

The best bistros on Long Island: Eat here now

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Time was, in the restaurant world, there was a strong link between price, formality and quality -- the fanciest places had the best food. But talented chefs are increasingly kicking it down a notch, cooking their hearts out in casual settings suitable for everyday dining -- no jacket (or home-equity loan) required. That's what we call a bistro, and here are Long Island's 10 best.

Note: Most dishes mentioned are samples of the restaurants' menus and may not be available at all times. Seasonal changes and dish substitutions are common.

Gatsby's Landing



(Credit: Daniel Brennan)

Gatsby's Landing (1362 Old Northern Blvd., Roslyn): Pastas are the star of the menu inside this elegant, clubby, yet comfortable space, where chef Juan X. Pareja's dishes exude his experience at high-level New York City restaurants. Go for peppery, comforting cacio e pepe; squid-ink tonnarelli studded with crabmeat and laced with saffron and bottarga; tubes of busiate dressed with heirloom tomatoes, basil and Parmigiano. For the carb-shy, the kitchen turns out an excellent brick chicken or lamb chops. Either way, the staff injects the experience with drama via a long pass in the middle of the dining room where dishes are plated with flourish. More info: 516-277-2318, gatsbyslanding.com



(Credit: Daniel Brennan)

Brick chicken with broccolini and lemon is served at Gatsby's Landing in Roslyn.