mofongos*, mashed plantains with your choice of vegetables, meats, or seafood. Credit cards accepted.

### **Cuchifrito Restaurant**

1201 W. Chew Street  
Allentown, PA 18102  
610-434-1788

A *cuchifrito* is a yummy piece of fried deliciousness... the word has two origins, fried bits of pork (cochino + frito) and that which is both cooked (cocido) and fried (frito). This restaurant's name says it all: here you can find all of the extraordinarily tasty fried things the Hispanic Caribbean creates: *chicharrón*, *alcapurrias*, *bacalaítos*, *pastelillos*, *papas rellenas*, *morcillas*, *chorizos*... and a host of other snacks and main-course options. Open daily \*except Monday\* until 11 pm!

### **Tu Nueva Casa Restaurant**

American Plaza  
223 Hamilton Street (Hamilton and American Parkway)  
Allentown, PA 18101  
610-433-2012

7 days a week, 9 am – 9 pm

Excellent Dominican specialties as well as a range of Latin dishes. The meal-size *asopao de camarón* (shrimp and rice stew) is particularly good. They have several really yummy fish dishes as well. Roast pork on Friday and Saturday!

### **Rincón del Pueblo**

548 North 7<sup>th</sup> Street (corner of Allen)  
Allentown, PA 18102  
610-351-4131 Free delivery available  
open 7 days

Dominican cuisine, in a newly opened space with the former owners of **Sunlight Restaurant**. A daily selection of excellent *guisos* (stews) in addition to fried deliciousness. Be brave: try the *orejita* (pig ear) or *rabito* (oxtail)! Combo meals for larger groups. There is a nice area for groups and they are happy to set it aside on request. Credit cards accepted. **Be the first to review it for this guide!**

### **Pica Pollo**

426 N 7th Street  
Allentown, PA 18102  
484-221-9115

A new addition to the 7th Street food Paradise and one of the newest Dominican restaurants in town, Pica Pollo specializes in... *pica pollo*, Dominican-style fried chicken. They offer a wide variety of fresh-squeezed *jugos naturales* (fruit juices) and *batidos* (smoothies). **Be the first to review this restaurant for the list!**

### **Tu Mundo Empanadas**

44 N. 8<sup>th</sup> Street (entrance on Linden)

Allentown, PA 18102

Although their name suggests a limited menu, this new restaurant offers a tremendous variety of empanadas, from beef to *bacalao* (truly extraordinary salt cod) to PB and J. In addition, sandwich-y items and *frituras* from around the Caribbean are available.

### **7<sup>th</sup> Street Rotisserie Chicken**

535 N. 7<sup>th</sup> Street

Allentown, PA 18102

610-740-0800

Truly succulent, deeply flavorful rotisserie chicken—no sauce needed! Also serving fried chicken, fruit juices, and fruit *batidas* (shakes or smoothies). Mostly takeout, but in nice weather, they put tables out on the sidewalk.

### **Las Terrenas Caribbean Restaurant**

604 N. New St

Allentown, PA 18102

484-350-3164

A new Dominican restaurant with a wide range of combos, including *picaderas*, or mixed grills that include meats over a mix of sweet and green plantains... a *picadera* for 1 person... will easily provide substantial nibbles for 4. Be the first to review this place! Free delivery.

### **La Isla Restaurant**

46 N 10<sup>th</sup> St

Allentown, PA 18102

484-954-3181

A new Dominican restaurant, with breakfast and a wide range of lunch and dinner specials. One of the biggest menus in the area, with pressed sandwiches and grilled and fried meats. Be the first to review this place! Free delivery.

### **Caribeño Restaurant**

346 Ridge Avenue

Allentown, PA 18101

(610) 432-5459

A small Dominican restaurant, though a new seating area allows you to eat in now. **Be the first to review it for this guide!**

### **Casa Latina Restaurant**

527 N 7th St

Allentown, PA 18102

(610) 821-2748

A small but extremely popular Dominican restaurant. Especially well known for their *batidas*, though everything is good here. On the Muhlenberg shuttle route... and delivery available! **Be the first to review it for this guide!**

### **Las Palmas Restaurant**

959 Turner Street

Allentown, PA 18102

610-437-1680 / 610-437-2569

open daily except Sunday 8 am - 9 pm

Newly transformed Caribbean café: **be the first to review it for this guide!** Small seating area. Free delivery.

