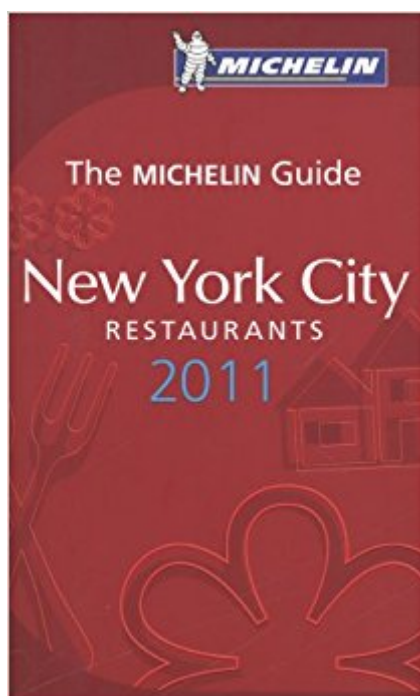


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Michelin Guide New York City 2011: Restaurants & Hotels (Michelin Guide/Michelin)



Synopsis

The MICHELIN Guide New York City 2011 takes a sweeping look at New York restaurants, celebrating the diversity of choice that defines the Big Apple-there's something for every taste and budget. The guide includes reviews of 715 restaurants and 62 hotels, each one a reliable recommendation from Michelin's famously anonymous inspectors. NEW for 2011: 17 new under-\$25 restaurants, expanded Small Plates category with 29 restaurants added, 21 new Bib Gourmand selections (restaurants serving two courses and a glass of wine or dessert for \$40 or less, not including tax or gratuity). The guide includes a total of 95 Bib Gourmand restaurants-more than any other city in the world-and 57 starred restaurants. Time-tested Michelin symbols for easy reference, Michelin stars indicate culinary excellence, Bib Gourmand designations deliver everyday excellence at a reasonable price, Red Pavilion icons highlight charming hotels, and special symbols identify restaurants' notable cocktail, sake and wine lists. Reviews are grouped by neighborhood for easy, spur-of-the-moment decision-making. Multiple, user-friendly listings make it easy to choose: A to Z; neighborhood, starred, Bib Gourmand and under \$25 restaurants; type of cuisine; brunch; and late night dining. Colorful city and neighborhood maps pinpoint location and highlight the best places to eat and stay. Use with the Michelin Green Guide New York City or Must Sees New York City for sightseeing options.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

very, very useful

I'm not sure if the other reviewers work for Michelin, but I can't believe we're reviewing the same guide. Maybe I'm just looking for something different from my review guide, like some sort of guidance. Briefly, because I can't believe I'm wasting more time on this particular book, this guide DOES contain write-ups of many restaurants. They are arranged alphabetically by neighborhood. So the first issue is that you have to know EXACTLY which neighborhood you're in. No problem - I live here now, except that means I know that there are different levels of granularity that are used to distinguish neighborhoods. This book is minutely detailed for mid-town, but lumps most of Brooklyn together in one. In other words, it's inconsistent in its organization, which makes it hard to navigate. As far as the reviews go, I've never come across a more confusing grading system. I'd heard of Michelin stars and I know they are given out sparingly. Very few restaurants in this guide are actually recommended and those that do are invariably extremely expensive (unless you've lived in London, in which case it's probably what you'd pay to go to a gastropub). Instead, you have to sift through half-page write-ups to understand what's available. Every description is a rave, even the mediocre restaurants. In short, these reviews are untrustworthy and offer zero guidance. On the plus side, there are occasional photos of empty restaurants to liven up the proceedings, but this isn't a GUIDE. It's a compendium of overly-gushing-but-too-short-to-be-truly-useful reviews. Also, there's no guidance as to which reviews to read, so you have to sift them all. Oh, they've tried: there's a stupid little cartoon Michelin man who supposedly represents "good value" who pops up when you least expect him. Well, all I can say is their definition of value doesn't match mine. So, it's not a guide (despite what the title would suggest), it's big, it's heavy, the reviews are not too hot. What else could it do wrong? Well, how about throwing in a whole bunch of completely irrelevant HOTEL reviews? Yes, this self-proclaimed restaurant guide wastes valuable time, weight, and space on a selection of independent hotel (ie non-chain) reviews. If it said anything other than good things about every single hotel, it would probably be useful. Instead, it smacks suspiciously of product placement. Do yourself a favor and buy another guide for hotel listings (or use the internet) and then buy the Zagat guide for restaurants.

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