

Your Guide



Picture credit: healthcastle.com

To Ethnic Dining In Grand Rapids



GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY



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WELCOME

Finding Your Favorite Foods in Grand Rapids

Welcome to Grand Valley State University! This document provides you with several options in the Grand Rapids area to enjoy authentic ethnic cuisine and tips on how to affordably reach these destinations.

Based on demographic research, this document lists restaurants and markets that appeal to you as an International Student at Grand Valley State University. These restaurants are alternative options to the food selection offered on campus. The two markets included in this booklet offer a wide variety of international food and ingredients so you are able to make your own meals just as you would at home.



Picture credit: greenbillion.org

How Can I Reach These Locations?

All locations provided are within the Grand Rapids area and are highlighted on the map on Page 11. There are a number of ways that you can reach your destination:

- The most convenient option for transportation would be to use your own or a friend's personal vehicle. Although that may not be an option for you, there are other alternatives.
- You can take a cab from the Grand Valley campus to your destination, and you will have to pay according to the distance you would like to go.
- A less expensive alternative would be to take the 50 Route Bus from campus to downtown for free. Once you arrive, you can transfer to another bus route or take a taxi to your destination. By doing so, you will reduce your travel expenses greatly.

TRANSPORTATION

What to Expect When Traveling in Grand Rapids

How Do I Utilize Taxi Services?

Here are a number of taxi services that we recommend:

- Yellow Cab Grand Rapids (616) 459-4646
- Grand Rapids Taxi (616) 458-6666
- Metro Cab of Grand Rapids (616) 827-6500

Simply call a taxi before you decide to go to your destination to pick you up from your current location. Inform the driver of your destination, and he/she will get you there for a particular price.

How Much Money Will I Need?

Taxi cab services will charge a small base fee (\$3- \$4) to use their services, and additionally, they charge approximately one to two dollars for each mile that you wish to travel. The restaurants and markets featured in this document are generally 5-10 miles from Central Station, so you can expect to pay anywhere from 25 to 50 dollars on a taxi service for the night if you use the bus to get to and from Central Station. If you choose to take a taxi from campus to Grand Rapids, you can expect to pay approximately 70 dollars or more to get to your destination and back. Here's a tip: Get a group together and split the cost amongst your group of friends!



Picture credit: yellowcabnyc.com

How Long Will the Trip Take?

Overall travel time may take 25—45 minutes each way. Here's a tip: Since you will be spending a lot of time to get to and from your destination, you may want to spend some extra time exploring Grand Rapids and walking around the downtown area. There are a lot of things to do downtown—go online to www.experiencegr.com to get ideas and make a fun night out of your trip!

WEI WEI PALACE

4242 Division Ave S., Grand Rapids, MI
(616) 724-1818

How Much Will It Cost?

Price range: Approximately \$10

See page 11 for
location on map.



What Kind of Food?

The Wei Wei Palace specializes in Dim Sum cuisine and authentic Cantonese dishes.

What Should I Try?

Siu Gee, Siu Mai, Cha Siu Chong Fun, Hot and Sour Soup, Oolong Tea.

How Can I Find It?

It is located just 5 miles from Central Station on Division Avenue in downtown Grand Rapids, next to Hong Kong Market.

While You're There...

Be sure to check out the Hong Kong Market, located next to Wei Wei Palace. Hong Kong Market sells authentic Chinese ingredients in case you wish to make your own Chinese dishes!



BOMBAY CUISINE

1420 Lake Dr SE, Grand Rapids, MI
(616) 456-7055

How Much Will It Cost?

Price range: \$20 or more

See page 11 for
location on map.



What Kind of Food?

Bombay Cuisine is known for its authentic Indian, Pakistani, and Vegan dishes. Everything is made fresh to order and there is an all-you-can-eat buffet on Sundays.

What Should I Try?

Tandoori Chicken Moog, Lamb Korma or Palak Paneer

How Can I Find It?

It is 25 to 30 minutes from the Allendale Campus

Still Hungry?

It also offers authentic Indian desserts!

Can I See a Menu?

