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BEST PIZZA!

ITALIAN GARDENS

814 Kenilworth Dr., Towson, 410-821-0292.

This family-friendly neighborhood institution inside The Shops at Kenilworth mall is beloved for its New York-style, thin-crust pizza, which has just enough crunch to go with its minimal sauce and ample mozzarella. The pizzeria is also one of the few casual places in town that offers traditional, round, Chicago-style deep-dish pies (not Sicilian, which is more common in these parts). A plain Chicago-style ($12.95) comes in at a doughy two-plus inches. A specialty pie, like the ingredient-packed "Momma's" (small, $15.95) with mushrooms, onions, black olives, pepperoni, and sausage, is over three inches, and a large slice is a delicious, filling meal.