



RESTAURANT GUIDE

RESTAURANTS

DEFINED AS A RETAIL BUSINESS SELLING FOOD AND BEVERAGES PREPARED ON THE SITE, FOR ON- OR OFF-PREMISES CONSUMPTION. THESE INCLUDE EATING ESTABLISHMENTS WHERE CUSTOMERS ARE SERVED FROM A WALK-UP ORDERING COUNTER FOR EITHER ON- OR OFF-PREMISES CONSUMPTION, AND ESTABLISHMENTS WHERE MOST CUSTOMERS ARE SERVED FOOD AT TABLES FOR ON-PREMISES CONSUMPTION, BUT MAY INCLUDE PROVIDING FOOD FOR TAKE-OUT. ALSO INCLUDES: COFFEE HOUSES.

FIND A LOCATION

📍 Restaurants are allowed within any commercial zone including Neighborhood Commercial (CN), Community Commercial (CC), Arterial Commercial (CA), and Regional Commercial (CR). These different zones allow for different types of uses.

! Taking over a space that was previously a Restaurant can save time and construction costs, as long as the previous tenant had recently passed inspections and was in compliance with current requirements.

📞 Before signing a lease, please speak with the City's Planning Division to understand zoning and the City's Building & Safety Division to understand building codes. Call (323) 848-6475 or visit City Hall at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard.

PLANNING REQUIREMENTS

🚗 Restaurants less than 1,200 ft² that existed prior to May 2, 2001 require 3.5 parking spaces per 1,000 ft². In all other cases, 9 parking spaces are required per 1,000 ft². If there is an outdoor dining area larger than 251 ft², 9 parking spaces are required per 1,000 ft² of outdoor dining space.

! Taking over a space that was previously a Restaurant will help with parking, as the demand will be the same and providing additional parking won't be necessary.

📞 Outdoor dining requires an Administrative Permit and an Encroachment Permit if located in the public right-of-way. Call Public Works for more information at (323) 848-6375

➡ To find out where Restaurants are allowed, click to view the Zoning Map.

➡ To learn more about planning requirements, click here to search the Zoning Ordinance.

BUILDING REQUIREMENTS

🔨 The work needed to get your tenant space ready to open can vary from business to business. Some businesses require very minimal work, and some will require a more involved process like changing the floor plan to better suit the new business. In all cases, you will need plans drawn to show the changes that you will be making to your new space. These plans will go through a plan check process to ensure they meet various code requirements.

! Start with bringing your plans to the Planning Division counter and have a planner review them.

! Submit your plans to L.A. County Public Health concurrently with your plan check. For more information, click here to visit their website.

👤 If you are installing a new sign, you will need to obtain a Sign Permit. After consulting with a licensed sign contractor, submit a Sign Permit Application.

➡ Click here to find the permits and applications you need.

BUSINESS REQUIREMENTS

📝 Register your business with the City by obtaining a Business Tax Certificate. A Restaurant operating within the City of West Hollywood is required to obtain a Business Tax Certificate and pay an annual Business Tax.

➡ Click here to download the Business Tax Certificate Application.

! Restaurants are required to obtain a Public Eating business license. Please contact the Business License Officer at (323)848-6375 for more information.

🚦 Once you've reached this step, your business will proceed through plan check for approval.