

THE BREAKFAST KLUB

3711 Travis Street Houston 77002 713.528.8561 thebreakfastklub.com

A long-time Houston institution, The Breakfast Klub is open 7 AM-2PM and is a well-established haunt for Houston politicians and their entourages, as well as those who desire to rub shoulders with them. Showcasing Houston's diversity, this cinder-block, garishly painted and unpretentious building is located on the edge of Montrose, Midtown, and the Museum district and is 'centrally located', which makes it attractive to customers from all backgrounds and ethnicities. **Breakfast plates** include Pork chop & eggs, potatoes or grits, and choice of toast or biskit; Klub's Benedict, 2 poached eggs on toasted biskit, ham, bakon, turkey hollandaise sauce, & paprika; Pancake or waffle, 2 eggs & choice of homemade pan sausage, bakon, ham, or turkey (add pekans, banana, or strawberries); Wings & grits served with potatoes or 2 eggs & choice of toast or biskit; Wings & waffle, Belgian waffle surrounded by 6 wing pieces, topped with powdered sugar and 1 fresh strawberry; Katfish & grits, served with potatoes or 2 eggs and choice of toast & biskit. **Coffee:** wide variety of coffees, self-serve into huge mugs. **Daily lunch specials:** 6 krispy wings with red beans, rice, and sweetwater korn bread; Katfish with krawfish etouffee over seasoned rice & Texas toast; Krawfish fetuccini, grilled shrimp, & garlic Texas toast; Grilled chikin penne pasta & garlic Texas toast; Chikin fried chikin, green beans, mashed potatoes/homemade gravy, Texas toast. Portions are large. Price are reasonable. Often a waiting line (ideal for rubbing shoulders/casual encounters).

BISTRO MENIL

31513 W Alabama Houston 77006 713.904.3537 bistromenil.com

A minimalist grey building tucked unobtrusively among many other minimalist grey buildings across from the museum, the Bisto Menil is as genteel/reserved/sophisticated/understated as The Breakfast Klub is down-home/diverse/lively/animated. Located in the heart of the Montrose District, the Bistro serves delicious food and wine for the sophisticated palate. **Starters:** Eggplant "fries"; Calamari; Octopus; PEI mussels; Duck rillettes; Roasted beef and walnuts; Charcuterie plate; Foccacia Espanol / Francais / Tradicional. **Pizza:** Roasted artichoke, chicken; Soft ripened Italian cheese, arugula, pear, white truffle oil; Onions, brava sauce; Wild mushrooms, Italian truffle cheese. **Main:** Seared tuna, gremolata; Roasted Atlantic salmon; Seared sea scallops; Crab cakes; Flat-grilled chicken half; Crisp duck confit; Entrecote; Lamb chops Greek style. **Dinner:** Lunch items plus Costa Brava snapper; Mixed wild game grill; Cocoa nib 7 black peppercorn beef filet; Veal osso buco. **Galettes:** Zucchini; Mushroom; Goat cheese; Salmon. **Salads:** Jumbo lump crab salad; EVOO poached tuna Nicoise; Quinoa tabouli; Bistro Caesar; Caprese. **Also:** Cassoulet; Quiche Lorraine; Chicken & artichoke crepes; Crab & mushroom crepes. **Desserts:** Lemon curd tart; Pear upside-downcake; Brownie a la mode; Chocolate pot de crème; Caramelized banana and Nutella crepe; Orange-scented rice pudding; German chocolate cake ice cream sundae; Warm chocolate mousse cake. **Wine:** large and creative wine list with affordable pricing.

Honorable mention for politician/movers & shakers-watching:

HARRY'S RESTAURANT & CAFÉ on Tuam in Montrose and **ADAIR KITCHEN** on San Felipe/Galleria Post Oak area (previously reviewed). For past Hankamer Restaurant Updates, go to www.hankamer.com where you will find about twelve years of them.

For more information on Hankamer & Associates or any of our current listings, please visit our website at www.hankamer.com.

Note: By way of qualifications for reviewing restaurants, Hankamer has owned and operated numerous restaurants, coffee shops, hotels, discotheques and banquet halls over the last forty years; he has traveled to over 70 countries and has studied and lived in Europe for over three years; he was co-owner of a home delivery wine of the month club and imported his own wine labels for years. Copyright 2015 Ray Hankamer, Hankamer Commercial/Hankamer & Associates.