

# WHERE

**MIAMI**

Meet Your New  
**BEST  
FRIEND**

(If you want to get into  
a club on South Beach)



**TASTY TREK**  
DOWN LINCOLN ROAD

**2 BOAT SHOWS**  
MAKE PORT IN MIAMI

**SECCION ESPAÑOL**  
GUIA DE TIENDAS

# Roadside Repasts

Lincoln Road's culinary establishments provide a delicious break in your South Beach travels. *By Clidiane Aubourg.*

*Photos by Darrell Jones.*

**S**HOPPING AND ENTERTAINMENT mecca for fashionable visitors from around the world, Lincoln Road Mall is also where you'll find a collection of eateries to suit every taste and budget, from cutting-edge New World cuisine to good, basic—and relatively inexpensive—fare.

Diners have more than 30 restaurants, bars and snack establishments to choose from in the mall's seven-block span. You'll find "hitting the Road" for breakfast, lunch or dinner is never the same thing twice—unless you want it to be.

## AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 BITES

LINCOLN ROAD HAS BECOME FAMOUS FOR ITS international flavor, and has a variety of establishments serving international cuisine that is prepared traditionally or with a twist.

Italy's influence is prominent on Lincoln Road; a number of restaurants and trattorias pay homage to that country's

Mediterranean delights. **Rosinella** is about as authentic as you can get; here you can enjoy such classics as *lasagna di carne*, made with beef and veal. **Da Leo Trattoria**, on the other hand, offers more eclectic fare, such as a salmon carpaccio with mixed greens. **Pizza E Via** offers a wide assortment of gourmet pizzas, while **Spris** and **Segafredo**, popular hangouts for the trendy set, offer light Italian fare in a casual setting.

While Italy is well represented on the Road, several charming establishments pay homage to the rest of Europe's *bon* cuisine. **La Terrasse**, with its cheerful, butter-yellow decor and refreshingly friendly French staff, serves up wholesome French country fare with a couple of Moroccan dishes for an exotic flavor. **Paninoteca** is a sandwich shop with a European twist, serving such delights as the No. 8 special: roasted chicken breast, avocado, tomato, baby greens, Dijon mustard, balsamic



**Salmon habañero, above, from Yuca, one of Lincoln Road's new breed of Cuban restaurants; Touch's inviting interior, right.**

vinegar and olive oil, pressed and grilled to perfection on the bread of your choice. **Café Papillon** offers a light continental menu, with a nightly special of one appetizer, two entrées and a bottle of wine for \$29.95.

For a taste of the Far East, you can try the gourmet excellence of **Pacific Time**, world-renowned for its inventive pan-Asian cuisine. For some star power with your sushi, you can try **Bambú**, owned in part by movie star Cameron Diaz and a popular hangout for her and her friends when they are in town. For basic, no-nonsense Chinese food, you can go to the **New Canton Inn**, which harkens to the days when Lincoln Road was not quite so trendy but was still interesting.

Of course you cannot forget the strong Latin influence in Miami, known as the birthplace of *nuevo cubano* cuisine. **Yuca** offers interesting takes on Latin favorites, along with live entertainment, in an elegant atmosphere. **Lincoln Road Cafe** serves traditional Cuban food. **David's Cafe II** has the convenience of a walk-up take-out counter, along with a more-formal indoor dining room.

## IT'S HIP TO EAT THERE

PART OF SOUTH BEACH'S ALLURE IS ITS trendiness, and Lincoln Road's dining establishments are no exception to the rule.

WHERE MIAMI / FEBRUARY 2001



**Soy-lacquered cod, left, is among the delights at Bambú, which is part-owned by actress Cameron Diaz.**





**El Rancho Grande, above, serves authentic Mexican food in casual style; La Terrasse's French country fare includes wonderful dessert, right.**



gastronomic treasures. While lacking only the proper Lincoln Road address, these establishments—through their service, style and, of course, great food—are worth going a little out of your way to try.

Jeffrey's is just such a place. Cozy, romantic and inviting with its mahogany bar and secluded dining spaces, this eatery was even featured in the 2000 *Zagat Survey* for best service in Florida.

Just up the street as you cross Lincoln Road, you'll find **Ice Box**, a fresh and funky place popular with the young mod crowd. Done in a crisp white and stainless steel decor, it features a prominent glass counter displaying con-

fections that would make even the most jaded refrigerator raider drool. A wide array of irresistible cakes, tortes and pies (the caramel brownies are a definite diet-breaker) complements the light but creative dinner menu that changes daily.

From season to season a new crop of sleek new eateries joins old veterans to vie for the designation as the hot place to eat and be seen.