### **Dominican Restaurant**

1502 W Turner St  
Allentown, PA 18104  
(484) 705-1414

7 days a week, 9 am – 8 pm

The name tells you what you need to know! This is the closest restaurant to Muhlenberg's campus. Take-out and delivery, with only a few small tables inside. Be the first to review this!

### **Punta Cana Restaurant**

801 Union Boulevard (just before Airport Road)  
Allentown, PA 18109  
610-351-3275

Sunday-Wednesday 8 am – 10 pm, Thursday-Saturday 8 am – 11 pm

An extensive selection of ready-to-go foods plus a full menu prepared to order. A great choice if you are headed to see a movie at the Carmike on Airport Road! Credit cards accepted with a \$10 minimum.

### **Dominican Family Restaurant**

1139 Union Blvd (just after Airport Road)  
Allentown, PA 18109  
610-351-1574

Look for the bright lime green building... and go in! An extensive selection of ready-to-go foods in the steam table plus freshly prepared baked goods. The roast meats and *tres leches* cake have gotten rave reviews! Another great choice if you are headed to see a movie at the Carmike on Airport Road!

### **Tu Mundo Empanadas**

44 N. 8<sup>th</sup> Street (entrance on Linden)  
Allentown, PA 18102

Although their name suggests a limited menu, this new restaurant offers a tremendous variety of empanadas, from beef to *bacalao* (truly extraordinary salt cod) to PB and J. In addition, sandwich-y items and *frituras* from around the Caribbean are available.

### **Las Brasas Peruvian Restaurant**

704 W. Emaus Avenue  
Allentown, PA 18103  
484-221-8360

<https://lasbrasa.wixsite.com/lasbrasas>

Newly opened in September 2017... be the first to review this restaurant serving nearly all of the classic Peruvian dishes: *pollos a la brasa*, *papa a la huancaína*, *ceviche*, a variety of *chaufas* (=Peruvian-Chinese fried rice)...

### **Baristi Coffee Roasters**

617 North 13th Street,  
Allentown, PA 18102  
[610 435 9300](tel:6104359300)

A dealer in Colombian coffees and teas, Baristi also offers a small café with Colombian specialties. Be the first to review this restaurant!

### **La Bicicleta Arepa Bar**

12 S 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Allentown, PA 18102  
610-871-0809

<https://www.toasttab.com/la-bicicleta/v3/?mode=fulfillment>

Venezuelan specialties, from corn-dough *empanadas* to *cachapas* (sweet corn arepas topped with meats and/or vegetables), *tequeños* (fried cheese sticks, with or without guava), and, of course, a nice variety of *arepas*, corn cakes stuffed with goodness. Super hungry? *Pabellones* are super arepas that are beyond overstuffed with plantains, meat, and nearly anything else. La Bicicleta also has an interesting variety of bottled and freshly-made juices, sodas, and *papelón*, water sweetened with just-barely-refined cane sugar. Everything is made fresh to order so if you are in a rush, call ahead to order. Credit cards accepted.

### **Las Orquídeas**

426 N. 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
Allentown, PA 18102  
484-350-3679

A new addition to 7<sup>th</sup> Street, a small Colombian restaurant and bakery serving all typical dishes. Food is made to order, but there are delicious baked and fried goods (*empanadas!*) to nibble while waiting.

### **Antojos Restaurant**

1726 S 4th St,  
Allentown, PA 18103  
(610) 351-0306  
Monday-Saturday 12pm-10pm  
Sunday: 10am-3pm

<https://www.antojosrestaurant.com/>

Be the first to review it!

