

# TimeOut Kids

New York

June 2010

## Eating

### Outside chance

Whether it's sidewalk seating or a backyard patio, we love an open-air meal. By **Alia Akkam**

As the weather heats up, you'd rather be anywhere but in front of the stove. Escape that oppressive sauna of a kitchen and take the whole brood for a bite at one of these outdoor perches. The atmosphere will almost make up for the fact that you're still in the city rather than away somewhere on summer vacation.



The garden at La Lanterna Caffe

#### Anthony's Pizza

Baked clams, gooey calzones, and manicotti—typically too heavy for summer appetites—go down easily when you're catching a fresh breeze on the brick patio out back. The old-world touch extends to the dreamy, Neapolitan-style pies, served fresh out of the wood-burning oven with thin crusts, pools of mozzarella, and fresh garlic (\$1 extra). Bite in and imagine you're dining on a shaded Napoli piazza. 426A Seventh Ave between 14th and 15th Sts, Park Slope, Brooklyn (718-369-8315, [anthony'sbrooklyn.com](http://anthony'sbrooklyn.com))

#### La Lanterna Caffe

In the evenings the covered garden, playfully lit by the namesake light fixtures, teems with amorous couples—but afternoons are kid-friendly affairs. Panini are popular with all ages: Parents can try the Cognac-splashed version with smoked prosciutto and melted mascarpone, while the buffalo mozzarella, tomato, and basil will earn raves from tykes—though they'll race through it to get to the whipped cream-dolloped iced cocoa. 129 MacDougal St between 3rd and 4th Sts (212-529-5945, [lalanternacaffe.com](http://lalanternacaffe.com))

#### The Mermaid Inn

The sidewalk seating at this nautical noshery is prime people-watching territory: Park your family out front and watch as the stroller brigade ambles by. Once ensconced, prove to the kids that there's more to seafood than frozen fish sticks with a dish like spaghetti topped with littleneck clams, mussels, chili and saffron. If utensil-wielding isn't their strong suit, come by on a Tuesday night for the fried-fish-taco special. 568 Amsterdam Ave between 87th and 88th Sts (212-799-7400, [themermaidnyc.com](http://themermaidnyc.com))

#### New Leaf Restaurant & Bar

It doesn't get much more scenic than the patio at this Fort Tryon Park eatery. The restaurant, an initiative of the New York Restoration Project—dedicated to the city's parks and community gardens—offers a great lesson in farm-to-table cuisine. A peep at the brand-new herb garden's greenery will give children a glimpse of what may season dishes like St. Louis-style spareribs, roasted free-range chicken or the classic burger-and-fries combo. 1 Margaret Corbin Dr, Fort Tryon Park (212-568-5323, [nyrp.org](http://nyrp.org))

#### Sripraphai

Thai specialties here are considered among the city's best—and the sprawling back patio is pretty killer, too. Distract tots from the gurgling fountain with fried chive dumplings and subtly flavored coconut rice. Like it spicy? Try ground pork-laden drunken noodles or whole red snapper slathered in garlic, chili and lime. 64-13 39th Ave between 64th and 65th Sts, Woodside, Queens (718-899-9599, [sripraphairestaurant.com](http://sripraphairestaurant.com))

For more outdoor eateries, go to [timeoutkids.com](http://timeoutkids.com)

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