



# SoHo



*AtNight entertainment in this area is a blend of upscale chic and downtown realism, all splashed with SoHo's signature emphasis on fashion and style.*

Formerly known as "Hell's Hundred Acres," the neighborhood **SO**uth of **HO**uston has since reinvented itself as one of the city's centers for contemporary art, fashion and AtNight entertainment. Dismissed as one large commercial slum in a 1962 city report, *The Wastelands of New York*, today thousands flock to the tony boutiques and upscale sidewalk cafes that line this former light-manufacturing district.

Bounded by Canal Street and West Houston, SoHo stretches west from the Bowery to the Hudson River. While several major galleries have been drawn to Chelsea lured by lower rents and larger spaces, other non-profit galleries and museums have arrived, including the New Museum for Contemporary Art, the Drawing Center, the Museum for African Art, and the Guggenheim SoHo.

SoHo has outgrown its early radical persona, aspiring to new heights both culturally and economically with each passing year. AtNight activity in this area is a mix of upscale chic and downtown realism, all splashed with SoHo's signature emphasis on fashion and style.

Bordering SoHo and the Lower East Side, Little Italy remains the heart of New York's Old World Italian culture - a character slowly being chiseled away by time. The turn-of-the-century tide of Italian immigrants has since swept onward and upward. However, the faint wisps of the rich culture they've left behind can still be savored over a stroll down Mulberry Street.



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Type of  
Establishment  
Lounge

Hours  
Daily 9pm-  
4am

Drink Prices  
Moderate

Food  
N/A

Nearest  
Subway  
C,E to  
Spring Street

Credit Cards  
All Major

**357**  
357 West Broadway  
Between Grand & Broome  
212.965.1491

Cool and smoothed out with simple sophistication and a funky downtown edge best describes this SoHo lounge formerly known as Magnum. The booths, soft as a suede diaper, create the perfect space for a group of SoHo socialites to congregate. Though the scene is certainly flute fitting, champagne isn't the only libation served here. Wine, aperitifs, French and Belgian ales, and different treats flow on and on throughout the night. Popular with the fashion crowd, there may not be a cover at the door, but you'd better look utterly fabulous if you expect to get in.

**Balthazar**  
80 Spring Street Btwn. Crosby & Broadway  
212.965.1414

Though no longer THE place to be seen in SoHo that it was last year, this still popular bistro offers excellent French cuisine and effervescent ambiance. From the fashion industry to the Street, the crowd is fawningly in love with itself and life at Balthazar. It's not particularly original in design (one need only look at other Keith McAlley creations such as Lucky Stripe and Pravda to see that), but it's got attitude. Sometimes, especially in SoHo, that's more than enough. And, while you probably won't have to fork over your first born to get a reservation, it's still pretty difficult to snag a table here on short notice.

**Bar 89**  
89 Mercer Street Between Broome & Spring  
212.274.0989

Bar 89 is undisputable evidence that minimalism works in NYC AtNight. This sleek bar-cum-neo-neighborhood diner nestled deep in the heart of SoHo also boasts plenty of bar goodies. Behemoth burgers, tangy buffalo wings and nachos smothered in creamy cheese will leave you finger licking from the knuckle to the nail. Aesthetically speaking, ever-changing art installations constantly re-invent this space. Meanwhile, the drinks are as large as the hefty portions on the menu. And, the unique bathrooms have become quite the tourist attraction. Simple, sleek and sumptuous, is it any wonder that Bar 89 needs a doorman to control the flow on weekends?

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar/Restaurant

Hours  
F-Sa 12pm-  
3am  
Su 11:30am-  
2am M-Th  
12pm-2am

Drink Prices  
Expensive

Food  
French

Nearest  
Subway  
6 to Spring  
Street

Credit Cards  
All Major

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar/Restaurant

Hours  
Daily 12pm-  
2am

Drink Prices  
Moderate

Food  
Eclectic  
American

Nearest

**Cafe Noir**  
32 Grand Street @ Thompson  
212.431.7910

Allow us to set the stage for your mysterious encounter at Cafe Noir. Lanterns covered in faux gems seductively cast a romantic glow as you gently lead her to a table. The stucco walls adorned with hand-woven tapestries are barely noticed, as you've only eyes for each other. Massive potted palm trees and archways upon archways accentuate the French Moroccan inspired ambiance, drawing you both closer to a personal intimate oasis. You slowly savor an array of delicate, colorful seafood dishes before quickly paying the bill and suddenly disappearing into the cold Manhattan night.



