

15 NEW REASONS TO GO TO

NEW YORK

Make a brand new start of it in old New York at the hottest bars, coolest design stores and tucked-away neighbourhood locals

WORDS **Carrie Hutchinson**
PHOTOGRAPHY **Catherine Sutherland**

The bustle of West 14th Street, as seen from the High Line, the city's latest park



11 SKY-HIGH SANCTUARY ▶

It can be hard to find a little peace in Midtown, NYC's home to just about every tourist attraction you can think of. Thankfully, the Hudson Hotel opened its normally guests-only Sky Terrace to the public this summer. Located on the 15th floor, it has amazing views over the Hudson and down Ninth Avenue. During the day, spread out and enjoy a bar snack, though get there early to seize the coveted hammock, shaded by a lush arbour of vines. After dark, things step up a notch with the cocktail-sipping crew, but you can call ahead and reserve a table. **356 West 58th St, +1 212 554 6217, hudsonhotel.com.**

12 FRISKY BUSINESS ◀

So, you mix a mean Negroni, your friend's a spotter of fashion trends and you like hanging out together. What to do? Forget about the traditional demarcation of talents and open a mixed-concept business. The Smile (**26 Bond St, +1 646 329 5836, thesmilenyc.com**) is the newest, with daytime cafe, general store and tattoo parlour all in one basement. But our favourite is Freemans Sporting Club (**8 Rivington St, +1 212 673 3209, freemansportingclub.com**), which sells handmade menswear, while out back, funky barbers trade in haircuts and banter. Down the lane, enjoy rustic fare at their hunting lodge-chic restaurant (pictured), **Freeman Alley, +1 212 420 0012, freemansrestaurant.com.**

13 FOR ART'S SAKE ▼

It's hard to define Partners & Spade. The owners, Andy Spade and Anthony Sperduti, will tell you it's a gallery shopfront for their agency, but there's more to it. For a start, almost everything is for sale – some of it quite affordable – and then there are the kooky found objects, their limited-edition books, and their preschool workshops where kids create with artists. "Everything has to be unique and interesting on some level, whether witty or beautiful," says Anthony, of how he and Andy choose their pieces. Open weekends or by appointment. **40 Great Jones St, +1 646 861 2827, partnersandspade.com.**



NICE AND TEASY ▶

Forget about the ol' bump and grind. There's a new style in town, known as neo-burlesque, and its purveyors are a sassy bunch of broads guaranteed to make you want to don nipple pasties. The Famous Pontani Sisters lead the charge with their *This is Burlesque* show (visit thisisburlesque.com for upcoming dates), although it's hard not to become besotted by the gorgeous Melody Sweets (pictured). Unlike most of the other stage stars, Melody writes her own songs and sings live, while slowly peeling away her costume. So far, so cheeky. Those seeking more extreme entertainment, however, should try The Box (**189 Chrystie St, +1 212 982 9301, theboxnyc.com**) – you have been warned. **VE+T**



14 LAND OF NOD ◀

Imagine falling into a deep slumber on a glowing, vibrating, warm pod... for just 20 minutes. The Alpha Lounger (pictured) is the latest in energy blasts. In the city that allegedly never sleeps, Yelo Wellness is the centre for power napping. The less sci-fi option is to recline on one of the zero-gravity chairs – each in its own private cabin. Before the flight home, book in for a Travelade treatment, a blissful 40-minute reflexology session. **315 West 57th St, +1 212 245 8235, yelonyc.com.**



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