You Won't Find a Dull Moment in Grand Rapids

Nightlife

(Walking distance from the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel noted to the side.)

The B.O.B. (Big Old Building) 1.5 blocks
20 Monroe Ave. NW
(616) 356-2000
"A happening place housing many restaurants, bars and comedy club." Bobarino's—live musical acts and entertainment Tuesday through Saturday. Outstanding food plus sports bar, plasma TVs, and billiards. **B.O.B.'s House of Brews** microbrewed beer and pub. **Crush Nightclub** is West Michigan's premiere dance club with live music.

Bar Divani 3 blocks
15 Ionia Ave. SW
(616) 744-WINE (9463)
"Very $$$." An intimate and cozy *wine bar* offering an eclectic array of cuisine, wine, beer and spirits from around the world.

bite & Ottawa Tavern 1 block
151 Ottawa Ave. NW
(616) 451-8000
Designed to capture the downtown businessperson, resident or theater goer, bite will have something for everyone. 5 spot menu (items $5 or less). Build your own burger. Value bar.

The Cottage Bar & Restaurant 4-5 blocks
18 LaGrave Ave. SE
(616) 454-9088
"A Grand Rapids tradition." Casual charm in downtown's oldest operating bar and restaurant. *Famous for the city's best burgers and three different styles of chili.* Full dinner menu as well.

J. Gardella's Tavern 3 blocks
11 Ionia Ave.
(616) 459-8824
Low priced beverages, large portioned meals, selection of single malt scotches and microbeers. Open mic night every Tuesday.

Dining

(Walking distance from the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel noted to the side.)

■ *Located in the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel, 187 Monroe Ave, NW:*

The 1913 Room
(616) 774-2000, reservations recommended
"Dress code, expensive." *Michigan's first and only 5-diamond restaurant.* The Louis XVI-inspired dining room offers an exciting menu presenting masterfully prepared French influenced cuisine and the finest selection of wines available. Jacket required.

Cygnus 27
(616) 774-2000, reservations recommended
Enjoy the skyline as you dine atop the Glass Tower. Indulge on a variety of globally influenced American dishes at this AAA Four-Diamond restaurant. The trend-setting décor promises an epic casual dining experience. Brunch served, open Sunday.

GP Sports
(616) 776-6495
The best place in town to unwind with three large screens, 40 TVs, pool tables, outdoor patio seating, wood-fired pizzas, and signature burgers. Complimentary parking for two hours.

■ *Located in the B.O.B. (Big Old Building), 20 Monroe Ave. NW, 1.5 blocks from the Amway:*

The B.O.B. 1.5 blocks
(616) 356-2000
"This is a cool place." A multi-faceted entertainment center and restaurant complex featuring five restaurants, a micro-brewery, night club, comedy club, 2,500-bottle cellar, billiards, sports bar, NTN Trivia Network, and private rooms.

Bobarino's
(616) 356-2000, reservations recommended
Handmade pasta, outstanding wood-fired pizzas and an array of sandwiches and salads. Daily entrée specials as well. Brunch served.

Crush @ The B.O.B.
(616) 356-2000, reservations recommended
Casual elegance—museum-quality art, premium martinis and cocktails. Progressive DJs on weekends. Grand Rapids' best sound system and most fashionable crowd.

Gill's Blue Crab Lounge
(616) 356-2000, reservations recommended
Featuring a menu so fresh that it changes daily. Raw Bar menu available as well. Jet fresh fish and 42 wines by the glass. Outstanding seafood, Raw Bar, and steaks. Smart and fun atmosphere.

Judson's Steakhouse
(616) 356-2000, reservations recommended
Unpretentious, casually elegant steakhouse offering a classic menu, fine art and perfectly cooked, mouthwatering cuts of prime aged beef. Daily fish specials and tantalizing desserts.

■ *Other restaurant locations:*

Big Boy Restaurant 3 blocks
407 Pearl St. NW
(616) 451-2717
This family restaurant, a Michigan tradition since 1936, offers breakfast, lunch and dinner. Ohhh boy! Brunch served; open Sunday.

