



Snapping samurai roll at Genki Sushi

## LET'S DO LUNCH

Midday meals for less than \$10



SCK pimiento cheese burger



Serpas courtyard



Whole ensalada at El Taco



Grecian Gyro wrap meal

BY KIRSTEN PALLADINO

**W**e might not be able to get you a free lunch, but this roundup of cheap eats ought to help your wallets stay fat.

### TAQUERIA DEL SOL

Pretty much everything on the menu is less than \$10. We can't get enough of the chicken tacos, though.

Multiple locations.  
taqueriadelosol.com.

### THE REAL CHOW BABY

Want to be your own chef, but not do any work? Select your ingredients and let the masters go to town with an all-you-can-eat, create-your-own-stir-fry at the Real Chow Baby for lunch Monday through Friday for \$7.99. And check out the new location on Ponce, too.

1016 Howell Mill Road. 404-815-4900.

782 Ponce de Leon Ave.

404-671-4202. therealchowbaby.com.

### GRECIAN GYRO

Go Greek with the Grecian wrap meal, a wrap with the meat or veggies of your choice, potatoes and drink for \$7.84 at this family-owned restaurant.

Multiple locations. [greciangyro.com](http://greciangyro.com).

### DANTANNA'S (CNN LOCATION ONLY)

This upscale sports bar gives you a variety so you can hit it up every day of the week for something different. Daily \$10 lunch specials include an entrée, soda, tea or coffee, with dishes ranging from chicken marsala, country-fried steak and jambalaya to pecan tilapia.

One CNN Center, suite 269.  
404-522-8873. [dantannas.com](http://dantannas.com).

### GENKI NOODLES & SUSHI

Affordable sushi makes miso happy. Genki gives it to us with soup and salad (ginger or seaweed), plus tea or soda. Prices range from \$7.95 to \$9.95, with appetizing roll choices such as California, rock and roll, vegetable tempura, yellowtail scallion, bagel, spicy tuna and the drunken eel.

3186 Roswell Road, Buckhead. 404-844-8319. The Prado, 5590 Roswell Road, Suite 100, Sandy Springs. 404-843-8319.  
[genkiatl.com](http://genkiatl.com).

### THE ORIGINAL EL TACO

The spirited Mexican joint in Virginia Highland is now serving lunch. We

wonder if our bosses would be OK with us partaking in a margarita at noon. Just a glass, not a whole pitcher! There's much Southwestern goodness to choose from, but we like the "whole ensalada," which includes crisp romaine lettuce tossed in lime-jalapeno vinaigrette over bacon-bean cheese bread, diced avocado, oven-dried tomatoes and pomegranate seeds, for \$6.25, or \$9.50 with chicken, and \$9 with chorizo. Other flavorful options still under \$10: a grilled veggie Mexican sandwich; a burger served with oh-so-creamy Mexican-style corn; a roasted chicken thighs Mexican sandwich; and chilaquiles, aka "Mexican hangover cure," a dish of tortilla chips cooked in roasted tomatillo salsa with poblano rajitas, roasted onions, Monterey Jack cheese, crema and an over-easy egg on top.  
1186 N. Highland Ave. 404-873-4656.  
[eltaco-atlanta.com](http://eltaco-atlanta.com).

### SOUTH CITY KITCHEN — MIDTOWN

Oh, how we love this joint for its Southern comfort food, nicely mannered staff and in-town location. We're also digging SCK's affordable lunches. The SCK pimiento cheeseburger, a generous portion of house-ground beef, butter pickles, chopped red onion and BBQ

mayonnaise, would make even Paula Deen blush. Comes with fries. \$9.95. Also fabulous: the BBQ pork sandwich, which is smoked and chopped on a brioche roll, topped with house-made BBQ sauce and served with coleslaw and house chips for \$8.25; Dorothy's chicken salad sandwich, crowned with melted Swiss cheese and accompanied by coleslaw and house chips, \$7.95. Eating light? Try a soup and half of a sandwich combo, with prices ranging from \$7.95 to \$9.95.

1144 Crescent Ave. NE. 404-873-7358.  
[southcitykitchen.com](http://southcitykitchen.com).

### SERPAS TRUE FOOD

Join Serpas in the courtyard at Studioplex every Wednesday and Friday as it serves up lunch favorites beginning at 11:30 a.m. Select your choice of one of the pre-made sandwiches of the day such as the Cuban or herb-roasted turkey on toasted focaccia with roasted tomato mayo, plus house chips for \$6 to \$8. Sides like shrimp remoulade salad and desserts like almond caramel brownies are also available for \$2 to \$4 each. Cash only, please!  
659 Auburn Ave. 404-688-0040.  
[serpasrestaurant.com](http://serpasrestaurant.com). **SP**

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