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By John Kessler - The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

The 23 restaurants that made it to the top of our list



The El Felix

Ford Fry's heartfelt Tex-Mex eatery dishes up fajitas, margaritas and puffy tacos that could make even non-Texans homesick.

1345 Piedmont Ave., Atlanta. 404-585-2061, theelfelix.com

Grain

The food at this terrific cocktail bar – including a daily selection of oysters – surpasses all expectations.

856 W. Peachtree St., Atlanta. 404-881-5377, grain-bar.com

Gypsy Kitchen

This cavernous restaurant, upstairs in Buckhead Atlanta, may not evoke an intimate Spanish tapas bar, but it's good to know about when you just want salami and wine for dinner.