



# Laurelhurst Café

4611 E Burnside St  
503.548.6320  
www.laurelhurstcafe.com  
Wed - Sun, 11am - 9pm  
Closed Mon & Tuesday

Cup of Housemade Soup w/Ciabatta: \$3.50,  
BLT Panini \$8.50.  
Beer and wine.

Laurelhurst Café's slogan is "Eat, Drink, Gather" and the venue encourages people to follow that advice. The café is a collaborative effort by Ken Bareilles, Greg Vitunic (head chef), and Melissa Carey (desserts and pastries). Bareilles handles hospitality, and describes the evolution of the café as fortunate. "Whenever we needed something, it appeared."

Bareilles found the location through an ad on Craigslist. He began inviting in neighbors and passers-by to ask what they wanted, and what type of food, drink and environment they sought. Neighbors wanted a kid-friendly business, where adults could gather and have some local wine or beer. Vitunic, a chef who lived nearby, joined forces with Bareilles and Carey to create a neighborhood place.

The menu is creative and surprising, combining ingredients and flavors as delicious as they are diverse. The BLT is accented with Horseradish Aioli. The "Melting Heart" Panini contains garlic cannellini bean, artichokes, red onion, arugula and muenster. The Pig 'n Fig features sweet coppa, fig chardonnay spread, apples, chevre, and arugula. Water Avenue coffee and pastries are available, desserts, with local microbrews on tap, and a selection of wines. Happy hour is 4 - 9 pm daily. The café has excellent soups, and possibly some of the best fries in Portland. There's a good kids' menu, with several popular choices including a "Graze Plate" for picky eaters or special diets. "Just tell us what your child will eat, and we'll put together a portion using your guidelines."

The restaurant is designed for comfort and efficiency. "The building was like a sculpture," says Bareilles. "It revealed itself as we went along." There's indoor and outdoor seating - an outdoor counter with "dog parking" - and a patio. The location is dog, child, and bike-friendly - lots of leash hitches, a surrounding fence and small "kids' corner." There are bike racks, a maintenance station, free wi-fi for customers, and a HD cable tv. "It's an excellent addition to the neighborhood," says regular customer Aaron Chan.

Continuing their neighborhood focus, Laurelhurst Café will join forces with Providence Child Center for a fundraiser and Auto Show on July 16th. Showcasing classic cars and family entertainment, proceeds benefit the Child Center. Laurelhurst Café can cater, and offers food on-site or to go. Stay informed about menus, events and information at www.laurelhurstcafe.com. For a welcoming family and community-friendly dining experience with great food and a lot of heart, be sure to visit the Laurelhurst Café.



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