



244 5th Ave, Suite J296
New York, NY 10001
646-825-0268
events@thesinglegourmet.net

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Hello Single Gourmets,

The days are not getting shorter any more, but they sure are getting colder. Thankfully it hasn't really snowed yet. I'm sorry this newsletter is so short, and that there are only 2 events. I've got 3 lined up already for next month; I will get the February newsletter out early.

In terms of travel, the feedback I have gotten is that there is some interest in Los Angeles/San Diego (probably in April), Croatia sometime in the summer, and Spain in the fall. Stay tuned!

JANUARY EVENTS



State Grill and Bar (classic American)
vegetarian friendly menu
21 W 33 St (inside Empire State Bldg)
enter on the north side of 33rd St between 5th Ave & Broadway

Saturday, January 18
6:00 pm optional drinks
7:00 pm dinner

\$88 includes 3 courses, 1 glass of wine, coffee/tea, tax & tip
\$98 for non-members or if RSVP is made after Wed, Jan 15

The Patina Restaurant Group owns 60 restaurants including favorites such as Café Cento, Brasserie, Brasserie 8 1/2, Sea Grill, La Fonda Del Sol, Cucina & Co, and Naples 45. We dined here when it was brand new and loved it! Now the public has discovered this gem

too and gave it a whopping 25 Zagat rating. With executive chef Priscilla Yeh at the helm, it is no wonder this is a top NYC restaurant. Chef Yeh graduated *top of her class* at the French Culinary Institute and went on to work at Bar Boulud, Dressler, and DuMont. At State Grill and Bar, dishes are all locally sourced and guests can watch their food being prepared in the open kitchen.

Our menu will start with a choice of Caesar salad, grilled shrimp, or calamari; with entrees of farm roasted chicken, Scottish salmon, short ribs, or roasted cauliflower; and for dessert chocolate cake, ice cream sandwich, or seasonal dessert.



**Land of Plenty – Chinese New Year
204 E 58 St (between 2nd & 3rd Ave)**

**Saturday, January 25
6:45 pm optional drinks
7:30 pm dinner**

**\$79 prix fixe includes Chinese New Year
dinner, 1 glass of wine, unlimited green
tea, tax & tip**

*\$89 for non-members or if RSVP is made after
Wed, Jan 22*

Come celebrate the Year of the Rat this week with us at an old favorite restaurant of the group. If you were born in 1924, 1936, 1948, 1960, 1972, 1984, 1996, your Chinese zodiac animal is the rat, the first of all Chinese zodiac animals. If you were born in the year of the Rat, don't take it as an insult — in Chinese culture, rats are seen as a sign of wealth and surplus. Because of their reproduction rate, married couples also prayed to them for children. In terms of the Chinese Yin and Yang theory, a Rat is Yang.

Land of Plenty is **Michelin Guide** recommended and listed as the inspector's favorite: "Why do they call it Land of Plenty? Perhaps it's the abundant flavors amongst the plentiful reasons. And although the focus here is definitely the food, this fiery haven feels more elegant than the other Szechuan spots in midtown. Tucked into a sleek, subterranean space, the décor features marble floors and mosaic-tile walls. A professional service staff helps further set the tone." We will have a huge Chinese feast with a wide range and variety of different foods. Come hungry. This was a favorite restaurant of our founder Art Fischer who noted that if the restaurant is full of Asians, this means that it has to be a great and authentic restaurant. Gong Hey Fat Choy! (That's "Happy New Year!" in Chinese.)

The menu will be a selection of Land of Plenty's best dishes from the menu.

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| 1. State Grill and Bar (American) | Sat, Jan 18 | 6:45 PM | \$88 _____ |
| 2. Land of Plenty (Chinese New Year) | Sat, Jan 25 | 6:00 PM | \$79 _____ |

All menus are subject to change due to restaurant supply.

If you send a check, PLEASE CALL THE DAY YOU MAIL YOUR CHECK.

If you don't call, and the check gets lost in the mail, I will not reserve a seat for you.

NOTE: we are no longer accepting money orders of any kind. Personal checks or credit cards only.

Refund Policy: Sometimes plans unexpectedly change, which we understand. However, restaurants do impose deposit and guarantee requirements when we plan our events, so we have the following refund policy (*NOTE: certain events may have individual refund policies*):

If you cancel

- *7 days (or more) before an event:* you will receive a full refund, minus a \$5 cancellation fee.
- *4-6 days before an event:* you will receive a credit toward a future event, valid for up to 6 months, less a \$10 change fee.
- *0-3 days before an event (or if you do not show up):* **no refund or credit.**