



# UPPER EAST SIDE



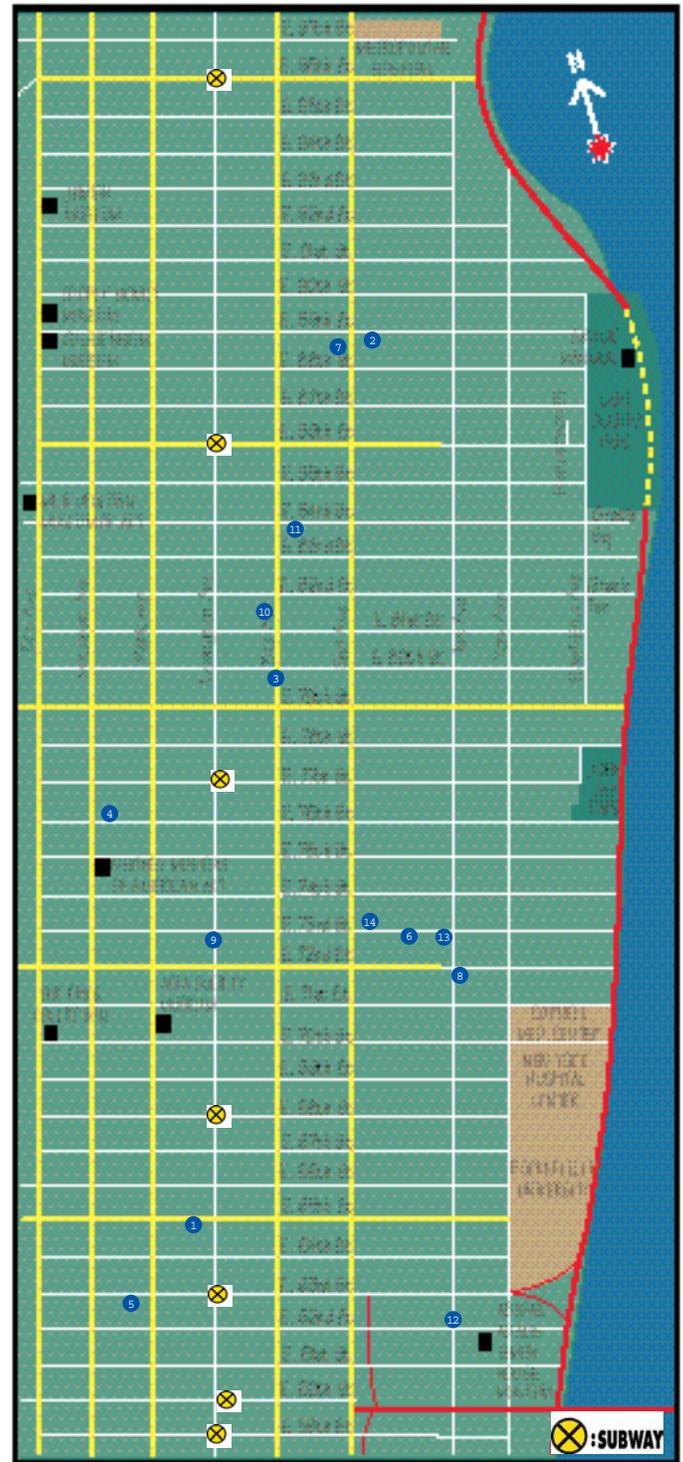
*While most NYC neighborhoods search for an identity, the Upper East Side stands defiantly firm, peering down its upper crusted nose at the rest of the world.*

**B**ounded by 59th Street, 5th Avenue, 96th Street and the East River, no other neighborhood in the city has held the mantle of Manhattan high society for as long as the Upper East Side.

The Haves planted their flags along 5th Avenue long ago, quickly seeping into every pretentious nook and cranny of the surrounding area. The famed mansions that once faced Central Park have long since been torn down. Appropriately, the strip is now home to 'Museum Mile', yet another jewel in the crown of this bastion of gentility.

