

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

San Francisco Tops NYC in Three-Star Michelin Restaurants

For the first time, the Big Apple isn't leading the pack in the coveted rating category.

By CHARLES PASSY – October 30, 2017



When it comes to fine dining, New York City is taking a back seat to San Francisco — at least by one measure.

For the first time, the Big Apple has fewer restaurants with the coveted three-star Michelin Guide rating than the California coastal city.

New York City always has been considered a global leader in this rarefied realm. But San Francisco has made considerable headway over the years.

Restaurant-industry insiders note that the farm-to-table movement, one of the most significant culinary trends of the past decade, got its true start on the West Coast.

Arlene Spiegel, a restaurant-industry consultant based in New York, says that while the Michelin ratings may carry a certain weight, especially with deep-pocketed tourists, most diners in the city consider online resources when deciding where to dine. “The bottom line is they’re going to look on Yelp,” she said.

Manhattan lost ground to the outer boroughs on this list. The guide honored 127 establishments, with nearly half based in Brooklyn, Queens, the Bronx and Staten Island.

That was a significant change from 2007, when less than 25% of the recognized restaurants, or 10 out of 44 dining spots, were in the outer boroughs. ●