

This guide provides a list of restaurant recommendations for attendees of the 2025 Via de Cristo Annual Gathering, which is being held at Queens University of Charlotte from July 24-27, 2025.

Queens University of Charlotte is in the Myers Park neighborhood, with easy access to various dining options, including casual spots and options suitable for large groups.

On-Campus Dining at Queens University of Charlotte

The nine Annual Gathering meals included with your Registration fee, Thursday lunch-Sunday breakfast, will be served in the Young Dining Hall cafeteria. Below are other “at your expense” dining options available on the Queens University campus. If you are arriving on Wednesday, July 23rd, you could eat at one of these on-campus restaurants.

- **Young Dining Hall:** An "all you care to eat" facility with various stations including salad bar, bakery, "The Kitchen" (featuring vegan and vegetarian options), Italian options at "Hearth Stone Oven," and "The Grill" for classic American fare.
- **MecklenBurger:** Offers diner-style food like cheeseburgers and chicken tenders.
- **Miss Betty's Market:** Features hand-crafted sandwiches, soups, salads, and snacks.
- **Einstein Brothers Bagels:** Located in the Levine Center, offering bagels, sandwiches, and coffee.
- **The Coffee House:** Located in Everett Library, serving Starbucks beverages, sandwiches, and wraps.

Nearby Restaurants (East Blvd. Area)

Queens University is near casual dining restaurants on East Blvd., which is within walking distance (approximately 1-1.5 miles) of the campus:

- **JJ's Red Hots:** Known for hot dogs and featured on "Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives."
- **Brixx Wood Fired Pizza + Craft Bar (Dilworth):** A local staple offering wood-fired pizzas and a selection of craft beers.
- **Kid Cashew:** Offers Mediterranean cuisine.
- **The Penguin Drive In:** A classic spot for comfort food.
- **Showmars (Dilworth):** A chain offering a mix of Greek, American, and seafood dishes.
- **Jersey Mike's Subs:** Offers subs.

Recommendations for Group Dining and Local Favorites

For attendees looking for options suitable for larger groups or a taste of Charlotte, the following restaurants are recommended:

Italian and Mediterranean

- **Maggiano's Little Italy:** Located in SouthPark Mall, known for family-style Italian-American cuisine and suitable for large groups.
- **Mama Ricotta's:** Located in Midtown, this spot offers private dining options and is popular for groups.
- **Aria Tuscan Grill:** Located in Uptown, serving modern Italian comfort food and offering group menu options.

American and Southern

- **Cajun Queen:** Located in the historic Elizabeth neighborhood, offering Cajun and Creole cuisine in a 100-year-old house. They often feature live music.
- **Midwood Smokehouse:** A popular spot for American barbecue.
- **Haberdish:** Known for Southern food with a focus on seasonal and local ingredients.
- **Dressler's:** Located in Midtown, offering steaks and Southern-inspired specialties.
- **Noble Smoke:** Another option for barbecue.

Other Cuisines

- **P.F. Chang's (SouthPark):** Offers Asian and Chinese cuisine and is suitable for large groups.
- **Charlotte Beer Garden:** Located in Southend, known for its extensive selection of draft beers and a full kitchen, accommodating large groups.

Note on Reservations

Given the large attendance expected for the Via de Cristo Annual Gathering, it is highly recommended to call ahead and make reservations, especially for larger groups, to ensure seating availability.