

10 Local
Heroes

House Sales
of the Year

The Terrorists
Next Door?

Top Experts in
Sports Medicine

Best of
Fairfax

WASHINGTONIAN

100 Best Restaurants

88 Art and Soul ★★

Liaison Capitol Hill, 415 New Jersey Ave., NW,
202-393-7777

Cuisine: Chicago celebrity chef Art Smith—formerly of Oprah Winfrey's home kitchen—and his local deputy, Travis Timberlake, serve up feel-good food. Their renditions of classic Southern fare are both gussied up (an oyster po' boy turned into a hooecake) and faithful (simple fried chicken with white gravy).

Mood: It might look like a retro-chandeliered hotel restaurant (and you'll see many a rolling suitcase) but looming portraits of Martin Luther King Jr. and Dwight Eisenhower—and perhaps a Nancy Pelosi sighting—remind you that you're dining just steps from the seat of power.

Best for: A crowd-pleasing dinner with a big group; a gut-busting power lunch; snacking at the bar; weekend brunch (oh, the lemon pancakes).

Best dishes: Chesapeake Bay fry, a Southern take on *frito miso* with oysters, hushpuppies, okra, and shrimp; arugula salad with blackberry vinaigrette and watermelon pickles; hooecakes

Best Restaurants

The Finest
Dining in DC, Maryland,
and Virginia

Restaurants
Ranked 1 to 100

Critics Pick the
25 Top Dishes

Dessert at 2941:
flourless chocolate
cake with chocolate
crèmeux, roasted
sweet cherries, and
mint-chocolate-chip
ice cream.

(pancake-like rounds made with cornmeal) topped with either fried oysters and rémoulade, apples and blue cheese, or pulled pork and slaw; a wedge of buttery-crust onion pie slathered with goat cheese; lunchtime fried chicken, boneless and wonderfully juicy; pecan-crust chicken; crispy fried trout drizzled with rhubarb vinaigrette; spiced quince trifle; "baby cakes," an ever-changing quintet of mini cupcakes.

Insider tips: A budget-friendly Sunday supper features the fried chicken plus two sides for \$18.

Service: ⒶⓂ½

Open Monday through Friday for breakfast, lunch, and dinner; Saturday and Sunday for breakfast, brunch, and dinner. Expensive.

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