### **Braza y Candela**

1756 S 4th St  
Allentown, PA 18103  
(610) 351-1470

A new pan-Latino restaurant featuring *pollo a la brasa*, rotisserie chicken. Be the first to review it!

### **Cuquita Restaurant**

960 Broadway  
Fountain Hill, PA 18015  
(610) 868-5558

Though it is a bit beyond Allentown (in Fountain Hill, almost to south side Bethlehem), this is the best Colombian restaurant in the area. Massive servings of fresh, prepared-to-order steaks, seafood, and the ever daunting, always delicious *bandeja paisa*, a platter of steak, *chorizo*, *chicharrón*, rice, beans, fried eggs, and avocado. Cuquita stands out for their *chocolate* (hot

chocolate) and unique *chicharrón*, made with smoked pork: heavenly! Credit cards accepted, very much worth the short trip!

### **Ecua-Atlantic Seafood**

621 N. 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
Allentown, PA 18102  
610-434-8755

Monday-Thursday 10 am – 7 pm, Friday-Saturday 10 am – 8 pm, Sunday 10 am – 5 pm

Fresh fish and seafood, sold raw or prepared on the spot for takeout. Classic Ecuadorean dishes, including *ceviche* and *cazuela* (a thick plantain, shrimp, and peanut stew) prepared on Saturday and Sunday to eat in or take out.

### **Winston's Jamaican Restaurant**

619 N. 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
Allentown, PA 18102  
484-221-9682

Monday – Saturday 11 am – 9 pm, Sunday 11 am – 8 pm

A takeout place, Winston's has perhaps the best –and certainly the spiciest—Caribbean food in the area. You cannot miss with any of the specialties: oxtail, curried goat, salt cod, all served with rice and beans and tasty vegetable sides. Did we mention beef patties? Or the ginger beers and other drinks? Try the sorrel with ginger: it can be overwhelming when drunk full strength, but very tasty when watered down a bit. The *Morning Call* loved it:

<http://www.mcall.com/entertainment/dining/mc-winstons-jamaican-allentown-review-20160405-story.html>

### **JE Frazer Caribbean / African Market**

520 N. 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
Allentown, PA 18102  
484-221-9240

Open daily 7 am – 9 pm / Closes daily 1-2 pm

A Caribbean/African bodega that also sells truly excellent beef and vegetarian patties.

### **Luna's Bakery**

1120 W. Linden Street  
Allentown, PA 18102  
610-432-3255

This newly-opened Caribbean bakery has a variety of pastries, cakes, desserts (*tembleque* (a coconut pudding), flan, bread pudding), and sandwiches on freshly-baked *pan sobao*. No seating area, but a great place to pick up coffee and a sweet treat. Credit cards accepted.

### **Panadería Las Américas**

736 E. Fourth Street  
Bethlehem, PA 18015  
610-865-2089

open 7 days a week 6 am - 6 pm

Located in south side Bethlehem, this is the only full-service Hispanic bakery in the area. This bakery is run by Guatemalans and specializes in Guatemalan treats, but offers breads and pastries from across Latin America.