**Casa La Femme**  
150 Wooster Street  
212.505.0005

Plush over-sized pillows made for the fattest pharaoh's fanny await you at this novel SoHo eatery and bar. Further inside you'll find tables and chairs beneath Bedouin-themed 'tents,' settings behind curtains flowing to the ground for privacy. Adding to the opium den-like appeal of the room, brass shisha pipes (bongs with culture) stand tall on center room tables inviting all to take tokes of apple-cinnamon flavored tobacco. Can you think of a better place to take a date? It's low-key and very tasteful. Call ahead for any type of seating.

**Chibi's Sake Bar**  
238 Mott Street @ Prince  
212.274.0025

This unpretentious SoHo sake bar is the namesake of the owner's cuddly bulldog, immortalized in a gold-framed photograph above the lovingly arranged glass shelves holding all the trinkets necessary for authentic sake drinking. Relaxing young and old downtown hipsters enjoy, among others, seven-year-old Koshiyu-Yoshiorino sake in minuscule, hand-painted glasses, and Japanese appetizers at the curved, marble corner bar. Couples lost in each other disappear behind the blue-velvet curtains to smooch at one of the little tables in the darker, unadorned, though cozier, side of the room.

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar/Restaurant

Hours  
Daily 11pm-  
4am

Drink Prices  
Moderate

Food  
French  
Moroccan

Nearest  
Subway  
A,C,E,1,9 to  
Canal Street

Credit Cards  
AmEx

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar/Restaurant

Hours  
W-Sa 5pm-  
4am Su-Th  
5pm-12am

Drink Prices  
Expensive

Food  
Egyptian

Nearest  
Subway  
N,R to  
Prince Street

Credit Cards  
AmEx, MC, V

Type of  
Establishment  
Lounge

Hours  
F-Sa 6pm-2am  
Su 6pm-12am  
T-Th 6pm-1am

Drink Prices  
Expensive

Food  
Appetizers

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar/Lounge

Hours  
Th-Sa 5pm-  
4am Su-W  
5pm-2am

Drink Prices  
Expensive

Food  
Eclectic

Nearest  
Subway  
A,C,E to  
Spring Street

Credit Cards  
AmEx, Diners,  
MC, V

www.circa-  
tabac.com

**Circa Tabac**  
32 Watts Street  
212.941.1781

Surgeon General, Sturgeon Peneral. Worry not our nicotine fueled nightcrawlers, have we found the Puff-daddiest spot for you. Tear off that annoying patch and spit out that nasty gum, Circa Tabac is waiting for you with over 160 styles of sticks from around the world, with a menu that won't exactly kick



you in the ...wallet. This chic old school 20s-style lounge tucked away on Watts Street is fashioned for the sophisticated smoker in you. You would think you'd have to worry about second, third,

maybe even fourth-hand smoke at a spot like this, but not with the mega smoke sucking air-purifiers they've got hooked up here.

**Cub Room**  
131 Sullivan Street @ Prince Street  
212.677.4100

Weekdays this SoHo special co-owned by Chris Noth, a.k.a. *Sex in the City's* Mr. Big, is awash in afterworkers. Weekends you'll find a more relaxed scene that still manages an 'Upper East Side crashing downtown' brand of AtNight flavor. The wine list is exceptional, the waitstaff attentive, and they whip up quite the delicious Watermelon Martini. This spot works best early evenings, especially if you grab a table by the front windows looking out onto the always stylish SoHo sidewalk traffic.

**Denial**  
46 Grand Street  
212.925.9449

Not aspiring to be more than what it is, this unassuming SoHo sake bar is popular not only for its wide selection (over 30 including 15 high end varieties of the wildly popular rice wine to choose from) but also for its warm inviting atmosphere. Denial's modern stainless steel, velvet couched decor works well with its SoHo surrounds. For novices yet to develop a taste for this favorite of all Japanese exports, the patient, knowledgeable waitstaff make the experience painless and eventually enjoyable, especially after you've sucked down a few.

