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HOLIDAY MEAL



prepared by a restaurant can save hours of labor and a mountain of stress. It can also become a culinary adventure if one seeks a break from tradition. Immigrant communities have always refracted holiday dining through their cultural lenses. The festivities are a great opportunity to celebrate New York's diversity by taking advantage of this city's world-class ethnic restaurants.

Thanksgiving especially offers many opportunities for variations on the classics—from Peking turkey at Chinatown Brasserie, to Bombay Talkie's curried yams with coconut milk, to Havana Central's pumpkin flan. Those who crave a more radical break can eschew turkey altogether and take home a slow-cooked pork shoulder from Momofuku Ssäm Bar.

Christmas dining options abound, too, as the city's restaurants become oases for those looking to join with or escape from family in a tension-free environment. It's a chance to sample At Vermilions mango-cumin-glazed ham or Zenkichi's Jananeses the mass of the same of