### **The nearby communities of Bethlehem, Easton, Coopersburg, Quakertown, and Reading**

offer an very broad selection of cafes and restaurants; in Bethlehem the selections include Salvadoran (**Francisco's Salvadoreño Restaurant**, 100 E. Broad Street, 610-866-3556), Caribbean (a Cuban restaurant needs to be explored: **Nueva Lanterna Fusion Grill and Rum Bar**, 530 Pembroke Road, 610-867-9066), Mexican (**Aquí Es**, 821 Linden St, 610-419-4901 has poblana specialties, including some extraordinary seafood options, and a lovely dining room in the back; **La Lupita**, 4 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, 610-868-5733, by Lehigh's campus, is a nice choice that is open until 10pm Tuesday - Saturday, until 9pm Sunday and Monday), and Peruvian (**El Machu Picchu**, at 1328 East 4th Street, 610-865-5838, with excellent *pollo a la brasa* Wednesday-Sunday and *ceviche* and *anticuchos* (=shockingly tasty, slightly spicy marinated beef heart kabobs) on the weekend), while in Easton Mexican (recommendation: **La Perla Tapatía**, 1126 Northampton Street, 610-252-1289) and Colombian (recommendation: **Las Delicias**, 144 West St. Joseph Street, 610-559-9490) dominate. In Quakertown and Reading, the large immigrant population from Mexico (and more recently, Central America) allows for dozens of very good and often very cheap restaurants (recommendations: **Cocina Salvadoreña**, 219 W. Broad St., Quakertown, PA 18951, 215-529-5598 and **Tijuana Tacos**, 216 W. Broad Street, Quakertown, 215-536-0444). Just south of Allentown, off Rt. 309, **Casa Toro** is a very pleasant Mexican restaurant with excellent food; a bit pricier than other restaurants, it is worth both the drive and the cost (7001 Rt. 309, Coopersburg, PA 18036, in the Fairmount Village Shopping Center 610-282-8888).

**For those seeking the Iberian roots of Latin cuisine**, there are Portuguese groceries and a truly wonderful *churrasco*, barbeque. **Portugalia BBQ**, 324 Main Street, Freemansburg, PA 18017 484-935-3614, has heart-breakingly delicious grilled meats and fish, with mild but intensely flavorful Portuguese seasonings. Just north of Bethlehem, Miguel's Restaurant offers a selection of dishes from Spain in a typical Pennsylvania farmhouse. 5881 Sullivan Trail, Nazareth, PA 18064, (610) 746-4225, miguelsrestaurantpa.com.

**Do you want to cook your own food?** Wegman's, on Tilghman street beyond Cedar Crest, has many, many fresh, frozen, and canned ingredients for Latin and Spanish (from Spain!) meals; be forewarned, they can be fairly expensive. A much more affordable –and infinitely more broadly stocked-- option is **Supremo Supermarket**, a sparking new supermarket on 7<sup>th</sup> Street between Tilghman and Allen, where super fresh produce, Hispanic cuts of meat, may varieties of chorizo and other sausages, and more canned, frozen, and refrigerated goods from around the Hispanic world than you might imagine share space with a full range of Anglo products. At **C-Town**, *la tiendona del pueblo*, on Tilghman between 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Streets (401 W Tilghman St, Allentown, 18102, 484-664-7060, hours and details at <http://www.ctownsupermarkets.com>) you can find a spectacular array of Latin American products, with an especially strong collection of Central and South American fresh, frozen, and canned goods; here you can find a good selection of meats (Latin cuts like *pernil*), seafood (including octopus!), vegetables, fruits, spices, and Latin American cheeses. **C-Town offers pick-up and drop-off service for car-less shoppers.** The **Little Apple Market**, next to Supremo on 7th Street between Tilghman and Allen, is another choice that now has a take-out counter with prepared Caribbean foods in the back. **Elias Farmers' Market**, at 101 Tilghman Street, offers a mammoth selection of fresh fruits and vegetables for virtually any Latin dish.

There are also lots of small bodegas around the downtown area: check out the flags in the windows to see whether a store specializes in Caribbean (2<sup>nd</sup> and Linden, 4<sup>th</sup> and Ridge, 7<sup>th</sup> and Turner, 14th and Turner, and many more), Mexican (142 N. 7<sup>th</sup> St, 7<sup>th</sup> and Gordon, 10<sup>th</sup> and Hamilton, or 12<sup>th</sup> and Turner), or Peruvian (7<sup>th</sup> and Chew) products.



**For community information and entertainment:**

television

*Canal 69, Noticiero Hispano*. Local news with national and international updates. A great way to find out the events and interests of the Lehigh Valley's Hispanic communities... **or to intern**. Every weeknight 11-11:30 pm. On Muhlenberg's campus, channel 69 is received on Service Electric cable channel 8. Online at <http://www.wfmzenespanol.com/>

National networks *Univisión*, *Telemundo*, and *Mun2* are available here. Check your cable provider for channels.

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