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar/Restaurant

Hours  
F-Sa 12pm-  
3am  
Su-Th 12pm-  
1am

Drink Prices  
Moderate

Food  
New American

Nearest  
Subway  
C,E to  
Spring Street

Credit Cards  
All Major

www.cubroom.  
-com

Type of  
Establishment  
Sake Bar

Hours  
Daily 6pm-  
4am

Drink Prices  
Expensive

Food  
Appetizers

Nearest

**Don Hill's**  
511 Greenwich Street @ Spring  
212.334.1390

Scantly clad go-go boys get the eager crowd frothing Friday nights at this popular gay SoHo nightspot. Expect to find the usual suspects here, as well as everything from beautiful drag divas to bold trannies. Loud hard-core rock'n'roll blares from the speakers all night long. Soft porn slide shows/movies play continuously throughout the night, adding a novel touch while setting the evening on cruise control. Thursdays 80s-theme night is a fan flashback fave when DJs bust everything from Madonna to Bananarama.

**Double Happiness**  
173 Mott Street Between Broome & Grand  
212.941.1282

Descend into Double Happiness, a dark smoky catacomb-chic space beneath the suddenly sexy streets of Chinatown. As with most great well-hidden lounges, the herd was bound to find out and stomp its way down Mott Street. Friendly packs of young locals and out-of-towners happily down Green Tea Martinis on rickety little tables to a loud 70s psychedelic funk soundtrack. Don't get sidetracked on your search for the bathroom as you stagger around the bizarre white-kitchen-tiles and uncouth-stone corner bar. P.S. The intricate alcoves make for great one on ones activities.



**Ear Inn**  
326 Spring Street  
212.226.9060

Over the years, this downtown landmark has served as a boarding house, smugglers' den and brothel. Today, it's a charming rickety SoHo dive with beat up bar stools, weathered walls, bric-a-brac and, some say, ghosts inhabiting the cobweb filled attic. Surrealist painter Salvador Dali and John Lennon are among the many who have imbibed a brew or two over the years in this watering hole once called a "dump with dignity" by *The New York Times*. Look, the drinks are cheap, the vibe relaxed and the regular ripped jeans and t-shirt crowd don't seem to mind the decor at all.

Type of  
Establishment  
Club

Hours  
Daily 10pm-  
4am

Drink Prices  
Moderate

Food  
N/A

Nearest  
Subway  
N,R to  
Prince Street

Credit Cards  
Cash Only

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar

Hours  
F-Sa 6pm-4am  
Su-Th 6pm-  
3am

Drink Prices  
Expensive

Food  
Asian  
Appetizers

Nearest  
Subway  
6 to  
Spring Street

Credit Cards  
AmEx, MC, V

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar/Restaurant

Hours  
Daily 12pm-  
4am

Drink Prices  
Cheap

Food  
Bar Menu

Nearest

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar

Hours  
Daily 10pm-  
2am

Drink Prices  
Cheap

Food  
Bar Menu

Nearest  
Subway  
N,R to Prince  
Street

Credit Cards  
AmEx, MC, V

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar/Lounge

Hours  
Daily 12pm-  
2am

Drink Prices  
Expensive

Food  
Appetizers

Nearest  
Subway  
A,C,E to  
Canal Street

Credit Cards  
All Major

www.schogrand.com

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar

Hours  
Tu-Su 7pm-  
4am

Drink Prices  
Expensive

Food  
N/A

Nearest  
Subway  
1,9 to  
Canal Street

### Fanelli's Cafe

94 Prince Street @ Mercer  
212.226.9412

Established decades before there was even a scene to speak of South of Houston, this Prince Street cafe is the second oldest continuously operating food and drink establishment in the entire city. Witnessing the nabe's evolution from stoic commercial district to gallery-lined art and fashion Mecca, this 153-year-old corner joint remains timeless. Sandals and clean-t-shirt-casual, Fanelli's is always packed with colorful local regulars, skinflints who'd rather get drunk on the cheap before stumbling across the street to the higher priced Mercer Kitchen, and fans of the friendly barkeeps.

