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The Top Nine New Places to Eat, Drink and Party in the Hamptons this Summer

Daytime parties will abound, and New York City pizza will dominate.



Gigi's Montauk will debut, complete with caviar and shellfish platters, in Montauk this summer. *Source: Gigi's Montauk*

Welcome to the unofficial start of the Hamptons summertime dining season.

It will be as busy as ever out on the East End. There's been brisk demand for houses among well-heeled buyers, according to a first-quarter report from Douglas Elliman. Earlier this year, average home price sales topped \$2 million, a new high.

It remains to be seen what the impact on the local food scene will be, and whether containers of lobster salad will top the \$100-per-pound mark.

But what you will see is more New York City restaurateurs bringing concepts to the beach—especially pizza, which continues to dominate the scene. It started two years ago, when Williamsburg’s hip Fini Pizza moved into the old Astro’s Pizza space in Amagansett, and the lines haven’t subsided by much.

This summer, two new pie spots arrive in the South Fork. One is the beloved Nolita thin-crust specialist Rubirosa, which will be staging an East Hampton residency through mid September. The other is the Monaco export Crazy Pizza, known for its party vibe and dough-spinning chefs.

In other general Hamptons hospitality news, Scott Sartiano won’t be returning to East Hampton’s The Hedges with his namesake Italian restaurant this year; it quietly closed last fall after pushback from the community. (His attempt to launch an outpost of his members-only club Zero Bond was also shut down by the village.) But that doesn’t mean the party is over. Bagatelle, the global, high-energy French Riviera-inspired restaurant brand, will open in a dockside Montauk perch with all the rosé.

Also coming to the East End is the retro-themed lounge Mary Lou’s; the Palm Beach staple is opening at an undisclosed Montauk location. It will reportedly be joined by one of its famous South Florida neighbors. Swifty’s—the long-standing, now-shuttered Upper East Side restaurant beloved by New York’s elite and revived in Palm Beach—is also allegedly coming to town.

And there’s more. Here are the nine new spots you’ll want to know out east, as we get ready to start the summer.



Yes there will be tartare at Gigi's Montauk. *Source: Gigi's Montauk*

Gigi's Montauk, Montauk

The century-old beachfront retreat Gurney's Montauk Resort & Seawater Spa unveils two new dining concepts this season. Gigi's Montauk, which replaces Scarpetta Beach, is a 2,500-square-foot space with room for 330 diners: 110 in the outdoor patio, which will continue as a day and evening gathering spot, and 120 in the dining room—now with a vaulted, open-beam ceiling, textured linen accents, and navy blue and gold accented seats. Former French Laundry chef Justin Lee's menu is conducive to sharing, with family-style dishes inspired by the resort's seaside plot, like a giant green-garlic-accented shrimp scampi and sriracha-laced lobster. Cocktails include a spicy passionfruit margarita, which matches the color of the sunset from the patio.

Off the resort's lobby, Dune Cafe & Lounge will serve as a coffee bar by day and a raw bar and cocktail den by night with drinks like a smoked old-fashioned. *Slated to open: June 16*