As night falls on Manhattan, a golden glow of sophistication warms the Upper East Side's after-hours locales. As it should, this area boasts the crème de la crème of sophisticated nightlife — from its tony supper clubs to some seriously seductive lounges.

Then again, life's not all candlelight dinners and moonlit strolls. Loosen your tie and join the herd of young professionals stampeding towards the popular locales lining 2nd and 3rd Avenues. Like a fine wine, the nightlife experience here is something to be carefully considered, and slowly savored over candlelight.



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Type of Establishment  
Bar/Restaurant  
Hours  
Daily 12pm-12am  
Drink Prices  
Expensive  
Food  
Continental  
Nearest Subway  
6 to Hunter College  
Credit Cards  
AmEx, V, MC

**212**  
133 East 65th Street  
Between Park & Lexington  
212.249.6565

212 is the new clubhouse for cardigan-clutching Upper Eastsiders tired of taking cabs downtown. The Tuna-Tartar-toting amazons serving this split-level restaurant's continental fare have accents as varied as the vodka bottles that line the walls of the upstairs lounge. "We have over 65 bottles and there's more to come" says owner Flavia, including vodkas from Israel, The Netherlands, France and you guessed it, Russia. Equally as serious about their eats, the restaurant's calling card reads "In Food We Trust."

Type of Establishment  
Bar  
Hours  
Daily 8pm-4am  
Drink Prices  
Moderate  
Food  
N/A  
Nearest Subway  
4,5,6 to 86th Street  
Credit Cards  
All Major

**Auction House**  
300 East 89th Streets  
Between 1st & 2nd Avenues  
212.427.4458

You would not associate an auction house with a place of repose, but this one is more like Christies after the haggling is over. Auction House can be a refuge: a place to lounge on Victorian chairs under renaissance paintings or on deep-velvet settees in front of an oversized ornate marble fireplace. Dark wooden floors lead from the front room into a second sunken lounge with its own section of the bar. This is a good place to unwind: either from work or after a night of hectic partying. Its subdued lighting and hidden corners make it the perfect setting for a romantic interlude.

**Big Sur**  
1406 3rd Avenue @ 80th Street  
212.472.5009

This American bar/lounge is a favorite neighborhood haunt for cocktails, dinner or a serious game of pool. The setting is warm, dark and intimate with huge chairs to recline in during, or after, a Mediterranean seafood dish, or over a late-night coffee and chat. A long, narrow bar leads you to the back room where huge fans, suspended from a high ceiling, cool the tensions over a blood-red pool table. Big Sur is a good place to watch your favorite televised sporting event, or just to meet people around a bar known for its selection of tequilas, single malt scotches and bourbons.

Type of Establishment  
Bar/Restaurant  
Hours  
Daily 4:30pm-4am  
Drink Prices  
Expensive  
Food  
Continental  
Nearest Subway  
6 to 77th Street

**Cafe Carlyle (Carlyle)**  
95 East 76th Street @ Madison  
212.570.7189

On a Monday night there is only one reason to be in Cafe Carlyle: to watch Woody Allen perform with a small band. The venue is so small that you are always within feet of the diminutive stage and entertainers like Mr. Allen, Eartha Kitt, Barbara Cook and Betty Buckley. Murals, by French painter Marcel Vertez, cast a golden glow around the intimate room in which distinguished-looking bartenders pour martinis and cognacs with an expert hand. A continental menu featuring wide-ranging favorites like Carlyle Chicken Hash and Fillet of Sole will secure you a table next to you favorite entertainer.

**Club Macanudo**  
26 East 63rd Street  
Between Park & Madison  
212.752.8200

There are several reasons to go to Club Macanudo. The first is to recline in a mellow, yet sophisticated space and slowly draw on a smooth cigar. But, it is also a place to make an impression. Executives like to entertain important clients, whilst young women in expensive looking outfits drape themselves around the bar to see and be seen. Upon entering you are greeted by a wall of wooden cabinets with little gilded plaques — actually mini-humidors in which private members the likes of Denzel Washington and Arnold Schwarzenegger keep their favorite cigars. Drop in for weekly events like a Monday cigar school and the cigar-rolling demonstrations.

