



Bolder Garden Cafe

Grab a Bite!

By Malone Christen

After a long day in classes, all I want is to eat something good. I usually end up meeting the girls' soccer team and getting really excited at the sight of all the choices of food we have. We all get our choice of food and sit down together to decompress about our days.

When I first came on my visit to Loyola, I was very prepared to expect pre-made food sitting in trays just like high school. But, to my surprise, Loyola had numerous food options that you can choose from with all freshly made meals. Throughout my freshman year here, I have never once heard any student complain about the food. To make the atmosphere even better, in the dining hall and around all of Loyola's campus you get to see how strong of a community we are. Just seeing everyone sit in big groups and laugh together in the dining hall is one of my favorite things to witness.

Meal Swipes

My most important piece of advice when discussing food at Loyola is meal swipes. The very first thing Loyola will give you is a card with your ID number, name, and a picture of you on it. Trust me when I say, you will always need your card everywhere you go. Your ID, better known as your swipe, is used for numerous tasks, but, most importantly, that is how you will get your food. In the dining hall you'll find a person standing at a desk with a machine used to swipe your card. Walking up to swipe might be a little scary at first, at least it was for me, but the people at the desks are the sweetest human beings and will walk you through how to do it. I still struggle with it sometimes because for some reason I never swipe my card in the right direction.

Boulder Garden Café

The first thing you see when you walk into the dining hall is Boulder Garden Café. The cafe is dimly lit with a bunch of booths and tables for you to sit at. You don't need to worry about getting a seat! You'll find plenty of seating for everyone.

Boulder has so many options to choose from, you'll find chicken tenders, burgers, mashed potatoes, broccoli, and more! For me, Boulder is my favorite place to have a meal because there's always something new every day. Having access to multiple different food options is not only beneficial for variety, it's also helpful in promoting healthy food choices. Boulder provides options such as gluten free, dairy free, and even vegan. This café provides easy



The Quad on a fall day

access to students on the go as well as a nice seating area to enjoy your meal.

Boulder 2.0

While Boulder is a great place to eat and get to enjoy the community, Boulder 2.0 provides even more options for those looking for different varieties of food. Boulder 2.0 is located right over Boulder Garden Café so it is super easy to locate on campus. 2.0 provides self-serve and on-the-go foods such as a yogurt bar and pre-made sushi. Personally, I always go to Boulder 2.0 when I am craving sushi and a fresh fountain drink. My all-time favorite thing about this dining hall is how open the space is, being so brightly lit and having so many windows where you can eat with a view. I see so many sports teams and groups of people at 2.0 having the best laughs together—food definitely does bring people together here at Loyola. There honestly is not one bad thing to say about Boulder 2.0.



Boulder 2.0

Iggy's Market

Saving the best for last, my personal favorite dining hall is called Iggy's Market. Iggy's is located across the bridge from Boulder, at the bottom of Newman Towers. Not only does it contain a deli station, pizza, and fresh made foods just like Boulder, it also has a whole convenience store with things you might need for your pantry. I remember one night I was planning on making pasta but I forgot that I let one of my teammates use my pasta sauce; luckily enough, Iggy's was a two minute walk away and I was able to grab pasta sauce with just my swipe. There is a big fridge with every drink you can think of, as well as good on-the-go foods such as mac 'n cheese, soup, and frozen meals. Having another location to get fresh-cooked food on the west side of campus makes it easy for all the people living in nearby dorms to access. Iggy's closes at midnight usually, which is also super helpful for late-night study sessions or a midnight snack. It closes after Boulder and 2.0 making it a hot spot for later in the evenings.

Community

The different dining venues on Loyola's campus give you a unique experience to try a variety of different cultural foods, going above and beyond typical college standards. The availability of freshly made meals at Boulder, Boulder 2.0, and Iggy's Market not only cater to a large variety of culinary preferences but provide a sense of community among students. These dining halls not only provide food for us but provide a safe area where we can gather and spend quality time together while enjoying great food. Loyola fosters a vibrant and inclusive community that enriches the college experiences and Loyola's amazing dining venues play a large role in creating that community.



Iggy's Market