

The Globalist

FOR MODERN TRAVELLERS, BY MODERN TRAVELLERS



Grid preference

A river runs through it



Amy Thomas
A tour of Long Island City – New York’s most talked-about ‘hood

Illustration by
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1. The restaurant Casa Enrique

What The only Michelin-starred Mexican cantina in all of New York City. **Go for** The *mole de pixtla*: chicken smothered in an earthy sauce made from chillies, cloves, chocolate and other ingredients that have simmered for hours. **But don't miss** A tippie or three from the tequila- and mezcal-focused cocktail list. **See also** Continue the international theme at Mu Ramen (Japanese), Beija Flor (Brazilian) and Jora (Peruvian). henrinc.com/casa-enrique

2. The brewery Big Alice Brewing

What One of several ace breweries housed in the neighbourhood’s old warehouses and factories. **Go for** Small-batch brews flavoured with quirky ingredients – from honey to doughnuts – sourced from local Queens businesses. **But don't miss** The collaboration beers with other breweries, such as the delectably smoky Kings & Queens of Bavaria. **See also** Transmitter Brewing serves up French- and Belgian-style ales, while LIC Beer Project and Fifth Hammer trade in American sour beers. bigalicebrewing.com

3. The park Gantry Plaza State Park

What A 12-acre green lung for active – and not-so-active – pursuits. **Go for** The vistas of midtown Manhattan and the Queensboro Bridge across the river make for an inspiring backdrop. **But don't miss** Look inland and you'll spot the iconic red Pepsi-Cola sign – a relic from the neighbourhood's previous life as a manufacturing hub. **See also** If the weather turns, take cover at indoor rock-climbing facility The Cliffs or kitschy bowling alley The Gutter. parks.ny.gov

4. The cafe Communita

What A homely tearoom with chequerboard floors and chalkboard menus, popular with the MacBook-toting set. **Go for** Obviously, the teas. There's an extensive selection of loose-leaf brews, from English Breakfast to Lavender Festival. **But don't miss** Tea not quite your cup of... tea? Wet your whistle with local draft beer, wine or cider instead. **See also** As with any gentrifying 'hood, there's hardly a shortage of cafes in the area: try Sweetleaf Coffee and Black Star Bakery. facebook.com/CommunitaLIC

