

## CULINARY CONCEPTS

03.15.10

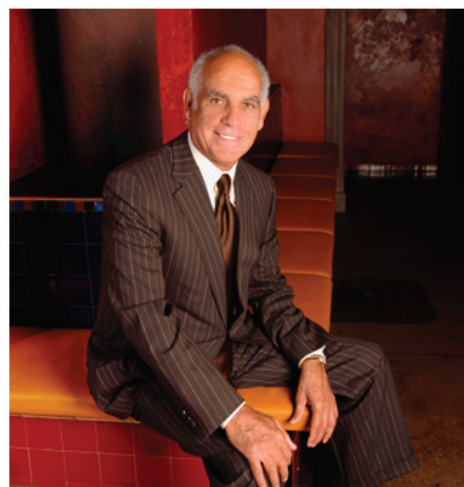
# HAUTE LIVING



## The — HAUTE — Insiders

### **Phil Suarez** **Guide to New York**

Phil Suarez is an icon in the world of New York City fine dining and one of its most accomplished leaders. He is the operational guru behind the Jean-Georges Vongerichten global restaurant company Culinary Concepts and his stature as a business-minded restaurateur is revered throughout the community. Over the last 20 years he has helped to redefine the Manhattan dining scene and now with Culinary Concepts, he is set to redefine hospitality all over the world.



WHERE WERE YOU BORN: New York City

HOW LONG IN NEW YORK: All my life

NEIGHBORHOOD: Washington Heights

OCCUPATION: Restaurateur

FAVORITE RESTAURANT: All of mine:  
[www.culinaryconcepts.com](http://www.culinaryconcepts.com)

BEST STEAKHOUSE: Prime Steakhouse at the Bellagio  
Las Vegas

BEST SUSHI: Matsugen

BEST PLACE FOR A POWER BUSINESS MEETING: Four Seasons

IF YOU HAVE OUT OF TOWN GUESTS, WHICH HOTEL WOULD YOU RECOMMEND? Mercer Hotel, Trump International Hotel & Towers, The Mark—because I have restaurants in each.

FAVORITE SHOPPING VENUE/BOUTIQUE: Brioni

BEST PLACE TO BUY JEWELRY/WATCHES: Cartier

BEST SPA: One&Only Palmilla in Los Cabos, Mexico

BEST GYM/ATHLETIC FACILITY: Equinox and The Sports Center  
at Chelsea Piers

## SYNDICATE

BEST ETHNIC FOOD: Tamarind

BEST ITALIAN: Marea

BEST PIZZA: Co.

BEST LUNCH: Jean Georges, especially the Prix Fixe menu

BEST PLACE FOR LATE NIGHT DINING: Balthazar

BEST DESSERT: Jean Georges' Molten Chocolate Lava cake

BEST PLACE FOR A ROMANTIC DATE: St Barths

BEST SUNDAY BRUNCH: Mercer Kitchen

HAUTEST CLUB/LOUNGE: 18th Floor of The Standard

BEST LIMOUSINE/DRIVING SERVICE: Ready To Roll Transportation

FAVORITE CHARITY EVENT: PAL Ball and ASPCA

FAVORITE CULTURAL EVENT: Fashion Week

FAVORITE CULTURAL INSTITUTION: El Museo del Barrio

BEST MUSEUM/EXHIBIT: MoMA

FAVORITE HISTORIC/LEGENDARY PLACE TO SEE OR EXPLORE: The Metropolitan Museum of Art

ALL-AROUND FAVORITE SPOT IN NEW YORK: Gramercy Park

BEST ASPECT OF NEW YORK: Its diversity—it is a melting pot.