

Comparing the Best, Most Delicious and Authentic Pizzerias in Five Most Populated Cities in the USA

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1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Pizza is a savory dish of Italian origin consisting of a usually round, flattened base of leavened wheat-based dough topped with tomatoes, cheese, and often various other ingredients (such as anchovies, mushrooms, onions, olives, pineapple, meat, etc.) which is then baked at a high temperature, traditionally in a wood-fired oven.

The term pizza was first recorded in the 10th century in a Latin manuscript from the Southern Italian town of Gaeta in Lazio, on the border with Campania. Modern pizza was invented in Naples, and the dish and its variants have since become popular in many countries. It has become one of the most popular foods in the world and a common fast food item in Europe and North America, available at pizzerias (restaurants specializing in pizza), restaurants offering Mediterranean cuisine, and via pizza delivery. Many companies sell ready-baked frozen pizzas to be reheated in an ordinary home oven.

The first pizzeria in the U.S. was opened in New York City's Little Italy in 1905. Common toppings for pizza in the United States include anchovies, ground beef, chicken, ham, mushrooms, olives, onions, peppers, pepperoni, pineapple, salami, sausage, spinach, steak, and tomatoes. Distinct regional types developed in the 20th century, including Buffalo, California, Chicago, Detroit, Greek, New Haven, New York, and St. Louis styles.

1.2 Problem

Let's say you have never been to the US and you want to have only pizza while you are there. You are visiting New York, NY, San Francisco, CA, Jersey City, NJ, Boston, MA and Chicago, IL and you want to find the closest and most highly rated pizzeria near you in each major city. The problem we aim to solve is to analyze the pizzerias' locations in the major US cities and find the best place for our tourist so that they can have a good pizza experience.

1.3 Interest

Many food companies, investors, entrepreneurs would be very interested in this data so they know how to beat their competitors and satisfy the greatest number of customers.

2. Data Acquisition and Cleaning

2.1 Data Sources

Foursquare Labs Inc., commonly known as Foursquare, is an American technology company. The company's location platform is the foundation of several business and consumer products, including the Foursquare City Guide and Foursquare Swarm apps. Their business products include Places by Foursquare which is a database of more than 105 million places worldwide and an API that enables location data for Apple, Samsung, Microsoft, Tencent, Snapchat, Twitter, Uber, and others.[46][47] As of October 2018, Foursquare claims more than 150,000 brands and developers have registered for the technology. We will be using Foursquare Data to find the best pizzerias in New York, NY, San Francisco, CA, Jersey City, NJ, Boston, MA and Chicago, IL. These are one of the most populated US cities so they are sure to have some of the most highly rated pizzerias close to where our tourist is staying.