



GRAMERCY



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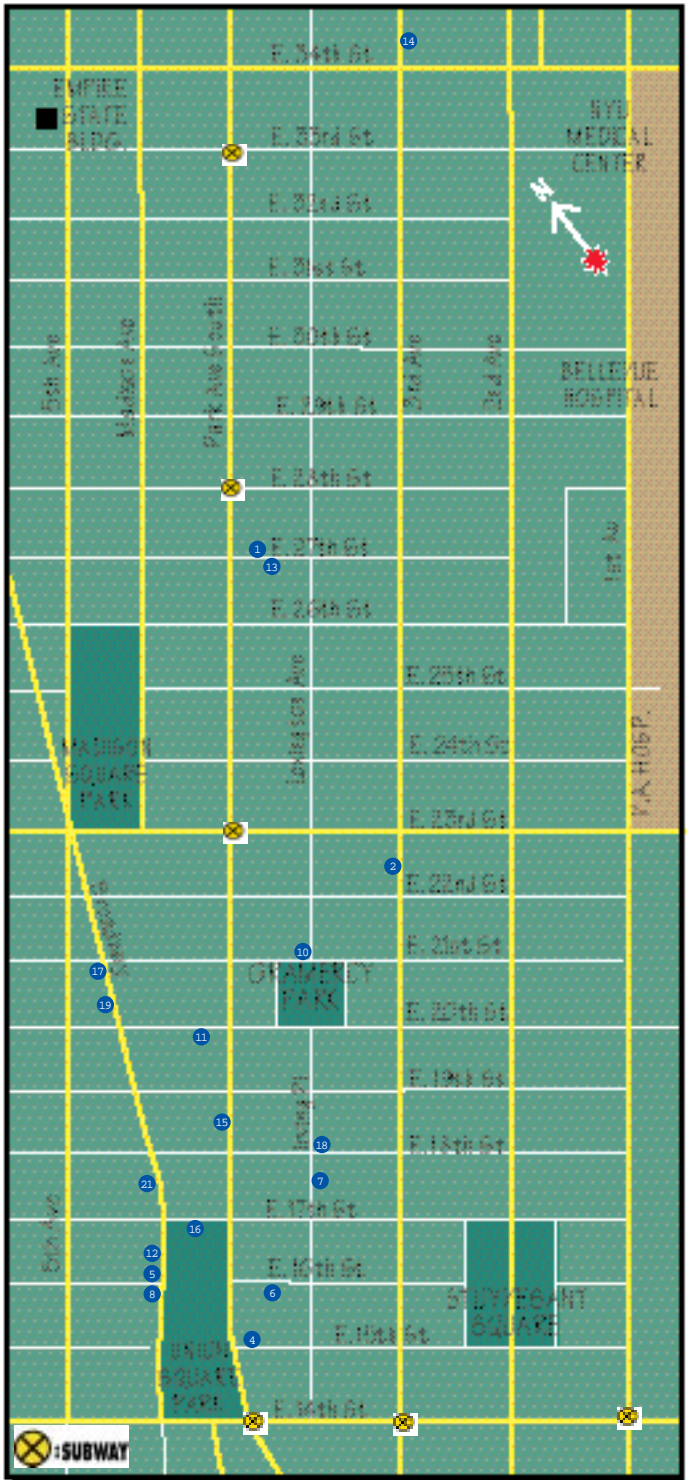
With its delightful tree-lined streets, Gramercy is a charming backdrop for a throbbing AtNight singles scene.

Subtle vestiges of the tranquil urban oasis Samuel Ruggles developed around Gramercy Park can still be felt over 160 years later. Dutch for "meandering little brook," Gramercy runs from the East River to 5th Avenue, bordered by 14th Street extending north to 34th Street.

Once considered the epicenter of New York high society, this is where the Roosevelts and Astors built their mansions long ago. With its delightful tree-lined streets, Gramercy remains a charming backdrop for a bustling AtNight scene.

In its swanky bars, sidewalk cafes and chic eateries, downtown mingles with uptown as in no other neighborhood in the city. Along the Park Avenue South corridor you'll find countless bars and lounges packed nightly with singles-minded young professionals. While there are several upscale restaurants surrounding the Flatiron Building on 23rd Street, you'll have to head further south into Union Square to tap into the center of Gramercy nightlife activity.