### Grand Bar (SoHo Grand)

310 West Broadway Btwn. Grand & Canal  
212.965.3000

Large mirrors and long curtains at the Grand Bar accentuate its high ceilings, creating a classic ambiance with a subtle spin on the hotel bar concept that New Yorkers love so much. Also very digable is the casual way the bar spills over out into the lounge/lobby - same drinks, different vibe. Ten ducats for a martini is a bit absurd (even if it tastes good as hell), but in a city of endless diversions, here's a bar that lives up to its name. The expected clientele-actors, A- and B-list models, and young urbanites-most certainly agree.

### Ice Bar

528 Canal Street @ Washington Street  
212.226.2602

The icy white minimalist interior boasts an ultra-mod lounge area with streamlined leather sectional vinyl couches and a silver ice princess sculpture gracing the teal-blue lit bar. Speakers blurt out DJ driven house and techno tracks while young and beautiful New Yorkers sip Blue Mandarins. The Chocolate Martini makes an excellent night cap, tempting even the most fabulously fabulous to uncouthly lick the inside of their glasses with extended pinkies. The chatty bartenders and the establishment's owners, who don't mind mingling with the clientele, lend warmth to the bar's cool surrealism. Just north of TriBeCa barely over the SoHo border, Ice Bar is a welcome addition to both scenes.

### Ideya

349 West Broadway  
Between Broome & Grand Streets  
212.625.1441

Specializing in Latin drinks and pan-Latino food, this colorful Bodega-chic bar/restaurant is a refreshing change of pace in Manhattan's too trendy Soho district. Don't miss the minty Mojitos, puree-puree Batidas, rums, tequilas and Chilean and Argentinean wines. Tasty noshes available include Rellenos Azules and Camarones Grandes. For a main course, reel in the sea bass. Fridays the crowd is there to enjoy the bar scene, while Saturdays tend to attract more food aficionados, swooning couples, families and locals for dining. Live salsa music Monday evenings, the lively Tuesday night dominoes fests and an affable staff keep a casual mix of 'non-Soho trendy' 30-somethings coming back for more.

### Jet Lounge

286 Spring Street  
Between Varick & Hudson  
212.929.4780

Shards of sparkling mirrored glass practically cover every square inch of this stylish SoHo lounge. The glass elements, coupled with the silver and white color scheme, give the space an icy, almost igloo-like appearance. Not to be confused with its three-year-old Eastside little sister, Jet Lounge was once the IT place to be. These days, you won't find many celebs, rather mostly SoHo locals and suits on cell phones. This is a really nice place to cool out for a few hours and lay plans, but it's really not a final destination.

### Kavehaz

123 Mercer Street Btwn. Prince & Spring  
212.343.0612

From their milkshakes to the malt scotches and music, this trendy SoHo cafe is a fine blend of European refinement, sans pretense or attitude. Where else in SoHo can you hear live jazz in a clean candle-lit cafe, while still being able to converse candidly with your companions? Where else in New York can you order a flight combining samplings of fine wines, beers, scotches, or the stunning "Johnny Walker Quartet" (a Friday night fave with our editorial staff)? We'll tell you: Kavehaz, Kavehaz, Kavehaz. And, the gallery-esque attention to art rounds out this satisfying sensory retreat.

