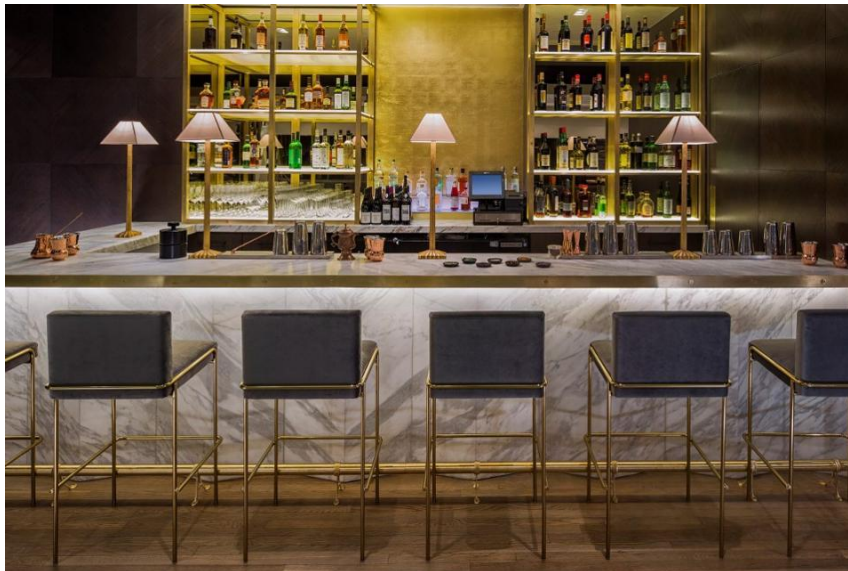


Manhattan's Ten Best Vegetarian-Friendly Restaurants

A few weeks ago, I faced a dining dilemma that wasn't cost- or crowd-related: Where to go with a group of friends who were pescatarian or vegetarian. The usual Thai, Italian, and Indian suggestions popped up, always fair game, but something unusual happened. For once, I had a surfeit of choices offering serious vegetable dishes, with fine wine and cocktail lists, plus Michelin stars, to boot.

Just a few years ago, if you wanted non-Asian vegetarian, you went to one of those "crunchy, hippie-dippy joints," to quote a friend. Typically, such places lacked three things: skill, seasoning, and ambiance. The only beverage to wash that dry tofu down was kombucha in its pre-mainstream iteration. The farm-to-table movement helped bring fresh, seasonal produce to our mouths, and finally, Americans started eating vegetables that actually tasted good. But even the most delicious carrots and cauliflower didn't become star players on menus until recently.

And now? An easily accumulated list of ten places that treat vegetables with the reverence they deserve. (Note: This roster doesn't cover Brooklyn which will receive separate coverage.)



The handsome bar at Indian Accent.

[Indian Accent](#) This New Delhi import brought inventive Indian to Manhattan's midtown in a sumptuous dining room outfitted with "Calcutta gold" white marble. Chef Manish Mehrotra offers a multi-course prix fixe menu (including a vegetarian version) or a la carte selections. Regardless of your chosen dining path, all meals begin with the kitchen's signature blue cheese-stuffed mini naan bread, so good, it's also served in Delhi. A broad, superb wine list provides fertile ground for unusual but successful pairings with sherry, Madeira, and even cider. *123 W 56th Street, NYC. 212-842-8070*