

What happens when a heavyweight Hollywood comedy writer finally says goodbye to his long-running smash sitcom? If he's **Phil Rosenthal**, creator and Emmy-winning executive producer of CBS' megahit *Everybody Loves Raymond*, he takes his first real vacation in nine years and spends two weeks eating his way across Europe.

On the eve of his trip, he'll show you his Blackberry listing the reservations that are already making him salivate: L'Ami Louis in Paris, Tullio's in Rome, Vivoli in Florence. No trip to New York, however, is complete without noshing at Nathan's.

"He's like an alien," grins **Ray Romano**, himself an Emmy recipient and, like Rosenthal, a native New Yorker. "You can't believe the amount he eats, and yet he stays thin. I'm about 50 percent a good eater; I have to watch it because I have high cholesterol. I'll have a great, fat-free lunch—a salad without the Caesar dressing. But at night, if I go to a premiere, I'll eat all the crap that's there."

Romano is just as happy munching a New York slice for dinner and a cup of joe to wash down Krispy Kreme's honey-glazed for breakfast. "I'm not a connoisseur. I don't know restaurants like Phil." But press him for details of his favorite haunts and Romano, like Rosenthal, revels in sophisticated dining. Though Romano is one of the stars in next year's *Ice Age 2*, for now, the only script the TV titans want to read is the menu.

# EVERYBODY

8

## RAY ROMANO'S TOP 8 RESTAURANTS

**IL MULINO** (New York): Probably the best Italian restaurant I've ever eaten at. And they've opened one now in Las Vegas and on Long Island.

**PETER LUGER STEAK HOUSE** (Brooklyn, N.Y.): The T-bone does it for me.

**CAFÉ WHA?** (New York): The comedy club where I started is called the Comedy Cellar, and the same guy owns the rock club next door called the Café Wha? I love the buffalo wings.

**LILLIAN'S PIZZERIA** (Queens, N.Y.): The one I grew up with, but any New York pizza is good.

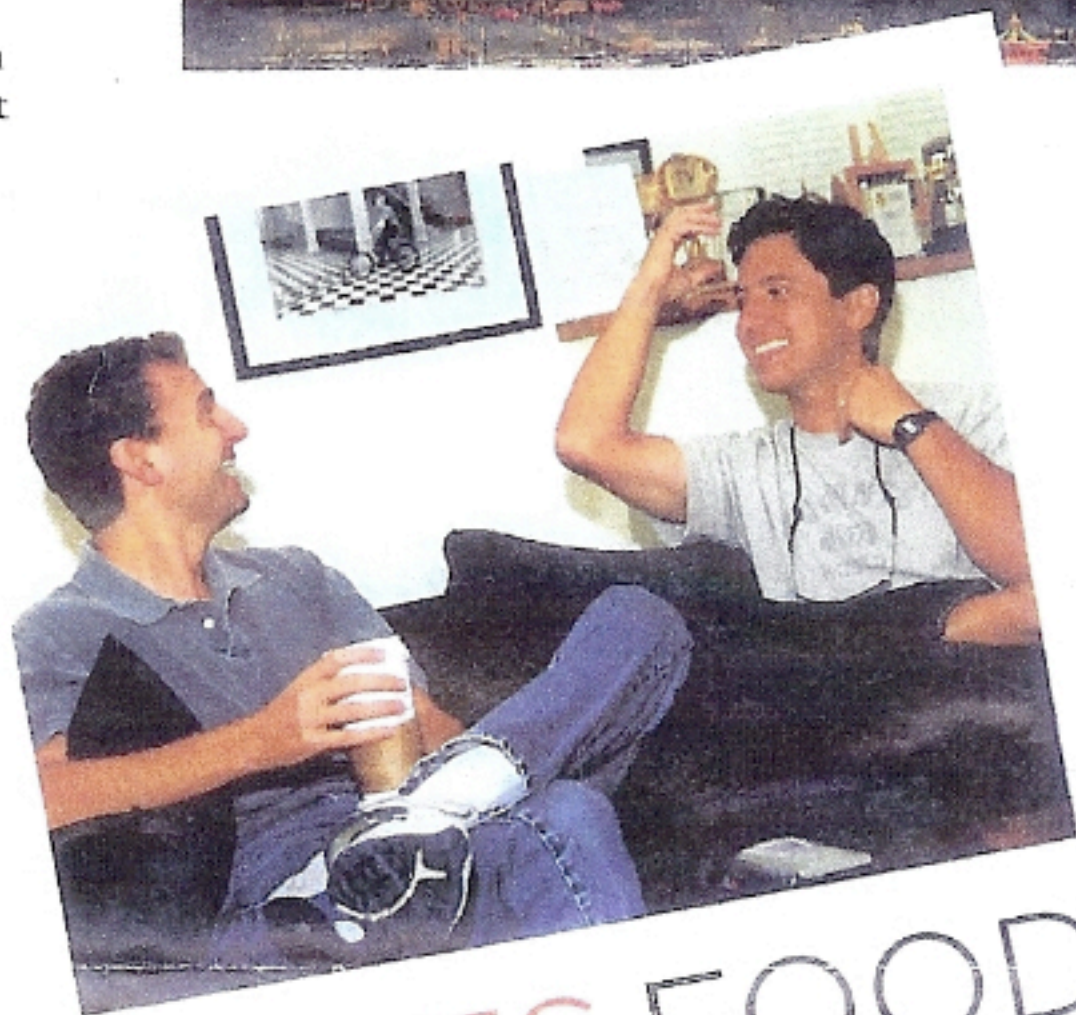
**TUTTO BENE** (Queens, N.Y.): That's hometown eatin'!

**CRUSTACEAN** (Los Angeles): Great seafood.

**SUSHI NOZAWA** (Studio City, Calif.): The best sushi I've ever had anywhere. It's a small little place in a strip mall, six to eight tables, no reservations. But this guy is a genius. It's No. 1 in the Zagat guide. No. 1 restaurant, forget just sushi places. And it's not even open Saturdays and Sundays.

**D'AMORE'S FAMOUS PIZZA CONNECTION** (Los Angeles): The best pizza I've found in Los Angeles.

But the guy actually ships the water in from the East Coast because he says it's the water that makes it taste different.



# LOVES FOOD