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar/Restaurant

Hours  
Daily 6pm-  
2am

Drink Prices  
Expensive

Food  
Latin Bistro

Nearest  
Subway  
C,E to  
Spring Street

Credit Cards  
All Major

Type of  
Establishment  
Lounge

Hours  
W -Sa 10pm-  
4am

Drink Prices  
Expensive

Food  
N/A

Nearest  
Subway  
1,9 to Houston  
Street

Credit Cards  
AmEx, MC, V

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar/Restaurant

Hours  
Su-Th 12pm-  
1am

Drink Prices  
Expensive

Food  
Pasta/Salads

Nearest  
Subway C,E  
to  
Spring Street

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar/Restaurant

Hours  
Th-Sa 12pm-  
4am Su-W  
12pm-3am

Drink Prices  
Expensive

Food  
French Bistro

Nearest  
Subway  
A,C,E,N,R to  
Canal Street

Credit Cards  
AmEx, DC,  
MC, V

www.luckstrike-ny.com

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar/Restaurant

Hours  
Sa-Su  
11:30am-  
4am  
M-F 5pm-3am

Drink Prices  
Moderate

Food  
Italian/  
American

Nearest  
Subway  
6 to  
Spring Street

Credit Cards  
AmEx, MC, V

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar

Hours  
Th-Sa 5pm-  
3:30am  
M-W 5pm-2am

Drink Prices  
Moderate

Food  
N/A

Nearest  
Subway  
N,R to  
Prince Street

### Lucky Strike

59 Grand Street  
Between West Broadway & Wooster  
212.941.0479/212.941.0772

This popular French bistro has changed little over the past decade. And, while some critics say it's breezed past its prime, we say they just shook out some of the poseurs. Nightlifers have always been fickle around here (witness the shuttering of former darling Spy), so surviving South of Houston isn't something to be shrugged off lightly. This narrow golden-hued space is still swamped with a fashionable crowd on weekends. DJs are still spinning quality tunes nightly. And that European undertow is still dragging us back.

### M&R

264 Elizabeth Street  
212.226.0559

This popular Elizabeth Street mainstay hits on all SoHo cylinders blending an intimate vibe and casual atmosphere with a great scotch selection and slick downtown crowd. DJs get the heads a noddin with mellow cuts Thursdays through Saturdays. With about fifty varieties per liquor category, ranging from scotch, rum, whiskey, gin, cordials, wine, champagne and brandy, you can easily lose track of time, and maybe even consciousness. An outdoor garden and a back room that doubles as the restaurant offers some seating, but the best place to sit will always be up front, right by the bar.

### Merc Bar

151 Mercer Street  
Between Prince & West Houston  
212.966.2727

The Merc Bar could very well sub as an off-site exhibit of the Museum of Natural History, complete with a giant canoe hanging over the bar, wooden fixtures, and oil paintings of Navahos. Call it Indian reservation meets cobblestone covered stylish SoHo retreat. Or maybe it's simply a laid back lounge suited up log cabin chic. But before you stumble out and shoot down to the Adirondacks, keep in mind that you've never been camping, your wardrobe is all black with little, if any, flannel, and we highly doubt you'll find too many slammin' DJs spinning funk, soul, and R&B up there. Trust us, you're better off with The Great InDoors.

### Mercer Bar (Mercer)

99 Prince Street @ Mercer  
212.966.6060

Ain't elitism just grand? You better believe it is, especially when it's delivered with such swank appeal like that you'll find oozing from this upscale hotel bar inhabiting the tony Mercer Hotel. After some time, you may just actually start to feel like a star mingling with the well-heeled crew that congregates at this small space looking out onto a Prince Street corner. The service is top-shelf and the drinks come fully loaded and loaded. But, you'd better make sure to pack that high-power plastic because this brand of nightlife always commands a hefty price.

### n

33 Crosby Street Between Grand & Broome  
212.219.8856

Pronounced "en-yay," this sexy Spanish wine and tapas bar may be only inches wide, but it's endlessly long and seductively lit by candles. Squeeze closer to each other, wedged between the exposed-brick wall and the two slim bars in a row, and try to catch a stool to order a glass of Rioja and some tapas (a smart Spanish form of hors d'oeuvres) to keep your alcohol level under control. It does pack up with a rather homogenous Gap and Banana Republic clad crew that engages in animated conversations, idling for hours enjoying the scene.

### NV

289 Spring Street  
Between Hudson & Varick  
212.929.NVNV

Venture in off Spring Street through the dimly lit corridors and enter a trendy downtown lounge with accents of Old New York. The glam guys and dolls profiling on vintage chic lounges have their fair share of attitude, but once the posing ends (hopefully it's usually around 1 am) this crowd heads upstairs and gets down to the dirty business at hand, namely dancing. After a few good hours of sweatin' to the newbies, head back downstairs and get to know your inevitably attractive partner a little better in one of the sexy curtain-flanked enclaves.



