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Nick's Tavern Honored with "Enjoy Illinois: Delicious Destination" Award

Illinois Office of Tourism celebrates restaurants that are authentically Illinois, attracting visitors and locals to state's diverse communities

Lemont, Illinois, December 18, 2014 – The Illinois Office of Tourism (IOT) and Heritage Corridor Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) today announced Nick's Tavern, located in Lemont, is a recipient of an "Enjoy Illinois: Delicious Destination" award, which honors local food establishments around the state that are beloved destinations for visitors and locals alike. Nick's Tavern is among a select group of Illinois establishments to receive the unique designation from the tourism bureau. All award winners will receive a certificate from the state and a window cling to inform diners of the state designation.



"From family-owned restaurants with long and storied histories to the hottest new cuisines in the world, Illinois has emerged as a premier culinary destination for both domestic and international visitors," said Jen Hoelzle, Illinois State Travel Director. "The 'Enjoy Illinois: Delicious Destination' award honors those restaurants that are authentically Illinois, making a trip to the state unforgettable."

In business at the same location since 1945, Nick's retains its old fashioned charm while remaining an in-demand restaurant in the southwest Chicago suburbs. The old fashioned charm includes lots of Cubs memorabilia, a juke box, and bottles of Schlitz. There's a modern ATM since Nick's never has and still doesn't take credit card. The menu is small, and they are sure to let everyone know that they don't serve fries but people come to Nick's for one thing the famous Nickburger. As you can see from the four star reviews on Yelp, the burger is as big as the plate it comes on and is adored by people from all over Illinois and beyond. Recently Nick's and its kind hearted owner Don Quaid, were featured on Chicago's Best.

Bob Navarro, President Heritage Corridor CVB announced, "We're thrilled to have Nick's Tavern recognized as a "Delicious Destination". Nick's is a mainstay in Lemont – located on Main Street in the historic downtown, definitely a favorite for locals and visitors. You've got to try the Nickburger!" For more information on downtown Lemont dining, shopping, and entertainment, visit www.ilivemont.com.

Many travelers come to Illinois because of the state's flourishing restaurant scene. According to a 2013 D.K. Shifflet & Associates Study, nearly one third of leisure travelers to Illinois reported participating in a unique "culinary experience" as a key part of their vacation, proving culinary offerings are a key motivator for travel.

To be considered for an award, restaurants must be nominated by a Convention & Visitors Bureau, community member or Enjoy Illinois social media fan. The nominee must be a one-of-a-kind restaurant that is authentic to Illinois and an established part of its community. Only restaurants located in Illinois will be considered for the "Enjoy Illinois: Delicious Destination" award, which is chosen by IOT.

For more information about the state's culinary offerings and "Enjoy Illinois: Delicious Destination" awards, visit EnjoyIllinois.com or [Facebook.com/EnjoyIllinois](https://www.facebook.com/EnjoyIllinois).

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The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Office of Tourism manages industry efforts that result in sustainable and significant economic and quality-of-life benefits for Illinois residents.

The Heritage Corridor Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) generates economic impact to the communities and counties along the historic I&M Canal National Heritage Corridor through tourism marketing, promotion and development. www.HeritageCorridorCVB.com