

Breakfast

Place	Area	Address	Notes
Clinton Street Baking Company**	Lower East Side	4 Clinton Street	I would recommend you go on a weekday because there's almost no wait for a table. Everything on the menu looks fantastic. They're known for their blueberry pancakes; I tried the banana pancakes and they were amazing. I also had the Brioche French toast and it is phenomenal. Order extra maple butter. The sugar-cured bacon is fantastic. Cash only.
Jane's**	SoHo	100 W Houston St between Thompson & La Guardia	You have to go here for brunch on Sunday because it's the only day that they serve their homemade granola. They also have a phenomenal Vanilla Bean French toast that is a must eat. The line can get pretty long unless you get there early.
Felix	Soho	340 W Broadway	I would never go out of my way to eat here, but the food is pretty good and worth trying if you happen to be in the area. I prefer their burgers over their breakfast food.
Jack's Wife Freda	SoHo	224 Lafayette St	
Cafe Cluny	West Village	284 W 12th St	They make a delicious in-house granola that is served with their own yoghurt as well. A must try for granola fans. The restaurant itself is cute and quaint.
Bagatelle	West Village	1 Little W 12th St	This is a great daytime party and brunch spot, especially on Saturdays. Don't go too early as the party starts around noon/ 1PM. Food is good, the cocktails are interesting, the crowd is very trendy and hip, and the music is fantastic.

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Buvette	West Village	42 Grove St	Simple French menu for breakfast. The eggs are quite heavy and while they're good, there's nothing absolutely special about them. I would go back for the whole-wheat scones any day though!
August	West Village		Challah bread French toast.
The Little Owl	West Village	90 Bedford St	Only open for brunch on the weekends.
Pastis	Meat Packing	9 9th Ave	
Ajna Bar	Meat Packing	25 Little W 12th St (Between 9th Ave & Washington St)	
Bubby's Pie Company	TriBeCa	120 Hudson St	
Ess-a-bagel	Midtown	831 3rd Ave (Between 50th St & 51st St)	
Penelope	Midtown	159 Lexington Ave	On the weekend you get things like Nutella stuffed French Toast. On the weekdays the menu is delicious. I had the blueberry waffles, which are a definite must try.
44 and x	Hell's Kitchen	622 10th Ave	A good choice for a weekend brunch, but not the best. The menu sounds absolutely delicious but the dishes are a little weak on flavor. They serve a delicious mac & cheese (with a hint of truffle oil, but you can't really taste it). It comes in a half portion, which is still really generous. The hazelnut French toast is great, except that I couldn't really taste the hazelnut. I also judge them a bit for having the best of Britney Spears on repeat all afternoon.

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Lunch

Place	Area	Type of Food	Address	Notes
Minetta Tavern**	Greenwich Village		113 Macdougall St	If you only have time for one meal in New York, this should be it. Only order the Black Label Burger and don't change anything about it. Don't add ketchup, cheese, or anything else! Just have it as the chef makes it because it is honestly incredible. It's a very old school type of restaurant and personally I'd prefer it for lunch (especially since the burger is quite heavy) but you can go anytime. They actually run out of the Black Label Burger, so don't go too late.
Via Quadronno	Midtown	Italian	25 E 73rd St	Grab some Paninis and cappuccinos from Via Quadronno and take them with you to Central Park for a faux-picnic. They are very popular for their Paninis. My favorite is the bresaola Panini. The tentazione Panini is also pretty good. Something about the bread makes it cut your upper pallet, so flip it over when you eat it, and you'll be safe.
Serafina	Midtown	Italian	224 W 49th St	There are multiple locations and all are equally delicious. They have amazing pasta.

