

BLACK-OWNED BUSINESSES TO SUPPORT WHILE IN MINNEAPOLIS

+ Restaurants

Lutunji's Palate

Lutunji Abram recently opened her bakery built on her signature dessert, the peach cobbler. Vegans can also savor this delightful dessert, because Abram makes two versions: one with a buttery crust and one with a vegan crust. Other than the peach cobbler or pecan pie with butter crusts, her entire menu is vegan. She also adds nutritive elements to her desserts. You could get red velvet cupcakes that get their coloring from organic beets, gluten-free coconut cake bites or even peanut butter cookies baked with Irish sea moss, a mineral-rich algae.

Distance from Hilton Minneapolis: 0.5 miles, 11 minute walk / 3 minute drive

Pimento Jamaican Kitchen

If you're a long-time fan of the Food Network, there's a chance you've heard of Pimento Jamaican Kitchen. Tomme Beevas, a native of Kingston, Jamaica, started selling his food at pop-up locations across Minneapolis in 2012. Beevas' dishes embrace family recipes and French cooking techniques. His brick-and-mortar spot opened three years later on Eat Street, and he's since expanded to the Keg & Case Market in St. Paul.

Distance from Hilton Minneapolis: 1.2 miles, 25 minute walk / 6 minute drive

Cobble Social House

It's not quite a bar and not quite a restaurant, but regardless, Cobble Social House is a trendy and up-and-coming lounge in the North Loop neighborhood. It's owned by brother and sister duo Joe and Veronica Clark. Veronica owns D.NOLO (Destination North Loop), the women's clothing co-op next door. With a speakeasy on the first floor and 29 dining tables on the second, Cobble Social House is an intimate spot to go to with friends before or after your dinner reservations in the neighborhood.

Distance from Hilton Minneapolis: 1.3 miles, 24 minute walk / 8 minute drive

Soul Bowl

Husband and wife team Chef Gerald and Brittney Alise Klass use soul food to bring people together and celebrate the community and culture of North Minneapolis. They do so with Soul Bowl – a self-proclaimed reimagination of “soul food for the urban millennial. Find them in Graze | Provisions + Libations in the North Loop.

Distance from Hilton Minneapolis: 1.4 miles, 25 minute walk / 8 minute drive

STEPCHLD

According to owner, Kamal Mohamed, Northeast Minneapolis' STEPCHLD serves up “music you can eat.” At STEPCHLD you'll find Ethiopian-inspired cuisine developed by the entire staff. There's no “I” in Kamal's STEPCHLD for a reason – dishes aren't developed by one top chef. Instead, Kamal will think of a dish, bring it to the team and it's collectively tweaked to perfection. Their menu features Ethiopian birria tacos, sweet potato fritters and double burgers, to name a few.

Distance from Hilton Minneapolis: 1.8 miles, 34 minute walk / 8 minute drive

Slice Pizza

Owners Adam Kado and Hosie Thurmond brought Slice Pizza, the first Black-owned pizzeria in Minneapolis, to the Northeast Neighborhood in October 2021. On opening day, their small walk-up window had eager supporters in lines wrapped around the building. Two weeks later, a fire (the cause of which was suspected arson) damaged much of their restaurant. It was a devastating blow to the owners, but the community came together and raised nearly \$25,000 for repairs. Slice Pizza reopened that November and later a second location in Midtown Global Market in July 2022. Their New York style mega slices of pizza are a Minneapolis favorite!

Distance from Hilton Minneapolis: 2.2 miles, 44 minute walk / 8 minute drive

Afro Deli

Abdirahman Kahin, the CEO and founder of Afro Deli – a fast-casual African eatery – is originally from Somalia and is not a trained chef or cook. Kahin saw a need for Halal food in Minneapolis, which was lacking, and opened a restaurant that catered to Black and mainstream communities. It was important to Kahin that Afro Deli represent African culture, not just Somali culture, so multiple audiences could relate to it. With three locations across the city and one in St. Paul, Afro Deli brings diverse groups together and introduces Minneapolitans to African culture through taste and smell.

Distance from Hilton Minneapolis: 2.3 miles, 38 minute walk / 6 minute drive

Trio Plant-Based

In 2016, Louis Hunter, the owner of Trio Plant-Based, attended a protest after his cousin Philando Castile was killed in a police-involved incident. Falsely accused of throwing rocks at police officers, Hunter faced 20 years in prison if convicted of the charges. With the help of local allies, the charges were dropped. Soon after, Hunter started pop-ups to give back and serve his community healthy and tasty food. Each one sold out. The community raised over \$50,000 for a permanent restaurant, which soon became one of Lake Street's pride and joy: Trio Plant-Based, the Twin Cities' first Black-owned vegan restaurant. Located on West Lake Street, its menu serves up soul food herbivores and omnivores can both enjoy. Try their Mac & Cheeze, collard greens, southern slaw and barbecue jackfruit ribs.

