



Pretzel Mania

This salty treat is all the rage around the United States, but the trusty snack can be more grown-up than Little Caesars' new (slightly gluttonous) pretzel-crust pizza. If you're hosting a meeting in one of these cities, encourage your attendees to try these—ahem—twists on the popular snack:

Cheese, Please

A few soft, crusty pretzel sticks filled with country ham are stuffed into a jar of creamy Gouda and served with mustard-chili bechamel at farm-to-table spot Odd Duck, 2 miles from the convention center in Austin, Texas.

Shaken, Not Stirred

Whether you host a private event at downtown Cleveland's Chocolate Bar or head there post-con for an evening pick-me-up, the chocolate-covered pretzel martini—with a pretzel rim, of course—is a must-sip (and crunch).



ODD DUCK

"The food was fantastic. The convention center was very helpful and flexible with our schedules. We will definitely use Beaumont for meetings in the future."
 - Texas Asphalt Pavement Association

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MORGAN MCLANE

I Mustache You...

It's OK for attendees to play with their food when you book Mustache Pretzels food truck for a conference in Scottsdale, Arizona. Nothing fancy here, just hand-rolled soft pretzels baked in the shape of a mustache. Cue the selfies and have your hashtags ready. After all, what snack isn't more fun on a stick?

Home Slice

Morgenstern's, a modern dessert parlor on New York City's Lower East Side, purveys salted caramel custard pies with pretzel crust—and they're every bit as gooey, salty and crunchy as they sound. The entire shop can be bought out in two-hour blocks, meaning combining a meeting with snacks is a piece of... cake.

Cool Runnings

Pretzel cones at Indianapolis-based Broad Ripple Ice Cream Station, or BRICS, play up the classic, irresistible combo of sweet and salty. Fill one with coconut almond fudge ice cream and people watch in the vibrant Broad Ripple cultural district.

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Oom-Pah-Pah!

Ethnic enclaves in these five cities practically do the planning for you when it comes to off-site adventures. Coordinate an event at an offbeat venue or let attendees soak up local culture afterhours in neighborhoods that ooze authenticity. —Mira Temkin



MILWAUKEE

Celebrate Milwaukee's German heritage with beer and brats by booking a private Milwaukee Food & City Tour. Or, if you're meeting in July, hit the annual German Fest: think Bavaria come to life. Come fall, Oktoberfests can be found nearly every weekend. Attendees can grab a brewski to wash down wiener schnitzel from Mader's or sauerbraten from Karl Ratzsch's.



PITTSBURGH

Make Polish heritage the star of your show just like Bobby Vinton by taking your group to the Polish Nationality Room at the Cathedral of Learning on University of Pittsburgh's campus. Top off the night with rounds of pierogies, kielbasa and lively music at Bloomfield Bridge Tavern: The Polish Party House—which also does a mean potato pancake.

GERMANFEST



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CHICAGO

The Windy City is known for its Greektown: five blocks jam-packed with restaurants and pastry shops. Hold a cocktail party on the rooftop terrace at National Hellenic Museum, or piggyback with a “Night Out in the Park” event at nearby Mary Bartelme Park while sampling flaming cheese, moussaka and baklava. Opa!



SAN FRANCISCO

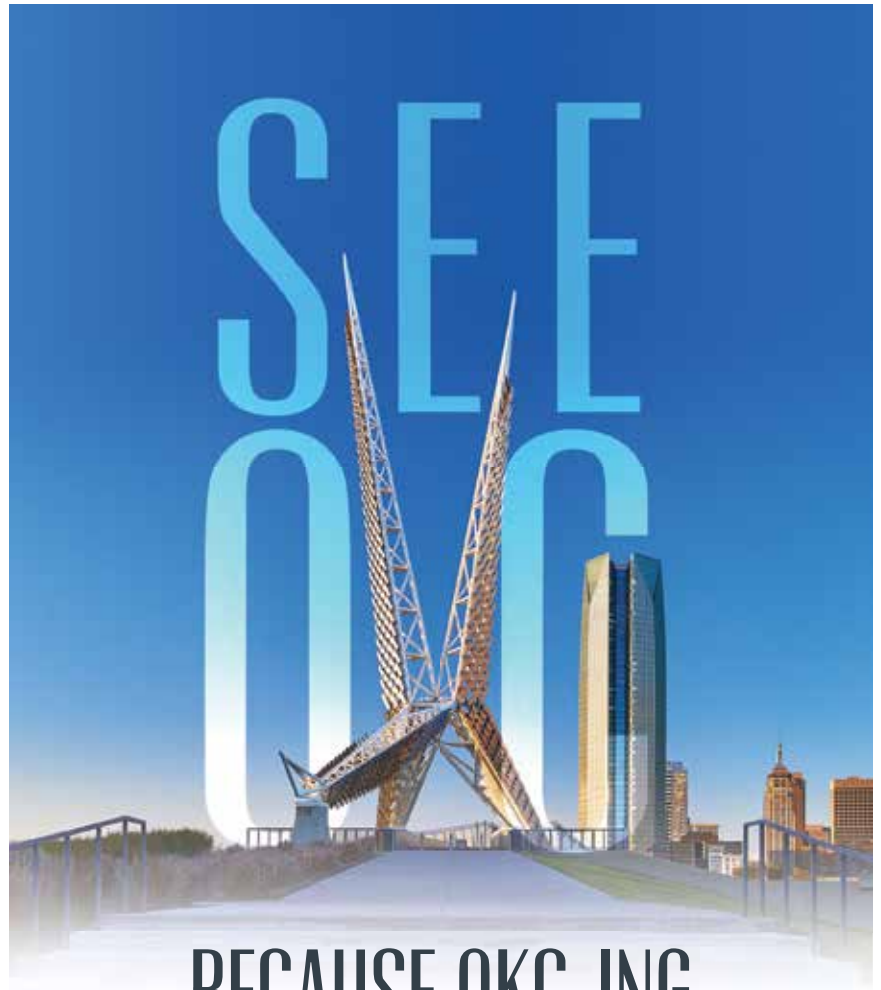
Nestled in the largest Chinatown outside Asia, the Golden Gate City’s Chinese Culture Center and Asian Art Museum both have event space with flair—and a side of good fortune. The impressive Dragon Gate marking the entrance to the iconic neighborhood is sure to be a popular selfie spot.



BOSTON

Find a pot of gold in Beantown by hosting an event at the Irish Cultural Center. Guests can rock their socks off at the annual Irish Festival in June, or meet for a pint and a chat at Mr. Dooley’s. Bottoms up with a round of Guinness!

FURLA STUDIO; SCOTT CHERNIS



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