Explore the online menu available at:

<http://www.menuism.com/menus/bombay-cuisine-142773>



PALACE OF INDIA

961 E. Fulton St. Grand Rapids, MI 49503
(616) 913-9000

How Much Will It Cost?

Price range: \$10—\$20

What Kind of Food?

Palace of India prides itself on its dishes from many regions of India and uses Tandoor (authentic clay oven) and Kadhai to keep its authenticity. It offers over 60 entrees that are fresh-from-the- oven, as well as many vegetarian choices and is open seven days a week with a lunch buffet from 11:00am to 3:00pm.

What Should I Try?

Dum Aloo, and the Goan Fish Curry

How Can I Find It?

It is located 25 to 30 minutes from campus in Grand Rapids.

Can I See a Menu?

Explore the online menu available at:

<http://www.palaceofindiarestaurant.com>

See page 11 for
location on map.



SEOUL GARDEN RESTAURANT

3321 28th Street SE Kentwood, MI
(616) 956-1522

How Much Will It Cost?

Price range: \$20 or more

What Kind of Food?

Seoul Garden offers the best Korean cuisine in the city! The sushi is always fresh and served beautifully.

What Should I Try?

Try the Sushi!

How Can I Find It?

It is located on 28th street, just 20-30 minutes from the GVSU Allendale campus.

Can I See a Menu?

Explore the online menu available at:
www.grseoulgarden.com/

See page 11 for
location on map.



tripadvisor.com Photo/Bluiii2cu, Dec 2011



Foodio54.com



LE KABOB

4022 Alpine Ave NW, Comstock Park
(616) 647-9722

How Much Will It Cost?

Price range: \$20 or more

What Kind of Food?

The very popular Le Kabob features authentic Lebanese dishes, as well as other Mediterranean cuisine.

What Should I Try?

Chicken and lamb shawarma, kafta, lamb chops, sautéed vegetarian ghallaba

How Can I Find It?

It is located just 25 minutes from the GVSU Allendale campus, in Comstock Park.

Can I See a Menu?

Explore the online menu available at:
<http://www.lekabob.com/>

See page 11 for
location on map.



Photo Credits:
Lekabob.com



What if I Want to Make My Own Food?

MARTHA’S
INTERNATIONAL MARKET

2915 Eastern Avenue SE Grand Rapids, MI 49508
(616) 284-2316

What Are the Market Hours?

Mon-Sat: 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM
Sunday: 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM

See page 11 for
location on map.



What Kind of Food Does the Market Stock?

The market stocks authentic market foods from Africa,
Jamaica, the Caribbean, and South and Central America

Explore the selection of foods online at:

www.marthainternational.com

GB RUSSO & SON
INTERNATIONAL GROCERY

2770 29th Street SE Grand Rapids, MI 49512
(616) 942-2980

What Are the Market Hours?

Mon-Thu: 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM
Friday: 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM
Saturday: 9:00 AM - 7:00 PM

See page 11 for
location on map.

