

8 Places

to eat in Guelph
on a
student budget

When you're looking for fast & cheap, you don't need to be chained to the chains.

You look into your rented fridge only to find a half a jar of mayonnaise and some questionable Tupperware creature. Your belly grumbles, but your wallet is nearly as empty as your fridge.

What to do?

Here is a list of cheap and filling solutions in Guelph's downtown core. So whether you're between bus stops, pay checks, or OSAP installments, these places will leave you grinning and fat with true Guelphite cuisine.

1. Salsateria

10 Wyndham St N

Three words: Nine. Dollar. Burrito. For under ten bucks, these burritos, filled with beef, chicken or tofu (also jerk-seasoned tofu, if you ask) will leave you full for the better part of a fortnight.

They also offer a range of other Chilean foods like tacos and nachos. Just order at the counter, wait a couple of minutes and you're in burrito town, baby.

2. Cornerstone

1 Wyndham St N

A vegetarian's haven, the Cornerstone offers a full menu at affordable prices—especially considering how expensive meat-alternative places can get.

Whether you want to sit and have a beer with a friend or just pop in for a "turkey" club, most of the dishes here are under \$12. They also have game nights and local musicians playing nearly every night.

3. With the Grain

294
Woolwich St

Great for breakfast, better for lunch. This place sports its own bakery right across the street. They have fresh baked-goods for walk-in sale each morning and tables to sit at if you'd like to enjoy the house that bread built.

Quality baked goods, sandwiches and soups have this place regularly buzzing most week-day mornings. Unlike fast food places that lack that certain baker's touch, everything at With the Grain is cheap, except for the quality.

4. Vienna Restaurant

28 Macdonnell St

For those mornings where eggs and bacon are all that will do for that horrible hangover. An institution in Guelph for over a century, the Vienna is for those who have a certain affinity for cheap porcelain coffee cups and fantasies about any waitress named Flo. Seriously, a family of four can eat there for like \$25, so your piggy bank will stay properly stuffed. Great homefries too.

5. MacDonell Village

70 Macdonell St

French fries, cheese, gravy. Guelph has its share of poutine privateers. But only these folks offer the cheapest, best-tasting poutine this side of John Galt's ghost. They also offer hot-dogs, hamburgers, gyros and whatever else they feel like cooking up that day, at pretty much any time of the day.

It's such good value that it's a feat to spend more than \$10 bucks and be able to walk out without rolling out.

6. Red Brick

8 Douglas St.

A coffee shop by trade, they also offer baked goods, paninis and soups all under that magic, affordable number (\$10, in case you skimmed the rest). Furthermore the atmosphere at the Red Brick is what keeps it so well-stocked with post-grads, downtowners and students alike. It's as if Norman Rockwell's hipster son designed a non-corporate coffee shop for the sole reason of advocating good company.

7. The Jade Unicorn

55 Wyndham St. N.

Downtown Guelph's best-kept secret. Deep inside the Quebec Street mall, passed the Dragon's Den and over the LCBO sits an abandoned food court. The lonely survivor of a forgotten culinary civil war, The Jade Unicorn sits proud and brimming with Chinese food that is both cheap and amazing.

Their Shanghai noodles clock in at about \$11 however it is a two-serving meal, so really it's only \$5.50 per sit-down. Oh - and the couple who run the place are incredibly nice.

8. Milano's Pizza

79 Macdonell St

It's the go-to pizza place for the late-night downtown crowd. With cheap-like \$4 cheap-slices and deals going on every night, there isn't much more you can ask from a pizza joint.

Oh - they're also open until 3am, so make sure you remember to check it out, even if you might not remember checking it out later.

