

Why It's Good: A Husband, a Wife, and Her Best Friend

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Cheap Eats

Places Where the Food Is Great and the Prices Are Low

EL POLLO RICO Arlington, Wheaton

CHICKEN ROTISSERIES ARE A DIME A dozen, but this Peruvian eat-in/take-out really knows its birds. Succulent and tender, these burnished beauties stand out. Maybe it's the secret marinade of aromatic spices and herbs or the mellow yellow mustard-mayo sauce for dipping. It's no surprise that lines wind out the door on weekends--the place is popular with Central and South American expats.

What to have with your chicken? Savory empanadas and thick Salvadoran-style tortillas. Skip the forgettable slaw and tamales in favor of *alfajores*, crumbly cookies made with sweetened condensed milk, or a slab of rum-soaked cake for dessert. What to drink? Inca Cola from Peru, of course.

El Pollo Rico, 2541 Ennalls Ave.,
Wheaton, 301-942-4419; 2915-2917 N.
Washington Blvd., Arlington, 703-522-3220.