



EAST VILLAGE

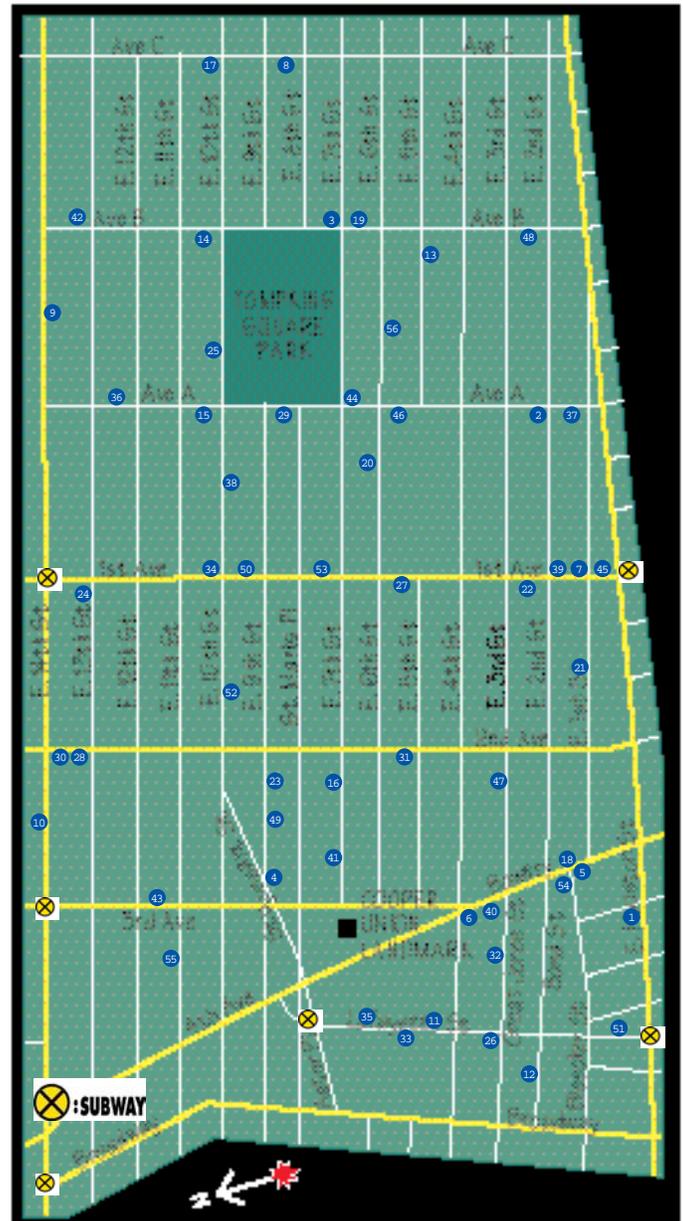


At times, it can appear irreverently pretentious, intimidating and exclusive – but always...always, the East Village is exciting, shocking and alive.

With each passing season, the East Village sheds another layer of its nightlife persona, ever offering something new, though not always improved.

The area first appeared as a distinct neighborhood in the 60s as struggling artists, fleeing skyrocketing West Village rents, invaded and set up camp. Their radical political and artistic views immediately set this loosely knit colony apart; professing an in-your-face attitude that saturates the neighborhood to this day. Most recently, the area has absorbed large numbers of Latinos and Ukrainians, as well as gays and lesbians.

An afternoon stroll through the East Village is secondhand shopping at its best, with streets lined with cheap outdoor cafes, music shops and vintage clothing boutiques. Music venues like C.B.G.B. showcase local talent, while political playwrights hold captive audiences at KGB and Nuyorican Poet's Cafe. The heart of this area's scene, though, is Alphabet City and its abundance of bars of all shapes, sizes and persuasions. From the drag queen staff at Lucky Cheng's to the pulsating throngs at Webster Hall, there is something for everyone. Please Mr. Musto, tell me downtown is dead no longer.



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Type of Establishment
 Hours
 Daily 12pm-4am
 Drink Prices
 Inexpensive
 Food
 N/A
 Nearest Subway
 B,D,F,Q to Broadway/Lafayette
 Credit Cards
 Cash Only

288 Bar
 288 Elizabeth Street
 No Phone

The origin of this bar's name remains a total mystery (although its alias is Tom & Jerry's), as does its pull on the people who come here. Sure, there's more than a nominal pickup scene, and more than one patron loves the jukebox as it slides from the Bee Gees to Al Green to Curtis Mayfield. But sometimes you and your friends just want a bar with no bouncer, no guest list, no VIP section, and no overly self-conscious theme...just drinks. And at 288 those drinks come fast and furious. Oh, and we should mention the pickup scene again.

2A
 25 Avenue A @ 2nd Street
 212.505.2466

There's an interesting sibling rivalry going on at 2A. The bar downstairs is like the South, steeped in tradition and leery of outsiders. The lounge upstairs is like the North, welcoming newcomers, trend-setting and modern. Neighborhood veterans, some of whom have been coming to 2A for over a decade, stay downstairs. They set their watches by their favorite bartender's shift, grab a bar stool and order a pint. Upstairs, candles abound and the lights, covered with 30s pin-up girls, are dimmed. Patrons laze on leather sofas and order drinks from the service bar.

7B
 108 Avenue B @ 7th Street
 212.473.8840

Looking for loud music and good whiskey? Both the bartenders and the neighborhood regulars who love them can't get enough of either at 7B. Considering they've been open since 1933, they must be doing something right. Of course you can expect there's been at least a few changes since the days right after Prohibition: the pig knuckle sandwich advertised on an old menu board has given way to the latest in pinball machines. But when everyone's first priority is getting smashed, nobody's complaining. One bartender suggests that, "Thursdays are the new Fridays," where rock rules every night of the week.