Stand on the corner of 16th Street and Park Avenue South and gaze uptown. Then cross through the bustling park and stand on Broadway and 14th Street and look downtown. Two sharply contrasting views of two separate worlds, yet just a few feet from each other, both draining into Gramercy.



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Type of Establishment
Bar/Restaurant
Hours
M-F 5pm-4am
Sa-Su 7pm-4am
Drink Prices
Moderate
Food
Eclectic
Nearest Subway
6 to 28th Street
Credit Cards
All Major

Aubette
119 East 27th Street
Between Park Avenue South & Lexington
212.686.5500

Visually stunning, Aubette evokes an 'industrial meets 50s modernist' aesthetic, with its leather couches, silver metal chairs and tables, functioning fireplace and cozy cigar room in the back that is a popular retreat. Though a bit B&T heavy at times, the crowd is nowhere near as annoying as some other Gramercy spots nearby. The eclectic menu served until closing, 22 different wines by the glass, 37 single malt scotch varieties and 11 different champagnes all make for great date props. But if you're looking for a night out with the boys (or girls), stay away. Dress suitably - i.e., New York chic.

Bahi
274 3rd Avenue
Between 21st & 22nd Streets
212.254.5466

With its 'South Asian meets MTV' attitude, this trendy Gramercy Park lounge with dimly lit little side rooms still oozes great karma. After enjoying a few drinks in the front room, retreat to the ashrams hidden deep in the back. Sink into the scene, cross your legs, close your eyes and connect with your inner child. Check it, look for the little black painted room tucked away and filled with leather beanbags. It's the absolute perfect place for doing any number of things.

Bar Demi
125 1/2 East 17th Street
Between Irving Place & 3rd Avenue
212.260.0900

Gramercy oenophiles these days need not journey all the way uptown for that really great grape juice. Right off Irving Place you'll find this charming little wine bar boasting an ample selection of seasonal, well-chosen vintages. Better yet, many of these can be had in half-bottle quantities (Take that, uptown). But, watch you don't spill your glass. You'll likely splash the entire crowd huddled around the five oh-so-small tables. But, they've made the most with the little real-estate available, providing a delightful way to while away a lazy afternoon or early evening.

Type of Establishment
Bar/Lounge
Hours
T-Sa 6pm-4am
Drink Prices
Moderate
Food
N/A
Nearest Subway
6 to 23rd Street
Credit Cards
AmEx, Diners, MC, V

Type of Establishment
Wine Bar
Hours
Tu-Sa 6pm-12am
Drink Prices
Expensive
Food
Tapas
Nearest Subway
N,R,4,5,6,L to Union Square

Belmont Lounge
117 East 15th Street
Between Irving Place & Union Square East
212.533.0009

Belmont Lounge is Gramercy cool, albeit in a smoky, cramped kind of way. NYU students and refugees from Irving Plaza next door crowd in alongside local hipsters nightly. The dimly lit booths at the rear separated by thin curtains fill up fast, but you can always step out to the outdoor seating area. Occasionally a celebrity will make the scene, as do other beauties and wannabe glams cruising the shabby chic surroundings. If you're the type that likes to play games (chess and backgammon, that is) then at least you'll have something to do if she shoots you down.

Blue Water Grill
31 Union Square West @ 16th Street
212.675.9500

Like fish out of water, you'll find thirsty patrons flopping all over each other to get drinks at the crowded bar of Steve Hanson's New York seafood eatery. The space is divided into a central bar, several dining areas, a raw bar, and, best of all, an elevated terrace overlooking Union Square's uptown-meets-downtown scene. While there are only a handful of seats at the tiny bar, it is still a great destination for early evening aperitifs or jazz listening. Attracted to its stylish decor and upscale, though unpretentious clientele, BWG packs in an eclectic crowd of young hipsters and mature professionals nightly. A hip, up-tempo mood prevails in the downstairs dining room featuring a small cigar bar and live jazz six nights a week.



Candela
116 East 16th Street
Between Irving Place & Park Avenue South
212.254.1600

Wrought iron, deep wood surfaces, high ceilings and dim lighting conspire to create a decidedly medieval atmosphere at this popular bar/restaurant just off Union Square. The cozy confines of this plush bat cave draw the usual hipsters you see floating through Union Square these days. The reasonably priced menu is both eclectic and tasty, a rare combination around here. And, the list of potent potables is exceptional and well balanced.

