

Cozumel Restaurant Guide

Kinta \$\$\$ *****

True Mexican cuisine with an upscale touch. The ambiance is sophisticated yet casual.

Location: Ave 5 between Calle 2 & 4

Telephone: 987-869-0544 Opening hours: 6-11 pm

Kondesa \$\$\$ *****

True Mexican cuisine with an upscale touch. The ambiance is sophisticated yet casual.

Location: Ave 5 between Calles 5 & 7

Telephone: 987-869-1086

Azul Madera \$\$ *** (formerly Sal de Mar?)**

Upscale dining at affordable prices. Mexican cuisine with Mediterranean & Asian fusion.

Location: Calle 3 between Ave 5 & 10

Telephone: 987-872-2708 Opening hours: 6-11 pm

Cielito Lindo Bistro \$\$ *****

Fantastic Pork Shank and great selection of Mexican & Mayan dishes

Location: Ave 5 & 3 Calle.

Telephone: 987-111-2370

Guidos \$\$\$ *****

Delicious Italian pasta, pizza and other dishes. Extensive wine menu and garden courtyard setting.

Location: Avenida Melgar between Calles 6 and 8.

Del Sur Empanadas Argentinas \$\$\$ ***

Fine dining and great Empanadas

Location: Ave 5 and Calle 3.

Telephone: 987-101-7108

La Cocay \$\$\$\$ *****

Creative menu frequently changes serving delicious Mediterranean-inspired delights with a Mexican touch.

Location: Calle 8, number 208, between Avenidas 10 and 15.

Phone: 872-5533 or 872-4407 Opening Hours: Mon-Sun, 5.30pm to 11pm.

Angels & Demons 2.0 Resto Grill (New Oct 2018)

Great Sandwiches, Seafood & Pasta.

Location: Avenue 10 between Calle 2 & 4

Opening hours: Tues-Sun 11:30 – 9:30 pm

Telephone: 984-253-9365

Buccanos Beach Bar and Grill \$\$\$\$ ***

Buccanos is an upscale vibrant restaurant right on San Juan beach at the **Club Cozumel Caribe.**

You can also enjoy all the beach club has to offer; snorkeling, pool, jet skis, parasailing, kayaks

Location: Club Cozumel Caribe, Costera Norte Km 4.5, Cozumel.

Telephone: 987-872-0100 Opening hours: 9am to 6pm, Sun-Thu. 9am to 11pm, Fri-Sat.

Pancho's Backyard \$\$\$ ***

A tantalizing selection of Mexican and Mayan dishes, including favorites such as fajitas and grilled shrimp.

Location: Seafront (Melgar) between Calles 8 and 10.

Telephone: 872-2141.

Hemingways \$\$\$ ***

A large selection of Mexican, Pasta other dishes. Great location on water, live music.

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Location: Seafront (Melgar) just north of Airport road.

Telephone:

Monina's \$\$??

Mexican dishes. Great location on water.

Location: Seafront (Melgar) just north of Airport road.

Telephone:

K'ooben Laab \$\$??? (many great reviews)

Italian Great

Location: Ave 30 and Calle 5

Telephone:

Pepe's Grill \$\$\$\$ ***

High end ocean front restaurant. Try house specialties like chateaubriand, prime rib, T-bone steak

Location: Avenida Melgar (seafront) corner with Calle Rosada Salas.

Telephone: 872-0213

Chillin' \$\$ ***

European style Bistro & Lounge. Tapas menu & live music, Sunday brunch

Location: ~~Calle 17 between Ave 20 & 25 sur #1100~~ Moved to 5th Ave

Telephone: 987-869-8231

Opening hours: 3-11 pm

Amparo's \$\$ ***

Mexican & American breakfasts, lunch & dinner

Location: Calle 2 & Ave 10

Telephone: 987-872-7749

Opening hours: 7am-2:00, 5:00-11:00 pm

Cerveceria Punta Sur ?? ??

Brew Pub – Only beer brewed on the island!

