

Casa Felix brings Mexico's Golden Age glamour to Chelsea

The restaurant blends tequila and mezcal with a menu from a third-generation chef.



OpenTable

August 12, 2026



Casa Felix in NYC is the newest restaurant from the team behind Philippe Chow. | Credit: Casa Felix

Casa Felix in NYC is built around one idea: agave spirits and good company should never be rushed. The modern Mexican social tequilera comes from Merchants, the hospitality group behind Philippe Chow, waterfront restaurant Watermark, and Art Bar, the West Village mainstay that has poured drinks for more than 35 years.

Chef Rey Martinez, a third-generation cook whose menu draws on his own Mexican heritage, leads the kitchen. The concept borrows its glamour from María Félix and Mexico's cinematic Golden Age, and it shows up everywhere from the cocktail list to the design.

What to eat



The blue fin tuna tostada bites are one of the highlights of the menu at Casa Felix. | Credit: Casa Felix

Start with chicory Caesar, which comes with a anchovy-lime dressing. Then, share the braised short rib with mole and smoked corn crema. The blue fin tuna tostada bites wrap rich tuna in a crisp rice-paper shell instead of the pork skin the name implies. Chicken enfrijoladas round things out with black bean sauce, crema, and cactus salad.



Tequila and mezcal feature heavily on the cocktail list at Casa Felix. | Credit: Casa Felix

Beverage director Bruno Souza runs the drinks program, which focuses on tequila and mezcal. The Some Like It Hot arrives as a mezcal sour, layering smoky agave, pasilla chile, and tart hibiscus under a velvety foam. The Desert Oasis is lighter, mixing tequila blanco and mezcal espadín with Chareau aloe liqueur, cucumber, and lime. Margaritas, palomas, and tequila spritzes round out a list designed for repeat ordering.

Where to sit



The bright dining room is just one of the distinct spaces within the restaurant. | Credit: Casa Felix

The front holds a café and outdoor seating on 7th Avenue. The restaurant opens into a bright dining room and tequila bar lined with retro green vinyl stools, vintage cigar band artwork, and neon accents. Further back, the energy is like a speakeasy-style lounge with red velvet banquettes and custom murals. There's also a dedicated back lounge styled like a Mexican living room with oversized chandeliers. A private dining room seats 25, with its own entrance on 21st Street.

When to go

Casa Felix in NYC serves dinner daily from 4 pm to 11 pm. Happy hour is Monday to Friday from 4 pm to 6 pm. Brunch runs Saturday and Sunday from noon to 4 pm. Reservations drop daily at midnight for the following 30 days.

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