Type of Establishment
Restaurant/Lounge
Hours
Daily 4pm-4am
Drink Prices
Moderate
Food
American
Nearest Subway
4,5,6,N,R,L to Union Square
Credit Cards
All Major

Type of Establishment
Bar/Restaurant
Hours
M-Th 11:30am-0am
12:30am
F-Sa 11:30am-1am
Su 10:30am-12am
Drink Prices
Moderate
Food
Seafood
Nearest Subway
4,5,6,N,R,L to Union Square
Credit Cards
AmEx, MC, V

Type of Establishment
Bar/Restaurant
Hours
Daily 5:30pm-11pm
Drink Prices
Expensive

Type of Establishment
Hotel Bar
Hours
F
5pm-4am
Sa 6pm-4am
M-Th 5pm-2am
Drink Prices
Expensive
Food
N/A
Nearest
Subway
4,5,6,N,R,L to Union Square
Credit Cards
AmEx, MC, V
www.irringirving.com

Cibar (Inn at Irving Place)
56 Irving Place
Between 17th & 18th Streets
212.460.5656

This cozy hideaway makes the most of its lovely Irving Place locale. Inhabiting the basement of townhouse, Cibar recalls the romantic Gramercy atmosphere that once drew the city's sophisticates in droves. Sorry smokers, this once popular cigar haven has since snuffed out its cigar policy. Select from an extensive list of single malt scotches and martinis (23 different flavors starting at around \$8). Stroll out to the small outdoor space (front and back), and enjoy the evening.

Coffee Shop
29 Union Square West @ 16th Street
212.243.7969

Given its Union Square location, this Brazilian inspired all-nighter is a perennial favorite with the city's urban professionals. Go between 2am and 5am to see this venue at its most outrageous. The Coffee Shop is rarely empty and is a great place to cure your hang-over with the Samba band that plays weekend brunches. The hosts, mostly aspiring models and actresses, are high on style and light on brain cells, but they're great to chat up, and the tasty food speaks for itself. The bar staff rate the Caipirinha cocktail as their speciality, and after five or six, or was it seven...we just had to agree.

Dewey's Flatiron
210 5th Avenue
Between 25th & 26th Streets
212.685.7781

In the shadow of the impressive Flat Iron building you'll find this popular bi-level Gramercy watering hole. After work, the bar is flooded with wave after wave of attractive young professionals, including many dot-comers overflowing from nearby Silicon Alley. That's Dewey, as in Admiral not decimal, and you'll find murals of his epic sea battles lining the walls. Located across from Madison Square Park, Dewey's high vaulted brick ceiling adds a nice high touch, expanding the space. Dewey's works well for an informal pow-wow with the boss, a game of pool over a few cold pints or as an after-work steamblowing retreat.

Type of Establishment
Bar/Restaurant
Hours
M-Th 11:30am-2am
F-Sa 11:30am-3am
Su 11:30am-8pm
Drink Prices
Expensive
Food
American
Nearest
Subway
N,R to 23rd Street

Gramercy Park Hotel Bar
2 Lexington Avenue @ 21st Street
212.475.4320

Great for those lazy afternoons or an early evening rendezvous, this Old World style bar is a musty must-see New York classic hidden in an area choked with trendy venues. This spot derives a lot of its charm from its delightful location near that cozy and beautiful square called Gramercy Park. Second, it's the perfect place for a private tete-à-tete. Third, the drinks are quite good, which shouldn't be taken for granted in New York. Although you may not normally think to go to a hotel bar, this one is a gem and worth the visit.



Gramercy Tavern
42 East 20th Street
Between Broadway & Park Avenue South
212.477.0777

This tavern wedged in the popular restaurant is perfect for cocktailing. Swanky and upscale (both the space and the crowd), the bar caters to the older, suit and jacket set. On the weekends, it still favors an older crowd, but instead of suits you'll find blazers and shorter skirts. A very good date bar, the Gramercy Tavern is even a good place to meet up as a very small group. Drinks are on the pricier side, but that's in keeping with the upscale ambiance, and you can actually converse without shouting at each other.