Location: Ave 10 and Calle 5

Telephone: 987-119-2879

Opening hours: 2:00 – 11:00 pm

Maple Bakehouse ?? ?? New – good reviews

Bakery & Lunch

Location: Melgar & Ave 5 Centro

Telephone: 987-872-5807

Opening hours: 8-9 pm

La Cuisine \$\$ ***

Healthy food restaurant - Super Foods & Juice Bar,

Location: Avenida 11 between Calle 5 (by Elektra)

Telephone: 987-872-0738 Opening hours: 7:30 am – 7:00 pm

Tony Rome's \$\$\$\$ ***

Extensive US-Mexican-Italian-seafood menu.

Location: Avenida 5 between Calle Rosada Salas and Calle 3, 1½ blocks south of the plaza.

Telephone: 872-0131

Opening hours: 3pm - 11pm, daily.

Blue Angel \$\$\$\$ ***

Breakfast offers Mexican and American dishes. Great 2 for 1 Happy Hour 4:00 to 6:30pm

Location: Carretera Costera Sur Km 2.3

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Blu' Bistro \$\$\$ **

Location: Rafael E. Malgar & Calle 8
Tel. 987-113-5057

'Ohana Café & Bar \$\$ **

Pizza, Mexican sandwiches & burgers. Good drinks
Location: Ave 5 between 6-8 Calle
Telephone: 987-119-0343

El Moro \$\$ ****

A favorite of divers and locals. Fresh seafood and Mexican of all types.
Ave 75 between Calle 2 & 4
Telephone: 987-872-3029

Ernesto's \$\$ **

This is your basic Tex-Mex, that said, it is terrific Tex-Mex.
Location: Ave R. Melgar, oceanfront, just north of La Ceiba hotel
Telephone: 987-872-1154

Casa Mission \$\$\$ **

Unique architecture surrounded by gardens and fountains. Traditional Mexican and Yucatan delicacies.
Location: Avenida 55 between Avenida Juarez and Calle 1.
Phone: (+52 987) 872 1641 Opening Hours: 3pm-11pm, daily.

La Mission \$\$ **

La Mission downtown in Cozumel has been known for its fresh seafood and its excellent Mexican cuisine. .
Location: Adolfo Rosado Sales between the seafront and Calle 5.
Phone: 987- 872-6340

La Catrina \$\$ ***

Traditional Mexican & Seafood. Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Location: Corner of Av. 11 & Calle 20 (just east of General Hospital)
Tel. 987-872-0047 Open: 8:00 am – 11:00 pm

La Choza \$\$ ***

Authentic homemade classic Mexican recipes. A local favorite for a reasonably meals.
Location: Avenida 10 between Calles Rosada Salas and Calle 3
Tel. 872-0958

Taqueria El Amigo Mario \$ ****

Lunch Only - local Mayan food - *cochinita pibil* Sundays to Fridays and *lechón al horno* on Saturdays.
Location: Calle 5 between Calle General Francisco Mujica and Avenida 35.
Telephone: 872-0742. Opening hours: 7 days a week, 6am until 12.30pm.

Casa Denis \$\$ **

Serving food on the square for over 90 years, this is surely Cozumel's oldest remaining restaurant.
Location: Parque Benito Juarez (main square) corner with Avenida 5 and Avenida Benito Juarez.

La Casa Del Mojito \$\$ ***

Best Mojitos & Cuban drinks in town! Great Cuban food.
Location: Ave 5 between 3 Calle & Rosado Salas (Centro)
Telephone: 987-111-4124

Al Pie del Carbon \$\$ ***

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Open flame cooking over real wooden logs.

Location: Calle 6 and Ave 5.

Telephone: 987-101-2599

Opening hours: dinner only

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La Chef \$\$ ***

Delicious Italian pasta, sandwiches (bacon lobster!) and other dishes.

Location: Moved to Melgar near old Museum

Telephone: 987-878-4391

Especias \$\$\$ ***

Italian cuisine served in an intimate setting, a must visit while in Cozumel.

Location: Calle 3 between Ave 5 and 10 (upstairs).

Telephone: 987-876-1558

Opening hours: dinner only

Al Fredo di Roma

Serving gourmet Italian and Mexican fare, this new addition is quickly becoming popular.

