

STORY

6 Hottest New Bakeries in Philly

FROM CLASSIC FRENCH PASTRIES TO CAKES FIT FOR BEYONCÉ

October 23, 2017 · by Wendy Ramunno



For the Philadelphians who prefer to eat dessert first, take note: We have some fabulous new bakeries in town. Check out one of these six hot spots to get your carb fix.



Credit: @cakelifebakeshop/Instagram.

star was in town for the Made in America festival last month. But savvy locals have been flocking to the Fishtown shop for its edible works of art and mix of sweet and savory baked goods since it opened last fall.

Must order: Custom layer cakes come in unique flavors with playful names, like the Beyoncé, a honey-lavender cake with honey-goat cheese frosting topped with honeycomb and bee pollen. Available whole or by the slice.

1306 Frankford Ave.; 215-278-2580



Credit: Evan Sung

Walnut Street Cafe

eat in or carry out.

Must-order: It's hard to go wrong here, but the slab pie, croissants, and khachapuri (with ham, egg and cheese) are totally worth seeking out.

2929 Walnut St.; 215-867-8067



Credit: J'aime French Bakery

J'aime French Bakery

With its freshly made baked goods and sidewalk seating, this counter-serve cafe from Marseilles native Bastien Ornano is a slice of Paris in Washington Square West, serving traditional French pastries, sandwiches, crêpes and La Colombe coffee. The clean white design and big open windows

merveilleux, a whipped cream and meringue treat available in chocolate or Speculoos flavors.

212 S 12th St.; 267-928-3172



Credit: Neal Santos

Essen

South African-born Tova du Plessis used the pastry skills she honed at top restaurants to open this cozy bakery on East Passyunk Avenue. Known for a range of Jewish delicacies, including rye bread, challah, babka, rugelah and black-and-white cookies, the homey spot has a few tables for dining in. There are also sandwiches and Elixir coffee on the menu.



Credit: The Kettle Black

The Kettle Black

French baker Marc Basile and his wife, Claire Ogilvie, are all about naturally leavened breads and bagels at their snug new NoLibs shop, which offers Peddler coffee and has narrow counters with a view of 2nd Street. They also do bagel sandwiches and a rotating selection of pastries, and we hear that grilled cheese will be coming soon.

Must-order: Keep an eye out for unusual breads like the birote, a sourdough enriched with egg, beer and lime with a sea salt crust.

631 N 2nd St.



Credit: Amy Jean

Fikira Bakery

Eschewing a storefront, founder and activist Ailbhe Pascal runs an all-delivery baked goods operation via bicycle out of Kensington. Customers place orders via phone or email and receive their choice of breads and sweets (ranging from cakes to cookies to muffins) at their doorstep.

Must order: For unique treats like coconut sourdough made with acorn flour, check out Fikira's personalized bread share subscription [here](#).

267-304-3855

PLACES MENTIONED (5)

CAKE LIFE BAKE SHOP

Cake · Fishtown · \$


 4.6 ★★★★★ (30)

Charming bakery for sweet & savory treats, like house-baked muffins, quiches, layer cakes & more.

NEW!**J'AIME FRENCH BAKERY**

Bakery · Washington Square West · \$


 4.8 ★★★★★ (47)

Airy counter-serve bakery & cafe serving French pastries, sandwiches, crepes & coffee.

ESSEN BAKERY

Bakery · Passyunk Square · \$


 4.7 ★★★★★ (38)

Tiny Jewish-style bakery offering breads, cakes, cookies, sandwiches & French-press coffee.

NEW!**THE KETTLE BLACK**

Coffee · Northern Liberties · \$





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NEW & HOT

CITY'S BEST

PHILADELPHIA

WALNUT STREET CAFE

New American · University City · \$\$

ZAGAT RATED

4.0 ★★★★★ (33)

All-day New American fare, cafe with pastry counter & cocktail bar in Cira Centre South.



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