Heartland Brewery
35 Union Square West
Between 16th & 17th Streets
212.645.3400

Is this joint ever not crowded? With its rustic ambiance, Heartland Brewery is a beer lover's best friend boasting scores of the liquid gold, including a few homemade. Even non-beer fanatics will appreciate the many blends - a tasting menu offers the best value for the money. Almost all of the beers are delicious (trust us, we know of what we speak), and they make a mean buffalo burger. The space is long, with full seating upstairs and downstairs. It does, though, get crowded quickly in the evenings, so call in advance for a table. There's also a second branch in midtown.

Type of Establishment
Hotel/Piano Bar
Hours
Daily 11am-1:30am
Drink Prices
Moderate
Food
American
Nearest
Subway
6,N,R to 23rd Street
Credit Cards
All Major

Type of Establishment
Bar/Restaurant
Hours
F-Sa 12pm-12am
Su-Th 12pm-11pm
Drink Prices
Expensive
Food
Fine American
Nearest
Subway
6, N, R to 23rd Street
Credit Cards
AmEx, MC, V

Type of Establishment
Bar/Restaurant
Hours
F-Sa 12pm-3am
Su 12pm-12am
M-Th 12pm-1am
Drink Prices
Moderate

Type of Establishment
Jazz Club

Hours
F-Sa 8, 10:30pm-12am
Tu-Th 9, 10:30pm

Drink Prices
Moderate

Food
American

Nearest Subway
6 to 28th Street

Credit Cards
All Major

The Jazz Standard
116 East 27th Street
Between Park Avenue South & Lexington
212.576.2232

Serious Jazz heads, especially those partial to bebop, need not trek all the way downtown anymore. Though only around since 1997, this stylish multi-level restaurant and lounge's stock is rapidly rising on the city's jazz scene. Downstairs you'll find the club, with two separate sections for smoking and non, a bar area with table service and a complete menu. The cover is \$10 (sometimes \$15), which is not that painful considering the talent. The upstairs bar area is stuffy and has a transitory feel to it. Unlike the usual cramped close-quartered ambiance of most jazz venues, you won't have to sit on someone else's lap to get a good view.

Joshua Tree
513 3rd Avenue Between 34th & 35th
212.689.0058

In the heart of Murray Hill, this sports bar-cum-restaurant cashes in on the thriving local twenty-something singles scene in the area. Named for a Californian desert and National Park, and not the U2 album, the Joshua Tree offers well-priced drinks, so-so American fare, and plenty of space to mingle. Not suggested for a weekend night, unless you want to jockey for space or cruise for the opposite sex. This spot is better on a schoolnight, especially if you're down with the local scene.

The Lemon
230 Park Avenue South
Between 18th & 19th Streets
212.614.1200

Park Avenue South suits chase down B&T blown out blondes nightly at this fashionable Gramercy bar/restaurant/lounge. Girls, get out your raincoats, because they shovel it chin-deep here. Lemon, though, has style and the little touches, like the black and white portraits of rock stars in the upstairs lounge, really personalize the space. The hotel lobbyish feel extends to the cafe area where tables and chairs face out towards the bustling avenue. The upstairs, loungish with sweet plush green couches, is more intimate and cozy and depending on the time of day, quieter. Make reservations if you want a table.

Type of Establishment
Bar/Restaurant

Hours
Daily 11am-4am

Drink Prices
Moderate

Food
American

Nearest Subway
6 to 33rd Street

Credit Cards
All Major

Type of Establishment
Bar/Restaurant/Lounge

Hours
Th-Sa 11:30am-2am
M-W 11:30am-3am

Luna Park
1 Union Square East (In Union Square)
212.475.8464

If it even looks like rain, you may want to Plan-B it to somewhere else. Mother Nature is the shot-caller at this seasonal (open May through October) open-air bar/250-seat cafe nestled in the heart of Union Square—a favorite of the stylists, publicists, and countless other -ists that flock here. Fold up chairs, plastic white tables, and huge umbrellas lend to the patio party feel of this seasonal Mediterranean-style restaurant. It's a great place to soak up the sun, sip on some bubbly, and escape from all the hustling and bustling madness of Union Square. Sure, the margaritas are mediocre, but that's beside the point. At Luna Park it's all about the scene.

