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## Air Canada Announces Canada's Best New Restaurants 2022

- *Restaurant 20 Victoria in Toronto named Canada's Best New Restaurant*

MONTREAL, Nov. 1, 2022 /CNW Telbec/ - After a brief hiatus, Air Canada *enRoute* is thrilled to present the anticipated Top 10 list of Canada's Best New Restaurants, with Toronto's Restaurant 20 Victoria taking the number one spot.

Led by chef Julie Hyde, Restaurant 20 Victoria features an upfront bar area for à la carte plates and an elegant dining room and patio for the six-course tasting menu. In second place, Montreal's Mastard showcases Quebec terroir with fresh seasonal ingredients. Mimi Chinese, this year's third-place winner, takes diners on a tour of hyper-regional Chinese cuisine from its location in Toronto. The full Top 10 list is featured in the November issue of *enRoute* magazine and online at [CanadasBestNewRestaurants.com](https://CanadasBestNewRestaurants.com).



The Top 10 were selected by award-winning journalist Nancy Matsumoto after a month-long cross-Canada journey, where she dined anonymously at more than 30 establishments nominated by an expert panel. From the culinary vision and quality of ingredients on the menu to the trappings and team spirit that surround it, every element factored into an equation that savours deliciousness above all. Ultimately, it all came down to one meal.

"Air Canada is proud to take off with this tradition once again and to put the Top 10 best new restaurants on Canada's culinary map," says Andy Shibata, Vice President, Brand, Air Canada. "It's inspiring to see these restaurants make their mark with world-class cuisine while also leading the way on industry trends such as sustainability and workplace wellness. We wish them all luck and success."

Here is the complete list of Air Canada's Best New Restaurants 2022:

- **Restaurant 20 Victoria (Toronto, ON):** Two years after the abrupt closure of Brothers Food & Wine (No. 8, 2017), a reshuffled team led by chef Julie Hyde and sous chef Jenna Reich shows us the way back from the pandemic-born land of the fast and casual with pitch-perfect six-course tasting menus.
- **Mastard (Montreal, QC):** Chef Simon Mathys' passion for Quebec terroir is palpable in dishes like the thick, ruby-red slice of tomato from La Ferme des Quatre-Temps resting in a pool of camelina oil, adorned in herbs and flowers and doused with smoked beef fat—Matsumoto's favourite of the year.
- **MIMI Chinese (Toronto, ON):** Executive chef David Schwartz and head chef Braden Chong present hyper-regional renditions of Chinese cuisine ranging from deep-fried, sesame-showered shrimp toasts from Guangdong to a four-foot-long, chili oil-slicked take on Shaanxi belt noodle, scissored tableside.
- **Perch (Ottawa, ON):** For those who love fine dining tasting menus but not the starchy attitudes, Perch is a gift from chef Justin Champagne-Lagarde, who foregrounds sustainability and minimal-waste cooking with offerings like a deeply flavoured compost broth made from daily veg scraps.
- **Một Tó (Calgary, AB):** "Crunch" could be its own category on the menu of this Crescent Heights Vietnamese spot, judging from the crackly crab pork and taro spring roll and the grilled cheese served with a pho broth dipping bowl.
- **Hearts Tavern & Bar (Kimberley, ON):** One visit to this dream version of a roadside tavern and you will want to come back for the silky slices of house-smoked fish or fat spears of Meyer lemon-spiked asparagus served alongside a generous wedge of Château de Bourgogne cheese.
- **Fonda Balam (Toronto, ON):** Chefs Julio Guajardo and Kate Chomyshyn turbocharge tacos and their birria subset with their sublime quesabirria con consome, oozing corn tortillas filled with braised beef, mozzarella and aromatics.
- **Major Tom (Calgary, AB):** 40 floors above Calgary find a steakhouse reimagined for the modern age, delivering crispy egg halves topped with pepperoni jam, extra-terrestrial prime rib, alongside cocktails like All the Way Up—Matsumoto's pick for best cocktail of the year.
- **Fox & Monocle (North Saanich, BC):** The culinary talents of chef Ross Bowles and pastry chef Tracie Zahavich come together in offerings like cod and potato pithivier and B.C. spot prawns served with roasted red peppers and crunchy polenta cubes.
- **Restaurant Alentours (Quebec City, QC):** Only ingredients sourced from within 150 kilometers are considered fair game for chef Tim Moroney's inventive and delicious tasting menus (wine, ethically produced salt, yeast, milk and cream are the exceptions).

Last year Air Canada *enRoute* celebrated the 20th anniversary of Canada's Best New Restaurants by paying tribute to the restaurant industry's hard-won resiliency. In lieu of sending a writer across the country, the adapted program presented several new categories, which have been incorporated into this year's program alongside the revered Top 10 list. These Special Mentions include Best New Takeout, Best New Pop-ups, Best Dish of the Year, Best Dessert of the Year, Best Cocktail of the Year and Trailblazer. See all the winners at [CanadasBestNewRestaurants.com](https://CanadasBestNewRestaurants.com).

### Awards Celebration

The Top 10 restaurants were revealed in Toronto during the Canada's Best New Restaurants celebration on November 1, 2022. Chefs and teams from the Top 10 restaurants were invited to receive their awards and share cuisine from their winning menus with over 600 public, industry professionals and Air Canada guests.

A special thank you to Canada's Best New Restaurants lead sponsors Diageo, American Express and Destination Vancouver.

### Canada's Best New Cookbook

Created in collaboration with Destination Canada, [Canada's Best New Cookbook](#) rounds up the most memorable dishes uncovered by Air Canada *enRoute* over two decades of searching the country for great meals. This collector's item marries

flavours and stories from across our country's vibrant restaurant scene, with truly great recipes from Canada's best chefs. The cookbook is available now at [Indigo](#), with \$1 from each sale being donated to the Canadian Hospitality Foundation.

#### **About Air Canada**

Air Canada is Canada's largest airline, the country's flag carrier and a founding member of Star Alliance, the world's most comprehensive air transportation network. Air Canada provides scheduled passenger service directly to 50 airports in Canada, 47 in the United States and 69 internationally. It holds a Four-Star ranking from Skytrax. Air Canada's Aeroplan program is Canada's premier travel loyalty program, where members can earn or redeem points on the world's largest airline partner network of 45 airlines, plus through an extensive range of merchandise, hotel and car rental rewards. Its freight division, Air Canada Cargo, provides air freight lift and connectivity to hundreds of destinations across six continents using Air Canada's passenger flights and cargo-only flights with its fleet of Boeing 767-300 freighters. Air Canada has committed to a net zero emissions goal from all global operations by 2050.

#### **About Air Canada *enRoute***

Air Canada *enRoute* is Air Canada's award-winning travel media brand published by Spafax. An inspirational authority for the global traveller, it reaches passengers at every step of their journey through its multimedia portfolio: including print, digital channels ([enroute.aircanada.com](http://enroute.aircanada.com)) and many prestigious programs and events. The Air Canada *enRoute* Canada's Best New Restaurants print magazine will be distributed nationally through *Globe and Mail* home subscriptions and by direct mail to Aeroplan Super Elite and Million Miler members in November 2022. Follow on Twitter and Instagram: @enroutemag, #AirCanadaTop10.

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