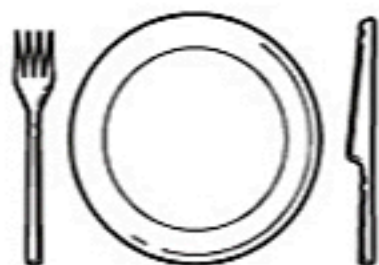




LOCAL VOICES



CHEF'S CHOICE

The pros dish on where to get a great bite.

INTERVIEWS BY HILARY DOLE KLEIN



This one is easy. My favorite dish is the Cheese Tamale with Roasted Poblano Chili at **Taqueria El Bajio** (805-884-1828) on Milpas Street in Santa Barbara. It's the fluffiest, lightest, and best tamale in the world, perfectly balanced between the cheese and the heat of the pepper.

—*Jason Paluska,*
executive chef,
The Lark, Santa Barbara,
thelarksb.com