December doesn’t necessarily have to be that stressful, however, if one remembers to spoil oneself a little along the way; and what better way to get in the holiday mood than a luxurious hometown staycation? So ditch the outer borough studio for a weekend and head to where the bells jingle the loudest and Xmas decorations are most unapologetically over the top: the area just south of Central Park.

For maximum splurge, it’s hard to top the swish **Viceroy** hotel. The NYC outpost opened in 2014 (there are also editions in Santa Monica, Miami, Snowmass, etc). And from its luxurious confines, one can survey the festive goings on below – best accomplished from the chic 29th floor bar **The Roof** – run by those crafty cultivators of so much nightlife glamour **The Gerber Group**.

When you’re done running around outside and the plush confines of the hotel beckon, head back to the Viceroy for a cozy but classy dinner at **Kingside**, where chef Marc Murphy’s (Landmark/Ditch Plains) menu of creative classics such as roasted dover sole and lobster toast will quickly warm you up. Order some festive bubbly from the Sparkling by the Split menu.