

THE
TASTEMAKER'S
GUIDE TO

NEW YORK



CHRISTIE'S

JW MARRIOTT



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A Christie's and JW Marriott Production





Talk to any one of New York's more than 8 million residents and you'll get a distinctly different vision of what makes this city the best in the world. The one thing they can all agree on is that it is. So take in the glitz and glamour of the Empire City. Say "hello" to the Big Apple with its endless attractions, and refuse "good-nights" or "good-byes" in the City That Never Sleeps.



WHEN HUNGER STRIKES

DINING

Historically, New York has served as a gateway for immigrants seeking a new home in the United States, and today, it continues to attract newcomers from New Jersey to New Delhi and everywhere in between. Whether you're looking for barbecue, buttermilk biscuits, bucatini or brioche, get ready to experience a melting pot of flavors generations in the making.

ABC KITCHEN

GRAMERCY/FLATIRON: 35 E. 18TH ST. // +1 212 475 5829

Cuisine: American Nouveau

Culinary creativity with a conscious—that's what restaurant-goers will find at ABC Kitchen, the gastronomic brainchild of chefs Jean-Georges Vongerichten and Phil Suarez. Tucked into the back of legendary home goods boutique ABC Carpet and Home, this restaurant is all about local, organic ingredients and the space follows suit, with architectural details made from reclaimed and recycled materials. Once you've finished your meal, explore creative furniture and other treasures small enough to fit into a suitcase.

BABBO

WEST VILLAGE: 110 WAVERLY PL. // +1 212 777 0303

Cuisine: Italian

An experience so immersive, you just might walk out the door speaking Italian (well, at least the basics), this James Beard award-winning restaurant is a must for those who love linguine or have a passion for pappardelle. Come for the classics dressed up with a little something extra—including a panna cotta with saffron.

BEAUTY AND ESSEX

LOWER EAST SIDE: 146 ESSEX ST. // +1 212 614 0146

Cuisine: American Nouveau

With a nod to the glamorous days of the early 1960s, this bilevel space boasts a two-story chandelier and free-flowing pink Champagne in the ladies' room. But the food is where this small-plate eatery really shines—try the grilled cheese and tomato soup dumplings, and the chicken fried oysters.

BLUE RIBBON SUSHI

SOHO: 119 SULLIVAN ST. // +1 212 343 0404

Cuisine: Japanese

Diners praise the fresh, masterfully crafted sushi at Blue Ribbon, which is almost universally hailed as one of the best sushi restaurants in the city. Order a platter to sample the greatest variety of offerings. It'll be more expensive than an individual roll or two, but it's worth it!

BUBBY'S

TRIBECA: 120 HUDSON ST. // +1 212 219 0666

Cuisine: American

A warm welcome, some fresh juice and a buttermilk biscuit (or four) is what you can expect to find at Bubby's—that and round-the-clock service six days a week, which makes it a great after-hours stop. They serve a delicious dinner, but we recommend coming here for breakfast or brunch ... or "midnight brunch," which runs from 11 pm through 7 am.

DANIEL

UPPER EAST SIDE: 60 E. 65TH ST. // +1 212 288 0033

Cuisine: French

If you're familiar with the New York restaurant world, you know that Daniel has been one of the biggest names on the scene for as long as anyone can remember. Elegant interiors, flawless presentation, impeccable service and exquisite entrees have earned it a very rare and coveted four-star rating by *The New York Times*.

DINOSAUR BAR-B-QUE

HARLEM: 700 W. 125TH ST. // +1 212 694 1777

Cuisine: Barbecue

Those willing to make the trek up to 125th Street will be rewarded with some of the city's best barbecue. If you go, go big and order a pit plate accompanied by cornbread and two sides. From ribs to brisket to chicken, they've got you covered.

