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5 hot trends for Dallas foodies

12:52 PM CDT on Wednesday, August 4, 2010

FD Luxe staff

From filling-station tacos to ice cream for grown-ups, there are a lot of culinary adventures here in [Dallas](#). Check these out.

Hot dessert: Ice cream for grownups

Lush? Yes, when it comes to the spiked ice creams and sorbets served Thursdays and Fridays from 4 to 7 p.m. (or by request) at [Charlie Palmer](#) at the Joule.

Pastry chef Ruben Toraño is crafting the frozen concoctions, which include Bailey's chocolate chip, Guinness dark chocolate peanut butter, berry [syrah](#) and grapefruit gin. One scoop for the road, please.

Charlie Palmer at the Joule, 1530 Main St., 214-261-4600, [charliepalmer.com](#)



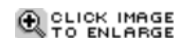
CARTER ROSE

Hot comeback: The Green Room

We've mourned Deep Ellum's Green Room since the trailblazing restaurant shuttered in 2006. Where else could you get Malpeque oysters, guitar rock and a rooftop view of downtown – then stroll down the block for a post-dinner tattoo?

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Strap on your Dr. Martens. Green Room has reopened in its rightful home, run by original manager Taylor Allday and GM Zenon Oprysk (who also helped run Trees and Gypsy Tea Room). The new menu focuses on seasonal local bites. You can still give yourself over to the chef-selected "Feed Me/Wine Me." Sweet release.

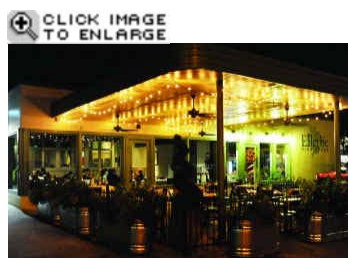


2715 Elm St., 214-744-7666, [greenroomdallas.com](#)

Hot fill-up: Gas stations turned restaurants

Maybe it's the new frugality, but converting gritty gas stations into hip eateries has become downright *du jour*.

[Oak Cliff's](#) Bolsa packs the cool kids into the old Settles Garage on Davis Street. Fort Worth's Ellerbe Fine Foods sits in a revamped 1920s station where guests dine under the original mechanic's skylight. Rusty Taco on Greenville Avenue can still roll open the retrofitted bay doors of its former Mobil station. Now comes burger joint Maple and Motor and its "grease-stained tribute to low-class cool." Talk about full service.



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Fort Worth's Ellerbe Fine Foods



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Hot take-out: My Fit Foods

Concrete floors and cold cases stocked with over 30 microwave-ready breakfasts, lunches and dinners neatly labeled with nutrition info sounds a little stark. But who cares?

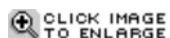
The Houston-based company arrived here this spring, offering freshly made meals so tasty and filling, we could hardly believe the nutritionist-certified calorie counts. Each meal is handmade in the visible-to-patrons, on-site kitchen. Our faves: Denyse's Killuh Chili (a stewy blend of lean turkey and spices) and the hunger-busting H-Town Breakfast (rosemary potatoes, turkey bacon and a surprisingly flavorful egg-white scramble). Call ahead to reserve a specific meal – gym-clothes-clad regulars quickly empty shelves.



Meals \$3.75 to \$12, 4105 Lemmon Ave., 214-780-0602; 6100 Luther Lane, 214-360-7569; myfitfoods.com

Hot drink: Dallas coffee roasters' best

Going local has hit us hard – and it starts with our morning brew. With all the super-niche neighborhood roasters and coffee shops, why get your fix anywhere outside your own ZIP code?



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Parkies have Drip Coffee on Lovers Lane. [East Dallas](#) has the original White Rock Coffee and its cute new drive-through at Mockingbird and Abrams. Oak Cliff Coffee Roasters browns its beans in OC, sells to everyone from Bolsa to Central Market, and even has newsboy caps made from its burlap coffee sacks by milliner [Cassie MacGregor](#). And although Dallas-based film producer Bernard Nussbaumer's recently opened Global Peace Factory in Frisco isn't in the roasting game, the company is serious about giving back, with 2 percent of all sales going to local charity.

- White Rock Coffee, 10105 E. Northwest Hwy., 214-341-4774, wrcoffee.com
- Drip Coffee, 4343 Lovers Lane, 214-599-7800, dripcoffeeco.com
- Oak Cliff Coffee Roasters, 214-929-6752, oakcliffcoffee.com

•Global Peace Factory, 1377 Legacy Drive, Frisco, 214-705-2664

