

America's best ice cream shops, according to TripAdvisor

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A sundae from Harborwalk Scoops & Bites Ice Cream. (TripAdvisor)

Everyone screams for ice cream during the hot summer months. But if you're looking for the best parlor nearby, where should you start?

Today TripAdvisor announced the country's top 10 ice cream shops based on thousands of user reviews. Harborwalk Scoops & Bites Ice Cream in Punta Gorda, Florida took the top on the list for its twist on classic favorites. Unfortunately for ice cream lovers on the West Coast, just one California shop--McConnell's Fine Ice Creams in Santa Barbara--made the top 10 list.

All shops included in the top list have at least 100 different reviews, so these sweet shops have been tested and approved many times over. So hunker down at one of these joints for a sweet treat to beat the heat as summer winds down.

Top 10 Ice Cream Shops in the U.S.

1. Harborwalk Scoops & Bites Ice Cream – Punta Gorda, Florida

Located 25 miles north of Fort Myers on Charlotte Harbor, this coastal ice cream shop serves more than 20 heavenly homemade flavors including "Captain Rum Raisin", "Toasted Coconut" and "Chocolatey Chocolate Chip."

2. Bellvale Farms Creamery – Warwick, New York

Since 1819, this Hudson Valley farm has been churning out carefully crafted dairy. Travelers can choose from classic flavors such as strawberry, vanilla, and chocolate or opt for a more unique creation like "Bellvale Bog", a dark chocolate ice cream loaded with brownie dough and decadent fudge swirl. A TripAdvisor reviewer wrote, "The ice cream is delicious and the views of Warwick Valley are beautiful."

3. Dietsch Brothers Inc. – Findlay, Ohio

This family-run establishment south of Toledo has served an assortment of mouthwatering ice cream including praline pecan, chocolate marshmallow, and toffee caramel crunch. Travelers can cool off with a towering cone or indulge in a sundae smothered with hot fudge and whipped cream. "Dietsch has everything a sweet tooth desires. They have over 50 flavors of ice cream and sorbet including seasonal favorites," noted a TripAdvisor reviewer.

4. McConnell's Fine Ice Creams – Santa Barbara, California

Founded in Santa Barbara in 1949, McConnell's serves frozen delights made from local, sustainable and organic ingredients. Artisanal flavors include "Churros con Leche," "Sea Salt Cream and Cookies," and "Golden State Vanilla." A reviewer commented, "I would eat this every day for the rest of my life if I could. The Turkish Coffee is the most wonderful coffee ice cream I have ever experienced. The Toasted Coconut Almond Chip was divine, and the Macadamia Nut terrific."

5. Scottish Highland Creamery – Oxford, Maryland

After working at an Italian ice cream parlor in Scotland, Victor Barlow decided to open his own shop in a quaint village on the coast of Maryland. The Scottish Creamery proudly serves more than 600 flavors such as “Double Belgian Chocolate,” “Mascarpone,” and “Fresh Crushed Strawberry.”

6. Island Creamery – Chincoteague Island, Virginia

Using all-natural locally sourced ingredients from Lancaster County, Island Creamery seeks seasonal inspiration for its flavors from native fruit and chocolate morsels made in-house. Favorites include “Wallops Rocket Fuel,” a chocolate ice cream with cinnamon and chili pepper, “Java Jolt,” and “Birthday Cake.”

7. Martha’s Dandee Crème – Queensbury, New York

Boasting ice cream made fresh daily, this upstate New York dessert parlor is known for its rotation of palate-pleasing soft serve flavors such as “Marble Cake,” “Mocha Twist,” and “Apple Pie.”

8. Brickley’s Ice Cream – Narragansett, Rhode Island

Travelers can satisfy their sweet tooth at Brickley’s where more than 45 delicious flavors are available. Traditionalists can cool off with strawberry, sweet cream or chocolate, while those craving decadence can enjoy “Malted Milk Ball,” “Coffee Oreo,” or “Chocolate Brownie.”

9. Woodside Farm Creamery – Hockessin, Delaware

Located 10 miles west of Wilmington, this small town creamery has been serving inventive flavors of ice cream for nearly two decades. Frozen creations include sweet and savory “Bacon,” “Peanut Butter and Jelly,” and perennial favorite “Dirt,” made with crushed Oreo cookies and gummy worms. A reviewer wrote, “I do not know how they make ice cream, but it is out of the world. They have so many flavors, but my favorites are vanilla and black raspberry – rich and simply the very best.”

10. Brown Dog Ice Cream – Cape Charles, Virginia

Travelers visiting Chesapeake Bay can cool off with an old-fashioned cone at Brown Dog where the scrumptious flavors are made from family recipes. Gourmet tastes include “Blueberry Lavender,” “Mocha Scotch Chip,” and “Poncho Verde,” avocado ice cream packed with strawberries, lime and zesty jalapeños. One reviewer noted, “Great ice cream, friendly service, creative flavors vary daily and all made on the premises. I’ve tried a lot of ice cream and this is the best.”