Type of Establishment
 Bar/Lounge
 Hours
 Daily 4am-4pm
 Drink Prices
 Cheap
 Food
 N/A
 Nearest Subway
 F to 2nd Avenue
 Credit Cards
 Cash Only

Type of Establishment
 Bar
 Hours
 Daily 12pm-4am
 Drink Prices
 Inexpensive
 Food
 N/A
 Nearest Subway
 F to 2nd Avenue

Angel's Share
 8 Stuyvesant Street
 Between 2nd & 3rd Avenues
 212.777.5415

Um, where is this place? We're not telling, because finding this little gem is well worth the effort. On the nights we went, a mellow jazz duo was cooling the summer heat outside with a blue bossa, but Angel's Share is perfectly imaginable as a wintertime retreat with its large windows looking down to the snowy street below. At other times the quiet is nothing if not delicate, and since parties numbering over five are not permitted, this spot remains an intimate destination for you and your tasteful significant other.

Astor Restaurant & Lounge
 316 Bowery @ Bleecker Street
 212.253.8644

Decorated in a visually stunning Moroccan-inspired motif, with the shades of old New York that its name implies, Astor's street level dining room is spacious and stately in its decor. The downstairs lounge, though, is where the action is. Hide away in a darkened corner booth as you nibble on a snack with your date, or politic with a circle of friends on the couches or at the bar. The service here is key.

Whether you're a robber baron, a captain of industry, or a struggling freelance writer for the city's best nightlife guide, Astor's staff always comes with the respect.



B Bar
 40 East 4th Street @ Bowery
 212.475.2220

It used to be the Bowery Bar and now it's just the B Bar. Though it's lost some its letters, it certainly hasn't lost any of its attitude. The Frankenstein-like guys at the door control the requisite velvet rope and make sure everyone that enters has a 'look.' The vogueing can get a little ridiculous and the place can be a bit of a meat market, but once the Boss and Elite model wannabes relax and stop trying to get discovered, a good time is definitely had by all.

Type of Establishment
 Bar
 Hours
 Daily 7pm-3am
 Drink Prices
 Moderate
 Food
 Light Asian fare
 Nearest Subway
 6 to Astor Place
 Credit Cards
 AmEx, V, MC

Type of Establishment
 Restaurant/Lounge
 Hours
 F-Sa 6pm-4am
 Su-Th 6pm-2am
 Drink Prices
 Moderate
 Food
 American/French
 Nearest Subway
 6 to Bleecker
 Credit Cards
 AmEx, V, MC

Type of Establishment
 Bar/Restaurant
 Hours
 Sa-Su 10:30am-3am
 M-F 11:30am-3am
 Drink Prices
 Moderate

Type of Establishment
Bar/Restaurant
Hours
Daily 8pm-4am
Drink Prices
Moderate
Food
N/A
Nearest Subway
F to 2nd Avenue
Credit Cards
AmEx

Bar XVI
16 1st Avenue
Between 1st & 2nd Streets
212.260.1549

It's entirely possible that life exists at Bar XVI the other six nights out of the week. But 'hump day' takes on an all-new meaning when DJ Franco hosts his Vampyros Lesbos party here on Wednesday. Spending \$7 at the door never felt so good as you step into a world of multi-screen soft-core porn images and vintage Euro pop rock. Named after a 60s Spanish skin flick, the party is a groovy place to meet up with the other freaks from your office, and your girlfriend might just dig it too. Vampish? Yeah, baby, and a shagadelic way to close out a millennium, century, decade, or evening. Nude cage dancing? Oh, behave!

Baraza
133 Avenue C
Between 8th & 9th Streets
212.539.0811

Baraza has a certain we-don't-know-what that we simply love. Maybe it's the cheap and tasty Latin cocktails. It could be the witch-doctoristic effect of the bar's plastic dollhead fetish. Or, maybe it's the sheer joy of finding the place...who knows? There's an old skool reggae night on Wednesday, and a BBQ on summer Sundays, but every night is Latin night. You can while away an entire evening here expanding your vocabulary: salsa, meringue, batacuda, mojito cubano, caipiroska, caipirinha...After a couple of the latter, you just might find yourself not dancing with the girl that brung ya.

Barmacy
536 East 14th Street
Between Avenue A & Avenue B
212.228.2240

After a few drinks, you might start feeling like a pill-popping Matt Dillon in *Drugstore Cowboy* as you look around at the immense assemblage of ancient pharmaceutical products used to decorate this bar. Everyone is having SO MUCH FUN! The Sunday night semi-clad go-go girls night might bring out your soft-core voyeuristic side, but you have not truly lived until you see a white Jimmy Walker look-alike do a head-high kick before falling into a split as the DJ spins Michael Jackson's *Off the Wall*. Don't stop 'til you get enough.

Type of Establishment
Bar
Hours
M-Sa 7pm-4am Su 5pm-4am
Drink Prices
Moderate
Food
N/A
Nearest Subway
F to 2nd Avenue
Credit Cards
Cash Only

Type of Establishment
Bar
Hours
M-F 6pm-4am Sa-Su 7pm-4am
Drink Prices
Moderate

Beauty Bar
231 East 14th Street
Between 2nd & 3rd Avenues
212.539.1389

Depending on your childhood, Beauty Bar is either really cool or truly frightening. If you spent hours in front of the mirror as a kid, come on down. However, if you liked to wear the same clothes all weekend (and still do), this converted hair salon might be a bit much, packed as it is with vintage beauty supplies. Face it, you or your friend might not be ready to sit under a hair dryer with a cold one in hand. But if that sort of thing appeals to you, you'll love scouting out all the weird stuff on display.

