



THE NEW DESSERT

Then... Cupcakes became ubiquitous around 2000, thanks to a little cameo of Bleecker Street's Magnolia Bakery on *Sex and the City* (magnoliabakery.com).
Now... Soho baker Dominique Ansel's Cronut (a croissant-donut hybrid) is the darling of the dessert scene — indulge at Ansel's new West Village bakery (dominiqueansel.com).
Next... The too-cool bruffin (pictured) has a brioche texture and is shaped like a muffin, but comes in multiple, nationality-themed flavours, savoury and sweet. Buy in Gansevoort Market (gansmarket.com), and nibble walking the High Line.



the new! hour

Use your jet lag and see the city as never before — from midnight 'til dawn

| 12AM: Sidle in to a booth in Happiest Hour, a just-opened West Village bar with palm-tree wallpaper, waitresses in retro gear, and tiki-tropical memorabilia. Grab a Happiest Burger (already on NYC's 'best burger' lists) and a Little Red Dress cocktail (rum or wine with strawberry, cocoa and soda, £7.70). The kitchen's open 'til 2am (happiesthournyc.com).

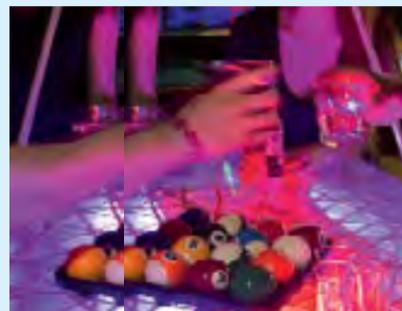
| 1.30AM: Head for a game of pool at Space Billiards, open till 4am. Join Midtown workers letting off steam — there are 12 pool tables, sports screens and karaoke. The bar specialises in sake, soju and cocktails with Korean vodka (you're in Koreatown). Pool tables cost £13.50 per hour (spacebilliards.com).

| 3AM: New York bars close at 4am, so get last orders in at Crocodile Lounge, a subterranean faux dive bar in the East Village. Join students and hipsters at the fairy-lit bar for skee-ball, arcade games, a photo booth and — the real draw — free pizza with every drink (crocodilelounge.com).

| 4AM: With its stark white banquettes, menu featuring local characters, and people-watching terrace on 7th Avenue, *chi-chi Cafeteria* isn't your typical 24-hour diner. The food's a cut above, too — truffled eggs with prosciutto (£8.40) and avocado toast (£5) are up there with the best breakfasts in town. Get your order in right before 4am to beat the licensing laws and you can channel Carrie Bradshaw (*Sex and the City* filmed here) with a *Cosmopolitan* (cafeteriagroup.com).

| 5AM: Boost flagging energy levels with a session in a hydrotherapy tub at Juvenex, a glam 24-hour spa in Koreatown, popular with post-show Broadway performers. The jets mimic river currents to give you a water 'massage', which relaxes the neck and shoulders and stimulates circulation; upgrade by adding ginseng to the water for an extra blast of alertness (juvenexspa.com; 30mins £48, with ginseng £55).

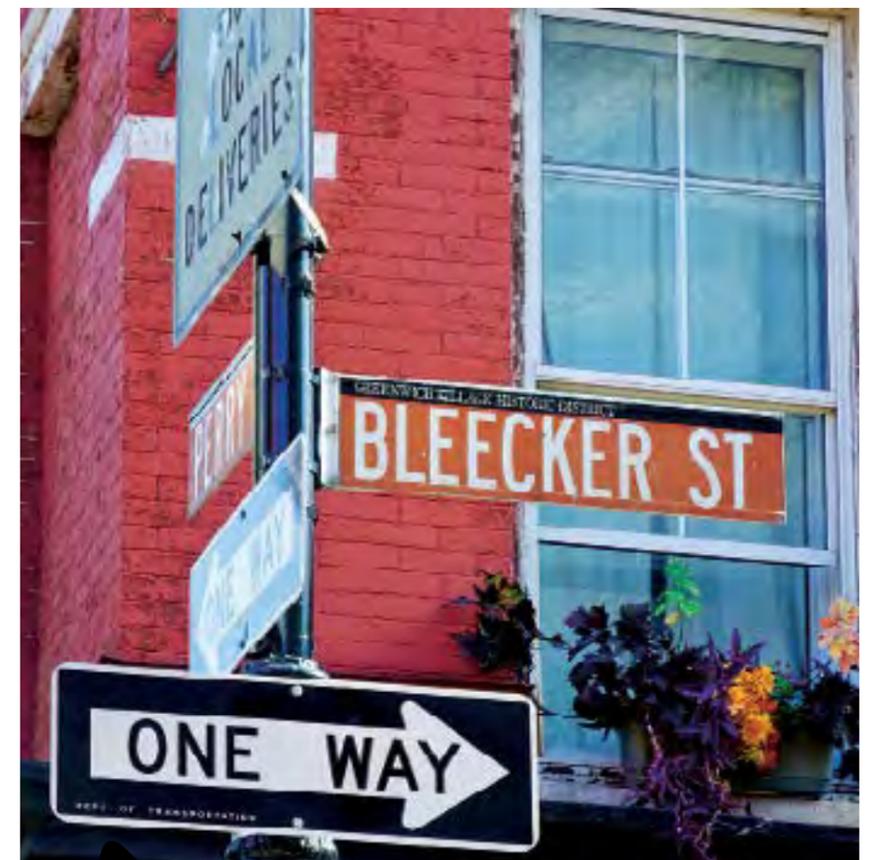
| 6AM: Where else but New York could you board a boat and witness the city's iconic skyline at any time, day or night, for free? The Staten Island ferry runs a 24-hour service between the Financial District and Staten Island, taking you past the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island (siferry.com). It's a 25-minute trip each way; time your return to see the skyscrapers of Downtown at dawn.



