

## MEAL TICKET | NEW YORK CITY

Most New York City restaurants fold in a New York minute, but these top newcomers from Zagat Survey's 2005 New York City Restaurants guide have inventive cuisine, a cool clientele and, best of all, staying power.



**HOT CUISINE.** Sumile in New York City

**BILTMORE ROOM CHELSEA** 212-807-0111; "You can inhale the hip factor" at this newcomer whose "extraordinary" eclectic menu is served in a "Great Gatsby"-esque space adorned with old Biltmore Hotel fixtures; but pray the glow "dims a bit, so mere mortals can get reservations."

FOOD	DECOR	SERVICE	COST
25	26	21	\$64

**DAVID BURKE & DONATELLA** UPPER EAST SIDE 212-813-2121. Chef David Burke "strikes gold" at this New American offering "amusement park rides on a plate"; its "Bonfire of the Vanities" crowd revels in "precise" service, "stylish" rooms and hostess-with-the-mostest Donatella.

FOOD	DECOR	SERVICE	COST
25	24	22	\$72

**HEARTH EAST VILLAGE** 646-602-1300; This "adventurous" arrival with "hearty" Tuscan-American cooking is already "filled with foodies"; if the exposed-brick setting and "unpretentious" service belie its "serious" intentions, the "size of the bill" should convince you.

FOOD	DECOR	SERVICE	COST
24	20	23	\$55

**CASA MONO GRAMERCY** 212-253-2773; Molto Mario "does Spanish" at this "buzzing" newcomer with an "adventurous" tapas menu of "mouthwatering" morsels; in the "ultra-cramped" setting, insiders suggest a seat opposite the open kitchen for some "pure gastronomic theater."

FOOD	DECOR	SERVICE	COST
24	18	20	\$44

**SUMILE WEST VILLAGE** 212-989-7699; The "innovative" sushi-free fare is "absolutely stunning" at this Village Japanese, as is the "sleek," "mod" space and "NYC-style friendly" service; but bottom-

FOOD	DECOR	SERVICE	COST
24	21	22	\$68

**ZAGAT SURVEY**

Food, Decor and Service are rated on a scale of 0 to 30. The Cost column reflects the estimated average price of dinner, including one drink and tip. Reviews are based on public opinion surveys, with text based on direct quotes from, or fair paraphrasings of, participants' comments. For more information see [zagat.com](http://zagat.com).