Belgo Nieuw York
415 Lafayette Street
Between Astor Place & East 4th Street
212.253.2828

We know how it is: you're sitting around one night, minding your own business, when suddenly you're blindsided by a craving for steamed mussels and over 100 types of Belgian libations. Thankfully, now there's Belgo. What looks from the outside to be a airplane ramp is in reality a eurofuturistic beer hall as imagined by Spanish architect Alejandro Zaera-Polo. Under arched ceilings of millennial gray and smart mauve, sample Belgian golden ales; at 9% alcohol they're stronger than their U.S. cousins and deserve their names of delirium tremens, lucifer, and duvel (the devil).

Bond Street
6 Bond Street
212.777.2500

Chuck Darwin never authored a theory of survival of the slickest, but he would have been hard pressed to even find this anonymous NoHo sushi bar. So will you if you're looking for the scene, and that's just the way the A-list actors, models, rock stars, designers, and others who come here like it. Bond Street exists as a sort of Shambhala for those people who know what they want in life — in this case, the best service, faultless design, and a self-contained atmosphere. One caveat: After such a great start to an evening, leaving the rarified of 6 Bond Street can be a bit of a comedown if you don't plan for anything fabulous afterwards.



Type of Establishment
Bar
Hours
M-F 5pm-4am Sa-Su 6pm-4am
Drink Prices
Inexpensive
Food
N/A
Nearest Subway
L to 3rd Avenue
Credit Cards
AmEx, V, MC

Type of Establishment
Bar/Restaurant
Hours
Daily 12pm-2am
Drink Prices
Expensive
Food
Belgium
Nearest Subway
6 to Astor Place
Credit Cards
AmEx, V, MC, Diners

Type of Establishment
Bar/Restaurant
Hours
M-Sa 5pm-2am Su 6pm-1am
Drink Prices
Expensive
Food
Japanese
Nearest Subway
6 to Bleeker Street

Type of Establishment
Bar
Hours
Daily 8pm-4am
Drink Prices
Moderate
Food
N/A
Nearest Subway
F to 2nd Avenue
Credit Cards
Cash Only

Bouche Bar

540 East 5th Street
Between Avenue A & Avenue B
212.475.1673

Bouche Bar is so small...How small is it? Sneeze, and you could miss it. That doesn't seem to bother the regulars here who see this place as a quiet retreat from the land of slick hipsters. One bartender noted that the crowd here is slightly older (as in thirty-something). That may explain the absence of drunk college girls screaming for attention and young cats on the make. What is here between the exposed brick walls is a friendly, artsy vibe mostly free from pretension, where a conversation using the word 'portfolio' is probably about oil painting or fashion design.

Boxcar Lounge

168 Avenue B
Between 10th & 11th Streets
212.473.2830

Get on this East Village Express, or rather the local steamer, where conductor Johnny Spingola spices up your trip with devilish delightful jokes and cocktails concocted of wit and charm, champagne and sake. Or take your date to the unlit end, through this candle-flickering railroad experience flanked by corrugated iron and exposed red brick walls underneath bent screens serving as wagon ceiling. East Village professionals love to hang at the illuminated, etched glass bar of this real trove, chat as they down reasonably-priced drinks and get in the mood to jazz and groovy soul and funk.

Brownies

169 Avenue A
Between 10th & 11th Streets
212.420.8392

The music is loud and the crowds rowdy at this small hard rock dive with a definite downtown feel. Step inside and understand that Brownies is all about the music, and only about the music. Despite the lack of attention paid to the decor the sound system is surprisingly clear — every beat will bounce around inside your head on the way home. Not exactly for the laid back during the week, the crowd's intensity escalates even further on the weekends. While there's no dress code here, it's advisable that you dress down.

Type of Establishment
Bar/Lounge
Hours
Daily 7pm-4am
Drink Prices
Inexpensive
Food
N/A
Nearest Subway
L to 14th Street
Credit Cards
V,MC,Diners

Type of Establishment
Bar/Live Music
Hours
Daily 5pm-4am
Drink Prices
Cheap
Food
N/A
Nearest

Burp Castle

41 East 7th Street
Between 2nd & 3rd Avenues
212.982.4576

Gregorian chants and classical sounds soothe you as you order a round of ale from an innkeep clad in the somber brown robes of a Trappist monk. Impressive elaborate medieval murals complement a decor of immaculate polished oak. Equally impressive is the selection of beers ranging from the 11oz. bottle of Arabler at \$6.25 to the 3 liter \$52.00 bottle of Corsendonk Brown. Self-proclaimed, "The Temple of Beer Worship," Burp Castle has become a favorite watering hole for tourists and neighborhood regulars alike. Note: The sign says "No Loud Talking," and the monks will ask you to leave.



C-Note

157 Avenue C @ 10th Street
212.677.8142

"People in the graveyard are feeling you," yelled one enthusiastic patron. "My hands are sore from clapping so hard," cried another. It's no Blue Note or Village Vanguard, but the C-Note (and its understated splendor) can pack them in. Local jazz aficionados love the place, especially on the weekends. "It takes me back to the old days when jazz was jumping down here," said a 36-year Lower East Side veteran. "It's like finding a gold mine on Avenue C." There's no cover but there is a one drink minimum.

C.B.G.B.

313 Bowery @ Bleecker
212.254.0983

It's a grungy club held up by old flyers, posters, and bumper stickers. The wooden floors are beer soaked and the bar top thoroughly battered. It's an eyesore, but it's also one of the best places to hear rock 'n' roll in the city. C.B.G.B. has been around for 25 years and everyone from Joan Jett to Sonic Youth has rocked this stage. Though it's not nearly as wild as it used to be (those mosh pit-loving punk rockers are now sitting at tables and drinking beers), the place still has an edge and patrons keep coming. Cover ranges from \$3-\$9.