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Luke's Lobster	Midtown	Lobster Rolls	1 W 59th St	It's located in the Plaza food court. I sampled all three different rolls and my favorite was the shrimp roll, followed by lobster roll; the crab roll was my least favorite. Very delicious and even better when you tell them to go easy on the dressing.
The Burger Joint at Le Parker Meridian	Midtown	Burgers	119 W 56th St	The burgers there are incredible, but I don't think they are worth waiting in line for. I would recommend going on an off-peak hour for a late lunch (around 5PM) so there's no wait. There's nothing else on the menu. Cash only.
The Loeb Central Park Boathouse	Midtown	American	E 72nd	A cute restaurant in the middle of the park. Not too commercial, but not local either. The menu is pretty good and the view by the windows is fantastic.
Wolfgang's Steakhouse	Midtown	Steak	4 Park Ave	The porterhouse steak is delicious. I didn't care much for the atmosphere or the set up though. I would only recommend going there if you're an absolute steak lover, in which case you might as well go on a Sunday for an early dinner.
PJ Clarke's	Midtown	Burgers	915 3rd Ave (Between 56th St & 55th St)	
The Breslin Bar & Dining Room	Midtown	Gastropub	20 W 29th	

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Eataly	Flatiron	Italian	200 5th Ave	It is set up as a very upscale Italian farmer's market. There are four specialty restaurants inside (fish, pasta, pizza, and meat), each with its own menu. You can also go there for grocery shopping. It's a cool experience for a casual lunch.
L'asso	NoLita		192 Mott St	Pretty good pizza. I wouldn't crown it as the best, but I definitely enjoyed it. Small place, very cozy but not too charming. Great salads.
Korzo Haus*	East Village	Burgers	178 E 7th St	They deep fry the bun and stuff the burger with cheese and bacon too. It's unbelievably delicious. Cash only.
Katz's Delicatessen**	Lower Eastside	Jewish Deli	205 E Houston St	Best pastrami sandwich I've ever had. Huge place and very touristy crowd, but worth going. Cash only.
Mercer Kitchen	Soho	Burgers	99 Prince St	Great burgers.
Fanelli Café	SoHo	Burgers	94 Prince St	In the heart of SoHo. They're known for the Bison Burgers. I tried the beef and it was average. I wouldn't go out of my way for it, but it's a decent spot if you're hungry and in the area.
Cafe Gitane - The Jane Hotel	West Village	French/ Moroccan	113 Jane St (Between West St & Washington St)	
Numero 28	West Village	Pizza	28 Carmine Street	

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Mary's Fish Camp	West Village	Seafood	64 Charles St (at W 4th St)	It's a very casual hole in the wall. They are known to have the best lobster rolls in the city. I tried them and they were good, but not the most amazing lobster rolls I've tried. They have too much mayo on them so if I were to go again, I would ask them to put the minimal amount possible. You can't reserve and the lunch and dinner lines get long pretty fast so I would recommend going right when they open.
Joe's Pizza**	West Village	Pizza	7 Carmine St	Best pizza I've ever had. The slices are huge full of flavor. My favorite was the Buffalo Mozzarella. I found the Sicilian to be slightly overrated. Cash only.
Bar Pitti	West Village	Italian	268 Ave of the Americas	
Risotteria	West Village	Risotto / Italian	270 Bleecker St	Very good risotto and quite a wide variety. I'm a huge fan and this hit the spot when I was craving a good hearty dish of risotto.
Eatery	Hell's Kitchen	American	798 9th Ave (Between 53rd St & 52nd St)	
Giorgine	South Village	Italian	307 Spring St	
J.G melon	Upper Eastside	Burgers	1291 3rd Ave (Between 74th St & 75th St)	
Jacob's Pickles	Upper Westside	Fried food	509 Amsterdam Ave	
Miss Favela	Williamsburg/ Brooklyn	Brazilian	57 S 5th St, Brooklyn	

