

## J Black's Feel Good Lounge

**Why it's cool:** There are two patios at this hot spot on Henderson. The front patio, surrounding the main entrance, is paved with bricks and lined with railings that have handy ledges to place your drinks. Large community tables stretch across the patio. A small VIP section includes a jumbo ottoman and cushioned benches. Around the corner, a smaller covered patio provides a shaded area for guests. You can chill at one of the eight dining tables while enjoying a nice breeze from the fans that hang overhead.



J Black's

**Specs:** Front patio: 850 square feet; VIP area; cushioned benches; community tables

• Side patio: 750 square feet; eight tables; fans (misting fans coming soon)

**Quotable:** "I love J Black's for so many reasons. You can always get a comfortable seat. I love the big doors that open, because even when you're sitting inside it feels like you're outside. They have great food. Oh, and it's so close to my house — which might actually be a bad thing." — guest Amber Edwards

**Best time to go:** During happy hour, which is every day from 4 to 8 p.m., when drinks and select menu items are \$1 off.

**Address:** 2409 N. Henderson Ave. 214-613-2525. jblacks.com/Dallas.aspx



JASON JANIK/Special Contributor

## Renfield's Corner

**Why it's cool:** Sure, you might be out of breath when you finally reach the top of the stairs. (Maybe it's just that we're out of shape.) But it's worth the climb. The spacious rooftop deck features a bar with everything from specialty cocktails to bottled brews. There's a gorgeous view of the Dallas skyline from any of the large communal tables, benches and barstools. We only have one bone to pick: Our heels always get stuck in between the wooden planks. So, ladies, be careful. (Though it can be a good excuse in a tipsy moment.)

**Specs:** 1,500 square feet; two flat-screen TVs; misting fans

**Quotable:** "The patio was really small before, when this place was Tribeca. It's been completely redone and lots of cool features have been added." — bar manager Cassie Hecker

**Best time to go:** Weekend nights, when the glowing cityscape makes a beautiful backdrop for partygoers.

**Address:** 2603A Routh St. 214-397-0300. renfieldscorner.com

## Samar

**Why it's cool:** Stephan Pyle's Mediterranean restaurant is in the heart of downtown Dallas — yet the décor has hints of India, Morocco and Turkey. The patio, partially covered by two large tents, features plush couches, handcrafted lanterns and a fire pit with an embedded water feature. Hookahs are also available to smoke.



Samar

**Specs:** 1,400 square feet, partially covered by two large tents; hookah

**Overheard:** A guest under one of the giant tents asked, "Are we still in Dallas?"

**Best time to go:** Wednesdays for "Samar Under the Stars," with \$2 off wine by the glass and specialty cocktails, \$5 glasses of sangria, free appetizers and half-price hookah from 8 to 11 p.m.

**Address:** 2100 Ross Ave. 214-922-9922. samarrestaurant.com

## Meddlesome Moth



SAM GRANADO/Special Contributor

**Why it's cool:** The Moth is in the Design District, so it's no surprise that the décor and design is fabulous. Beautiful wooden tables and benches bask in the sunlight next to potted plants and a trickling water fountain. Smaller tables and iron chairs sit under a covered area with ceiling fans and dim lights. On cooler days, glass doors are pulled open, creating a seamless flow from the main dining room to the outdoor area.

**Specs:** 1,500 square feet; fans; water fountain

**Quotable:** "I never feel like a sardine here, like I do on most of the patios on McKinney. It's spacious and there's plenty of room to kick back and chill." — patron Ryan Curran

**Best time to go:** The Moth's easygoing vibe makes it a great spot to unwind. Relax with a cold beer (40 on tap, two cask ales and more than 75 bottled varieties) on weeknights after work.

**Address:** 1621 Oak Lawn Ave. 214-628-7900. mothinthe.net

## Jake's Hamburgers (Addison)

**Why it's cool:** We all know that Jake's has amazing burgers. But have you seen this patio? It's huge. The long wooden deck, lined with misting units and hanging flower pots, is the largest patio on Belt Line. To make the heat bearable, every wrought-iron table has an oversized umbrella, creating a canopy effect when they're all popped up. On Friday and Saturday nights, a cabana at the far end of the patio is turned into a small stage for musical guests.



JAKE'S HAMBURGERS

**Specs:** More than 3,000 square feet; 32 tables; misting fans; live music on Friday and Saturday nights; large flat-screen TV rolled out for big games

**Quotable:** "Out here, it's all about big beers, big patio, big party." — Joe Shaw, Jake's marketing director

**Best time to go:** Any time is good, really, because of \$3 margaritas all day, every day. Friday night happy hour is happening, too. Enjoy food and drink specials and then kick back for live music starting at 8 p.m. Happy hour is Monday through Friday from 4 to 7 p.m. Get \$3 appetizers, \$2 domestics, \$2 schooners, \$2 martinis and \$3 cocktails.

**Address:** 5505 Belt Line Road, Addison. 972-503-5253. jakesburgers.net

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