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## AllergyEats Releases 2015 List of Most Allergy-Friendly Restaurant Chains

Annual List Spotlights Restaurants That Excel at Accommodating Food-Allergic Diners

BOSTON, MA (February 23, 2015) – <u>AllergyEats</u>, the leading guide to allergy-friendly restaurants in the United States, has just released its 2015 list of Most Allergy-Friendly Restaurant Chains nationwide. The chains on this prestigious list hold the highest ratings on AllergyEats' website and smartphone app, per feedback from the food allergy community. AllergyEats restaurant ratings are based solely on how well restaurants have accommodated food-allergic diners, and not on other factors, such as ambiance, service or food quality.

"We're pleased to announce the 2015 list of the Most Allergy-Friendly Restaurant Chains in the country. These chains have demonstrated a superior willingness and ability to accommodate guests with food allergies, and we congratulate them for earning a place on this esteemed, well-respected list," said Paul Antico, Founder and CEO of <u>AllergyEats</u>. "While no restaurant chain receives universally great reviews from every diner, AllergyEats incorporates all positive *and* negative ratings to determine which restaurants are deemed most allergy-friendly by the food allergy community as a whole. The establishments on our list have proven themselves to have best-in-class food allergy procedures & protocols, training and knowledge, receiving high overall ratings and positive feedback from food-allergic diners that have comfortably eaten at their restaurants."

"Not only is being allergy-friendly good for a restaurant's guests, it's also a very smart business decision. When restaurants accommodate food-allergic guests, they experience increased customers, sales, loyalty, and profits. In fact, restaurants that cater to the food allergy community can increase their profits significantly - by as much as 25% or more," Antico continued. "We encourage other restaurants to study and replicate these establishments' successful food allergy protocols, as we expect the trend toward greater allergy-friendliness in the restaurant industry to continue to grow."

The Most Allergy-Friendly Restaurant Chains are grouped into two categories - Large (50 or more restaurants) and Small (under 50 restaurants). Results were based on diner feedback from the AllergyEats website and app through December 31, 2014.

Most allergy-friendly large chains:

- Chipotle Mexican Grill (4.41 rating)
- P.F. Chang's China Bistro (4.39 rating)
- Red Robin Gourmet Burgers (4.39 rating)
- Outback Steakhouse (4.32 rating)
- Mellow Mushroom (4.29 rating)

Most allergy-friendly small chains:

- Maggiano's Little Italy (4.74 rating)
- Burtons Grill (4.69 rating)
- Legal Sea Foods (4.64 rating)
- Joe's American Bar & Grill (4.63 rating)
- Not Your Average Joe's (4.63 rating)

"P.F. Chang's is honored to be recognized by AllergyEats as one of the most allergy-friendly restaurants in America for the second year in a row, especially as we strive to provide superior service for all of our guests," said Rick Federico, Chief Executive Officer of P.F. Chang's. "As we develop allergy-friendly menu items and prepare gluten-free dishes, we take great care to ensure they live up to the experience that customers have come to expect from P.F. Chang's."

"The Most Allergy-Friendly Restaurant Chains list - and the growing number of AllergyEats ratings of all restaurants - helps the food allergy community make more informed decisions about which restaurants to visit and which to avoid, based on how well or poorly they've accommodated other diners' food allergies," Antico continued.

AllergyEats (<u>www.AllergyEats.com</u>) is a free, peer-based website and app where people find and rate restaurants based solely on their ability to accommodate food allergies. The site, app and related social media forums help families with food allergies reduce the guesswork and the anxiety surrounding dining out with food allergies.

AllergyEats lists more than 750,000 restaurants nationwide, which people can rate, and it also offers web links, menus and more. Restaurants are easily searchable by geographic location, so people can find allergy-friendly restaurants around town and around the country. For more information, please visit <u>www.AllergyEats.com</u>.

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