

# THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

## The 75 best restaurants in Orange County in 2022

Critic Brad A. Johnson's annual guide to the 75 Best Places to Eat is here. The list is once again ranked, but there's a new twist.

By [BRAD JOHNSON](#) | Orange County Register  
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Chef/owner Chef Susumu Ii at his Osaka-inspired Sushi Ii in Newport Beach (Photo by Brad A. Johnson, Orange County Register/SCNG)

### 18. Sushi Ii

Chef Susumu Ii's [Osaka-inspired sushi restaurant is supremely elegant](#), as well it should be because it's also very expensive. The menu is omakase only, but there are several themes to choose from with additional à la carte sushi available if you're not full after eight courses, some cooked, some raw. Tailored to Japanese palates, the flavors can be intense: firefly squid, gizzard shad, crispy dried fish similar to sardines. This is not a restaurant for beginners. Requests for California-style sushi rolls will be politely declined. You will feel as if you're dining in Japan. **Don't miss:** Seared tuna toro sushi. *100 W. Coast Highway, 2nd floor, Newport Beach, 949-287-6268, [sushi-ii.com](http://sushi-ii.com) ★★★*

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