**Italian Heritage Center**

**EST. 1953**

**We Specialize in ...**

**Amazing Complete Wedding Packages**

**Rooms Accomodate Groups from 50-500**

---

**Corporate • Social • Wedding Bereavement Receptions**

---

**ITALIAN HERITAGE CENTER**

40 Westland Avenue,
Portland, ME 04102

207-772-2500 • FAX: 207-780-8505

WWW.ITALIANHERITAGECENTER.COM

Email your inquiries to: K_McDonough@Yahoo.com

---

**Anthony’s Italian Kitchen**, offers homemade Italian cooking using the freshest ingredients, featuring favorites such as pizza, pasta, and sandwiches. Voted "Best in Portland" for three years. Dine-in and catering services on offer. Beer and wine available. Open 11-8 Mon. through Sat. 151 Middle St #5, Portland; and new location Cumberland County Courthouse, 205 Newbury St. anthonyitaliankitchen.com, 774-8668.

**Barnacle Billy’s**, known for luxury lobster, steamed clams, large lusty drinks, barbecued chicken, homemade clam chowder & of course, the lobster roll & lobster stew. Features extensive indoor & sundeck seating where guests can enjoy both the beauty of the harbor & the ocean beyond. Perkins Cove, Ogunquit, 646-5575, barnbilly.com

**Bruno’s** Voted Portland’s Best Italian Restaurant by Market Surveys of America, Bruno’s offers a delicious variety of classic Italian, American, and seafood dishes and they make all of their pasta in-house. Great sandwiches, pizza, calzones, soups, chowders, and salads. Enjoy lunch or dinner in the dining room or the Tavern. Casual dining at its best. 33 Allen Ave., 878-9511.

**Bull Feeney’s** Authentic Irish pub & restaurant, serving delicious from-scratch sandwiches, steaks, seafood & hearty Irish fare, pouring local craft & premium imported brews, as well as Maine’s most extensive selection of single malt Scotch & Irish whiskies. Live music five nights. Open 7 days, 11:30 a.m. - 1 a.m. Kitchen closes at 10 p.m. 375 Fore St., Old Port, 773-7210, bullfeeneys.com.

**DiMillo’s** Now through December, relax and enjoy Head Chef Melissa Bouchard’s masterful creations. Every day, she offers something new and delicious. Try our Early Dinner Specials, Monday-Friday or our wonderful Port Side Lounge, Portland’s getaway for grown-ups. Happy Hour includes special menu Monday-Friday, 4-7 p.m. Open daily at 11 a.m., Commercial St., Old Port. Always FREE PARKING while aboard. 772-2216.

**Eve’s at the Garden**, an oasis of calm and great food in the Old Port. Perfect for meetings and special occasions. Ingredients from Maine’s waters and farms. The seasonal Ice Bar is ideal for outdoor dining. Happy Hour Mon. - Fri.; free valet parking. Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m., Dinner 5-9:30 p.m. 468 Fore St., Portland, 775-9090, evesatthegarden.com

**J’s Oyster** is a premier seafood destination and locals’ favorite with indoor and outdoor waterfront seating on one of Portland’s scenic piers. Established in 1977, J’s offers classic favorites and friendly service. Coastal Living claimed J’s one of “America’s Best Seafood Dives 2016." Find us on Facebook. 772-4828

**Kon Asian Bistro** Steakhouse & Sushi Bar serves Asian cuisine with modern flair. Japanese, Sushi, Thai, Chinese, or hibachi tables. Private party rooms accommodates groups from business
WASHINGTON AVENUE’S STAR continues to rise with the arrival of casual-yet-cool, Japan-inspired Izakaya Minato. Like many of the latest hot spots on The Hill, Izakaya Minato fills up quickly, so go early if you want to get in at all. Seating is varied and can accommodate any mood or group. We sit at the bar just in front of the open kitchen, where the magic happens. And magic it is. Our server explains that an izakaya (“i” meaning to stay; “sakaya,” sake shop; “minato” meaning harbor) is the Japanese equivalent of the gastropub.

The menu surprises by heading in four directions—Starting Off, From the Port, From the Farm, and To Finish. Conspiratorially, our server whispers, “It’s whatever you want here, however you want it.” We pick a bowl of miso soup ($3). Aromatic and soothing, the broth simmers with dashi (dried seaweed) and daily-changing vegetables. Velvety shredded daikon lends a fresh bite to the umami flavor. It’s particularly delicious sipped directly from the bowl.

Equally good for sipping are innovative cocktails like Plum Vesper ($11), made with plum sake, gin, vodka, and ume boshi (Japanese pickled plum). Or try the wines, local draft, or a dizzying array of sakes. For those of us who aren’t sake sommeliers, try the Sake Sampler ($14), three 1.5-oz. pours served on a wooden board. We’re happy to discover our favorite, the Blue Current Junmai Ginjo, is made right here in Maine.

