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NYC RESTAURANT OPENINGS

Nitehawk Cinema's Anticipated New Park Slope Location Opens Wednesday

The popular movie theater and bar takes over the former Pavilion theater

by Serena Dai | Dec 17, 2018, 2:15pm EST

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Nitehawk Prospect Park | Sakeenah Saleem/Nitehawk

The highly anticipated second location of indie dine-in movie theater **Nitehawk Cinema** in Park Slope swings open this week.

Named **Nitehawk Prospect Park**, the historic theater at 188 Prospect Park West — the former Pavilion Theater space — has been in the works for more than two years and starts showing films on Wednesday on seven screens, with a total of 650 seats. The location has also two bars that are open to everyone, not just ticket holders.

It was a \$15 million project that involved extensive renovations, including maintaining landmarked elements like a mezzanine that looks upon Prospect Park.

This theater, like the Williamsburg original, will similarly have cocktails, local beers, and a food menu that changes with with screenings. Standards from the first outpost like burgers and truffle citric popcorn will be available here as well. But here, moviegoers can also get food and drink without getting the check during the film.



One of Nitehawk Prospect Park's bars | Sakeenah Saleem/Nitehawk

It's far bigger than the Williamsburg original though, meaning that this location will screen independent films, programming like special screenings of older films, and bigger Hollywood blockbusters. This week's opening lineup includes *Aquaman* as well as *the World Before Your Feet*, a documentary about a man who walked every street in NYC.

The entry is a big win for the neighborhood. Previous tenant the Pavilion opened in 1923 and declined in viewership even after a 2011 renovation. Developers of the property at one point planned to tear it down to build condos.

Nitehawk founder **Matthew Viragh** was the first to allow booze sales in a movie theater, and since then, dine-in theaters have accelerated in popularity. Now, NYC has a slew of options that range in luxury.

Take a look at the full opening movie line-up here. Tickets are now on sale for opening day on Wednesday.



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