

Top 10 Food Trends For 2012

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Once again, on National Food Day, we present the year's leading trends in American food and restaurants. The pickings are as diverse as they are meaningful and (well, mostly) good for you and the environment. Just a taste: bison bitters, infused pastas, the Peruvian boom and – just possibly – the beginning of the end of bacon dominance. Wash them all down with water purified and bottled in house, and served for free.

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the Counter

Bison

This All-American (not to mention lean, low cholesterol and grass-fed) meat is gaining in popularity beyond its traditional home on the range. Long a favorite in cities like Denver (where Kachina Southwestern Grill uses it in meatballs, tacos, smoked meatloaf and a jerky-crusted tenderloin), bison can now be found in distinctly non-cowboy towns. DMK Burger Bar in Chicago features a bison burger with goat cheese, pickled red onions and blueberry barbecue sauce. And LA-based burger chain the Counter is