

# The best new restaurants in NYC for April 2019

From a restaurant by legendary chefs to a Brooklyn dive, these are the best new restaurants NYC offers this season

By Bao Ong and Emma Orlow | **Posted:** Thursday April 11 2019

New York is full of [things to do in the spring](#), especially if you want to check out the best new restaurants in NYC to open after a slow start to the year. Leading chefs from [Michelin star restaurants in NYC](#) have opened at the ritzy [Hudson Yards](#) development while there's a strong contender for our list of [best restaurants in Harlem](#). These are the places we want to visit now.

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Photograph: Courtesy Noah Fecks

[Bars, Cocktail bars](#)

## The Poni Room

📍 East Village

Enter through Saxon + Parole's restaurant and let them know you're looking for The Poni Room. The name is the secret code word to enter a subterranean seated bar and restaurant, with a totally separate menu from the upstairs East Village mainstay. The Poni Room is loosely aquatic-themed, with seashell decor details, napkins that look like sails, and water and wine served from fish jugs. Going along with the theme, the menu— a collaboration between Chef Brad Farmerie and Chef Nicole Gajadhar — focuses on elevated bar snacks in the form of seafood skewers and small plates. Uni toast, smoked salmon with trout roe, avocado, cucumber and shichimi togarashi rice chips, coconut laksa with crab, scallop skewers with sweet chili sauce, and lobster bao buns, as well as a few meat offerings like sesame soy-braised lotus root and crispy pork belly with cucumber, chili-caramel, mint and cilantro. Though The Poni Room will have cocktails of all varieties, they specialize in an extensive rosé program—a roster of 20 different wines— that's interactive. Guests can actually head to the wine cellar and select what they think looks best, as opposed to abstractly trying to guess from opaque menu descriptions.

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