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East Village Visitors Center (61 E. 4th, Bowery/2nd Ave) – Tues-Sat, 1:00 - 6:00pm. Walking Tour is Tuesday – Sunday 11 am, Saturdays at 1:30 p.m. (check for prices, abt \$15 pp)

Things to Do

- Hip, trendy night life, lots of artists, tattoos, restaurants, clubs, fashion and music scene. Originally an immigrant neighborhood, but now it's much like what "the Village" used to be.
- **Blue Man Group** (Astor Place Theater) or **STOMP** (Orpheum Theatre, 126 2nd Ave, 7th/ St. Marks Place/ 8th Street) – both interactive off-Broadway shows, Stomp better for kids, both fun and creative music.
- **St. Mark's Place** (E 8th Street) - souvenirs, tattoo shops, clothing, nightlife, college NYU crowd.
- **Curry Lane** – east 6th St. NYC's Little India, with dozens of Indian Restaurants.
- **Tompkins Square Park** (9th St at Ave B), **Alphabet City**

Restaurants/ Nightlife

- **S'MAC** Sarita's Macaroni & Cheese (345 East 12th, 1st /2nd Aves) All about Mac and Cheese. Casual, great for kids and students.
- **Veniero's Pasticceria and Cafe** - (342 E 11th St at 1st Ave) - Italian bakery/cafe famous for pastries and desserts.
- **Momofuku Noodle Bar** (171 1st Ave, 10th/11th Sts)- David Chang. Next to Milk Bar, famous Asian dessert place and his "impossible to get into" Momofuku Ko. All celebrity favorites.
- **Pommes Frites** (123 2nd Ave, 7th/ St Marks) – grab and go Belgian Fries, served in paper cones, with a choice of 30 sauces.
- **Jewel Bako** (239 E. 5th St, 3rd Ave) – Sushi. Personally not my fave, but major award winner and very highly ranked. Reservations recommended, about \$100 pp.
- **Cacio e Pepe** (182 2nd Ave, 11th/12th Sts) - Sicilian, great outdoor garden, excellent service, romantic.
- **Winebar** (65 2nd Ave, 3rd/4th Sts) - huge wine list, great Flatbreads (ever had a Chocolate Pizza?). Lovely outdoor patio, cozy indoors!
- **Death and Co** (433 E 6th St, 1st/A Aves) – dark, cozy with unique and exotic cocktails, some served for groups in Punch bowls. Eclectic food and small plates.
- **Joe's Pub** (425 Lafayette St, at Astor Pl) – awesome for live music fans, one of the city's top spots.

Shopping

- **Kiehl's Flagship Store** (109 3rd Ave, 13th St) – known for their lotions and potions sold in stores and boutiques globally, this is the original "chemist lab" opened in 1851
- Lots of little boutiques on the numbered streets carrying clothing, vintage, accessories
- **Toy Tokyo** (121 2nd Ave at 7th St) – specializing in Japanese imports and collectibles: Samurai guys, Indiana Jones, and Star Wars; hand-painted porcelain miniatures of the Simpsons, Smurfs, and the Pink Panther; Transformers; Muppets; Totoro figures; Japanese "candy toys,"

Hotels

- **Bowery Hotel** – use their free bicycles, outdoor garden and cozy indoor lobby with leather club chairs and fireplaces. Gemma Restaurant is very nice and authentic Italian.