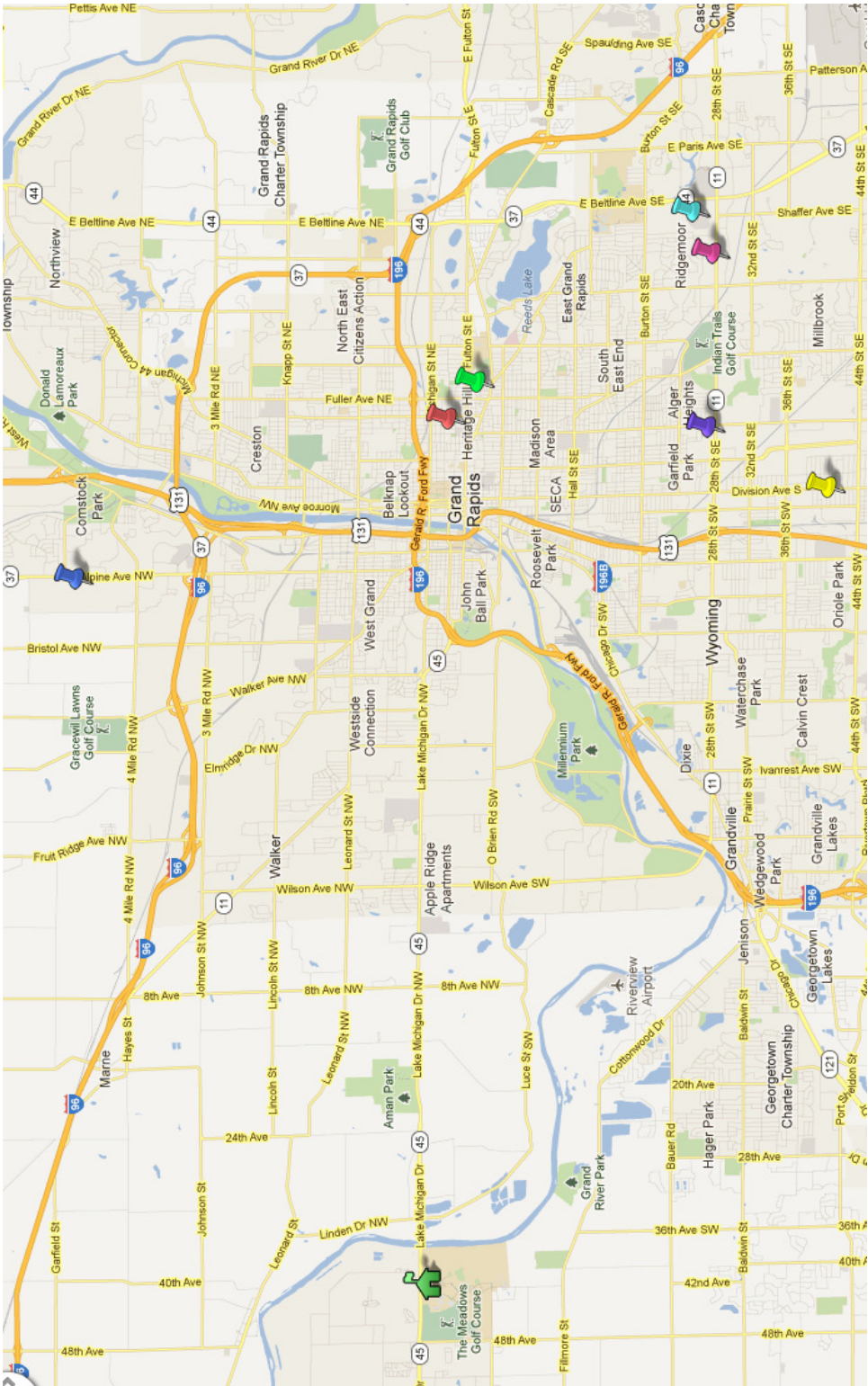


What Kind of Food Does the Market Stock?

The market specializes in Italian foods along with Lebanese and
European Specialties

Explore the selection of foods online at:

www.gbrusso.com



ADDITIONAL TIPS

Using the Bus to Reach Your Destination

Use the Bus to Get to Your Destination for Free!

All Grand Valley students can ride the Rapid Bus in Grand Rapids for free. You just need to present your student ID upon boarding a transfer bus. However, this type of transportation often takes much longer than taking a taxi or driving your own car, so please keep this in mind as you plan a trip to your destination. The Rapid Bus provides an excellent “Trip Planner” module on their website in which you can find exactly what buses you need to take to reach your destination for free. Just follow these simple steps to plan ahead:

Photo Credit: ridetherapid.org

1. Visit the Rapid Bus website at www.ridetherapid.org
2. On the top right of the homepage is the “Trip Planner” module. Enter the address of your current location in the box next to “A” and enter the address of your destination in the box next to “B”. Note: If you are using the Grand Valley Allendale campus as your current location, type “1 N Campus Drive Allendale, MI 49401” in the “A” box.
3. The website will then provide you with a map and detailed instructions on how to reach your destination through the city bus system. Take note of the approximate time provided in the top right of the “Suggested Route” box on the left of the page, as it may take significantly longer than other forms of transportation. The steps that follow

low may state both bus boarding directions and walking directions, so it is important to print this page for reference during your trip to ensure that you board the correct buses.

4. Be ready, be prepared, be safe, and have fun on your trip to Grand Rapids!



Photo Credit: www.lanthorn.com