EATALY

GRAMERCY/ FLATIRON: 200 5TH AVE. // +1 212 229 2560

Cuisine: Italian

This complex, which includes seven different restaurants and a market for specialty groceries, is a celebration of Italian cuisine. For a perfect Eataly experience, make a reservation at La Pizza & La Pasta, then pick up some Italian sweets for your trip home—and don't walk out the door without a visit to their gelato stand. If there's room in your schedule, consider registering for one of the many classes held on-site.

ELEVEN MADISON PARK

GRAMERCY/ FLATIRON: 11 MADISON AVE. // +1 212 889 0905

Cuisine: American Nouveau

One of the most sought-after reservations in the city, Eleven Madison Park is a true New York experience. Its 16-course tasting menu is presented by a friendly, attentive waitstaff, and the little details—like amuse-bouche bites or the mini olive oil-infused egg cream we were served during one visit—come together to create a very memorable experience.

KEENS

MIDTOWN: 72 W. 36TH ST. // +1 212 947 3636

Cuisine: Steakhouse

Opened in 1885, Keens is one of Manhattan's most iconic steakhouses. For over a century, this culinary landmark has served classic dry-aged meats, legendary mutton chops, and hearty sides including mashed potatoes and creamed spinach.

PER SE

UPPER WEST SIDE: 10 COLUMBUS CIRCLE // +1 212 823 9335

Cuisine: American Nouveau

A great meal is a perfect blend of artistry and excellence at every level—menu, service and location, and Per Se is just about as good as it gets. Chefs craft a new menu every day, and while each meal at Per Se is unique in that way, it is known for its consistently outstanding service and culinary creations. With its location just across the street from Central Park, it's the perfect start to a classic New York evening.

RED ROOSTER

HARLEM: 310 LENOX AVE. // +1 212 792 9001

Cuisine: American

There's a lot to love about Red Rooster, located in the heart of Harlem. This carefully crafted and wonderfully executed menu brings together a diverse array of entrees including jerk chicken, meatballs and coconut rice with curry peas. Don't miss Ginny's Supper Club, a speakeasy-inspired lounge located just beneath the restaurant.

SARABETH'S

TRIBECA: 339 GREENWICH ST. // +1 212 966 0421

Cuisine: American

Sarabeth's began as a small bakery and jam shop, but over the course of three decades it's expanded to include seven outposts throughout the city. Dinner is delightful, but brunch is best—with everything from skirt steak hash to pumpkin waffles, this place has something for everyone.

SEÄSONAL

MIDTOWN: 132 W. 58TH ST. // +1 212 957 5550

Cuisine: Austrian

You haven't had spaetzle until you've eaten at Seäsonal. This highly rated restaurant specializes in Austrian favorites served up in a stylish, modern setting. Try one of their superbly crafted classics—like Wiener schnitzel—along with a glass or two from their acclaimed wine selection.

SOUTH GATE, JW MARRIOTT ESSEX HOUSE NEW YORK

MIDTOWN: 154 CENTRAL PARK SOUTH // +1 212 484 5120

Cuisine: American

This modern American tavern features floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking Central Park South, as well as an elegant interior accented by angular mirror work and a fireplace by New York designer Tony Chi. All of which sets the stage for Chef Achilles Poliviou's menu, which focuses on fresh, beautifully presented dishes for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

STANTON SOCIAL

LOWER EAST SIDE: 99 STANTON ST. // +1 212 995 0099

Cuisine: Small Plates

Every restaurant has an ambience, but Stanton Social has a vibe—a certain energy that infuses every aspect of this lounge-like eatery from the moment you set foot through the door. The rule of thumb is to order two or three small plates per person—sharing is encouraged! You can't go wrong with the French onion soup dumplings, the potato and goat cheese pierogies or for dessert, the warm doughnuts with strawberry, caramel and chocolate dipping sauces.

