Munchies, late-night burger joint and snack bar in Huertas

My friend Natasha would often sing praises of Munchies, an American-style snack bar situated in Huertas that is open for business until 6am. Always ecstatic to have more options besides kebabs & pizzas during late-night outings in my new barrio, I sampled this location in order to share my findings with my beloved expat community. Munchies lives up to its namesake, hitting the spot during intoxicated bouts of hunger. It is a cozy and charming spot reminiscent of the American small town diners that I am ever so fond of.





This location provides swift and efficient service, and although I've only tasted their burgers, they also offer arepas, salads, hotdogs, homemade cakes and other sweets. Amber, the owner and culinary master of this establishment, gently applies condiments and toppings to the burgers with *cariño*. I admire her discipline, remaining awake and alert into the wee hours of the night in order to aid drunk people as they preemptively combat the next day's hangover with greasy edibles. It is for that reason that I bestow upon this establishment the Dcat Seal of Approval.





Info

Website Facebook Hours: 2pm to 6am Address: Calle de las Huertas 25 Metro: Anton Martin or Sol

Goiko Grill, an awesome

burger joint in Madrid



Goiko Grill is the kind of place I wish I had known about years ago. Owned and run by Venezuelans, **Goiko Grill** is a down-to-earth, young and awesome burger joint, serving, in my opinion, the **best burgers in Madrid**. Plus it has a fun vibe and good service.

And though I've never tried anything off their burger list, they're also known for their starters, especially the **nachos** and **teques** (tequeños, a popular Venezuelan finger food, similar to mozzarella sticks) as well as for their fresh salads, sandwiches and great desserts.



Teques (image from www.facebook.com/goikogrill)

All of Goiko Grill's burgers are made with 180 grams of top quality Spanish beef, the beloved **carne de buey** to be exact, and come with ridiculously good **homemade potato wedges**. What's more, the **burger menu** has a number of mouth-watering combinations and quirky names to pull you in, such as the **Puchi** (cheddar, bacon and grilled mushrooms), **La Philly** (190 grams of top quality, tender Spanish beef, topped with crunchy fried onions and cream cheese) and the **Aloha** (topped with a slice of grilled pineapple and cinnamon, and a slice of ham).

With so many options, it's nice that the waiters are friendly and even speak English. Luís, the waiter who I met last time, is originally from Venezuela but lived in the U.S. for many years. He told me all about **Goiko Grill** and helped me choose what burger to order as he saw the indecision written on my face. **Everything is good here**, he told me, so don't be afraid to try something new.



Aita burger del norte, topped with Arzua cheese and roasted red peppers

So far, my favorite two burgers are the M-30 Goat Cheese Burger (9.50E) and the Aita Northern Burger (12.50E). The Goat Cheese burger comes with a thick disc of savory, crumbly goat cheese, and a warm layer of sweet caramelized onions oozing over. The Aita del Norte burger comes with Galician Arzúa cheese and roasted red peppers.

The last time I went to **Goiko Grill** I went with a friend of mine, Alondra, who has a passion for guacamole. Hence, she ordered the **Chipotle** burger which came with heaps of guacamole, chipotle sauce, and cheddar cheese. She said it more than hit the spot, and that the homemade potato wedges brought back memories of her mother bringing home a bag of potatoes, chopping them up and frying them.



Chipotle Burger with cheddar cheese, chipotle sauce and guacamole (image from www.facebook.com/goikogrill)

My husband, who's also smitten with Goiko Grill, has a slight problem—he wants to try out all the burgers but always ends up ordering his favorite: **La Pigma burger**. It comes with a fried egg, bacon, cheddar cheese and Maho Goiko sauce. Apparently, this burger is the favorite among the boys, and there's a history behind it that you'll have to ask the waiters yourself.



In addition to succulent burgers, **Goiko Grill** also has great drinks. Monday through Friday from 5pm-8pm, **Goiko Grill** has different Happy Hour deals; 2×1 on mojitos, beers, wine and other drinks depending on the day. Since it's located right across the street from **Instituto de Empresa (IE)**, Spain's most prestigious business university, the clientele is young and enjoys the casual scene.

Facebook

<u>Web</u>

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