Type of  
Establishment  
Bar/Restaurant

Hours  
F-Sa 5:30pm-  
2am  
Su-Th 5:30pm-  
1am

Drink Prices  
Moderate

Food  
Appetizers

Nearest  
Subway  
N,R to  
Prince Street

Credit Cards  
AmEx, Diners,  
MC, V

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar/Restaurant

Hours  
F-Sa 5pm-4am  
M-Th 5pm-  
2am

Drink Prices  
Moderate

Food  
Tapas

Nearest  
Subway  
6 to  
Spring Street

Credit Cards  
Cash Only

Type of  
Establishment  
Lounge/Club

Hours  
W-Su 10pm-  
4am

Drink Prices  
Expensive

Food  
N/A

Nearest  
Subway  
C,E to  
Spring Street

Credit Cards  
All Major

www.nv289.co

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar

Hours  
Tu-Sa 6pm-  
4am

Drink Prices  
Moderate

Food  
N/A

Nearest  
Subway  
A,C,E to  
Canal Street

Credit Cards  
All Major

### Naked Lunch

17 Thompson Street @ Grand  
212.343.0828

Whoa, hold on there, sweetheart. Keep your panties on. This isn't that kind of party. Sorry all you budding exhibitionists, but this popular little SoHo mainstay gets its moniker from the novel by beatnik-era writer William Burroughs. The emphasis here is clearly on the music, though someone should have told that to the guy who designed the small dance floor. You'll want to check out the list of specialty drinks before grabbing for a Heinie. And, the crowd ranges from Wall Streeters to SoHo Bohemians. Expect a line if you're not here early, and yes, there is a dress code.

### Pravda

281 Lafayette Street  
212.226.4944

Unwind against a backdrop of Russian street signs and communist industrial paintings in this Moscow-chic underground. We're glad most of the scenesters that crammed this place last year have finally moved on to other club du jours. Downstairs is one giant communal space awash in a warm copper glow, but there's always the more intimate second level. A friendly, semi-circular bar opens onto a warm, cellar-like lounge/bistro with atmosphere - warmly lit with candles, well-ventilated, and featuring jazz as background music. The bartenders have a heavy hand and drinks like Lime-nade, The Russian Mary and The Viagra (Stoli Orange, Blue Curacao, and something else) are sure to get a rise out of anyone.

### Raoul's

180 Prince Street  
Between Thompson & Sullivan  
212.966.3518

While it's been on the SoHo scene for over 24 years, this French bistro is almost as popular as it was when it first opened. On most nights the line to get into this place spills out onto Prince Street. The front room's familial aura - walls com-



fortably cluttered with old oil paintings, Victorian era mirrors, and black and white photos - is warm and welcoming. Gentlemen, the ultra-romantic garden dining room is the perfect place to pop the question.

Type of  
Establishment  
Restaurant/  
Lounge

Hours  
F-Sa 5pm-4am  
Su 6pm-  
1:30am  
M-Th 5pm-  
3am

Drink Prices  
Expensive

Food  
Russian

Nearest  
Subway  
N,R to  
Prince Street

Credit Cards  
All Major

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar/Restaurant

Hours  
Daily 5pm-  
2am

Drink Prices  
Moderate

Food  
French Bistro

Nearest

### The Room

144 Sullivan Street  
212.477.2102

This is the place to feel fabulous without really having to look the part. So cool, so pleasant, so unpretentiously hip and intimate. Don't tell your friends unless you want them taking up precious space. With just two long, narrow rooms, the natural inclination is to keep it a secret, preserving a spot for yourself at the bar, or on the low, soft seats lining the wall. Great beer and friendly bar staff invite impromptu conversations with strangers, but this is no pick-up joint. Civilized, grown-up and cozy, The Room is a spot to cherish in this city of quick-change cocktail fashions.

### S.O.B.'s (Sounds of Brazil)

204 Varick Street @ West Houston  
212.243.4940

A sultry Brazilian breeze blows into SoHo each night, gathering gale force strength before lifting the crowds here out of their seats and slamming them into each other on the dance floor. Complete with all the colorful ClubMed trimmings, S.O.B.'s envelops a multi-culti crowd grooving together to a live Latin soundtrack. Catch your breath with a Caipirinha (the popular Brazilian cocktail) before plunging back out on the dance floor pulsing with Brazilian, Caribbean or African music. After an exhausting lesson on how to shake bundas (behinds) by a snakeskin-clad Brazilian singer, the exhausted crowd can relax with tropical food at the tables, or a refreshment from the elevated bar. The night will be memorable, and not only for the steep drink prices, and even steeper covers.