The late, late show: from top, the Happiest Hour in West Village; Space Billiards; Crocodile Lounge dive bar

THE NEW FLIGHT IN

Then... The only way to arrive was by Concorde. And — despite her retirement in 2003 — you can still get on board. At Manhattan's Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum (intrepidmuseum.org), a BA Concorde hosts ace tours — as full of celeb gossip as techy stuff.
Now... The stylish arrival is business class at premium-economy prices. Launched this spring, French airline La Compagnie (lacompagnie.com/uk) flies from Luton to NYC's Newark airport, with just 74 lovely lie-back club-class seats. This month, returns are £1,100 (BA's premium economy costs from £1,036).
Next... In July Vice-President Biden announced a \$4 billion transformation of New York's La Guardia airport to start next year. Extended runways and a change of rules could potentially mean UK flights landing at a brand-new sci-fi-style airport from 2019 — and sleek speedboat transfers to Manhattan.



the new! tours

Skip the open-top bus — these stand-out tours give a unique glimpse of NYC

| OFFICIAL CENTRAL PARK APP
 Yoko Ono's guide to Strawberry Fields? Now there's a New York tour we'd like to take. The Central Park Conservancy's app flaunts a fistful of Celebrity Audio Guides to the park's iconic spots (Seinfeld's Julia Louis-Dreyfus has just been added; centralparknyc.org; free). More practically, it also includes an interactive map, which becomes extra handy when you need the loo in this 341-hectare park.

| GREENWICH VILLAGE FOOD TOUR
 Follow the course of an Italian meal through the eyes of celebrity chef Mario Batali. This three-hour tour has stops for arancini from Faicco's, one of the city's oldest delis; at Bleecker Street to visit family-owned food spots; before dessert at Dolce Gelateria, a Batali favourite (Batali is too big a star to guide the tour, sadly; £42pp; walksofnewyork.com).

| HAUNTED BROOKLYN HEIGHTS
 Horror author Andrea Janes read archival copies of the 19th-century Brooklyn Daily Eagle to add historical gravitas (and spook factor) to this one-of-a-kind Boroughs of the Dead tour. The crawl visits the former home of

HP Lovecraft, one of America's most significant horror writers, and the Montague Street entrance of the Promenade, said to be haunted by the ghost of a sea captain — and more. Shudder (boroughsofthedeath.com; £13pp).

| URBAN-FORAGING
 This is pick-your-own, New York style. For 20 years, food writer Leda Meredith has been foraging in Manhattan and Brooklyn, a surprisingly fertile ground of more than 300 edible plants and mushrooms. You'll find fancy gourmet produce everywhere in the concrete jungle, such as purslane — considered a pesky weed by most, but actually an Omega-3-rich crop loved by French chefs. And while upscale markets sell mulberries, many NYC trees grow them (verlocal.com/event/foragingnyc; £13pp).

| DISNEY ON BROADWAY
 Stage fans will be in heaven on this walking tour of the Great White Way (as thespians call Broadway), launched this July. It's split up into two distinct experiences. Part one is a look at Times Square from the perspective of a Broadway actor, with stops at insider addresses such as Sardi's, a restaurant popular with opening-night parties since 1927. Part two is an excursion to Disney's New Amsterdam Theatre, with a look into the Costumes and Props Studio, where you can try on masks from *The Lion King* (walksofnewyork.com; £47pp).