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Make reservations now for Thanksgiving out

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Gobble, gobble

This year, your house doesn't have to be the pilgrimage site for ravenous relatives, raring as much for a side of sweet potatoes as humble pie. AMNY gives thanks to several NYC restaurants, for taking on the heat of the kitchen, and dishing out satisfying Thanksgiving dinners to silence even the most critical of clans.

1. Fraunces Tavern, 212-425-1776, 54 Pearl St. at Broad St.

Feast on American classics of yore at one of George Washington's favorite haunts. Open since 1762, Fraunces serves up deliciously familiar holiday staples, like slow roasted Vermont Turkey with apple, sweet sausage and cornbread stuffing, alongside sleek, yuppie fare. It may be a holiday at this historical registry house, but Financial District staples of pan-seared mahi-mahi, paparadelle pasta, and risotto are always at work.

2. davidburke & donatella, 212-813-2121, 133 E. 61st St.

Sign up for some enjoyable holiday drama at davidburke & donatella, where show-stopping presentations and unexpected pairings are scheduled delights, rather than messy disappointments. Master chefs set the stage with seawater-soaked organic turkey, pretzel crusted crabcakes dressed in mango and poppyseeds, and goat cheese dumplings with butternut squash soup. These luxe showmen never leave you wanting more.

3. Central Park Boathouse, 212-517-2233, E. 72nd St. and Park Drive North.

To have a more NYC Thanksgiving than the Central Park Boathouse, you'd have to dine atop the Empire State Building or Statue of Liberty. Take advantage of the opportunity to mix set New York standards, like Atlantic salmon soup with Long Island oyster tartar, prime rib, and lemon mousse, into your traditional meal, as New York is about nothing, if not à la carte diversity.

4. Talia's Steakhouse, 212-580-3770, 668 Amsterdam Avenue

Give Bubby a day off, and sit down to a splendid kosher nosh at trendy Talia's Steakhouse. Urban comfort food par excellence, Talia's Thanksgiving menu offers oven-baked turkey, broiled salmon, and of course brisket, alongside savory surprises, like rigatoni and a "ranch" sampler of grilled beef, bison, and chicken. There's something for everyone, so Talia's is a safe bet to stop the kids' kvetching.

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5. Mesa Grill, 212-807-7400, 102 Fifth Avenue

Whatever you think about celebrity chef, Bobby Flay's public persona, his restaurant, Mesa, is exempt. Always fantastically flavorful, Mesa's Southwestern Thanksgiving may not seem to be the venue for a time-honored Thanksgiving, but Flay's menu adds a kick to dishes, which have lost their festive flair after years of tasting. Just consider the evolutionary step turkey takes with a mustard-maple glaze and smoked chile gravy served over toasted cornbread and wild rice stuffing, and mosey on down to Mesa.

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