Bistro Bella Vita 3 blocks
44 Grandville Ave. SW
(616) 222-4600, reservations recommended
"Very good." Bistro Bella Vita's specialty is *fresh Italian and French cuisine* prepared from scratch, and served in a big-city, casual atmosphere featuring West Michigan's largest martini bar. Open Sunday.

bite & Ottawa Tavern 1 block
151 Ottawa Ave. NW
(616) 451-8000
"Relatively inexpensive." Designed to capture the downtown businessperson, resident or theater goer, bite will have something for everyone. 5 spot menu (items $5 or less). Build your own burger. Value bar. Free wireless Internet.

The Bull's Head Tavern Across street
188 Monroe Avenue NW
(616) 454-3580, reservations recommended
Seafood, steaks, fish, sandwiches, *burgers and large appetizer selection* served in a casual atmosphere. Great for the kids or kid-at-heart. Free wireless Internet.

Charley's Crab Restaurant 3 blocks
63 Market Ave. SW
(616) 459-2500, reservations recommended
"Good seafood on the river." Located in the heart of downtown on the Grand River. Menu changes daily to offer the freshest fish and seafood. Voted Restaurant of the Year, Grand Rapids Magazine. Award-winning Sunday brunch.

The Chop House Across street
190 Monroe Ave. NW
(616) 451-6131, reservations recommended
"Excellent, but you pay for it." Featuring USDA prime beef, the finest Midwestern, grain-fed meats, and exceptional premium wines in a refined and elegant setting.

J. Gardella's Tavern 3 blocks
11 Ionia Ave.
(616) 459-8824
"Has several fun bars and restaurants." Low priced beverages, large portioned meals, selection of single malt scotches and microbeers. Open mic night every Tuesday.

Leo's 1.5 blocks
60 Ottawa Ave. NW
(616) 454-6700, reservations recommended
"Voted Best Seafood in City." Fresh-off-the-boat ocean cuisine served in a casually elegant atmosphere. Choose from more than a dozen fresh catch selections, classic New England treasures, specialty pastas or fine beer.

McFadden's Restaurant and Saloon
58 Ionia St.
(616) 454-9105
McFadden's has recreated the traditional look and feel of a New York style Irish Pub offering American Pub fare with some specialty Irish dishes. DJ and dancing, game room and over 30 flat screen TVs. Open Sunday.

Mojo's Dueling Piano Bar and Restaurant Across street
180 Monroe Ave. NW
(616) 776-9000, reservations recommended
"Inexpensive but good food. Gets younger (and wilder) at night." Open for lunch Monday through Friday and for dinner Wednesday through Saturday. Live dueling piano show Wednesday through Saturday. Full menu, 20-plus martinis and energy up the whazzo!

San Chez, A Tapas Bistro 2 blocks
38 W. Fulton St.
(616) 774-8272
"Excellent Spanish small plates to share." Upscale food, big city atmosphere, and casual attire. *Cuisine of Spain with a Latin and Cuban flair.* Specializing in tapas, sangria, sherries, ports and wonderful wine list. Free wireless Internet. Open Sunday.

Taps Sports Bar
8 Ionia Ave.
(616) 774-3338
Great food from signature appetizers, gourmet pizza, to choice steaks. Watch hottest games on Taps' Wall of Sports plus other events on over 25 individual screens. Open Sunday.

TGI Fridays 1 block
50 Monroe Ave. NW
(616) 742-8443
Innovative American cuisine, casual dining atmosphere. Open Sunday.

Tre Cugini 1/2 block
120 Monroe Center NW
(616) 235-9339, reservations recommended
Authentic and regional Italian food served in an elegant atmosphere. Free wireless Internet.

Z's Restaurant & Bar 1 block
168 Louis Campau NW
(616) 454-3141
"Great ribs. Fun place." Fine food, good spirits and NTN trivia. Two eight-foot TVs and six small TVs. *Award-winning baby back ribs, gourmet salads and burgers.* Open Sunday.

Many thanks to DuBois' Mark Hoogterp for his local commentary.