One of the most notable entries on the Road this season is **Touch**. An instant hit, this exclusive and pricey restaurant has become the place to be. Reservations are not recommended; they are required.

For off-Road food and fun that's definitely south of the border in flavor, head out to **El Rancho Grande**, which serves up

authentic Mexican food in a lively, casual atmosphere. It's done in rich, warm tones of yellow, red, blue and green, and even the bar is decorated with miniature lights so that it looks almost like an altar—perhaps to appease the strong spirits that it serves.

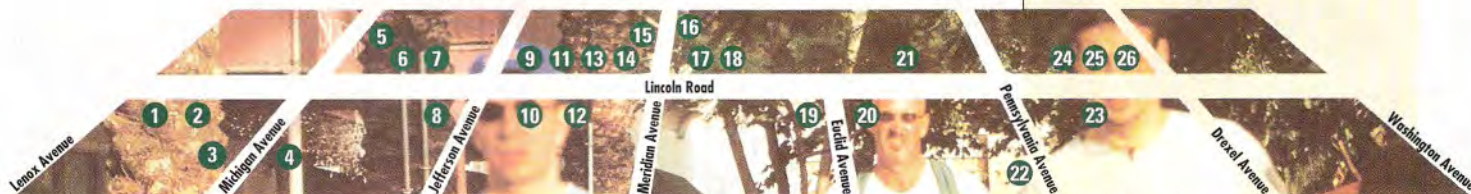
**QUICK AND LAST BITES**

WHETHER YOU ARE LOOKING FOR JUST A quick snack or something to finish off a great meal, you'll find lots of places on the road that can satisfy your cravings. **The Frieze** is perhaps the Lincoln mall's best-known ice cream shop, while **Gelateria Parmalat** is known as much for its cool stainless steel decor as for its icy Italian treat.

**Tabacon** is a great place to go for cigars, coffee and light sandwiches, while **C&P House** also offers cigars, coffees and desserts—but they are served up by comely young lasses in old Spanish-style costumes, in the truly offbeat style that made South Beach famous. **LV**

**Tasty Trek**

1. Sega Fredo, 1040 Lincoln Rd., 305-673-0047
2. Balans, 1022 Lincoln Rd., 305-534-9191
3. The Frieze, 1626 Michigan Ave., 305-538-2028
4. Jeffrey's, 1629 Michigan Ave., 305-673-0690
5. Ice Box, 1657 Michigan Ave., 305-538-8448
6. Lincoln Road Café, 941 Lincoln Rd., 305-538-8066
7. Pacific Time, 915 Lincoln Rd., 305-534-5979
8. Touch, 910 Lincoln Rd., 305-532-8003
9. New Canton Inn, 843 Lincoln Rd., 305-673-2218
10. Van Dyke Cafe, 846 Lincoln Rd., 305-534-3600
11. Da Leo Trattoria, 819 Lincoln Rd., 305-674-0350
12. Pizza E Via, 826 Lincoln Rd., 305-538-0803
13. Paninoteca, 809 Lincoln Rd., 305-538-0058



**LINCOLN ROAD MALL**

There's even a velvet rope at the door, club style, to head off would-be diners who think they can just drop in for a bite—unless, of course, they are Madonna or Puffy and Jennifer.

For a more egalitarian eating experience, you can try **Nexxt Cafe**, a relative newcomer that has established itself as a popular place for local power lunchers and as an evening hangout for young and old, hip and square alike. **The Van Dyke Cafe** is a long-popular standby, with live music performances on the weekends, while **NOA** draws crowds with its inventive noodle dishes.

It's the decor that's inventive at **Balans**, where American food is served under zebra-patterned ceilings.

**THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED**

IN YOUR CULINARY TREK ACROSS THE ROAD, don't forget to check out the side streets just off the main drag, as they often yield

14. NOA, 801 Lincoln Rd., 305-925-0050
15. David's Cafe II, 1654 Meridian Ave., 305-672-8707
16. Bambú, 1661 Meridian Ave., 305-531-4800
17. C&P House, 741 Lincoln Rd., 305-604-9690
18. Spris, 731 Lincoln Rd., 305-673-2020
19. Nexxt Cafe, 700 Lincoln Rd., 305-532-6643
20. Gelateria Parmalat, 670 Lincoln Rd., 305-276-9475
21. La Terrasse, 639 Lincoln Rd., 305-695-9191
22. El Rancho Grande, 1626 Pennsylvania Ave., 305-673-0480
23. Café Papillon, 530 Lincoln Rd., 305-673-1139
24. Rosinella, 525 Lincoln Rd., 305-672-8777
25. Tabacon, 511 Lincoln Rd., 305-532-5331
26. Yuca, 501 Lincoln Rd., 305-532-9822