### Scharmann's

386 West Broadway  
212.219.2561

With its parade of SoHo scenesters, this ballroom-sized Kaffeehaus will keep you in the mix while sidestepping the maddening downtown club hustle. The hip, beautiful crowd checks each other out across the antique and pseudo-antique furniture, of which each piece is truly unique, including writing desks, lamps and couches. Or, you can lounge around the terrace and take in West Broadway before sucking it up and diving back into the mainstream.

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar/Lounge

Hours  
Daily 5pm-  
4am

Drink Prices  
Moderate

Food  
N/A

Nearest  
Subway  
C,E to  
Spring Street

Credit Cards  
Cash Only

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar/Live Music

Hours  
Daily 6:30pm-  
3:30am

Drink Prices  
Expensive

Food  
Tropical

Nearest  
Subway  
1,9 to  
Houston Street

Credit Cards  
All Major

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar/Cafe

Hours  
F-Su 9am-3am  
M-Th 9am-  
12am

Drink Prices  
Moderate

Food  
Light American

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar/Lounge

Hours  
M-Sa 9:30pm-  
4am

Drink Prices  
Moderate

Food  
N/A

Nearest  
Subway  
A,C,E to  
Canal Street

Credit Cards  
All Major

www.shinelive.  
-com

### Shine

285 West Broadway @ Canal Street  
212.941.0900

Part dance club, part sideshow attraction, part music venue, Shine blends the avant-garde with the delightfully ludicrous. While drinking Cement Mixers and pink Victoria's Secrets, you may be lucky enough to have the barkeep dazzle you with his slight-of-hand magic tricks. Stage acts might include a musician who plays the spoons, acrobatic sisters on a trapeze, a live Reggae band or a performer rumored to shoot firecrackers out of his - well, you get the picture. When eyes aren't on stage, DJ groupies, suits, models, B&Ts and all other walks of AtNight life hit the dance floor.

### Sway

305 Spring Street  
Between Greenwich & Hudson Streets  
212.620.5220

This hidden retro lounge with its Moroccan cave-like appeal neither needs nor wants promotion. That's because word is already out on Sway, now wrapped up annoyingly tight with a thick velvet rope. The huge Moroccan stained-glass lamp light throws ornate shadows on the bowed orange ceiling. Actors, music industry types or just regular mortals, even a few with pony-tails and black leather jackets, gather around the intricate mosaic tables in the warm, back-room salon as they listen to Electronica, Middle Eastern tunes or Brit Rock. Heads Up: If the sign outside says McGovern's, don't despair, you are in the right place.

### Sweet & Vicious

5 Spring Street Btwn. Bowery & Elizabeth  
212.334.7915

It may be located on the fringes of both SoHo and the LES, but in demeanor Sweet & Vicious belongs much more to the latter. There's no tall, spindly DJ dutifully mixing in the corner, nor will you find up-and-coming bands playing here. Rather a loose group of neighborhood folks and friends of the staff come to enjoy inexpensive drinks in the wood and brick interior, or outside in the garden when the weather permits. It's the kind of place where you can whittle away hot, summer afternoons or let the illuminated ceilings warm your spirit in the winter.

### Velvet Restaurant & Lounge

223 Mulberry Street  
212.965.0439

This garage-turned-groove bar and restaurant with mile high ceilings, dramatic red walls and black velvet curtains attracts a high-energy mix of mostly young professionals from the neighborhood and older folks who enjoy the good continental fare. The sumptuous upstairs lounge accommodates large groups gathering on its reupholstered, nouveau-aristocratic couches, and features live jazz on Wednesdays, French chansons on Thursdays and Latin/Cuban tunes on Fridays. Chess and backgammon boards are also available. All this for no cover charge. Come on now!

### Veruka

525 Broome Street  
212.625.1717

Though no longer the new kid on the 'place to be seen' block, this industrial-styled restaurant/lounge has exhibited unusual staying power on the fickle SoHo scene. The 'don't hate me because I'm beautiful and dress better than thou' vibe is still in full effect, but thankfully they've toned down their first-degree velvet rope burn policy. Max at the crowded bar upstairs or pose in the lounge down. But you'd better move in quick. There's no telling how much longer this scene will hold out.