**The Cocktail Room**  
334 East 73rd Street  
Between 1st & 2nd Avenues  
212.988.6100

We're heaping loads of praise on this bar for opening up a fresh new space in a neighborhood of stuffy old money and young transplants with class aspirations. The Cocktail Room is bright and well-lit and very, very...orange (which we love). The staff's good humor is infectious, and they're ready and willing to pour any quirky cocktail off their menu. Strangely, the dress code discourages jeans and sneakers, but that's a small price to pay. If a bar could ever be a warm fuzzy, the Cocktail Room would be it.

Type of Establishment  
Bar/Restaurant  
Hours  
M-Sa 8:45pm-10:45pm  
(Closed Sunday)  
Drink Prices  
Expensive  
Food  
Continental  
Nearest Subway  
6 to 77th Street  
Credit Cards  
AmEx, V, MC  
\$50 Cover

Type of Establishment  
Bar/Restaurant  
Hours  
M-T 4pm-12:30am  
W-F 4pm-1:30am  
Sa 5pm-1:30am  
Drink Prices  
Expensive  
Food  
American Bistro  
Nearest Subway  
B,Q to Lexington Avenue  
Credit Cards  
All Major

Type of Establishment  
Bar/Lounge  
Hours  
F 5pm-4am  
Sa 7pm-4am  
T-Th 5pm-2am  
Drink Prices  
Expensive

Type of Establishment  
Bar/Restaurant  
Hours  
Daily 6pm-4am  
Drink Prices  
Expensive  
Food  
Continental  
Nearest Subway  
4,5,6 to 86th Street  
Credit Cards  
AmEx, V, MC, Diners

**Elaine's**  
1703 2nd Avenue  
Between 88th & 89th Streets  
212.534.8114

The clubhouse of the famous, this unassuming Italian-style eatery and bar has, in its 36 years of existence, entrenched itself as the place where the famous meet, exchange ideas, create new ones, or... just hang out with Elaine. A long-standing favorite of stars like Woody Allen, Alec Baldwin and many television execs, the hundreds of photographs, movie and theatre posters and incongruous pieces of art reflect a heritage of long nights around the bar.

Type of Establishment  
Bar/Restaurant  
Hours  
Su-W  
11:30am-1:30am  
Th-Sa  
11:30am-3am  
Drink Prices  
Moderate  
Food  
Eclectic  
Nearest Subway  
6 to 68th Street  
Credit Cards  
AmEx, V, MC, Diners

**Hi-Life Restaurant & Lounge**  
1340 1st Avenue @ 72nd Street  
212.249.3600

Somewhere between the 30s and 40s, when automobiles started plying New York's streets, restaurateurs became insecure. Fearful of losing their neighborhood clientele and going unnoticed by the speed-machines flying past, they put up screaming neon and stainless steel signs, begging to be seen. Hi-Life is a throw-back to those days: a 40s diner, complete with fish tank, and ease-back, black leather booths. Drinking pitchers or Finlandia martini's at the comfy mahogany bar, or sinking into a booth for a diner-style meal at yesteryear prices, this is a place to get a taste of the high life...just follow the blue and red neon signs.

**Lexington Bar & Books**  
1020 Lexington Avenue @ 73rd Street  
212.717.3902

Stepping into Lexington Bar & Books is like entering an upcountry gentry's private library. Gleaming wooden bookshelves with ancient-looking volumes line the walls. As a cigar lounge, there's a volume of favorite and less popular brands offered, as well as an extensive selection of single malt scotches, cognacs, brandies and liqueurs, and a small menu of appetizers. On Fridays and Saturdays, a small band plays jazz, accompanied by a two drink minimum stipulation during the performance. This up-market venue, like its counterpart on Hudson Street, would prefer patrons arriving in a

Type of Establishment  
Lounge  
Hours  
M-Th 4:30pm-2am  
F-Sa 5:30pm-4am  
Su 6pm-2am  
Drink Prices  
Moderate  
Food  
Appetizers

**LUVBUZZ**  
1438 3rd Avenue  
Between 81st & 82nd Streets  
212.717.0100

Luv is what seems to be constantly Buzzing around this fledgling lounge, intended to "bring back some fun to the Upper East Side." Come to browse for that cuter-than-cute date, or to recline over "Sake for Two" below rubber-latex curtaining, intended to send out subliminal safe-sex messages. Or fold slinky legs in the red glow of a retro bar while sipping on funky cocktails like a Psychedelic Snowball.

