

Middlesex County is one of the most diverse counties in the nation and we are asking people to experience that diversity through food! Nom Voyage is a food challenge to see who can dine at the most "countries" without ever leaving the County. The 2022 grand prize is a unique culinary experience.

# Here's how to play:

- 1. Join the Nom Voyage Facebook Group
- 2. Pick a restaurant located within Middlesex County that is not a national chain (local "chains" are okay, but not any that operate outside of the state).
- 3. Order at least one dish (dine-in, takeout or delivery).
- 4. Post a photo of your dish to the group in the format below:

Entry Number, Country, Name of Restaurant, Municipality

example: Entry #1, Chinese, Shanghai Dumpling House in Edison)

- 5. You may only have one submission per country and one submission per restaurant. For instance, if you eat at another Chinese restaurant you do not get an additional point for Chinese. If you order Thai food at the same Chinese restaurant you already went to, you do not also get a point for Thai; you would have to go to a different restaurant to submit for Thai.
- 6. The person who dines at the most "countries" wins. A previous winner dined at over 100 locations! For some inspiration, check out the <u>Restaurant Guide</u> which has all previous submissions. We hope to keep growing this guide and will add new restaurants from this year's contest.

**Note:** All posts are pending until a Middlesex County Facebook Group moderator reviews and approves the post. We will approve posts within County working hours (M-F, 9am-5pm. Posts submitted over the weekend or holidays will be reviewed the next working day).

**Timeframe:** You must eat at the restaurant and take a photo of the food during the timeframe of the challenge: October 21, 2021 – January 16, 2022. Previous visits before the challenge began are not eligible.

# Dine-In, Take-Out, Delivery:

Dine-in, take-out and delivery are all permitted. Chef-prepared specials not listed on the menu can count towards the challenge. Packaged food, dairy, meat, produce, etc. from international grocery stores does not count towards the challenge.

## **Restaurant Cuisine vs. Food Type Cuisine:**

In deciding how to count each visit's cuisine type, we will defer to the restaurant's stated cuisine type on their website or Yelp, regardless of the food ordered. For example, if you order a Belgian waffle at an American diner, the visit will be counted as American, not Belgian.

#### **Fusion Cuisine Restaurants:**

You may dine at fusion cuisine restaurants, however, the entry may only be counted for one country. The food ordered must be representative of that country's cuisine. For example, if you dine at an Asian fusion restaurant and order Pad Thai and a sushi roll, you may count the restaurant's country cuisine as either Thai or Japanese, not both. If you chose to count the visit as Thai, you are welcome to eat Japanese food at another restaurant in the future and have that restaurant counted as Japanese. If you only ordered Pad Thai, that would be counted Thai and would be ineligible to count as any of the other cuisines that may be available to order on the menu.

You may not go back and edit the country for your entry after it has been submitted.

## **Non-Country Cuisines:**

We will recognize non-country cuisines as the restaurant states them on their website or Yelp, if they represent a distinctive ethnic culture, not a food type. For example, we will recognize Hawaiian or Puerto Rican restaurants independently of American restaurants. However, a Yelp stated cuisine of "burgers" will be recognized as an American restaurant, not its own cuisine type.

We also will recognize regional cuisines, if they are stated as such on Yelp or their website. For example, if a restaurant states its cuisine generally as "Mediterranean" (as opposed to Greek, Israeli, etc.), we will accept "Mediterranean" as the cuisine type.

### **Non-Food Entries:**

Only food or dessert entries can count towards the challenge. International coffee, tea, alcoholic beverages, juice, soda, etc. alone cannot count towards a country in the challenge. You can mention the drink in a post along with food ordered if you choose to though.

# Teams:

You may compete in this challenge as a team of two, so long as both people participating eat at every restaurant together. To count as a team, both team members must be tagged in the post on Facebook. Please have just one person post on behalf of the team. If you happen to dine out with other participants, but are competing individually, please each submit your own post. Only one grand prize will be awarded to the team, not one for each participant.

#### Prize:

Whoever dines at the most "countries" (i.e.: different restaurants representing different cuisines) by January 16, 2022 is the winner. The 2022 grand prize is a unique culinary experience.

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