Type of Establishment
Bar
Hours
F-Sa 4pm-4am
Su-Th 4pm-2am
Drink Prices
Inexpensive
Food
N/A
Nearest Subway
6 to Astor Place
Credit Cards
All Major

Type of Establishment
Bar/Live Music
Hours
Daily 7pm-4am
Drink Prices
Inexpensive
Food
N/A
Nearest Subway
L to 1st Avenue
Credit Cards
Cash Only

Type of Establishment
Bar/Live Music
Hours
Daily 7pm-4am
Drink Prices
Inexpensive

Type of Establishment
Bar/Restaurant
Hours
Daily 5:30pm-12am
Drink Prices
Expensive
Food
French
Nearest Subway
F to 2nd Avenue
Credit Cards
AmEx

Casimir
103-105 Avenue B
Between 6th & 7th Streets
212.358.9683

Can't make it to Paris for the weekend? Then slide on over to Casimir, a whirlwind of activity on Avenue B that evokes the bistros and cafes of the City of Lights. The typical bistro fare and a great wine selection makes this spot a great place to grab dinner. The French cultural paraphernalia and music ranging from acid jazz to Brazilian pop has a magnetic effect on the hot euro-types running through the East Village these days. The trick is to casually sip a glass of Merlot at the bar or a table, pretending like you do it everyday.

Type of Establishment
Bar
Hours
Daily 6pm-4am
Drink Prices
Cheap
Food
N/A
Nearest Subway
F to 2nd Avenue
Credit Cards
Cash Only

Cherry Tavern
441 East 6th Street
212.777.1448

You left home in upstate New York to get away from a place like this, so how did you end up at the Cherry Tavern? Probably because this mom and pop pub — with its faux wood paneling, pool table, and indie jukebox — only looks like your best friend's parents' basement. It's actually one of the best undercover bars in the city, making it immensely popular with the artists, musicians,



and NYU students who flock here. Yes, the weekend bartender is one of the hottest you'll meet; but equally attractive is the "Tijuana Special" — a shot of the hard stuff and a Tecate beer to wash it down.

Chez es Saada
42 East 1st Street
Between 1st & 2nd Avenues
212.777.5617

Grab a date, and hail a magic carpet ride to this arabesque gem hidden in a brownstone on a quiet sidestreet. Downtown suits lose their ties at the quiet bar upstairs, while you and your companion follow a trail of fresh rose petals down a



winding staircase to the dining catacombs below. Candles and low-slung chairs make you feel comfortable and self-indulgent, and the waitstaff is more than happy to help you order from an exotic menu of Moroccan drinks and dishes.

Chez es Saada can accommodate larger parties as well, but this spot is nothing but infallible when you want to be très romantique.

Type of Establishment
Bar/Restaurant
Hours
F-Sa 4pm-4am
Su-Th 4pm-4am
Drink Prices
Expensive
Food
Moroccan
Nearest

D.B.A.
41 1st Avenue
Between 2nd & 3rd Streets
212.475.5097

D.B.A. is a bar. No over-stuffed couches, no B-list models putting on airs. It serves a lot of alcohol — over 25 bourbons, 100 single malts, 30 tequilas and 10 vodkas — which is why this spot can get packed and kind of loud in the after-work hours. That's okay, because D.B.A. is the kind of place you can meet up with a largish group of people you haven't seen in a while. If they're cool, so much the better. If they're annoying, at least you have a really great beer or an exotic tequila in your hand.

Decibel
240 East 9th Street
Between 2nd & 3rd Avenues
212.979.2733

this is old Japan:
hard wood, ukiyoe art,
troubles far away.

cool in summer, warm
in winter. sake flows like
water year round. drink.

hidden from view. step
down and in. old friends, new loves, life
passes as dreams.

Detour
349 East 13th Street
Between 1st & 2nd Avenues
212.533.6212

Long live no-cover live jazz! It's no secret that Detour is one of the last spots in the city where you can come and hear live jazz without someone at the door trying to stick you for half of your paycheck. Wander in any night of the week, order a pint, and saddle up to the bar for an earful music. Come with a fellow jazzhead or a small group of friends, but feel equally free to arrive alone. It's not hard to strike up a conversation in between sets at this super-friendly post-beatnik bar.

Type of Establishment
Bar
Hours
Daily 1pm-4am
Drink Prices
Moderate
Food
N/A
Nearest Subway
F to 2nd Avenue
Credit Cards
All Major

Type of Establishment
Sake Bar
Hours
M-Sa 8pm-3am
Su 8pm-1am
Drink Prices
Expensive
Food
Japanese
Nearest Subway
6 to Astor Place
Credit Cards
All Major

Type of Establishment
Jazz Club
Hours
Su-Th 4pm-2am
F-Sa 4pm-4am
Drink Prices
Inexpensive
Food
N/A
Nearest Subway
L to 1st Avenue

Type of
Establishment
Bar

Hours
M-Sa 6pm-4am
Su 8pm-3am

Drink Prices
Inexpensive

Food
N/A

Nearest
Subway
L to 1st
Avenue

Credit Cards
Cash Only

Drinkland
339 East 10th Street
212.228.2435

You'll experience a sense of vertigo worthy of Hitchcock the moment you actually find this bar laying low on the north side of Tompkins Square Park. Depending on how many drinks you've had, the giant spiral painted on the ceiling seems to hypnotically swirl. And swirl. And swirl. If you're able to break out of the trance, grab another drink and head to the white vinyl or greenhouse room (decor self-explanatory) to regain your sense of balance. Live DJs five nights a week maintain the trippy vibe, and the regulars here are weirdly funny and friendly. Highly recommended.

Fez
380 Lafayette Street @ Great Jones
212.533.2680

While not exactly a well-kept secret, Fez is hidden from view inside the Time Cafe. An intimate, magical, Moroccan-flavored world awaits as you walk through the arched doorway and take a seat on the low-slung couches and foot stools in back. Fez has a heady romantic air that makes it not only a great first date destination, but also a good place for a well-worded classy breakup. The Mingus Big Band continues to draw crowds for the weekly Thursday gig held since the



lounge's opening, but the performance space downstairs also draws the best in cutting edge downtown tunes, from the transplanted Sheryl Crow to Brooklyn spoken-word artists.

