

The Best Burger in the Bay Area Reader Poll: The Classics

Tuesday, April 26, 2011, by Carolyn Alburger



Clockwise from top left: Burgers from Joe's Cable Car (photo credit), Pearl's Deluxe Burger (photo credit), Balboa Cafe (photo credit) and BullsHead (photo credit).

One of the most important parts of **Burger Week** is determining—through a highly imperfect bracketing and voting system—which burger is the best burger in all the Bay Area. We've chosen 16 burger contenders in four categories from a list of Eater Burger Committee faves and reader submissions. The four categories are critics' favorite burgers, classic-style burgers, new school burgers and high class burgers.

Yesterday, readers decided that **Marlowe** should lead the pack in our Critics' Favorite heat. Now it's time for the **Classic-Style Burgers** to face off. These are the simpler progenitors of today's newfangled creations, often served in dives, pubs, and places where folks just come for the burger, or the beer for that matter. Some laudable burgers that did not make the cut: Whiz, Broken Record, Grubsteak.



[Balboa Cafe](#)

[Bullshead](#)

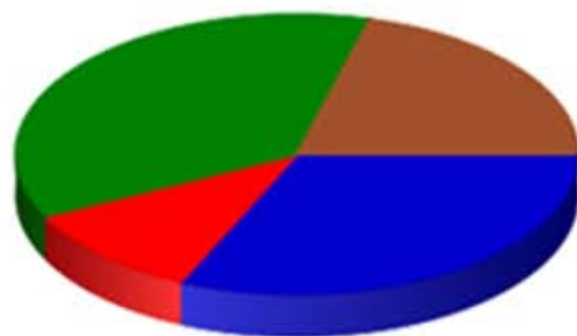
[Burger Bracket](#)

[Burgerweek2011](#)

[Joe's Cable Car](#)

[Pearl's](#)

[15 Comments](#)



Balboa Cafe [31.8%]

BullsHead [10.9%]

Pearl's [36.5%]

Joe's Cable Car [20.8%]

Burger Week 2011 Brings You: Burgers Big And Small

Friday, April 29, 2011, by [Eater Intern](#)



[Photo: Eva Frye]

That whole "motion of the ocean" shtick is bull. Size matters, and we all know it (sorry, but true). After scouring this town high and low, we bring you the sandwiches that can fit any appetite- from babies to Kirstie Alley. We've found small sliders, long burgers, burgers large in fat and flavor, and literally the biggest burger we've ever seen second only to [this](#). We've found burgers big and small and like 'em all- now we're just trying to figure out if there's something to that whole overcompensation thing.



[Acme](#)

[Balboa Cafe](#)

[Bay Bread](#)

[Burger Week 2011](#)

[Burgermeister](#)

[Chestnut Bakery](#)

[Lark Creek Steak](#)

[Marengo](#)

[Maverick](#)

[Panorama](#)

[Size Matters](#)

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Balboa comes next with this long contender. It may not be small, but this finalist gets points for longevity. Six inches of Bay Bread baguette is topped with 8 ounces of Storm Hill beef. And if you measure the bias, it can be 9 inches. (Why do we feel like we've heard this before?)