



New York City Nightlife: What to Do After Dark

ered tablecloths. Head north to find the cannoli; mozzarella; and veal, chicken, and eggplant parm of your dreams.

Get nostalgic at an all-night diner

attraction here. Nighttime at a

Tucked into a booth, doodling on your paper placemat, steaming cup of coffee and slice of cherry pie at the ready: Here you are, among the night-hawks. Doubtless the menu in your greasy-spoon is expansive, but people-watching is the real

24-hour diner is the burnt coffee-perfumed junction between those ending their days and those just beginning them; it is the clean, well-lighted place where the city shifts gears.

Catch a show

Maybe you're looking for punk spectacle on Staten Island, the world's most famous amateur hour in Harlem, a drag show in Chelsea, balletic grace on the Upper West Side, salsa in the Bronx, indy riffs in Williamsburg, cool jazz in Park Slope, or comedy capering in Long Island City -- whatever you're into, every single night and in every single borough, someone is doing it in public for you to enjoy. Support local artists and find your scene.

Mangia classic Italian-American cuisine in NYC's better Little Italy

New York's place at the cultural vanguard leaves old-school authenticity in short supply, but anchored by Arthur Avenue, the Bronx's Little Italy is too good, too quintessential to be papered-over by the zeitgeist. No precious, tortured, tweezered amuse-bouches here. Instead, you'll find businesses owned and operated by proud families of born-and-bred New Yorkers offering candlelit evenings of sumptuous food served on red-check-

Dance it out

Imagine yourself dancing during the day. There's something... off about the tableau, no? Plus, good luck finding a place that'll bump the soundtrack that your soul is craving before sunset. The famed House of Yes features as hip and as steamy an at-

in a club. If you're looking for something lower-key, spots like C'mon Everybody, and Beauty Bar keep DJed dance parties on their calendars.

mosphere as you could possibly want

Sing karaoke

K-Towns opposed to

loosey-goosey dive bar

caterwauling (which, for

the record, we love), Kore-

an-style karaoke tends to be a more purposeful, polished affair replete with dramatic lighting and private rooms. It's not an activity, it's an experience -- one that can run nearly all night if you've got the wherewithal and a bag of lozenges handy. Favorite spots include Maru Karaoke Lounge, Chorus Karaoke, and 32 Karaoke.

Watch the sunrise

Coney Islandfter the Cyclone is retired for thnight and the fun-seekers, freaks, and carneys have packed it in, there is still the beach, and the ocean, and the sky, and you. There are so few places for solitude or recognition of nature's vastness and power in this city, that simply sitting and watching morning's first light bloom over the Atlantic feels transcendent.