

SPOTLIGHT

Food courts

WITH AN ARRAY OF CUISINES UNDER ONE ROOF, FOOD COURTS ARE THE PERFECT PLACE TO EXPERIENCE THE WORLD ON A PLATE. HERE ARE FIVE OF THE UK'S BEST



1 Bonnie & Wild, Edinburgh

Chef-led concepts take centre stage at Bonnie & Wild, where diners can enjoy steamed Shetland mussels and grilled king prawns from Creel Caught (the first solo venture from the National Chef of Scotland, Gary Maclean), or a delectable katsu chicken curry from Salt & Chilli Oriental (the brainchild of TV chef Jimmy Lee). Plus, ingredients are chiefly sourced from local producers and purveyors committed to sustainability. bonnieandwildmarket.com

2 Mercato Mayfair, London

The hallowed halls of St Mark's — a Grade-I church built in 1822 and deconsecrated in 1974 — were reborn as a hip food court in 2019. Inside, traders serve up divine dishes ranging from Neapolitan pizza to pad thai, all against a backdrop of beautifully preserved stained-glass windows and ornamental screens. Visit the altar bar for a pint of German pilsner or pale ale. mercato-metropolitano.com/mercato-mayfair

3 Mackie Mayor, Manchester

Housed in a Grade-II listed building that was once part of a Victorian meat market, Mackie Mayor is a stalwart of Manchester's culinary scene. Beneath its massive glass roof, diners congregate at communal tables to feast on flat iron steak from Tender Cow, fried chicken burgers from Mumma's, lamb tantanmen (noodles in a spicy, creamy broth) from New Wave Ramen, and much more. [instagram.com/mackiemayor](https://www.instagram.com/mackiemayor)

4 Duke Street Market, Liverpool

A visit to this restored century-old warehouse means sinking your teeth into beef brisket burritos from Big Lola's, fritto misto from Kelp or ham hock croquettes from Bone and Block, to name just a few of the tempting options on offer. And at weekends, vendors serve up brunch classics such as avocado toast and bacon sandwiches, alongside the requisite bloody marys and bellinis. dukestreetmarket.com

5 Cutlery Works, Sheffield

Cutlery Works — named for its location in a former cutlery factory — was crowned the best food hall at the 2022 British Street Food Awards. With 14 independent traders, you'll be spoilt for choice: should you order Nashville-style chicken wings from Jailbird, some chana masala (chickpea curry) from Ma-Ba, or perhaps a kimchi grilled cheese sandwich from Rad Dude? There's also a bottomless brunch every Saturday. cutleryworks.co.uk

From top: Bonnie & Wild; Mercato Mayfair; Cutlery Works