**Martell's**  
1469 3rd Avenue @ 83rd Street  
212.879.1717

This busy bar/restaurant forces you to quickly become up-close and personal with the fun-loving crowd who comes here to drink beer, watch sporting events and meet the other fun-loving people they're squashed up against. A few years of dedicated service to the establishment, will earn you a plaque alongside about 50 others on the bar. This isn't that difficult a feat if you are into exceptional cosmopolitans and metropolitans. Another reason to keep coming back is the solid American fare they're known for around the neighborhood — especially the tasty crab cakes.

**Merchants**  
1125 1st Avenue @ 62nd Street  
212.832.1551

Merchants is the way an Upper East Side establishment is supposed to look. A gleaming wooden staircase winds up to a semi-circular bar complemented by a glossy mosaic floor and leads you past indistinguishable diners at very low-lit tables. Downstairs chat lounges range from dark to darker, with the occasional spotlight on a performing duo. The atmosphere oozes undeniably Upper East Side sophistication. Merchants is a good place to dine incognito, or perhaps even bump into a U.N. or corporate catch...in the dark.

Type of Establishment  
Bar/Lounge  
Hours  
Daily 4pm-4am  
Drink Prices  
Expensive  
Food  
Snacks/Desserts  
Nearest Subway  
4,5,6 to 86th Street  
Credit Cards  
AmEx, V, MC

Type of Establishment  
Bar/Restaurant  
Hours  
Daily 12pm-4am  
Drink Prices  
Moderate  
Food  
American  
Nearest Subway  
4,5,6 to 86th Street  
Credit Cards  
All Major

Type of Establishment  
Bar/Restaurant/Lounge  
Hours  
M-F 5pm-4am  
Sa-Su  
11:30am-4am  
Drink Prices  
Expensive  
Food  
American  
Nearest Subway  
4,5,6 to 59th Street

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar/Restaurant

Hours  
Th-Sa 5pm-  
4am M-W  
5pm-2am  
Su 12pm-  
12am

Drink Prices  
Expensive

Food  
Tapas

Nearest  
Subway  
6 to 77th  
Street

Credit Cards  
All Major

**Session 73**

1359 1st Avenue @ 73rd Street  
212.517.4445

Mix a touch of Viva España, a bit of downtown groove and twist of Upper East Side class with live jazz and blues and you've got yourself a fun night out. Come for Spanish, Asian, European and American tapas shared over a sangria or a martini or get sociable at the long, spacious bar and watch out for visiting celebs, where the ideal excuse is the band in the corner. The orange walled dining room is for a slightly more intimate dinner conversation over traditional platos-principales and a secluded room at the back becomes the ideal private restaurant for that special party you've wanted to throw all year.

**Trilogy Bar & Grill**

1403 2nd Avenue @ 73rd Street  
212.794.1870

If this bar were downtown it would have peanut shells on the floor and neon bar signs haphazardly hung on the walls. But Trilogy is on the Upper East Side so the floor is spotless, framed pictures hang perfectly, and instead of Chex Mix you have a complete and extremely affordable menu which ranges from fried calamari to mesculan salad. Though one wouldn't expect it from a bar that has more than its fair share of cardigan and khaki wearing yuppies, Trilogy has the recipe for a cheap good time. Guessing heads or tails correctly on Flip Night Tuesday wins you a free drink.

Type of  
Establishment  
Bar/Restaurant

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

Drink Prices  
Moderate

Food  
American

Nearest  
Subway  
6 to 77th  
Street

Credit Cards  
All Major