

## RESTAURANTS

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# Veggies plate up splendidly in summer

It's summertime, and the livin' is easy – at least for those of us who love vegetables and fruits. Georgia peaches are in stores now, and some tomatoes are showing up at local farm stands. Corn is here, too. Okra can't be far away. Try these spots for vegetables that smack of summer.

### Rumi's Kitchen

6152 Roswell Road, Atlanta,  
404-477-2100

The wheaty aroma of Rumi's house-made flatbread fills the foyer, the air on the patio and the restaurant's small, attentively decorated dining area. Served in modern spiral baskets, it is the center of attention at each table, and wonderfully soft and pliable. Why? It's the perfect mate to smear through kashk badenjoon, an eggplant dish stewed with tomatoes and onions and topped with a tart cream of whey, caramelized onions and dried mint.

### Abattoir

1170 Howell Mill Road, Atlanta,  
404-892-3335

Heralded chefs Anne Quatrano and Clifford Harrison have added to their stable of restaurants that includes Bacchanalia and Floataway Cafe with this casual spot that isn't so "meat centric" after all. Sure, the menu definitely operates around four-legged things, with an emphasis on the full use of animal products, including goodies such as lamb liver fritters and tripe stew. But hold on a minute: The veggies here could make a meal, especially the summer crisp

salad crowned with a poached farm egg and crispy bacon. Or a fabulously simple heirloom tomato sliced and served with, yes ... salt and pepper. Nothing short of genius.

### Watershed

406 W. Ponce de Leon Ave.,  
Decatur, 404-378-4900

Executive chef Scott Peacock's upscale Southern classics conjure after-church-on-Sunday food, the kind we sat around the table and said grace over. The vegetable plate is plenty reason to say thanks: Heaps of fried okra, summer squash, green beans, simple corn



Watershed in downtown Decatur serves up field peas. *staff* 2008 photo

off-the-cob, field peas and sliced tomatoes. Oh, and luscious spoon bread, inspired by Edna Lewis.

### ★ Waterhaven

75 5th St., Atlanta,  
404-214-6740

Don't be so shy: the Globe's former space hasn't changed as much as was first touted. Don't be afraid to venture in, especially

if it's to try a plate of veggies full of Italian greens done up Southern or sweet, slightly salty seasoned (I like 'em that way) lady peas. Heck, you might even find a stuffed, lightly fried squash blossom lurking under a stack of sliced-and-grilled eggplant. New owner Joe McCarthy has stated that he's committed to using local, sustainable ingredients in the kitchen and it's starting to show.

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ajc

# Evening Edge

EAT, SHOP, PLAY, REPEAT.



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