Hotel Presidente - Telephone: 987-872-0322

Sorrisi \$\$\$\$ ***

Italian upscale restaurant. Meal choices range from basic pizza to gourmet dishes.

Location: Calle 3 #317 between Ave R. Melgar & Ave 5

Telephone: 987-869-0960/0961

La Cucina Italiana \$\$ ****

Very Good Lunch only in this small comfortable dining room (converted house), you will be served a variety of homemade pastas, veal, chicken and seafood entrees prepared in the Northern Italian tradition.

Location: Calle 6 between Ave 10 & 15

Telephone: 987-872-2730

Opening Hours: 12:00 – 5:00

Casa Blanca

Terrific place to people watch, as it is right on the corner of the plaza. Serving many Yucatan specialties.

Location: Calle 1 on the plaza

Rolandi's \$\$\$ ***

Rolandi's is on the waterfront the view is stunning. Long list of pizza types and a great pasta selection.

Location: Ave R. Melgar & Calle 11

Telephone: 987-872-1097

Danny Boy \$\$ * (New Oct 2016 – good reviews)**

Danny from Kelley's opened this sports bar/restaurant.

Location: Ave 5 ½ block before the cemetery

Telephone: 987-564-2557

Capicua \$\$\$ ***

This is a delicious change from the other restaurants. They use original recipes with their special touch.

Location: Calle 10 & Ave 15

Telephone: 987-869-8265

Opening Hours: dinner

The Pub (Sharky's Pub) \$\$ ***

This is a great sports bar serving both Mexican and American food (Monday Meatloaf is fantastic!).

Location: Moved to Villablanca Hotel and now named "Sharky's Pub".

Telephone: 987-872-4132

Opening hours: 9 am – 9 pm

Albino's

Albino's is a breath of fresh air, the food is exquisite. A "local" restaurant away from all the tourist joints.

Location: Ave 20 between Calle 10 & 12

Telephone: 987-869-2510

Opening hours: Noon to 8PM

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Carlos'n'Charlies \$\$\$ *

Carlos'n Charlie's is a family-friendly, 100% Mexican restaurant chain.

Location: downtown seafront (Melgar) between 7th and 11th Streets, next to Punta Langosta.

Phone: 869-1647 / 869-1648

Paprika \$\$ **

Used to be good but has gone downhill. They have a lot of choices of fresh juices and smoothies.

Location: Carretera Costera Sur Km 4.5 close to Park Royal

Telephone: 987-872-2404

Freida's \$\$ *** (formally Mosaicoz)

Can be tough to find, because it is in the restaurant gauntlet on the way to Casa Denis. This place has cheap beers and they'll bring you complimentary chips and salsa.

Plaza Leza

International and Mexican dishes. It is a great place to sit and watch the band in the park.

Location: South side of the main plaza downtown

Hard Rock Cafe \$\$\$ *

Possibly the smallest Hard Rock cafe in the world!

Location: On the seafront downtown (Av. Melgar), between the Main Square and Calle 2

Telephone: 872-5271. Opening hours: 10am - 1am, daily

Rock 'n Java Bar and Grill \$\$ ***

Caribbean café serving breakfast, lunch and dinner. Eat-in, take away or home delivery.

Location: on the seafront (Melgar) between Calle 11 and Punta Langosta.

Telephone: 872 4405 Opening hours: 7am - 10pm, Sat. 7am - 2pm.

La Herradura

They serve *comida corrida* until 5pm and then they re-open at 7pm with a full menu.

Location: Ave 30 between Calle 17 and 19

Telephone: 987-872-7754 Opening hours: 12pm-5pm and 7pm-11pm

Kelley's Bar & Grill \$\$ ***

A favorite hangout of frequent visitors and expats. Menu items include: chilidogs, Reuben's, giant burritos and some other specialties you won't find anywhere else.

Location: Ave 10 between Salas and Calle 1.

Telephone: 987-872-1503 Opening hours: 1pm-12am weekends until 2am

Wet Wendy's

The most imaginative margaritas in the world and the food is also excellent and fairly priced.

Location: Ave 5, 1 block north of the square.

Telephone: 987-8724970

10 por Quince (formally La Tienda Guidos)

Excellent selection of quality products and a deliciously original lunch menu at an affordable price.