VINEGAR HILL HOUSE

VINEGAR HILL: 72 HUDSON AVE. // +1 718 522 1018

Cuisine: American Cuisine

Tucked away in Brooklyn's Vinegar Hill neighborhood, this small restaurant is the definition of a hidden gem. Known to those who really know the city's foodscape, it is warm, cozy and just quirky enough to keep it interesting. Serving dinner and brunch, the menu features savory entrees with unusual ingredients that fit just right.

Notes





CULTURE VULTURE

MUSEUMS, GALLERIES
& MORE

Generation after generation of artists, writers and other creative types have flocked to the city, eager to contribute to a cultural conversation that is second to none. In the process, New York has become a cultural hub, filled with art, history, and greatness in the making.

ACQUAVELLA GALLERIES

UPPER EAST SIDE: 18 E. 79TH ST. // +1 212 734 6300

In operation for just shy of a century, Acquavella Galleries specializes in 19th and 20th century art. Their rundown of represented artists and estates reads like a who's-who list from the period—Francis Bacon, Alexander Calder, Claus Oldenburg, Brice Marden, James Rosenquist and more.

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

UPPER WEST SIDE: CENTRAL PARK WEST AT W. 79TH ST. // +1 212 769 5100

A world of wonders within a single structure, the American Museum of Natural History is a tribute to creatures and ecosystems large and small. Whether your group includes the young or the young at heart, with top-of-the-line exhibition spaces, exploration is encouraged. As are questions ... the only one you're unlikely to hear? "When are we going home?"

BROOKLYN BOTANIC GARDEN

PROSPECT PARK: 1000 WASHINGTON AVE. // +1 718 623 7200

No matter the season, there's always something to see at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. Spring comes with a flurry of colors—pink cherry blossoms and purple lilacs—and summer hums with the exuberant hues of native wildflowers. Even in the fall and winter, you'll find unique scenes of beauty throughout.

BROOKLYN MUSEUM

PROSPECT PARK: 200 EASTERN PKWY. // +1 718 638 5000

From the moment you walk up to the Brooklyn Museum, with its Beaux-Arts façade-meets-contemporary-glass-exterior, you quickly get the sense that this is someplace special. One of the many great things about the Brooklyn Museum (and there are many, indeed) is that it manages to present thousands of years of art in a way that feels continually fresh, relevant and contemporary. An extraordinary museum—one of our favorites!

CASTELLI GALLERY

UPPER EAST SIDE: 18 E. 77TH ST. // +1 212 249 4470

For anyone with an interest in the art history of the past five decades, Castelli will undoubtedly be a familiar name. Founded as the Leo Castelli Gallery in 1957, it famously hosted Jasper Johns' first exhibition and followed it up with shows including works by Cy Twombly, Frank Stella, Roy Lichtenstein and others. Today, it continues to show an incredible array of Post-War American art.

CENTRAL PARK

With over 800 acres of land, Central Park can, at first glance, be a little overwhelming. But once you enter this wonderland of greenery edged with soaring skyscrapers, your desire to explore its vast array of sloping hills and stunning sculptures will overcome any initial trepidation. Don't leave without seeing Bethesda Terrace—it's a classic Central Park spot for a reason.

CHRISTIE'S

MIDTOWN: 20 ROCKEFELLER PLZ. // +1 212 636 2000

Located in the heart of Rockefeller Plaza, Christie's galleries are open to the public weekdays and most weekends. You're invited to explore their rotating exhibitions filled with extraordinary art and objects, which will be offered in their upcoming auctions. From exquisite pieces of jewelry to masterpieces by Monet, Picasso and today's most sought-after contemporary artists, this nearly 250-year-old company is known as a showcase for the unique and beautiful.

GAGOSIAN GALLERY

UPPER EAST SIDE: 908 MADISON AVE. // +1 212 744 2313

CHELSEA: 555 W. 24TH ST. // +1 212 741 1111

CHELSEA: 522 W. 21ST ST. // +1 212 741 1717

Larry Gagosian has made a name for himself as one of the world's foremost gallerists. Representing a wide range of artists from Urs Fischer to John Currin, Gagosian Gallery is also known for its stellar exhibitions.

METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART

UPPER EAST SIDE: 1000 5TH AVE. // +1 212 535 7710

Ranking among the world's finest museums, the Met's permanent collection contains more than 2 million works across 17 curatorial departments. If you missed taking an introduction to art history class in college, a whirlwind tour through the Met will get you up to speed on some of the world's greatest works from the last 5,000 years (or so)!

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

MIDTOWN: 11 W. 53RD ST. // +1 212 708 9400

With masterpiece after masterpiece, including Vincent van Gogh's *The Starry Night* and Pablo Picasso's *Les Demoiselles d'Avignon*, MoMA is both accessible and inspirational. A near constant stream of new exhibitions ensures that even if you've visited before, you're bound to see something new. Their fantastic bookshop and design store across the street are additional must-sees!

NEUE GALERIE

UPPER EAST SIDE: 1048 5TH AVE. // +1 212 628 6200

Located just a hop, skip and a jump away from the Metropolitan Museum of Art, this museum devoted to early 20th century German and Austrian art should definitely be on your list if you're spending time on the Upper East Side. Fans of artist Gustav Klimt will not be disappointed.



Notes



RETAIL THERAPY

SHOPPING

New York City residents pride themselves on being arbiters of all things chic. As a result, the city has an unrivaled shopping scene filled with legendary stores and hidden gems. Whether you're window shopping or playing for keeps, here are the spots you shouldn't miss.

BERGDORF GOODMAN

UPPER EAST SIDE: 754 5TH AVE. // +1 212 753 7300

The luxury department store to end all luxury department stores, Bergdorf Goodman is a world-renowned shopping experience. With locations on either side of 5th Avenue (including the original building that houses women's collections and the adjacent structure dedicated to men's fashions), this is a New York City institution.

CHELSEA/MEATPACKING DISTRICT

While there are numerous retail establishments to explore within this area, if your time is limited head directly to Chelsea Market, a fantastic conglomeration of fun shops and delicious eateries located in an old factory. You can literally eat your way from one end of the building to the other, with stops at The Lobster Place, People's Pops and Lucy's Whey.

5TH AVENUE

Filled with major designers' flagship stores, a walk down 5th Avenue might leave you with an empty wallet ... not to mention an armful of bags and a smile on your face. Shop Tiffany & Co., Prada, Louis Vuitton, Bottega Veneta, Gucci and more.

GREENWICH VILLAGE/WEST VILLAGE

So much to see in one of New York's most charming neighborhoods! Take your time to meander between shops including Olive and Bette's (a great women's boutique), the Porcelain Room (for elegant china and tea sets) and Murray's Cheese.

HENRI BENDEL

MIDTOWN: 712 5TH AVE. // +1 212 247 1100

The charm of a boutique matched with the variety found in a small luxury department store, Henri Bendel offers an extraordinary assortment of women's accessories, cosmetics and fragrances. From the moment you walk through its massive gold doors, you feel like you've stepped into another world where style and sophistication reign supreme.

THE SHOPS AT COLUMBUS CIRCLE: TIME WARNER CENTER

UPPER WEST SIDE: 10 COLUMBUS CIRCLE // +1 212 823 6000

This upscale complex situated at the edge of Central Park features a wide variety of shops and brands—Coach, L.K. Bennett and Williams-Sonoma, to name only a few. Take a break with a hot chocolate from Godiva or venture to the Whole Foods on the lower level for an afternoon snack.

SOHO

You can easily spend a whole afternoon in New York's SoHo neighborhood, which includes block after block of shops and eateries. Do some research before you go so you can build a general itinerary that'll suit your interests ... or wander the sidewalks and wait for inspiration to strike. Whichever route you choose, don't miss Pearl River Mart, a great place to stock up on snacks and souvenirs, and l'Ecole, the International Culinary Institute's training restaurant where student chefs whip up amazing creations at very reasonable prices.