### VOID

16 Mercer Street @ Howard  
212.941.6492

Give your audio-visuals a workout at VOID, where a giant video screen plays art films to a DJ-spun electronica soundtrack. Video monitors double as cocktail tables and large white Chinese lanterns within the black and red interior only add to the surrealistic effect. An often artistic and chic crowd mingles mightily most evenings (decked out with all the right props, including dark rimmed glasses, messed hair and the occasional air kiss-kissing). DJ devotees turn out for the guys working it out on the one and twos. During the week a suit clad, after work crowd may gather, while Sunday evenings attract movie lovers sipping cocktails while watching cult films.

Type of  
Establishment  
Restaurant/  
Lounge

Hours  
M-Sa 5:30pm-  
4am

Drink Prices  
Expensive

Food  
Continental

Nearest  
Subway  
6 to  
Spring Street

Credit Cards  
AmEx, MC, V

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar/Lounge

Hours  
Daily 10pm-  
4am

Drink Prices  
Expensive

Food  
N/A

Nearest  
Subway  
A,C,E to  
Spring Street

Credit Cards  
AmEx, Diners,  
MC, V

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar/Restaurant

Hours  
Daily 8pm-  
4am

Drink Prices  
Expensive

Food  
New American

Nearest  
Subway A,C,E  
to  
Canal Street

Credit Cards  
AmEx, MC, V

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar

Hours  
Daily 4pm-  
4am

Drink Prices  
Inexpensive

Food  
N/A

Nearest  
Subway  
6 to  
Spring Street

Type of  
Establishment  
Lounge

Hours  
F-Sa 8pm-3am  
Tu-Th 8pm-  
2am

Drink Prices  
Expensive

Food  
N/A

Nearest  
Subway  
A,C,E,N,R,J,6  
to Canal Street

Type of  
Establishment  
Karaoke Bar

Hours  
Daily 8pm-  
4am

Drink Prices  
Moderate

Food  
Appetizers

Nearest  
Subway N, R  
to  
Canal Street

Credit Cards  
Cash Only

### Winnie's

104 Bayard Street  
Between Mulberry & Baxter  
212.732.2384

For some reason the celebrity set insists on hitting the Elbow Room for their drunken nights of karaoke. Let's hope it stays that way. Tucked away on a quiet SoHo sidestreet, Winnie's is just too, well, real to withstand the crush of beautiful people. It's got everything you could ask for in a karaoke joint: torn red vinyl booths, Buds in bottles, more song selections in Chinese than in English, impossibly cheesy, sunlit videos, neighborhood devotees who belt out Chinese pop tunes, and only a token handful of 20-somethings brutally massacring "*Sister Christian*." This is the perfect spot to cap off a grueling downtown bar crawl.

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar/Live Music

Hours  
Daily 6pm-  
4am

Drink Prices  
Moderate

Food  
N/A

Nearest  
Subway  
A, C, E, B, D, F, Q  
to West 4th  
Street

Credit Cards  
AmEx, MC, V

### Zinc Bar

90 West Houston Street  
Between LaGuardia & Thompson  
212.477.8337

Crammed into the corner, bands perform within arm's length of the audience at this West Houston watering hole. The close quarters, though, don't stop the jazz bands from jamming for real every night. Zinc features American and African bands, but the flavor of choice among the Mojito drinking patrons is definitely the Latin nights on Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday. If the music is too in your face, follow frisky felines Ella and Holiday (resident cats) to the back room and for some serious stretching out.

### Zoë

90 Prince Street  
212.966.6722

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar/Restaurant

Hours  
M 6pm-  
10:30pm Tu-  
Th 12pm-  
10:30pm  
F 12pm-11pm  
Sa 12pm-  
11:30pm  
Su 11:30am-  
10pm

Drink Prices  
Expensive

Little of what once defined SoHo is left, brushed aside to make way for a new J. Crew here, a new \$5 million artist's loft there. That's why the survival of Zoë is such a welcome sight. This quintessential shopper's lunch stop has undergone a renovation overseen by Jeffrey Beers, transforming the bar into a destination in and of itself. There are high-backed banquettes, plush booths and windows facing out onto Prince. Best of all, Zoë's offers 25 wines-by-the-glass, specialty drinks (like the Absolute SoHo Martini) and artfully prepared tapas-size dishes.