First
87 1st Avenue
Between 5th & 6th Streets
212.674.3823

So you want to score, but you don't want to put all that much effort into it. Bring your date to First, and let the utilitarian hipness of this bar/restaurant work its charm on her 90s sensibilities. The acid jazz soundtrack and the industrial design present a reasonable facsimile of good taste, and the seasonal menu hits both high and low with pricier entrees and s'mores for dessert. The centerpiece is the bar's offering of sixteen 'tiny tinis' — exotic cosmo cousins served in miniature martini glasses so cute you'll gag.

Flamingo East
219 2nd Avenue
Between 13th & 14th Streets
212.533.2860

Tastefully styled in black and white checkerboard with silver accents, this restaurant/ bar, and lounge was retro before retro was retro. Staying open for ten years in a quickly-changing neighborhood is no small feat, and the clientele who flock to this place — East Village kids, Jerseyites, and all-purpose hepcat swingers — insure that it won't be closing its doors any time soon. The upstairs floor is spacious enough for dancing, and the downstairs dining/lounge area, with its sculpted cement columns, evokes the Guggenheim Bilbao. Things get busy after midnight the weekly theme nights, but packs of honeys can be spotted at the bar by 11p.m.

Flea Market
131 Avenue A
Between 8th & 9th Streets
212.358.9282

Oh, the French! Only a Parisian could open a tasteful Left Bank bistro and cafe de matin across from Tompkins Square Park and decorate it with the findings from countless trips to swap meets and junk sales. More contradictions abound here: the 'francais-new yorkais' menu is lavishly prepared yet fairly priced. The staff is cute and friendly and the cool music mix takes you far away from the seedier side of Avenue A. The bar here is painfully small, but take a glass of merlot at a small table and practice your cool, your Berlitz, or both before heading home.

Gemini Lounge
221 2nd Avenue
Between 13th & 14th Streets
212.254.5260

Not much seems to phase the patrons of Gemini Lounge, concerned as they are with networking, looking good, and dancing to Top 40 hip-hop tracks spun by a DJ. There's plenty going on here, including a drum 'n' bass night, a lesbian night, and a samba night on Tuesday. The poolroom lounge in the rear is done in black — very cool. In the spirit of the bar's name, this seems to be a good place for a double date.

Type of
Establishment
Bar/Restaurant
/Lounge

Hours
F-Sa 6pm-4am
Su-Th 6pm-2am

Drink Prices
Expensive

Food
Pan-Asian

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

Credit Cards
AmEx, V, MC

Type of
Establishment
Lounge/
Live Music

Hours
F-Sa 6pm-4am
Su-Th 6pm-2am

Drink Prices
Expensive

Food
American

Nearest
Subway
6 to Elecker
Street

Credit Cards
AmEx, V, MC

Type of
Establishment
Bar/Restaurant

Hours
F-Sa 10pm-1am
Su-Th 10pm-1am

Drink Prices
Moderate

Food
French Bistro

Nearest
Subway
L to 1st
Avenue

Credit Cards
AmEx

Type of
Establishment
Bar/Restaurant

Hours
F-Sa 6pm-3am
Su 11am-1am
M-Th 6pm-2am

Drink Prices
Expensive

Type of
Establishment
Lounge

Hours
Daily 5pm-4am

Drink Prices
Moderate

Food
N/A

Type of Establishment
Bar/Restaurant
Hours
F-Sa 6pm-4am
Su-Th 5:30pm-3am
Drink Prices
Moderate
Food
International Tapas
Nearest Subway
6 to Astor Place
Credit Cards
AmEx, V, MC

Global 33
93 2nd Avenue
Between 5th & 6th Streets
212.477.8427

Crashing, but certainly not burning, into the theme bar explosion downtown is Global 33 — tapping into the pop-culture obsession with anything 60s. Constructed as a 60s-style airport lounge, the decor is a symphony of symmetrical shapes and patterns prevalent in 60s architecture. The DJ directs drum 'n' bass vibes as you enjoy a menu of international tapas and classic cocktails served in shakers. The relatively young mixed crowd probably can't recall being in a 60s-style airport lounge, but all agree it should have looked like this.

Great Jones Cafe
54 Great Jones Street
212.674.9304

Type of Establishment
Bar/Restaurant
Hours
F-Sa 5pm-1am
Su-Th 5pm-12am
Drink Prices
Inexpensive
Food
Cajun/American
Nearest Subway
6 to Bleecker Street
Credit Cards
Cash Only

Enough good things can't be said about GJC, once you get past the funny David Lynch vibe inside this tiny hideaway. It's probably only weird because everyone here is so nice. But there is the happily eclectic jukebox playing old R&B, soul, and country classics, and the deliciously quirky drinks with names like 'Cajun martini' (vodka with fermented jalapeños) and 'Shaggy' (spicy ginger ale and dark rum). The menu of N'awlins fare is a hit with patrons. Just don't ask any of the regulars at the bar the story of the Peruvian death mask on the wall by the door. Psst! A great escape from Friday night B&T.

Indochine
430 Lafayette Street
Between Astor Place & 4th Street
212.505.5111

Type of Establishment
Bar/Restaurant
Hours
Daily 5:30pm-12:30am
Drink Prices
Expensive
Food
French/Vietnamese
Nearest

Okay, so maybe imperialism wasn't all bad, since the French-Vietnamese connection of the 20s and 30s serves as aesthetic inspiration for this chic bar and restaurant. The tropical decor (painted and photosynthetic) is tastefully achieved to keep you cool and far away from the hassles of S.E. Asia proper. The focus at Indochine is understandably on the immaculately prepared and presented cuisine, but the bar and lounge in front is the perfect place to be for a pre/post-theatre drink. It's also an ideal rendezvous spot for your date with that model you met last week.

