

Editors'

CHOICE

The Russian Tea Room



IN 1927, MEMBERS OF THE RUSSIAN IMPERIAL Ballet founded The Russian Tea Room (russiantearoomnyc.com) and it has since hosted an impressive list of actors, writers, politicians, and executives. Adjacent to Carnegie Hall on West 57th Street, The Russian Tea Room still captures modernist Russian style decor, hosting New York's elite as a restaurant for continental fine dining, elegant high tea, the finest vodka selection, and serving as a stylish party venue.

Upon entering, guests are introduced to the unique first floor café, which is based on the original Russian Tea Room. The space boasts intimate leather banquets in Russian red, golden samovars, Christmas-decorated chandeliers, period paintings, and shining green walls. The lush red carpeting has an exquisite modern Russian

motif and the ceiling glimmers with gold leaf, while exotic firebirds decorate the walls. Accents of tinted brass, gold leaf, and an amazing ice palace complete the festive ambience.

Making their way to the second floor, visitors will find themselves in the lush Bear Lounge in a space featuring a spectacular tree of Fabergé-inspired Venetian glass eggs and a 15-foot revolving bear aquarium, alive with young sturgeon and other fish. Hundreds of candles meet walls of shimmering, midnight blue glass, and intimate banquette seating adds a touch of mystery. There is a stunning glass ceiling as well as a balcony for shows or music overlooking the room.

The Bear Ballroom, outfitted in gold, glass, and brass, features etched mirrors of cavorting bears, frolicking rabbits, and silver leaf stag

heads. Chandeliers adorned with playful brass bears hang from the magnificent stained-glass ceilings in a soaring space measuring two stories tall with a balcony for live entertainment.

Last but not least, the fourth floor Hearth Room features a working model of the Kremlin in four seasons. Walls of inlaid faux wood, carved mirrors, and beautiful paintings converge on a grand hearth. The space is flexible and perfect for corporate events and private parties, as the floors can be divided into three separate rooms based on individual need.

With outstanding service, personally catering to each guest's needs, The Russian Tea Room serves lunch, afternoon tea, and dinner seven days a week and is the ideal venue for corporate events, private parties, and wedding receptions. ●

Clockwise from top left: Bear Lounge; first-floor dining area; Hearth Room; Bear Ballroom