Location: Ave 15 and Calle 10.

Telephone: 987-120-1827 Opening hours: 9am - 5pm

El Sazon Del Camaron

A great little daytime seafood restaurant that's popular with locals. They serve *tacos* and *tortas*.

Location: Benito Juarez, between Av. 55 and 60

Telephone: 987-120-4664 Opening hours: 7am to 4 pm, daily (may vary).

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Chardonnay

Okay food - large menu.

Location: Corner of Avenida 5 with Calle 7.

Lobster House

Just choose your lobster and pay for what it weighs.

Location: Carretera Costera Norte (north coast highway) opposite Playa Azul Hotel

Opening hours: 6pm - 10.30pm

Costa Brava

Breakfast for two including eggs, meat, beans, and coffee runs around \$6-7 USD.

Location: Calle 7, around the corner from post office

Camillo's

This inexpensive seafood restaurant serves fantastic fried shrimp tacos for around a dollar each. This is a very popular locals place. They offer Mexican style smoked marlin, ceviche, fillets, shrimp and lobsters.

Location: Ave 5 between Calles 2 & 4

Telephone: 987-872-6161

Conchita del Caribe

Serving some of the best seafood on the island for reasonable prices.

Location: Ave 65 between Calle 13 & 15

Telephone: 987- 872-5888

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Small Local – Good Places

Los Otates \$ ****

A very simple establishment with excellent traditional Mexican food.

Location: Ave 15 between Calle 1 & 3

Crazy King Burrito \$ ****

Fantastic burritos!

Location: Ave 5 & Calle 4

Opening hours: 11am-9pm

Burrito Gorditos \$ ****

Fantastic burritos and Breakfast Burritos!

Location: Ave 5 & Calle 4

Opening hours: 8am-5pm

Cuatro Tacos \$ ** (SB folks said it was very good)**

Next to Lobster Shack behind Thirsty Cougar. Good Caribbean Quac.

La Benediccion \$ ****

A small establishment with excellent traditional Mexican & Mexican food.

Location: Ave 15 between Calle 12

El Pique \$ ***

A very simple establishment with excellent traditional Mexican food

Location: Pedro Joaquin Coldwell (Ave 30) & Calle 2

Opening hours: dinner 7 pm – 9 pm

Los Seras \$ ****

Traditional Mexican restaurant, very popular w/locals

Location: Pedro Joaquin Coldwell (Ave 30) & Calle 3

Opening hours: dinner 6 pm – 1 am

La Perlita \$ ***

Ceviche & fish are the main stays at this neighborhood restaurant & seafood market. Crowded with locals.

Location: Ave 65 between Calle 8 & 10

Opening hours: 8 am – 9 pm

Mi Antojito \$ ****

Fantastic burritos and Breakfast Burritos!

Location: Ave 10 between Benito Juarez & Calle 2

Opening hours: 8am-5pm

La Candela \$ ***

Homemade Yucatan food. You get a choice of soup, choice of 3 entries, which change daily.

Location: Ave 5 & Calle 6 *Opening hours: 8am-6pm*

Machete \$\$ ***

A simple establishment with excellent traditional Mexican food.

Location: Ave 5 behind Central Square

El Turix \$ ***

Located in a residential area serving Yucatan dishes. A very simple establishment with excellent food.

Location: Ave 20 between Calle 17 & 19

Las Tortugas \$ ***

A traditional Mexican restaurant.

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Location: Pedro Joaquin Coldwell (Ave 30) & Calle 19 Opening hours: dinner only

Los Tamarindos \$ ***

Location: Ave 30 & Calle 7

Chilangos \$ ***

Only two delicious choices to pick from here, quesadillas and huaraches.