Izzy Bar
166 1st Avenue
Between 10th & 11th Streets
212.228.0444

Izzy Bar is a no-brainer when you're looking for a good time. Quiet in the beginning of the week, this spot offers a cool lounge upstairs and hot live jazz in the basement. But the funky textured decor fades away on weekends as the focus turns towards dancing to Latin beats, house, and soul music. Neighborhood regulars mix it up with downtown girls in little black dresses who get more than they bargained for on the dance floor. So will you, whether you come in a pack, a couple, or are flying solo for the night.

Joe's Pub
425 Lafayette Street
Between East 4th Street & Astor Place
212.539.8770

For a place with such a short, ordinary name, this fast-spreading secret is long on the extraordinary. We'll narrow it down for you. Joe's Pub 1) is host to some of the very best in new American music; 2) can have up to three or four crowds a night — from live music listeners to DJ-lovin' lounge lizards - and all of them are worthwhile; and 3) is a popular destination for gorgeous international waitstaff-types after they get off work in SoHo around 1:30 a.m. The management is understandably afraid of overexposure, but it's a certainty. As such, be sure to make the scene before it becomes one.

Korova Milk Bar
200 Avenue A
Between 12th & 13th Streets
212.254.8838

Inspired by Stanley Kubrick's 1971 classic *A Clockwork Orange*, Korova must be seen to be believed. In addition showing "fucked-up movies" (owner's words) like *The Deerhunter* on multiple screens, the bar pulls no punches with drink specials: a popular one is the Inbred Special — a shot of Jack and a Rolling Rock for a chaser. Equally sinful are the Molokos — ice cream drinks named for demi-celebs both dead and alive. Korova is popular with your standard Avenue A crowd. They don't seem at all freaked out by the mannequins with TVs for heads, but perhaps they're socializing with eyes wide shut.

Type of Establishment
Bar/Lounge
Hours
Daily 7pm-4am
Drink Prices
Expensive
Food
N/A
Nearest Subway
L to 1st Avenue
Credit Cards
AmEx, V, MC
Cover W-Su
www.Izzybar.com

Type of Establishment
Bar/Restaurant / Live Music
Hours
Daily 6pm-4am
Drink Prices
Moderate
Food
American
Nearest Subway
6 to Astor Place
Credit Cards
All Major

Type of Establishment
Bar
Hours
Daily 6pm-4am
Drink Prices
Expensive
Food
N/A

Type of
Establishment
Bar

Hours
Daily 12pm-4am

Drink Prices
Moderate

Food
N/A

Nearest
Subway
F to 2nd
Avenue

Credit Cards
Cash Only

The Library
7 Avenue A
212.375.1352

The Library is a surreal approximation of a collegiate fantasy: good, reliable beer choices at a friendly bar with a neighborhood feel. The books on the shelves are there to be looked at — not read — while the jukebox pumps out great indie rock from bands like Pavement, the Butthole Surfers, and the Buzzcocks. Leave *City of Joy* where it is and tune out to the kung fu flicks and monster movies projected on the back wall. And if that's not sophomoric enough, this bar's name provides a great alibi when your significant other asks you where you were last night.

Liquids
266 East 10th Street
212.677.1717

Liquids just might feel like your own living room. That is if your parents are Middle Eastern, mix great drinks, and have DJs for friends. On a quiet Monday night, comfy couches can keep it cozy, or accommodate the crew that shows up to meet you. As is the case at most other bars in the neighborhood, weekends can be a zoo here, so make it a priority to come on Tuesday for the legendary hookah party. The water pipes might not have any hash in them, but with shadow dancers, a tent-like atmosphere, and turntablists spinning ambient vibes all night, you probably won't even mind.

Lucky Cheng's
24 1st Avenue
212.473.0516

A colorfully loud taste of something alternative doesn't even begin to describe this popular spot with a calling card that reads, "The Original Drag Queen Restaurant." The dirty, drab gray Manhattan streets instantly fade far from view as you step inside and are splashed by the bright kaleidoscope decor. Not only does the dining room feature a full Pan-Asian menu



served by a drag waitstaff, but several nightly drag cabaret shows as well. We recommend one of Lucky Cheng's Mini Orgies — the frozen, multi-fruit flavored daquiris, margaritas and piña coladas.

Type of
Establishment
Bar/Restaurant

Hours
F-Sa 5pm-2am
M-Th 5pm-12am

Drink Prices
Expensive

Food
Pan-Asian

Nearest

Marion's
354 Bowery @ 4th Street
212.475.7621

As kitsch and fabricated as the decor of this 50s wonderland may be, the people running this lovely place are genuine hosts, and the clientele is truly authentic and relaxed. The world of late model and actress Marion is filled with wonderfully tacky mirror drawings, colorful plastic armchairs, flower paintings, JFK and Jackie portraits, even an aquarium with dream castles and blue dogs. Enjoy a martini at the bar or have hearty continental food in the old diner-like restaurant, gently lit by candles and retro lamps. East Village artists, hipsters and trendy downtowners can feel equally at home here.

McSorley's Old Ale House
15 East 7th Street
Between 2nd & 3rd Avenues
212.254.2570

Stepping into McSorley's — said to be the oldest ale house in New York — is like going back in time. Sawdust litters the floor, chock-a-block memorabilia and the original 1854 structure invoke the Old Irish in New York. At 2 for \$3, even the prices appear to need an update (not that anyone's complaining). McSorley's Special Ale, the only alcohol served here, is brewed exclusively for the pub by the old Stroh breweries. Old-World charm, great prices and die-hard regulars make McSorley's a local pub par excellence. Cash only.

