

DETAILS

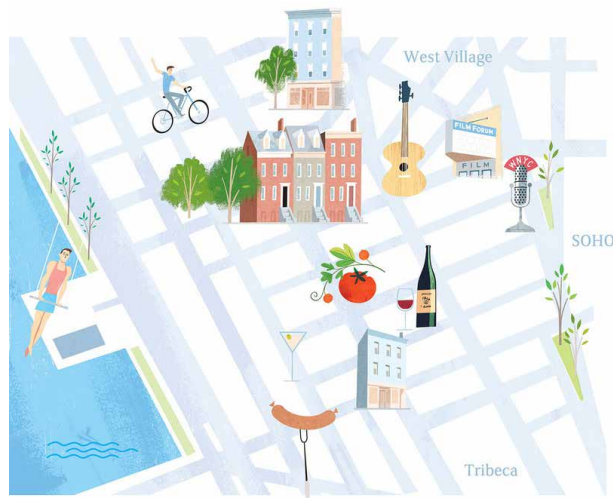
New York City: Why Hudson Square Is Our New Favorite Hot Spot

By MICHAEL DAVIS

Since the “Gangs of New York” era, lower Manhattan’s neighborhoods have been competing among themselves over local bragging rights. Of course, these days people argue about which area has the best bars and stores, not who has the toughest brawlers. Into this fray steps Hudson Square, a small, often-overlooked area unabashedly challenging its neighbors, the well-established West Village, SoHo, and Tribeca.

But the recently rezoned Hudson Square isn’t just some scrappy underdog. The neighborhood is witnessing a wealth of new apartment and office construction, along with an influx of bars, restaurants and activities, attracting forward-thinking cultural players, welcoming TED conferences, the Guggenheim Foundation, and even indomitable businesses looking for a new home, like Cadillac. This month, Cadillac leaves its headquarters in the automobile’s spiritual home of Detroit for the uncharted waters (or, really, waterfront) of Hudson Square, setting up shop at 330 Hudson.

With all these new businesses and storefronts, we’d say Hudson Square is ready to compete with the best of ‘em. Get yours before the neighborhood is overrun by tourists.



Illustrations: Jamey Christoph

Mae Mae Café

For breakfast or lunch, Mae Mae Café is one of the area’s best options. The farmhouse-style eatery features locally sourced ingredients, including organic vegetables from the restaurant’s own Katchkie Farm in Kinderhook, New York. Menus change weekly, but the high quality of the food never varies.

Mae Mae Café, 68 Vandam St., New York.

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