

# LET'S GO OUT FOR MEXICAN!

by Andrew Schmidt

## VIVA VILLA

Viva Villa is located at 3717 E. North St.—about a 10-minute drive from campus. This restaurant serves fajita, chicken, steak, beef and bean nachos as well as wings, grilled shrimp, salads, soups and tacos. Each meal is served with chips and house salsa.

Viva Villa seeks to create an authentic Mexican atmosphere through both food and ambience. As the website states, “In authentic Mexican food, the core must be traced back to the culture. From the smell to the flavor, we will take you to Mexico and back.”

The restaurant has limited but rarely overcrowded seating and is colorfully decorated. It also has an outdoor seating area with a fountain and umbrella-sheltered tables.

The staff is known among customers as being good-natured and helpful.



## TACO CASA

TacoCasa is located at 1002 North Pleasantburg Drive. Just over a half-mile from campus, this restaurant is a 20-minute walk or two-minute drive away.

Its menu offers tacos, burritos and other Mexican food staples. It has a well-lit, minimalist interior.

Megan Bradford, a junior business administration student, said, “I enjoy the simplified atmosphere, affordable prices and tasty food.”

## LA PARRILLA

La Parrilla is found at 1 Market Point Drive. This restaurant is about a 10-minute drive from campus. The restaurant has a very inviting, comfortable ambience. When it's nice outside, La Parrilla offers outdoor seating. People enjoy this restaurant for its fast service and for its dessert options.



## TIPSY TACO

Tipsy Taco is located at 215 Pelham Road. It's a five-minute drive from campus. This restaurant serves a variety of nacho platters as well as quesadillas, tacos, salads and more.

Tipsy Taco's interior is visually stimulating, featuring colorful lights and Mexico-themed décor. Despite the initial impression you may get from its relatively humble storefront, the restaurant is spacious and typically will be able to seat large groups right away.

Kerri Haynes, a sophomore music major, said “I've had good service every time I have eaten [at Tipsy Taco] and the food is delicious.”

Most students agree that the staff is friendly and courteous. Prices range from \$8 to \$13 on average, and the food is served in large portions.

## EL MOLCAJETE

El Molcajete, or “Elmo's” as it's known around campus, is located at 2435 E. North St. This restaurant is just under a mile off campus, making it a 20-minute walk or barely over a one-minute drive.

This restaurant offers tacos, fajitas, soups, salads, seafood and more. The menu also features several various types of combos.

Isaac Slayton, a junior Bible major, enjoys eating at this Mexican restaurant. “I love El Molcajete!” he said. “It has an amazing California Burrito: steak, chicken, shrimp and covered in cheese sauce.”

El Molcajete offers prices that compete with many fast food chains with its \$4 to \$10 range. This restaurant also features quick service but still boasts a sit-down atmosphere and quality food made from fresh ingredients. Its proximity to campus makes El Molcajete an ideal restaurant for a student on a tighter budget.