Location: Ave 30 between Calle 3 & Morelos Opening hours: 6 pm-1am

Los Nopales \$ ***

Location: Pedro Joaquin Coldwell (Ave 30) & Calle 11

Opening hours: dinner 6 pm – 1 am

Pescaderia San Carlos \$ ***

Small traditional Mexican restaurant, popular w/locals

Location: Ave 50 & Calle 3 Sur

Casa Tomas \$ ***

Excellent Spanish food in a beautiful garden setting

Location: Ave 5 between Salas & Calle 3

Opening hours: 9 am – 5 pm

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Beach Bar-Restaurants

Paradise Beach (All-Inclusive) \$\$\$\$ *

Popular Cozumel beach with well-kept facilities lots of beach toys
Distance from downtown approx. 9 miles.

Playa Corona \$\$ ***

Friendly atmosphere, great views. Good Snorkeling
Location: Costera Carretera Sur, approx. 3.5 miles south of downtown

Sky Reef \$\$ **

Friendly atmosphere, great views, Sundays have (Cuban) bands and gets busy. Good Snorkeling
Location: Costera Carretera Sur, approx. 3.5 miles south of downtown

Money Bar and Restaurant \$\$\$ **

Friendly atmosphere, great views. Live music many nights. Good Snorkeling
Location: Costera Carretera Sur, approx. 3 miles south of downtown

Alberto's Beach Bar and Restaurant \$\$ ***

Friendly atmosphere, great views. Live music many nights.
Location: Costera Carretera Sur, approx. 12 miles south of downtown.

Mr Sanchos Beach and Restaurant (All-inclusive?) \$\$\$ *

Location: Costera Carretera Sur, approx. 10.5 miles south of downtown.

Carlos'n'Charlies Beach Club (All-inclusive?) \$\$\$ *

Carlos'n Charlie's is a family-friendly, 100% Mexican restaurant chain.
Location: Costera Carretera Sur, approx. 10 miles (17.5 km) south of downtown

Playa Oriente & Senor Iguana's (East Side)

Beach shack style bar and restaurant with incredible windward side views.
Location: Costera Este (East Side Highway) where the Transversal (Cross-island Highway) meet.

Mezcalitos Bar and Restaurant (East Side)

Relax under the palapas or snooze in a hammock after enjoying a margarita. Enjoy the "Naked Beach".
Location: Costera Este (East Side Highway) where the Transversal (Cross-island Highway) meet.
Opening hours: 10am-6pm, daily.

Punta Morena (East Side)

Beach style bar and restaurant with 6 bungalows.
Location: Just North of Coconuts & south of Mezcalito's

Coconuts Bar and Grill (East Side)

Cozumel's highest point - a small rocky cliff on the island's wild east coast. The best views on Cozumel.
Location: Costera Este (East Side Highway) about 3 miles south (Km 43.5)
Opening hours: 10am until dusk, daily

Playa Chen Rio (East Side)

Beach shack style bar and restaurant with incredible windward side views.
Location: roughly mid-way on the east side coastal highway @ approx Km 40

San Martin (East Side) (formally El Diablo)

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Beach shack style bar and restaurant with incredible windward side views on Playa San Martín. Italian and Mexican menu, fresh seafood, pasta, cold beers, beach cocktails.

Location: roughly mid-way on the east side coastal highway.

Reggae Beach Bar (East Side)

Cozumel's most laid-back bar and restaurant. Hammocks, food and drink on the beach on the island's windward side. Reggae music and beach grub in the middle of no-where - this place will seduce you!

Location: Costera Este (East Side Highway Km 30)

Opening hours: 10am until dusk, daily.

My local friend, Chef Josefina, took me to a new place this past October: La Gitana (the Gypsy) on 65 near 3 Sur. Look for the sensual painting of the dancing gypsy on the wall. We drank beer, watched soccer matches & ate conch botanas, chips & salsa. Very friendly mixed crowd, all locals. Josefina will also order a small plate of food (\$) from the kitchen if they're a chef she knows. I notice even more snacks come out after that! I have a trip coming up in late March into April - my friend & I are staying at an AirBnb back in the hood, so I'm sure to discover more for the list