Metronome
915 Broadway @ 21st Street
212.505.7400

This comfortable jazz venue draws a large industry contingent, both serious and pseudo-types alike. Designer labels abound and being understated is simply not an option here. The mezzanine lounge is perfect for profiling, and, judging from the number of people attached to their cell phones or checking pagers, apparently you must at least look busy while sitting in one of the booths. This spot has a rep for hosting private functions with a party space that fits 400, including its own bar.

Pete's Tavern
129 East 18th Street @ Irving Place
212.473.7676

How old is this place? This place is so old your great-grandmother probably got carded here. The oldest continually operating establishment in the city (circa 1864), this crusty, yet charming NYC institution still has its moments. The front room pub has its original tin ceiling, tile floor, antique mirrors and rosewood bar. The shrine above booth #3 was supposedly where O. Henry wrote *The Gift of the Magi*. Epic proportions of Italian and American cuisine are served at the bar and in three cozy dining rooms. This is a pretty good place to catch a strong whiff of Old New York, but the novelty wears thin after a while.



Type of Establishment
Bar/Restaurant

Hours
May-October
M-F 12pm-4am

Drink Prices
Expensive

Food
Mediterranean

Nearest Subway
4,5,6,N,R,L to Union Square

Credit Cards
AmEx, MC, V

Type of Establishment
Bar/Club Restaurant

Hours
Tu-Th 5pm-12am
F-Sa 5pm-4am

Drink Prices
Moderate

Food
Mediterranean

Nearest Subway
N,R to 23rd Street

Credit Cards
AmEx, MC, V

Type of Establishment
Bar/Restaurant

Hours
Daily 11am-2am

Drink Prices
Inexpensive

Food
Italian/American

Nearest Subway
4,5,6,N,R,L to Union Square

Type of
Establishment
Bar/Restaurant

Hours
Daily 12pm-
1am

Drink Prices
Moderate

Food
Eclectic
American

Nearest
Subway
N,R to
23rd Street

Credit Cards
All Major

Punch

913 Broadway
Between 20th & 21st Streets
212.673.6333

The intimate bar and bistro scene here is dominated by an interesting mix of young lovelies, fashion designers, Europeans and aging hippies. Girlfriends seem to love meeting up here, quietly chatting away to a light soundtrack of world music. Following the floor mosaic, steal a juicy olive from the big plate at the bar, and wind up in the chic restaurant with its inspirational transparent and gold organza curtains and fabric-covered chairs. Settle yourself into a sea of suits and fashion pros feasting on an intricate mix of eclectic American dishes.

Rodeo Bar

375 3rd Avenue @ 27th Street
212.683.6500

Duck into the Rodeo Bar in Murray Hill and you'll feel like you've left the city altogether. In the 310-capacity side room, local roots rock groups belt out urban-cowboy hymns, while the large bar and restaurant serves up classic Tex-Mex fare amid a floor covered in peanut shells and spilled beer. This is ground zero for the alt-country explosion that overtook the city in the early 1990s, and today you can still hear free music from the likes of Lil Mo and the Monicats, GE Smith (that blonde guy from SNL), The Hangdogs and The Flying Neutrinos. It's almost like Austin, Texas, just up and moved to 3rd Avenue. Well, almost.

Union Bar

204 Park Avenue South
Between 17th & 18th Streets
212.674.2105

Benefiting from its Park Avenue South locale just off Union Square, the scene here is set against a backdrop of unadorned brown, beige and gray walls, further mellowed by a mix of cool jazz and funk. The centerpiece here is obviously the voluptuously curved-wood bar (an elegant hand-me-down from the Astor Hotel), at which a sophisticated, neat corporate crowd gathers after work. If people-watching at the bar grows tiresome, sink into the leather couches and chairs at the diner-like divisions behind the bar. You might feel like a loser if you show up alone, so it's best to arrange to meet up with a group of friends here.

Type of
Establishment
Bar/Live
Music/
Restaurant

Hours
12pm-4am

Drink Prices
Moderate

Food
Tex-Mex

Nearest
Subway
6 to 28th
Street

Credit Cards
All Major

www.rodeobar.
-com

Type of
Establishment
Bar/Lounge

Hours
M-W 5pm-
2am, Th-F
5pm-4am, Sa
8pm-4am

Drink Prices
Expensive

Food
Pizza

Nearest