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Diplomacy, gardens and a game at the table

Qatari mediation, migration and art in Brooklyn, and backgammon at Sofreh Cafe



Photo: Sofreh Cafe

IN THIS ISSUE / FOOD & CITY

From Doha to Brooklyn, this issue looks at the spaces where conversation takes form: a negotiating room, a garden as memory, and a table set for a game. The cover photograph is from Sofreh Cafe, one of eleven businesses in our directory.

IRAN & THE WORLD

Contacts continue, but no breakthrough yet

Reuters reported November 2 that Iran’s talks with Qatari mediators ended without a breakthrough, while exchanges aimed at ending the war continued.

Reuters

ART & COMMUNITY

Gardens, migration and memory in Brooklyn

Residency Unlimited hosts Plant Ecologies and Migration with Bahar Behbahani and two fellow artists on Thursday, November 5, from 6 to 8 p.m.

Residency Unlimited

FOOD & CITY

Backgammon returns to Sofreh Cafe

Menna lists a Sofreh Cafe backgammon night for Sunday, November 15, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the café’s Flatbush Avenue address.

Menna / Luma

Tables that bring us together

Brooklyn dining and the kitchens behind a celebration

Prospect Heights

Sofreh



Photo: Sofreh

At Sofreh, Nasim Alikhani’s restaurant on Saint Marks Avenue, Persian hospitality meets Brooklyn city life. Its official reservation page releases tables for up to six people online four weeks ahead at midnight. Dinner is listed Tuesday through Sunday, 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Monday is closed. Read the cancellation and party size conditions before booking.

75 Saint Marks Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11217

Official website and current details

Bushwick

Eyval



Photo: Ellen Silverman Photography / Eyval

On Bogart Street, Eyval belongs to a newer chapter of Persian dining in Brooklyn. Chef Ali Saboor, previously of Sofreh, approaches Iranian culinary traditions through a contemporary restaurant setting. The official Eat and Drink pages are the best starting point for its current offering. This is a researched introduction, rather than a review based on an anonymous meal.

25 Bogart Street, Brooklyn, NY 11206

Official website and current details

Flatbush Avenue

Sofreh Cafe



Photo: Sofreh Cafe

Nasim Alikhani’s Sofreh Cafe brings hospitality into the everyday: coffee, chai, pastries and dishes to share. At 216 Flatbush Avenue, the table becomes a place to pause between city errands. The café also lists takeaway and catering. Published hours are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekdays and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekends.

216 Flatbush Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11217

Official website and current details

New York catering

Nasrin’s Kitchen



Photo: Nasrin’s Kitchen

Nasrin’s Kitchen now emphasizes catering for weddings, corporate events and private dinners on its official website. We list it as a catering business, not a walk in restaurant. Use the official inquiry form to discuss menus, guest numbers and availability for your event.

Catering across New York City

Official website and current details

Four addresses in Manhattan

From Madison Avenue to Chelsea and the Upper East Side

Midtown

Ravagh · Madison Avenue



Photo: Ravagh Restaurants

Ravagh’s Madison Avenue restaurant is one of four addresses currently listed by the business across Manhattan and Long Island. The restaurant describes its cooking in terms of balance and aroma. For readers looking for a Persian meal in Midtown, this is a practical address to know. Use the restaurant’s own site for menus, ordering and opening hours.

173 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016

Official website and current details

Upper East Side

Ravagh · Upper East Side



Photo: Ravagh Restaurants

This First Avenue location appears in Ravagh’s official directory. If you are on Manhattan’s east side, use the distance sorting to compare it with the Madison Avenue address. The photograph comes from the Ravagh group and does not necessarily depict this particular branch.

1135 First Avenue, New York, NY 10065

Official website and current details

Chelsea

Shiraz Kitchen · Chelsea



Photo: Shiraz Kitchen

Shiraz Kitchen brings Persian and Mediterranean cooking to West 17th Street. Weekday lunch and weekend brunch offer two ways to make this Chelsea address part of a city outing. The restaurant recommends reservations Thursday through Saturday. Check its own page for the menu and current service details.

111 West 17th Street, New York, NY 10011

Official website and current details

Upper East Side

Persepolis



Photo: Persepolis

Persepolis says founder Kazem Bayati opened the restaurant more than 35 years ago. Its website currently lists a $28 three course lunch special, offered weekdays from 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. and weekends until 3:30 p.m. Recheck hours and pricing when booking.

1407 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10021

Official website and current details

New York, beyond the city

Westchester and Long Island: addresses outside NYC’s five boroughs

White Plains

Shiraz Kitchen · White Plains

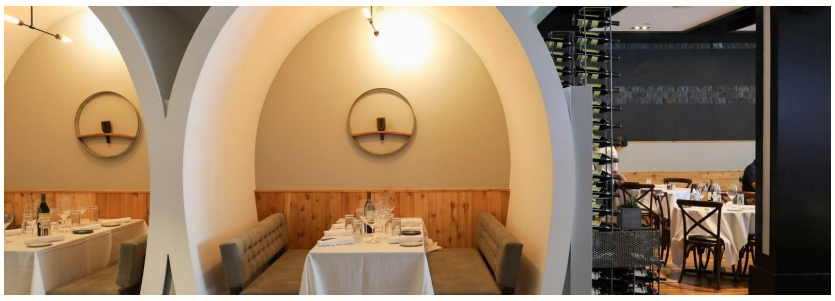


Photo: Shiraz Kitchen

Shiraz Kitchen’s White Plains address is 80 Mamaroneck Avenue in Westchester, outside New York City’s five boroughs. For a gathering north of the city, plan the journey separately. Weekday lunch is listed from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Consult the restaurant’s site for menus and reservations.

80 Mamaroneck Avenue, White Plains, NY 10601

Official website and current details

Roslyn Heights

Ravagh · Roslyn Heights



Photo: Ravagh Restaurants

The Roslyn Heights branch appears on Ravagh’s official location page at Mineola Avenue. It is outside New York City’s five boroughs. The photograph represents Ravagh’s food, rather than this individual branch.

210 Mineola Avenue, Roslyn Heights, NY 11577

Official website and current details

Huntington

Ravagh · Huntington



Photo: Ravagh Restaurants

Huntington is the second Long Island address on Ravagh’s official list. For readers living in the area, discovering a local option can make a Persian dinner possible without a trip into Manhattan. The photograph is from the Ravagh group.

335 Main Street, Huntington, NY 11743

Official website and current details

FROM THE EDITOR

The city we make together

Conversation does not always produce an immediate result. It can continue through mediation, take root in gardens and memory, or become friendly competition around a table. Our task is to keep hope separate from fact: contacts continue, but no agreement has been announced.

OUR METHOD & SOURCES

Text is prepared using the linked sources. Introductions are not reviews based on personal visits. Photos come from official business websites and remain their owners’ property. This week’s sources were checked November 2, 2026; individual listing dates appear on our website. Please confirm hours, reservations and event terms before visiting. This publication is not affiliated with The New Yorker.