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## The 30 biggest restaurant openings of the past year (and 5 more to look out for)

We examine what defined Boston's restaurant scene in the last 12 months — and what will come next.

By Eric Twardzik August 29, 2018

The past 12 months have been a banner year for greater Boston's restaurant scene. Beloved pop-ups such as Better Bagels and Oisa Ramen found their own homes, and neighborhoods from South Boston to Somerville welcomed chef-driven, independent restaurants exploring everything from Japanese-Hawaiian to old-school Italian-American. Here's what we consider to be the 30 biggest openings of the past year, plus five more restaurants to look out for in the coming months.



Onion rings at Boston Chops in Downtown Crossing. —Craig F. Walker/Globe Staff

### 5. Boston Chops Downtown

The [new Downtown Crossing location of Boston Chops](#) packs all the gilded, neo-steakhouse glory of the South End original into a two-story space that once housed a bank. The menu is almost identical to that of the original location, though it also provides dishes including a seared foie gras appetizer and an expanded raw bar, paving the way for plenty of downtown power lunches marked by seafood towers and double-cut pork chops. (52 Temple Place, Boston)