Dining Options Near the Hyatt Regency, Miami

11th Street Diner
Tel: 305/534-6373
1065 Washington Ave
The only real diner on the beach, the 11th Street Diner is the antidote to a late-night run to Denny's. Some of Miami's most colorful characters, especially the drunk ones, convene here at odd hours, and your greasy-spoon experience can quickly turn into a three-ring circus. Uprooted from its 1948 Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, foundation, the actual structure was dismantled and rebuilt on a busy -- and colorful (a gay bar is right next door, so be on the lookout for flamboyant drag queens) corner of Washington Avenue. Although it can use a good window cleaning, it remains a popular round-the-clock spot that attracts all walks of life. If you're craving French fries, order them smothered in mozzarella with a side of gravy -- a tasty concoction that I call disco fries because of its popularity among starving clubbers.

Burger & Beer Joint
Tel: 305/672-3287
1766 Bay Rd
A refreshing alternative to the throngs of high-end eateries that opened in the area over the past year, B&B, as it's known, is a down home, family-friendly, well, burger and beer joint with no attitude, just great, thick, juicy burgers, fabulously salted skinny fries, beer, cocktails, and, if you're so inclined, ice cream sundaes or sodas. Hip without trying too hard, B&B offers all sorts of burgers, from the plain and classic (all perfectly cooked at medium rare unless otherwise specified) to the rock-'n'-roll inspired: a $39 "Stairway to Heaven," 10 ounces of Wagyu beef, 3 ounces Hudson Valley foie gras, and black truffle demi on a brioche bun; $9 "buck naked" with 10 ounces of prime Angus beef wrapped in lettuce with tomato, grilled red onion, and pickle; or the $12 "Fly Like an Eagle," two turkey patties with homemade stuffing, brown gravy, and cranberry sauce. You can also create your own burgers, with an intimidating list of cheeses, buns, veggies, sauces, bells, and whistles. Before you start with burgers, you may want to try the sassy tempura fried pickles or braised Buffalo wings, which are unlike the ones found in your typical sports bar with meat marinated in a spicy, zippy sauce and falling off the bone. For the insane, try the Mother Burger, a 10-pound patty the size of a manhole, which, if finished within 2 hours, is free. After dinner, check out the back sports bar which tends to be a bit smoky or the upstairs lounge with comfy couches and local DJs.

Daily Bread Marketplace
Tel: 305/856-0363
2400 SW 27th St
This place is great for takeout food and homemade breads. The falafel and gyro sandwiches are large, fresh, and filling. The spinach pie for less than $1 is also recommended, though it's short on spinach and heavy on pastry. Salads and spreads, including luscious tabbouleh, hummus, and eggplant, are also worth a go. To eat in or take out, the Middle Eastern fare here is a real treat, especially in an area so filled with fancy French and Cuban fare. Plus, you can pick up groceries such as grape leaves, fresh olives, couscous, fresh nuts, and pita bread.
**Big Pink**  
Tel:305/532-4700  
157 Collins Ave  
"Real Food for Real People" is the motto to which this restaurant strictly adheres. Set on what used to be a gritty corner of Collins Avenue, Big Pink -- owned by the folks at the higher-end Nemo -- is quickly identified by a whimsical Pippi Longstocking-type mascot on a sign outside. Scooters and motorcycles line the streets surrounding the place, which is a favorite among beach bums, club kids, and those craving Big Pink's comforting and hugely portioned pizzas, sandwiches, salads, and hamburgers. The fare is above average, at best, and the menu is massive, but it comes with a good dose of kitsch, such as the "gourmet" spin on the classic TV dinner, which is done perfectly, right down to the compartmentalized dessert. Televisions line the bar area, and the family-style table arrangement (there are several booths, too) promotes camaraderie among diners. Outdoor tables are available. Even picky kids will like the food here, and parents can enjoy the family-friendly atmosphere (not the norm for South Beach) without worrying whether their kids are making too much noise.

**Bond St. Lounge**  
Tel:305/398-1806  
150 20th St  
A New York City import, the sceney, subterranean Bond St. Lounge is in the basement of the shabby-chic Townhouse Hotel and is packing in hipsters as tightly as the crabmeat in a California roll. Despite its tiny size, Bond St. Lounge's superfresh *nigiri* and sashimi, and funky sushi rolls such as the sun-dried tomato and avocado or the arugula crispy potato, are worth cramming in here for. As the evening progresses, however, Bond St. becomes more of a bar scene than a restaurant, but sushi is always available at the bar to accompany your sake Bloody Mary.

**db Bistro Moderne**  
Tel: (305) 421-8800  
255 Biscayne Blvd Way  
French bistro with classic & modern dishes in an airy, stylish room with river views from a terrace.

**Spris Artisan Pizza**  
Tel: (305) 400-6667  
200 South Biscayne Boulevard #500-A  
Laid-back trattoria firing up thin-crust brick-oven pizzas & other rustic Italian staples.

**Zuma**  
Tel: (305) 577-0277  
270 Biscayne Blvd Way  
Chic & minimalist Japanese hot spot overlooking the Miami River, with shared dishes, sushi & more.

**Area 31**  
Tel: (305) 424-5234  
270 Biscayne Blvd Way  
Upscale EPIC Hotel eatery featuring outdoor lounge, sustainable seafood, tasting menu & happy hour.
Chop House 305
Tel: (305) 938-9000
300 S Biscayne Blvd
This modern-chic chophouse offers steaks & sushi, plus views of the water & a daily happy hour.

Subway
Tel: (786) 316-0044
155 S Miami Ave #100 / 165 SE 3rd Ave (2 locations)
Casual counter-serve chain for build-your-own sandwiches & salads, with health-conscious options.

Rigatti’s Café
Tel: (305) 377-1672
100 S Miami Ave #5
Hearty home-cooked food.

Whole Foods Market
Tel: (305) 995-0600
299 SE 3rd Ave, Miami
Healthy lunch and light dinner meals available in ready-made and self-serve form.