



Students never complain about homework at Marcel Biro's Culinary School.

Epicurean Education

Wisconsin foodies don apron and chef hats at these culinary destinations across the state.

—By *Tara Titcombe*

1 | MARCEL BIRO CULINARY SCHOOL

Sheboygan, 920-451-6940
Students learn from a master and can work as a chef for a day with an apprenticeship at Ó or Biro Restaurant and Wine Bar.

2 | ECOLE DE CUISINE AT THE OSTHOFF RESORT

Elkhart Lake
800-876-3399, ext. 830
Amateur chefs relax on an epicurean getaway at the Osthoff Resort and hone culinary skills during weekend courses, like French Bistro.

3 | SAVORY SPOON COOKING SCHOOL & MARKETPLACE

Ellison Bay, 920-854-6600

Seasonal cooking classes take taste buds on a world tour with instruction on how to combine flavors from different cultures.

4 | ORANGE TREE IMPORTS

Madison, 608-255-8211
The chefs/instructors at this specialty shop—a who's who of the culinary scene—design classes ranging from appetizers to desserts.

5 | BRAISE ON THE GO TRAV- ELING CULINARY SCHOOL

Milwaukee, 414-241-9577
Unlike other cooking schools, Braise On the Go travels to find the food of the season, whether it be to farms, orchards or inns.

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Cruising the Avenue

Appleton may nestle in the cozy Wisconsin Fox River Valley, but the largest of the 18 communities dotting the river's lofty banks resonates with activity day and night.

At the heart of the town, College Avenue sports eclectic shops, galleries, historical sites, diverse restaurants and performance venues. Along this east-west thoroughfare lies The Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, home to the Fox Valley Symphony and Broadway touring performances. Here, the marquee boasts some of the valley's top shows and entertainers, including Monty Python's *Spamalot* (May 6–11) and REO Speedwagon (May 23).

Area history takes another sort of center stage at The History Museum at the Castle where the museum's "A.K.A. Houdini" exhibit shares choice secrets of one-time resident Harry Houdini.

Science buffs venture along the river to marvel at the elegant Hearststone Historic House Museum—the world's first hydroelectric-powered house.

Near the center of College Avenue, CopperLeaf Boutique Hotel and Spa

pampers guests with fireplace suites complete with lush Italian linens. Nearby, Vince Lombardi's Steak House satisfies hungry steak-and-football fans.

Touring College Avenue is made easier thanks to the free Downtown Cool Trolley that loops through

Fox Cities Performing Arts Center.

the downtown Thursday through Saturday, June through mid-December. It's a cozy and convenient way to experience Appleton's energy.

—*Betty Stark*