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Dinner

Place	Area	Type of Food	Address	Notes
Raoul's	West Village	French	180 Prince St (crosses Thompson)	The first time I went (in 2011), the steak was excellent, but when I went again recently (2013), it wasn't worth it. Still it has a nice atmosphere.
Red farm	West Village	Chinese	529 Hudson St	
Fatty Crab	West Village	Malaysian	643 Hudson St	
Aria Wine Bar	West Village	Tapas	117 Perry St	Great food and good choice for groups of 4 or 5. The downstairs seating can get pretty hot and upstairs is a bit livelier anyway. They have communal tables and it's a great casual place to gab a good bite with a group. The fettuccini was incredible.
Beatrice Inn	West Village	American	285 W 12th St	Very friendly staff and nice atmosphere but the menu is very disappointing, especially considering the prices. I went expecting it to be a steakhouse, which added to my disappointment. Overall I wouldn't go back.
The Spotted Pig	West Village	Burgers	314 W 11th St (Between Hudson St & Greenwich St)	I loved the place. The burger is absolutely delicious, but I was surprised with the blue cheese in it, which was very sharp. Still, I enjoyed it. It's a good burger but not in my NYC top 5. I loved the place, though. Very cute and kitschy-chiq atmosphere.

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Kingswood	West Village	American	121 W 10th St	
Café Habana	Soho	Cuban		There are two ways to enjoy Café Habana. Either go to the restaurant and order off of the full menu, or skip the wait and just get their incredible corn on the cobb from their take out branch next door. I did both and prefer the takeout since the corn is really the best thing to go for.
The Dutch	Soho	American	131 Sullivan St	
La Esquina	Soho	Mexican	114 Kenmare St	
Balthazar	Soho	French	80 Spring St	
Carbone	Greenwich Village		181 Thompson St	
Gotham Bar and Grill	Greenwich Village		12 E 12th St	
Miss Lilly's**	Greenwich Village	Jamaican	132 W Houston St	The place is simply cool. It has a very casual vibe, hip crowd and amazing food. Great music plays all night long. This is one of the must go to places. The corn is a must have as is the banana pudding dessert.
Catch	Meat Packing District		21 Ninth Avenue	
Beauty and Essex**	Lower Eastside		146 Essex St between Stanton & Rivington	The food is good (not amazing, but good), but the place is extremely cool. You walk in through a pawnshop. There's a Champaign bar in the ladies' bathroom. The cocktails are fantastic here.

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ACME	NoHo		9 Great Jones St, between Shinbone Aly & Lafayette St	
Bianca	NoHo	Italian	5 Bleecker St	It's a small Italian restaurant that will leave you waiting for at least half an hour for an average sized table. It's worth the wait for some quality pasta. Extremely reasonable prices and casual yet romantic vibe. Cash only.
Il Buco	NoHo	Italian	47 Bond St (Between Bowery & 2nd St)	
Gyu-Kaku	NoHo	Japanese BBQ	34 Cooper Sq	
Lafayette	NoHo	French	380 Lafayette St (Between 4th St & Great Jones St)	Slightly overrated but a delicious bistro nonetheless. The entrées are fantastic, especially the scallops and the grilled octopus. I would also recommend the tartar from the appetizers. Everyone raves about the butter lettuce but I found absolutely nothing special about it. The restaurant itself is cute but a little too big for what I prefer bistros to be.
Peasant	Nolita	Italian	194 Elizabeth St	
WD50	Lower Eastside	Molecular gastronomy/ New American	50 Clinton Street	
An Choi	Lower Eastside	Vietnamese		
Cafe Mogador	East Village	Moroccan	101 St Marks Pl	