Starting Off, we choose the Kinoko Salad ($8). Tender sauteed mushrooms and roasted vegetables rest on a bed of spinach, artfully drizzled with a creamy ponzu dressing. Next up is Okonomiyaki ($10), a cabbage pancake that comes with either mushroom or bacon, depending on your conscience. Filling and rich, this is exotic comfort food. Equally irresistible is the Sakana Misoyaki ($7), broiled seasonal fish marinated in miso.

Serendipitous? Mackerel is the catch.
Mark your calendars to support

Gary’s House

April 11

Annual Gourmet Gala

Filling the Tank for Gary’s House

Tasty bites, wine and beer

Four Automobile Dealers in the Corporate Chopped Challenge

LIVE COOKING EVENT

June 19/20

GEORGE H.W. BUSH
CAPE ARUNDEL CELEBRITY GOLF CLASSIC

AND GALA

in support of Gary’s House

Kennebunkport, Maine

Mercy Healthcare Foundation

garyshouse.org

DINING GUIDE

meetings to birthday parties. Choose fresh, delicious items prepared before your table. Family friendly; open Mon.-Thurs. 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m., Fri. to 11 p.m., Sat. 1 p.m-11 p.m., Sun. 11:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m. 874-0000, konasianbistrome.com.

Hurricane Restaurant serves New England cuisine with an international twist. With local produce, seafood, a full bar, an award-winning wine list, and in-house dessert chef, Hurricane Restaurant has been nurturing the seacoast palate for over 25 years. Good restaurants come and go; great restaurants get better and better. Reservations suggested. Open April 14, 29 Dock Square, Kennebunkport. 967-9111, hurricanerestaurant.com.

Maria’s Ristorante is Portland’s original classic Italian Restaurant. Greg and Tony Napolitano are always in house preparing classics like Zuppa de Pesce, Eggplant Parmigiana, Grilled Veal Sausages, Veal Chop Milanese, homemade cavatelli pastas, Pistachio Gelato, Limoncello Cake, and Maine’s Best Meatballs. Prices $11.95 - $22.95. Tue.-Sat. starting at 5 p.m. Catering always available. 337 Cumberland Ave. 772-9232, mariasrestaurant.com.

Pedro’s focuses on simple yet full-flavored Mexican and Latino food. Offering tacos, burritos and an impressive array of margaritas, sangria, beer, and wine. Especiales de la semana (specials of the week) keep the menu varied and fresh and showcase different Latino cultures. Seasonal outdoor dining available. Open daily, 12 p.m. - 10 p.m. 181 Port Rd., Kennebunk, 967-5544, pedrosmaine.com.

Rivalries Sports Pub & Grill Now with two fun and comfortable upscale sports bar locations. Known for great casual pub food, Rivalries’ menu has something for everyone. And, with 30+ HD TVs and every major pro and college sports package, you won’t miss a game! Located at 11 Cotton Street in Portland’s Old Port (774-6044) and 2 Hat Trick Drive, Falmouth (747-4020), rivalriesmaine.com

Solo Italiano Traditional northern Italian cuisine mixes Maine freshness with Genovese flavor from international chef Paolo Laboa. Enjoy the crudo bar or the daily changing menu. Included in Food & Wine Magazine’s 2016 “What to Do in Portland, ME.” Open daily 5 p.m.-10 p.m. 100 Commercial Street Portland, 780-0227, sololitanoarestaurant.com

TIOQA’s pan-Mediterranean menu features dishes inspired by the cultures and cuisines of North Africa, Southern Europe, and the Middle East. Executive chef/co-owner Bo Byrne partners with purveyors to procure hand-selected, sustainably-raised and sourced meats, seafood, cheeses, and produce. TIOQA is open 7 days a week for lunch and dinner with brunch on Sunday. 327 Commercial Street, 808-8840. *reservations recommended.
of the day. The tender meat arrives enveloped in delightfully crisped skin. We finish the plate in a matter of moments, vowing here and now to return until we’ve tried every fish dish on offer.

Though totally satiated, we couldn’t possibly leave without sampling a ramen dish. **Udon Vongole** ($13), a quirky Japanese twist on the traditional Italian *Spaghetti alle Vognole*, comes cooked with garlic, succulent clams, and sake, seasoned to just the right heat. News flash: these are The Best Noodles Ever.

As the night unspools, we agree we have just enough room for dessert. Fresh ice-cream or sorbet flavors change daily. Luckily, a zesty bowl of **Yuzu orange sorbet** ($4) from local artisan Little Bee hits the spot. After a rich, salty dinner, the sorbet is the perfect cooling palate cleanser.

---

Izakaya Minato, 54 Washington Ave., Portland, Mon.-Thu., 5-10 p.m.; Fri.-Sat., 5-11 p.m., closed Sun. 613-9939 izakayaminato.com