

Where to Eat Well in Midtown East

For many, the eastern stretches of Midtown were a place to commute to for work, or for the occasional business lunch or breakfast; it's not known for being much of a culinary destination. But a strong roster of dining options do indeed exist in Midtown East, and have managed to survive despite the lack of office crowds during the pandemic. There are historical gems, like Le Grenouille's celebrated haute French fare and the Grand Central Oyster Bar & Restaurant. Some of the city's iconic steakhouses and burger joints exist here, too, as do excellent options for ramen and Sichuan dishes. Ahead, 21 places well worth a meal in Midtown East.

14. Ophelia Lounge NYC

3 Mitchell Pl 26th floor
New York, NY 10017

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Excellent views, accompanied by fancy cocktails, are the main attractions at this swishy cocktail lounge, located in a space with rich history. Perched on the 26th floor of the Beekman Tower, the rooftop bar has sweeping views of the East River, with outside space as well as an enclosed patio area. Drinks like the Ophelia's Ascension (bourbon and Jamaican pepper-infused mezcal) are accompanied by snacks like steak tartare or hamachi crudo. The digs were once frequented by Frank Sinatra, and, before that, **served as a residence** for young professional women formerly in sororities circa the 1920s.

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