Musical Box
219 Avenue B @ 13th Street
212.254.1731

Smooth candlelight flickers across the many portraits of dead and living musical grandeurs as Baby Fox's beseeching voice lures you into this comfortably dark and unpretentious East Village lounge. Woody Guthrie, Jimi Hendrix and Elvis Costello, all eternalized in the wooden counter, take a peak at you through your beer glass, while Jim Morrison scoffs at the yuppie-beige lounge chairs. A blend of a young, professional and alternative East Village crowd — which may well be one and the same these days — enjoys the hip yet mellow ambiance. The back room, with its disorderly red velvet chairs, couches and pool table reveals good old anarchist East Village spirit.

Type of
Establishment
Bar/Restaurant

Hours
Daily 6pm-2am

Drink Prices
Moderate

Food
Continental

Nearest
Subway
F to 2nd
Avenue

Credit Cards
All Major

Type of
Establishment
Bar/Restaurant

Hours
Daily 11am-1am

Drink Prices
Inexpensive

Food
American

Nearest
Subway
6 to Astor
Place

Credit Cards
Cash Only

Type of
Establishment
Bar

Hours
Daily 7:30pm-4am

Drink Prices
Moderate

Food
N/A

Nearest

Type of
Establishment
Bar

Hours
M-Sa 10am-4am
Su 12pm-4am

Drink Prices
Inexpensive

Food
N/A

Nearest
Subway
L to 3rd
Avenue

Credit Cards
All Major

Nevada Smith's
74 3rd Avenue
212.982.2591

Looking for that East Village flavor, but not the annoying East Village pretentiousness? Nevada Smith's is a pleasant collage of the area's charms. One of the best venues in the city to catch European football matches, the vibe here is high-energy, but in an all-inclusive way. Rather than drawing on just one segment of the nightlife scene, the crowd is a well-blended mix of neighborhood regulars, NYU students, pre-Webster Hall party-goers, and a heavy Euro contingent. Tuesday's Karaoke night crowd is pure energy.

Niagara
112 Avenue A @ 7th Street
212.420.9517

You might find yourself in Niagara with a tear in your beer because you're crying for your dear. Across the street from Tompkins Square Park, this spot seems like your basic neighborhood watering hole. That's until you get pulled in by the DJ spinning good country/blues. Retreat to the lounge in back to recover your momentarily lost cool points, or check the downstairs with its quixotic, quirky, and kinky tiki bar theme, illuminated fish tank, and peculiar music selection — think obscure 60s French cinépop. Upstairs again, and you'll find yourself unable to leave, if only because you're sure the next song the DJ spins is the one country tune you know all the words to.

One and One
76 East 1st Street @ 1st Avenue
212.260.9950

Which came first, the new bar/restaurant on the corner of 1st and 1st, or the fact that it serves the one and one (Dublin slang for fish and chips). The good news is that the city now has a place for genuine pub fare served with a side of contemporary continental cool. Celtic symbols and an aerial view of Dublin's Trinity College grace the fire-red walls, leaving you wondering why you ever associated fish & chips with any place else. Don't feel compelled to order a Guinness just to show your colors; a cool dude named Ronan suggests a lighter brew like Carlsberg goes better with your cod and chips.

Type of
Establishment
Bar/Restaurant

Hours
M-Sa 12pm-4am
Su 5pm-4am

Drink Prices
Moderate

Food
Irish Pub-fare

Nearest

Opaline
85 Avenue A
Between 5th & 6th Streets
212.475.5050

Opaline gets its name as a synonym of absinthe, the turn-of-the-century liquor said to induce hallucinations and dark fantasies. Absinthe may be illegal these days, but the dreamy quality of the drink's effects is preserved here in this lounge-cum-French bistro. Opaline goes all out to make you at home in Wonderland: the dining room is the largest in the East Village, but the real treat is watching the light change as it filters through the skylight over the course of an evening. Choose a glass of one of seventeen wines and relax in a comfy lounge with a lover, or get your groove on at one of the weekly dance parties thrown here.

Opium Den
29 East 3rd Street
212.505.7344

Opium Den looks like it could be in SoHo, judging by the decor — velvet drapes and candles — and the crowd, in head-to-toe black. A DJ spins every night of the week, the bartender is friendly, the crowds relaxed, and the couches comfy. Try the cosmopolitans, they're well worth the money. If you want a seat, come slightly before midnight — it gets packed between 12:30 a.m. and 1 a.m. Just get past those velvet ropes on the outside and you're all set for the night. Leave your credit cards at home, this is strictly a cash joint. No baseball caps.

Pierrot
28 Avenue B
212.673.1999

If you build it, they will come...and they do. Pierrot has established itself as a bar of Mondo New York. With designers, film-makers, artists, actors, makeup artists, models, and headhunters as patrons, this spot is the perfect place for low key networking with people on the pulse of the New East Village (and the city entire). A great place to begin or end a night, Pierrot's vibe, like the neighborhood it embodies, changes throughout the evening. The decor here is modern Mediterranean, which means warm and inviting. Try one of their exotic cosmos and search for clues about Pierrot's former identity among the found objects in the bar's plastic resin top.

