



# Dining With the Stars

Austin hosts thousands of visitors at this month's **South by Southwest** music festival, but its food scene draws A-listers year-round. **BY KERRY MILLER**



**Who: Lance Armstrong, Jake Gyllenhaal, Bill Murray**  
**Where: Uchi**  
 801 S. Lamar Blvd.; [uchiaustin.com](http://uchiaustin.com)

Austin is better known for barbecue than for raw fish, but that doesn't stop crowds from lining up at this Japanese hot spot. So many celebs request the semiprivate seating area that the staff has jokingly dubbed it the "J.Lo booth." Bill Murray has come in for fresh sea urchin, and local legend Lance Armstrong drops by about every two weeks, sometimes bringing along pal Jake Gyllenhaal.



**Who: Jessica Alba, Robert Rodriguez**  
**Where: La Condesa**

400-A W. 2nd St.; [lacondesaaustin.com](http://lacondesaaustin.com)

Austin-based director Robert Rodriguez, whose résumé includes *Spy Kids* and *Sin City*, was a fixture at this upscale Mexican spot during the filming of his upcoming flick *Machete*, along with cast member Jessica Alba. His go-to dish was the chipotle-and-guava-glazed pork ribs; Alba was a fan of the elotes (grilled corn).

**Who: Quentin Tarantino, Luke Wilson**  
**Where: Güero's Taco Bar**  
 1412 S. Congress Ave.; [guerostacobar.com](http://guerostacobar.com)



Today, Dallas native Luke Wilson spends most of his Texas time in Austin, and plenty of his Austin time on a barstool at this taco joint, downing chicken enchiladas and a margarita, sometimes with brothers Owen and Andrew. Owner Rob Lippincott says Quentin Tarantino also hits Güero's (and its self-serve salsa bar) when he's in town; he's eaten at the restaurant dozens of times. While filming *Grindhouse*, he even shot a few scenes here.



**Who: Scarlett Johansson, Jack White**  
**Where: Lamberts**

401 W. 2nd St.; [lambertsAustin.com](http://lambertsAustin.com)

Norah Jones and rockers from Green Day and Wilco have ducked into Lamberts for what chef Larry McGuire calls "fancy barbecue," like jalapeño links with pink pickled cabbage, and cold-smoked quail. On his last visit, White Stripes frontman Jack White ordered the brown sugar-crust rib-eye. Maybe it's a blues thing: Scarlett Johansson, who has two soulful albums of her own, recently ate the same.