- Las Boyas on 3 & 15th
- El Gato Negro on 6 North near 20th.
- Recuerdo on the corner of 45 (or so) and Juarez, north side of street
- Las Tortugas - (the one owned by Adrian's brother) is on 30th close to 21 (or 17?)
- El Camaron on 65 Ave and 17th- Live Music
- La Gitana - 65th near 3 Sur
- El Pocito on 80th ave. and 4th
- Las Brisas on 5 and 20th
- La Jungla (The Jungle) on 50th and around 6th
- Bar Amigos on Juarez near 30. Friday's 2-4 are Gringo Fridays with old American music & a gathering place for expats. See their FB page.
- Chendos on 40th between Calles 5 and 7 on the east side of the street. The facade is recessed back from the street -you can miss it if you aren't looking for it. Walk through the doorway & head to the back. They have outdoor seating and covered seating

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Grab some tuchitos at El Chino Marentes on 20 Avenida. This is not the same as El Chino Marinero II on the same street past the Mercado Municipal. You're not likely to get more authentic or local than that.

Go on Facebook and order some tamales colados or horneados for delivery.

Get some roasted chicken from any of a number of places. I like El Pechugón because of the potatoes they cook under the roasting chickens.

Corazón Contento is a great place for breakfast judging by the number of authentic locals waiting for tables most of the time.

La Cozumeleña is a good place to get a club sandwich for breakfast (which is a very popular local delicacy) or perhaps some enchiladas. I like the Jarochas, personally.

On Sunday mornings, track down Barbacoa Los Magüeyes for barbacoa de borrego, which is all the have and the only time they're open.

Tacos Arabes (there's such a long history of Lebanese food in this part of Mexico that "kibis" are considered local and shawarma is the likely inspiration for tacos de trompo, often known as "al pastor").

Taquería Díaz 100% has good tacos de cabeza. Also good tacos al pastor and arrachera.

Los Nopales, which has tortillas a mano and my favorite piña con chaya as well as ridiculously over-topped pizzas and generally preposterous portion sizes.

Nando's Hotdogs, a local tradition. I get the Especial con crunchy y rajas, which is actually too many toppings.

Get a huarache and an avena con leche at Los Chilangos.

Carnitas Días on 30 Av. has really good carnitas from giant copper kettles, but closes by midday.

Where do authentic locals eat?

Well, you might be surprised at how many head for Burger King, Dominos, or Hooters. I suspect that may not be what you're asking, though.

Keep in mind that breakfast is usually a sandwich or a couple of tacos.

One place for morning tacos is the El Sitio on Calle 2 not far from the taxi syndicate offices. The shrimp taco places (El Camarón Dorado, El Chino Marinero II, etc.) do a lot of breakfast business and close by early afternoon.

You can get empanadas de cazón, panuchos, and salbutes at El Resbalón, which is only open in the morning. It's sort of behind Empanadas Los 3 Patitos, which is not as good a place to get empanadas.

We hit up Tamarindos every Saturday morning for their lechón al horno, which is amazing on tacos. Other days they do great cochinita pibil and their relleno negro is good.

The big meal is in the mid to late afternoon. If locals eat out, they may head to Las Palmas (on 25 Av.), La Conchita del Caribe, St. Chuck's Fish Shack (Pescadería San Carlos), or one of many cocinas económicas.

La Choza is usually packed with locals in the late afternoon, after tourist lunch and before tourist supper, for their amazing lunch specials.

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El Súper Hit, of which there are 2 along 30 Avenida, has lots of traditional yucatecan dishes such as queso relleno, relleno negro, sopa de lima, etc.

Be aware of dishes associated with days of the week, such as frijol con puerco on Mondays or mondongo on Sundays.

El Muellecito may seem touristy, but it's a great place for tacos and tostadas, especially tacos that are locally hard to find, such as gobernador, del tio, cochitaco, or torito.

Local food is not usually particularly spicy, apart from the xni-pek.

Whoops.

Huevos Jarochas are scrambled eggs with longaniza or chorizo, wrapped in corn tortillas, and covered in frijoles colados (pureed black beans), more longaniza or chorizo, and slivered chiles (at least at La Cozumeleña). Sort of like scrambled egg enfrijoladas. Jarocha/o means in the style of Veracruz.

You should track down for breakfast some papadzules, which are chopped hard-boiled eggs rolled in tortillas that have been dipped in a pumpkin seed sauce. Casa Denis has good ones.

Here. [Have a look at this link](#) for some more information about local food terms.