Type of
Establishment
Restaurant/
Lounge

Hours
Daily 6pm-4am

Drink Prices
Moderate

Food
French Bistro

Nearest
Subway
F to 2nd
Avenue

Credit Cards
All Major

Type of
Establishment
Lounge

Hours
M-Sa 8pm-4am
Su 8pm-2am

Drink Prices
Moderate

Food
N/A

Nearest
Subway
F to 2nd
Avenue

Credit Cards
Cash Only

Type of
Establishment
Bar/
Restaurant

Hours
Daily 6pm-4am

Drink Prices
Moderate

Food
Mediterranean

Nearest

Type of Establishment
Bar
Hours
Daily 4pm-4am
Drink Prices
Expensive
Food
N/A
Nearest Subway
6 to Astor Place
Credit Cards
AmEx, V, MC, Diners

Solas

232 East 9th Street
Between 2nd & 3rd Avenues
212.375.0297

Although their Guinness Perfect Pint award is prominently displayed, Solas isn't an Irish Bar per se. Even so, it's still a great late-night place to go for some good head (we're talking stout). One clairvoyant bartender here will even tell you what's pouring well before you have a chance to sit down, and he makes a tight margarita, too. You'll find a diverse crowd and plenty of room to lounge upstairs, as well as one of the coolest pool-rooms in the East Vill. Eurostar DJ David Holmes spins for his large fan base here every second Thursday, but beautiful people in repose can be found any night of the week.

Standard

158 1st Avenue
212.387.0239

When you realize there's life after cosmopolitans, you're ready for Standard where the motto is no frozen drinks, no milk drinks. That's a little more edgy than great drinks, good prices, which is equally true about this uber-hip bar on the East Village A-list. The virtual pillbox makes up for its impossibly small size with great experimental design from two French architects. The Rothko-inspired light display takes a while to figure out, but a Stoli Raz Martini is a great way to kill an hour or two before heading out or heading home.

Temple Bar

332 Lafayette Street
Between East Houston & Bleecker
212.925.4242

Slip inside the anonymous front door of Temple Bar and find yourself transported to a world in which the overriding theme is attention to detail. From the marble and mahogany bar, to the seductive lighting, to the impeccably tasteful jazz piped in, even a few minutes here can leave you feeling like a dilettante. Temple Bar is a great place for a date if you're out to show off your classic sensibilities. The margaritas and cosmopolitans here rank among the city's best. Also try a mix of belle de brillet, Cointreau and juice in a sugar-rimmed martini glass-called a sidekick, but you'll want to make it your main squeeze.



Type of Establishment
Bar/Lounge
Hours
F-Sa 5pm-2am
Su 7pm-12am
M-Th 5pm-1am
Drink Prices
Expensive
Food
Upscale Tapas

Tenth Street Lounge

212 East 10th Street
Between 1st & 2nd Avenues
212.473.5252

Tenth Street is a great NYC niche bar. It's got sleek style, great drinks, and competent DJs on the 1 and 2s — all without the velvet rope burn you can get from trying to keep up with the trendoid elite set. Moreover, this place truly earns its distinction as an actual-factual lounge; the front of the low-lit space is packed with more chaise lounges and foot stools than the Ottoman Empire. Long wooden tables and benches accommodate the expected crowds on weekend nights, but try to make it during the week when the vibe is more relaxed and you and your friends can just, well, lounge.

Tribe

132 1st Avenue @ St. Mark's Place
212.979.8965

Within the cozy confines of this East Village newbie, martini glasses clink in synco-pation with the rhythms coming from the DJ. Everything is cool and laid back, yet without the edge that so much cosmo culture brings. A watery wave projection on the back wall and the shifting light treatment behind the bar further add to your relaxation, and the front windows just do this weird...thing. You order a drink and decide that anyplace this hot, cool, and unpretentious all at the same time must be part of some dream you're having. A great place to bring a friend or colleague for a quiet drink.

Von

3 Bleecker Street @ Bowery
212.473.3039

If cosmos are kid's stuff, head to Von. Like its Bowery neighbors, this converted antique store maintains a low profile, making the spot popular with the mature twenty- and thirty-somethings who appreciate a good Stevie Wonder song, low lights, and a perfect glass of red wine. Everything at Von promotes such relaxation and contemplation of the many vintages available (and there are around 30 to choose from). The perfect place to catch up with an old friend.

Type of Establishment
Lounge
Hours
T-Sa 5pm-3am
Su-M 4pm-2am
Drink Prices
Expensive
Food
N/A
Nearest Subway
6 to Astor Place
Credit Cards
AmEx, V, MC, Diners
www.tenthstreetlounge.com

Type of Establishment
Bar/Lounge
Hours
Daily 5pm-4am
Drink Prices
Expensive
Food
N/A
Nearest Subway
6 to Astor Place
Credit Cards
AmEx, V, MC

Type of Establishment
Lounge
Hours
Daily 6pm-2am
Drink Prices
Moderate
Food
N/A
Nearest

Type of
Establishment
Club

Hours
Th-Sa 10pm-
4:30 am

Drink Prices
Expensive

Food
N/A

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

Credit Cards
All Major
\$20 Cover

Webster Hall

125 East 11th Street
Between 3rd & 4th Avenues
212.353.1600

Enter on the main floor and plunge headlong into a sea of classic disco and pop/rock. Descend to the darker lower-level lounge for a taste of hip-hop and R&B. Catch your breath and climb to the second floor for cutting-edge dance music. Just when you feel that last ounce of energy ebbing away, grab a drink and retreat to the upper balcony to watch the writhing ocean of club kids, tourists and regulars. Psychedelic Thursdays are a little more rock oriented, but dance reigns supreme every Friday and Saturday. Expect to wait on line after midnight and dress to impress.

Type of
Establishment
Bar/Lounge

Hours
Daily 6pm-
4am

Drink Prices
Expensive

Food
N/A

Nearest
Subway
6 to Astor
Place

Credit Cards
Cash Only

Wonder Bar

505 East 6th Street
Between Avenue A & Avenue B
212.777.9105

What makes a good gay bar? Well, music is key — progressive DJs playing R&B, hip hop, and house. Friendly bartenders a must, and the guys should be cute, but not so cute as to make the bar a cruise scene; not too many muscle-bound Chelsea *Rent* boys, either. Finally, the clientele should be mixed-say, 80% gay and 20% other. Put it all together and you have Wonder Bar, a neighborhood watering hole leading the way in the rebirth of gay bars in the East Village. Don't believe us?