

# The Florida Times-Union

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## Who makes the best cheeseburgers in Jacksonville? The results are in



The cheeseburger is a staple on American restaurant menus for good reason: It's a favorite among American diners.

Dress it up with Foie Gras and Bacon Onion Compote, and you've got The Medurable at Atlantic Beach's M Shack; add some bleu cheese, and you've got the Loop 'N Bleu at Jacksonville-based chain The Loop Pizza Grill.

Or keep it simple with the classic

Cheeseburger from Five Guys Burgers and Fries or the Senator from Col. Mustard's Phabulous Phat Burgers in Jacksonville Beach.

And then there's one of my favorites, the Bison Cheeseburger from Ted's Montana Grill.

But in our search for the best place to get a cheeseburger in Jacksonville, some restaurants and burger joints stand out from the rest, according to a recent Times-Union/Jacksonville.com reader survey.

Cheeseburger lovers cast 2,549 votes for our survey of the Top 12 most-nominated restaurants by readers. The results of our unscientific poll are comprised of votes cast Sept. 13-18 online at Jacksonville.com and by mail via a printed ballot published in the Times-Union. After all the votes were counted, just 60 votes separated our Top 3 finishers. The winners are ...

FIRST PLACE: 464 votes

### **HARPOON LOUIE'S (AKA Harp's)**

**Address:** 4070 Herschel St.

**Information:** (904) 389-5631, [www.harpoonlouies.net](http://www.harpoonlouies.net)

**On the menu:** • Texas Hold 'em Burger: Certified Angus beef burger grilled with jalapenos, and topped with Harp's own Tijuana sauce, fresh-made salsa and Jalapeno Jack cheese • Feta Burger: Certified Angus beef burger with Feta cheese and spinach mixed into burger and served with cucumber dill sauce, lettuce, tomato and onion.

**Reader comment:** "Harpoon Louie's in Avondale has the best cheeseburger in town. They blacken the burger, they'll put pepperjack cheese on it, a fresh roll, all served with the best fries in town. The Loop, Poe's Tavern, Five Guys are all good, but Louie's is a big hunk of fresh beef, blackened that cannot be surpassed!" — **Chris Folds**

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SECOND PLACE: 414 votes

### **THE LOOP PIZZA GRILL**

**Address:** Eight Northeast Florida locations

**Information:** [www.looppizzagrill.com](http://www.looppizzagrill.com)

**On the menu:** • Mushroom 'n Swiss Burger • Loop 'n Cheddar Burger • Loop 'n Bleu Burger

**Reader comment:** "I would like to nominate The Loop in San Marco for the best cheeseburger. They consistently deliver a great Loop 'n Cheddar cooked precisely as you like. The cheese is always melted properly and the condiments are the right proportion. If you really are looking for a treat, order onion rings instead of fries. It's a burger where you can actually taste the flavor of the beef." — **Jerry Lewis**

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THIRD PLACE: 402 votes

### **COL. MUSTARD'S PHABULOUS PHAT BURGERS**

**Address:** 1722 Third St. N., Jacksonville Beach

**Information:** (904) 247-5747, [www.jaxbestburgers.co](http://www.jaxbestburgers.co)

**On the menu:** • Senator: Plain cheeseburger on a Kaiser roll • Bowden: Topped with fried onions, bacon and cheddar on a Kaiser roll.

**Reader comment:** "My nomination for Best Cheeseburger in Jacksonville is Colonel Mustard's in Jacksonville Beach, particularly, in my case, for their Commodore (with bleu cheese dressing and bacon on a Kaiser roll). But it's been my experience that what makes a great burger joint isn't one formula or another — it's the willingness to accommodate all comers and requests, while using good, fresh basic ingredients, and delivering food quickly with a smile, at a good price." — **Paul Scheele**

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**The rest of the field**

Others in our Top 12 included Hamburger Mary's, Cruisers Grill, Cliff's Bar & Grill, Five Guys Burgers and Fries, Picasso's, M Shack, Ted's Montana Grill, Poe's Tavern, Smashburger