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Ask around

If staying away from home, ask a hotel concierge or local. They will know all the best spots.

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Follow architect firms

Which restaurants are they working with? If they are paying money for an architect, they are more likely to be using acoustic panelling too.

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Outdoor seating

Restaurants with outdoor seating are often more relaxed, especially if they're away from busy streets. Just watch out for live music days.

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Ask an audiologist

We spend our days working with people who struggle to hear speech in background noise. We know which eateries we have visited that are most conversation friendly.

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Visit an RSL, Surf Club or Bowls Club

Forget the idea that RSLs and Bowls Clubs are purely for seniors. They often have a great chef and younger crowd. Great spot for lunch, but tend to be livelier on weekends.

Note: call ahead or check out their socials to avoid quiz nights, members nights, live music, or champagne brunches.

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Try Golf

Or at least their restaurant. They generally have a calm atmosphere with soft furnishings, well spaced tables, and quality food. Just avoid the 19th hole and look out for members / quiz nights.