Notes



SITTING PRETTY

BEAUTY

New Yorkers know how to balance an always on-the-go world with moments of pure relaxation. Learn their secrets with trips to some of the city's top spas and salons.

CLAY

WEST VILLAGE: 25 W. 14TH ST. // +1 646 719 1205

Located inside the Clay health club, this spa's approach encompasses all manner of overall wellness treatments. You can purchase a day pass to Clay's gym if you're the type that likes a little fitness with your facial. Or kick back and relax with an "East meets West" massage that combines Swedish and Shiatsu techniques.

EXHALE

MIDTOWN: 150 CENTRAL PARK SOUTH // +1 212 561 7400

A true sanctuary located in the heart of Midtown, Exhale defines the art of luxurious relaxation. With a combination of fitness classes and spa therapies for rejuvenating both mind and body—not to mention a zen lounge—this is a place where you can truly unwind.

GREAT JONES SPA

NOHO: 29 GREAT JONES ST. // +1 212 505 3185

After a long day of shopping in SoHo, this feng shui-designed spa is a fashionistas haven. Feel yourself melting into a blissful state of relaxation from the moment you enter the space, which is accented with a three-story indoor waterfall. Once you've settled in, choose from an extensive list of decadent treatments or make use of one of the 12 private massage rooms.

JULIEN FAREL

MIDTOWN: 605 MADISON AVE. // +1 212 888 8988

Dedicated to providing clients with a luxurious experience, Julien Farel goes above and beyond by offering house-call treatments where you can be pampered in the privacy of your own home or hotel room. If time is of the essence, they offer a variety of rush treatments—cutting-edge hairstyles and flawless make-up application, as well as manicures and pedicures.

KIEHL'S SPA 1851

UPPER EAST SIDE: 157 E. 64TH ST. // +1 888 772 1851

If you love Kiehl's face and body products, why not journey to their full-service spa? We love the aesthetics of the space, which manages to feel chic, urban and relaxing within the same square footage. Fully personalized in every way, the mask treatments are even custom blended on the spot.

TRUMP SOHO SPA

SOHO: 246 SPRING ST. // +1 212 842 5500

Billing itself as "New York City's only hammam with luxury spa services," this spa offers the relaxation of a Turkish bath coupled with the luxurious atmosphere you'd expect from the Trump SoHo. The theme is carried throughout with specialized treatments utilizing Moroccan black soap and other traditional therapies from the region. The definition of luxurious excellence.

Notes





PAINT THE TOWN

MUSIC, DANCING
& NIGHTLIFE

If your vagabond shoes are still longing to stray after a day of adventure, spend a night out on the town at any one of New York's evening hot spots. Here are just a few of our favorites . . .

AMERICAN BALLET THEATER

UPPER WEST SIDE: LINCOLN CENTER PLAZA // +1 212 477 3030

The company performs around the world during the course of the year, returning every summer for a series of performances at Lincoln Center. Their dancers rank among the very finest in the world, ensuring that whether you see *Swan Lake* or *Sleeping Beauty*, you'll be seeing the best of the best—a masterpiece in motion.

LE BAIN

MEATPACKING DISTRICT: 828 WASHINGTON ST. //

+1 212 645 4646

As its name suggests, Le Bain, located at the Standard Hotel, has many pool-themed sights to behold, not the least of which is a disco ball bedecked hot tub. The open-air second floor features Astro Turf, lawn chairs and waterbeds to lounge on as you take in panoramic views of lower Manhattan.

BEMELMANS BAR

UPPER EAST SIDE: 35 E. 76TH ST. // +1 212 744 1600

There's something distinctly enchanting about Bemelmans Bar, named after Ludwig Bemelmans, writer extraordinaire and creator of the *Madeline* children's book series. It might be the gold leaf ceilings or the whimsical murals or drinks like the bubbly Passion Royale with a hint of lime, but whatever it is, we're hooked. The bar is also known for its outstanding live music, which often includes sets with Woody Allen.