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Ippudo	East Village	Ramen	65 4th Ave	
Pylos Greek	East Village	Greek	128 E 7th St	
Kanoyama	East Village	Sushi	175 2nd Ave	Quite casual, very reasonably priced for sushi and absolutely delicious. The quality of the fish is fantastic. I especially enjoyed the salmon sashimi, which was as soft as butter.
Sushi Dojo	East Village	Sushi	110 1st Ave (Between 7th St & 6th St)	
ABC Dinner	Union Square	American French	35 E 18th St	
The Darby	Chelsea		244 W 14th St	
Chelsea Market	Chelsea	Sea Food	75 9th Ave (Between 15th & 16th St)	
Gazala's Place	Upper Westside	Middle Eastern	380 Columbus Ave	
Churrascaria Plataforma	Hell's Kitchen	Brazilian	316 W 49th St	
Sushi Azabu	TriBeCa	Japanese	428 Greenwich St	The sushi place is hidden away underneath Greenwich Grill. Use the entrance and then go down the stairs at the back. It's very small and pretty casual but has amazing quality seafood. The salmon sashimi will melt in your mouth.
The Breslin (in the Ace hotel)	Flatiron		16 W 29th St	
The Nomad	Flatiron	French, Spanish, Mediterranean	1170 Broadway (Between 27th St & 28th St)	
Eleven Madison Park	Flatiron	American- French	11 Madison Ave (At 24th St)	
Nello's	Upper Eastside	Italian	696 Madison Ave	
Pepe Rosso	South Village	Italian	149 Sullivan St	

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Blue Ribbon Sushi	South Village	Japanese	119 Sullivan St (between Spring St & Prince St)	
Sushi Yasuda	Midtown	Japanese	204 E 43rd St	
Bill's	Midtown		57 E 54th St	
Fette Sau	Williamsburg/ Brooklyn	BBQ		

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Desserts and Treats

Place	Area	Address	Notes
Lazy Looz**	Order online	www.lazylooz.com	I'm not usually a fan of lazy cake, but these bites are so deliciously packed with flavor it's hard to resist. Comes in different varieties including coconut, peanut butter, and chocolate chip.
Momofuku MilkBar**	Midtown	15 w 56th ST, New York, NY 10019 (Between 5th and 6th avenues)	They're known for their Cereal Milk. They have a very creative, interesting yet simple menu. Try their Soft Serve or the Shakes; the cookies and pies are also excellent.
Lady M Cake Boutique	Midtown	The Plaza Food Hall 1 W 59th St	Mille feuille crepes.
Levain Bakery**	Upper Westside	167 W 74th St (Between Columbus Ave & Amsterdam Ave)	Hands down the best cookies. Even if it's out of your way, you should go there and get ready to wait in line.
Serendipity	Upper Eastside	225 E 60th St	It's quite a heavy and intense dessert menu. I tried both the Forbidden Broadway Sunday, which was good, though a bit overpowering, and the Frozen Hot Chocolate. The latter was a complete gimmick. Thinking I was going to be trying something completely new, it ended up being nothing more than a fancy name for a milk shake. I'm not a fan of the location or the amount of time it takes to get a table. I found it to be more of a tourist attraction.
Doughnut Plant**	Lower Eastside	379 Grand St	They have very creative doughnuts. A must try is the Crème Brule and tres leche. Look out for different specialty flavors too. Cash only.
Max Brenner	Greenwich Village	841 Broadway (Between 13th St & E Union Sq)	

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Dominique Ansel Bakery	SoHo	189 Spring St	A must try (for novelty factor) is the cronut and also the popcorn caramel éclair. The latest you can arrive is 6:30AM to be guaranteed a cronut, otherwise they'll be sold out by the time you get through the line. The bakery opens at 8 but unless you're one of the first people in line, expect to wait until 10AM to get done with this. All the desserts are good, and if you don't care about the cronut fad, go at any time of day and sample the other delicious desserts.
Rice to Riches	SoHo	37 Spring St	Rice pudding in all the flavors you can imagine. Incredibly delicious. My favorite was the butterscotch with crumble toppings.
Sweet Revenge	West Village	62 Carmine St	Cupcakes and wine.
The Witches Brew	West Hempstead/ Long Island	311 Hempstead Turnpike	Cash only.
One Girl Cookies	Cobble Hill/ Brooklyn	68 Dean St (Between Boerum Pl & Smith St)	Absolutely delicious. If you're in Brooklyn you should definitely stop by. The whopping pie (in the pumpkin flavor) is incredible.