Distance from Hilton Minneapolis: 2.3 miles, 45 minute walk / 10 minute drive

Tamu Grill

Meet Tamu, the only Kenyan restaurant in Minneapolis. This Cedar-Riverside restaurant is giving Minneapolis locals and visitors a taste of Kenya and East Africa through flavorful and colorful cooking. It's owned by Fanaka Ndege, a Kenyan US-based rapper, content creator, and businessman, and his father Chef George "Jojo" Ndege, who heads the kitchen. Chef Jojo draws inspiration for his food from his cultural experiences growing up in Nairobi, Kenya. He experiments with spices, flavors and – most importantly – cooks from his heart.

Distance from Hilton Minneapolis: 2.4 miles, 39 minute walk / 6 minute drive

The Dripping Root

Distance from Hilton Minneapolis: 4.4 miles, 10 minute drive

The Dripping Root is Minnesota's first and only Black-owned cold pressed juice bar. Catiesha Pierson is to thank for the Dripping Root. She saw a lack of Black-owned restaurants in Minneapolis and a need to popularize health and wellness. Pierson built her business from the ground up while working a full-time job, being a single mom and personally making deliveries across town. Soon, she needed room to expand and chose an open storefront on Minnehaha Avenue. The smoothie and juice bar is open Thursday-Sunday, 9 am-1 pm or until they sell out, which they do often!

+ Boutiques & Shops

Clothing

Uniquely Global

Provides fast fashion at designer boutique quality, plus other home goods, and statement art pieces that are handmade. This woman-owned store can be found on the ground level of the Gaviidae Commons in downtown Minneapolis.

Distance from Hilton Minneapolis: 0.6 miles, 11 minute walk / 3 minute drive

Queen Anna House of Fashion

Women's fashion boutique with offerings from well-known brands and up-and-coming designers. Queen Anna also advocates for causes that benefit the local community.

Distance from Hilton Minneapolis: 1.2 miles, 22 minute walk / 7 minute drive

D.NOLO

Multiple shopping experiences, one cool space. Peruse through clothing, shoes, home goods, accessories, and more.

Distance from Hilton Minneapolis: 1.5 miles, 24 minute walk / 8 minute drive

Hybrid Nation Clothing

Socially conscious clothing.

Distance from Hilton Minneapolis: 2.8 miles, 54 minute walk / 10 minute drive

Gift Shops and Locally Made Goods

36 Lyn Refuel Station

Find locally made goods, organic coffee, and healthy snacks at this community refuel station.

Distance from Hilton Minneapolis: 3.3 miles, 9 minute drive

Strive Bookstore

Also in the IDS Center, find thought-provoking reads by Black authors and culturally relevant children's books.

Distance from Hilton Minneapolis: 4.9 miles, 17 minute drive

Roseline's Candles

100% soy wax candles with safe scents and made sustainably from start to finish.

Distance from Hilton Minneapolis: 5.3 miles, 10 minute drive

Sheer Treasures

Find aromatherapy, essential oils, natural herbs, crystals, teas, and more to help round out your health & wellness routine.

Distance from Hilton Minneapolis: 13 miles, 22 minute drive

Shoes & Accessories

Fit 1st Running

Specialty athletic shoe store carrying mid to high end running shoes.

Distance from Hilton Minneapolis: 1.8 miles, 33 minute walk / 8 minute drive

Gigi's Flair Emporium

Specialty pins, jewelry, and other unique accessories.

Distance from Hilton Minneapolis: 3.6 miles, 8 minute drive

Online Shops

Black Garnet Books

Their physical storefront is opening in St. Paul later this fall, but you can still support this woman-owned bookstore by finding your next read among their selection of books online.

Choose Love Minnesota

Local family start-up offering casual wear, masks, and hats.

Gear Bags Plus

High quality bags for outdoor enthusiasts. Whether it's for your daily gym trip or a bigger excursion, they have a dependable, durable bag for you.

Planting People Growing Justice Bookstore

Local bookstore focused on diverse authors and multicultural learning.

Pretty Girls Boutique

Online fashion boutique with trendy women's clothing and accessories. Owner Porsche Nichole believes that being "pretty" starts from the inside, and wants every woman to feel pretty in each and every piece she sells.

Rocky Robinson

Audra Robinson, founder of Rocky Robinson, had a vision to create a brand that was relevant and tailored to Black girls. Rocky Robinson does just that. You'll find lotion, shower gel, lip balm, and more.