BROADWAY AND OFF-BROADWAY

Stretching north to south from 54th to 40th Streets and east to west from 6th to 8th Avenues, just the sheer size of the Theater District is the first indicator of how seriously New York takes the performing arts. The second is the shows themselves—with around 40 Broadway shows in theaters on any particular day, even the toughest critic will find something to smile about. Check out the TKTS booth near 47th Street and 7th Avenue for discounted tickets.

BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC

FORT GREENE: 30 LAFAYETTE AVE. // +1 718 636 4100

Even with the abundance of shows on Broadway, at Lincoln Center and throughout the rest of the city, visitors shouldn't forget about the Brooklyn Academy of Music, more commonly known as BAM. Want to catch an opera, see a film or experience a great musical performance? Head over to BAM where you can do all of this and more—the venue has one of the most diverse lineups citywide.

EMPLOYEES ONLY

WEST VILLAGE: 510 HUDSON ST. // +1 212 242 3021

If you've found yourself in front of a glowing "psychic" sign, you've found the right place. This speakeasy-inspired bar and lounge is renowned for its cocktails and decadent food fit for grazing or feasting—where else can you find bacon-wrapped lamb chops at 2:30 am?

FLATIRON LOUNGE

GRAMERCY/ FLATIRON: 37 W. 19TH ST. // +1 212 727 7741

Sweet jazz notes draw patrons into this landmark building, which was constructed in the 1900s and pays homage to an era of Art Deco elegance. Snag a crimson red booth to sink in and enjoy some of the city's finest handcrafted cocktails and most original martini flights.

METROPOLITAN OPERA

UPPER WEST SIDE: LINCOLN CENTER PLAZA // +1 212 362 6000

Get your tickets, get your opera glasses and go! The Met's performances consistently feature stunning sets and goose bump-inducing vocals. Even if you don't consider yourself an opera fan, there's a certain kind of magic that happens the moment the theater's starburst chandeliers ascend and the curtain rises.

MONKEY BAR

MIDTOWN: 60 E. 54TH ST. // +1 212 288 1010

There's no doubt that this restaurant and bar is one of the coolest hangouts in the city, but its reputation doesn't seem to have gone to its head. Even with its lovely murals, comfortably chic booths and well-dressed crowd, *The New York Times* raves that it's still the kind of place where "the greeting feels warm and sincere"—the kind of place you want to call home, even if it's just for the evening.

NO. 8

CHELSEA: 357 W. 16TH ST. // +1 212 206 1096

Named after a bungalow at the Beverly Hills Hotel, this bar brings the glitz and glamour of Hollywood with an East Coast touch. The venue is divided into two main spaces—the "ballroom" and the "rec room," each with its own delightful sense of style and flair. A vintage-inspired treasure.

PEGU CLUB

SOHO: 77 W. HOUSTON ST. // +1 212 473 7348

Named for the British colonial officers' club in Burma famed for its house cocktail, Pegu Club prides itself in preserving the craft of a well-made drink. Climb the stairs and enter a sophisticated lounge where cocktails are made with fresh-squeezed juices, house-made infusions, tinctures, flavored syrups and a biting ginger beer.

ROSE BAR

GRAMERCY/ FLATIRON: 2 LEXINGTON AVE. // +1 212 920 3300

Located in the Gramercy Park Hotel, Rose Bar's chic environs have soaring ceilings that set the scene for a hip and very stylish crowd. If you haven't been able to tour any museums during your stay, don't fret—Rose Bar has an enviable collection of works by Andy Warhol, Keith Haring and Jean-Michel Basquiat, among others. It's a truly beautiful space that manages to be vibrant and relaxing all at the same time.



Notes



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