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Drinks

Place	Area	Address	Notes
Apothéke**	Chinatown	9 Doyers St. at Bowery	Insane cocktails, they're all done in the style of an apothecary and mixed together in a very funky way as if you're in some guy's lab. The presentation is unreal, the music is great, and they definitely show off at the bar while putting the drinks together.
The Box	Lower Eastside	189 Chrystie St	This place is a mix of X-Rated cabaret style entertainment. You will be completely shocked with everything that happens on stage, but it is a quintessential New York experience. Don't go just for the show though (it only lasts for around half an hour, though there is one every hour). Book a table (avoid being exactly in front of the stage) and go with a fun group to make the most of it.
The Standard Rooftop	West Village	848 Washington St	
Le bain	West Village/ Meat Packing	444 West 13th Street (Between West St & 10th Ave)	
PDT (Please Don't Tell)	East Village	113 St Marks Pl	Fun, gimmicky secret bar where you can drink awesome cocktails and order hot dogs from the place next door – need to reserve day of in afternoon before they open.
Gold Bar	Little Itally	389 Broome St	
Union Pool	Williamsburg/ Brooklyn	484 Union Ave, Brooklyn	It has a cool vibe, and on Monday nights there's a performance by "The Rev". There's a taco truck in the back.

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Other

Place	Area	Address	Notes
High Line**	Meatpacking District	It runs between Gansevoort and West 30th street	This old railway that runs above the city streets was transformed into a public outdoor garden and walkway. If the weather is nice, it's a fantastic way to spend an afternoon walking solo or with a friend.
The Plaza Food Hall	Midtown	1 W 59th St	
Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts	Midtown		
New York Public Library	Midtown		Just walking around within the halls of the library is an experience. It is beautifully set up, though a bit confusing to navigate.
Brooklyn Bridge**	Brooklyn/Manhattan	Brooklyn Bridge	Go for a sunset walk on the bridge and you'll see one of the most beautiful views of the Manhattan skyline.
Pier 1 Park	Dumbo, Brooklyn		
The Book of Mormon	Time Square		This is a must see production. It's brilliantly hilarious and entertaining.
Sleep No More	Chelsea		(Show)
Chelsea Piers	Chelsea		
Fuerza Bruta	Union Square	101 E 15th St	(Show)
Plum & Pear	Lower Eastside	124 Ludlow St (Between Delancey and Rivington)	

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Cafés to get some work done

Place	Area	Address	Notes
Roasting Plant	Greenwich Village		Delicious coffee. It's less for a work environment, although there is wifi and a few booths where you can sit with your laptop, but not the ideal place for a long day's work.
Think Café	Greenwich Village	248 Mercer St New York	This is an interesting venue for getting work done. The seating is comfortable, though power outlets are not too abundant. The music is quite loud, but it's easy to tune out. The one main weakness happens to be the spotty internet connection. They have good coffee.
Grounded Café	West Village	28 Jane Street	This is a very charming café to get some work done. They have a 90-minute maximum for tables but that's rarely observed. Their Nutella lattes are more of a dessert than a coffee but they're incredible.
Cafe Sabarsky	Upper Eastside	1048 5th Ave	
Aroma Café	SoHo		Great coffee and a nice place to get some writing done if you don't mind a noisy atmosphere. They also make an amazing Alfajores with Dolce de Leche. Very weak and unstable internet connection though.
Housing Works Books House	SoHo		I love this place. The coffee and nibbles are average but in terms of a place to sit and get some work done, it's a fantastic atmosphere and extremely charming. The wifi isn't fantastic though so maybe good for offline work only.

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Must Have Apps

Immaculate Infatuation: Best foodie app for discovering restaurants in New York

NYC Subway

Halo: To order Yellow Cabs

Uber: To order cabs (1.7x price of usual cabs)

Yelp: Not useful for discovering new places, but great for pulling up phone numbers and addresses

Open Table: Great for making reservations