

YEAR OF THE TIGER



LUNAR NEW YEAR CHINATOWN GUIDE
PRESENTED BY WELCOME TO CHINATOWN

How We Celebrate Lunar New Year

Every household celebrates Chinese New Year with their own unique elements depending on the region of China from which their family originated. These variations can be found in food, decor, or even how you greet one another, but one thing is universal: the joyous gathering of family and friends!

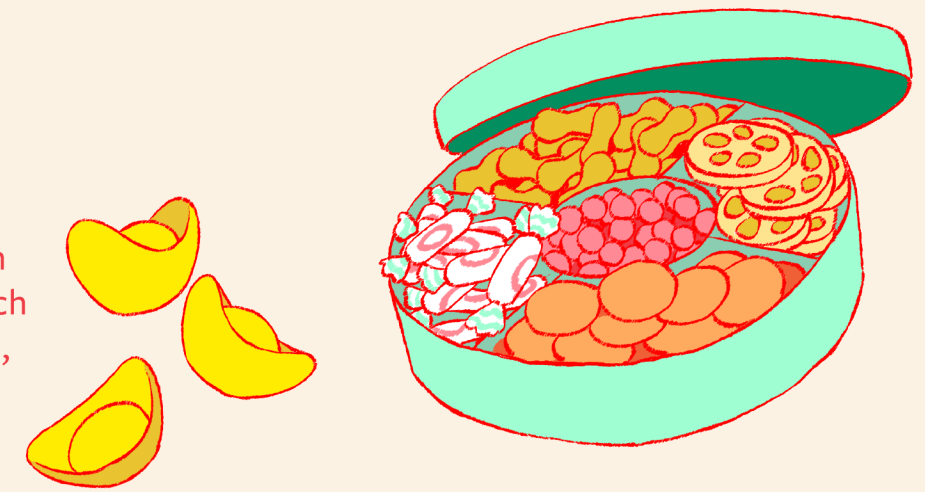
In the Home: It is important to clean your home thoroughly before the Lunar New Year, not just keep everything tidy, but as a ritual to sweep away the troubles of the past year, and to make room for new luck and prosperity in the next year. Offerings of food, including whole fish, whole chicken, fruits, and pastries are laid out for the gods and your ancestors. Joss incense is burned as a part of this ritual.

With Family & Friends: Perhaps the best part of Lunar New Year is the handing out and receiving (mostly receiving!) red envelopes stuffed with money called Hóngbāo (紅包) or Lì shì (利是). Extended family and friends are invited over for meals.

However, it might be safer to have smaller gatherings this year. Just make sure you call everyone you know, especially your elders, and wish them a happy new year! Xīn nián hǎo (新年好), xīn nián kuài lè (新年快乐), gōng xǐ fā cái (恭喜发财)!

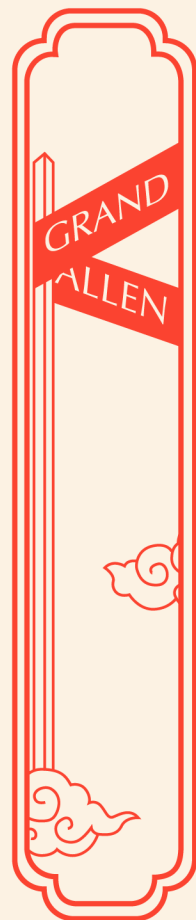
Performances: One of the most iconic sights of Chinese New Year is the traditional Lion Dance that brings good fortune and wealth. This dazzling display of martial prowess and acrobatics is accompanied by rhythmic percussion of drums and symbols.

Firecrackers: Originally used to scare away evil spirits, firecracker, or bàozhú (爆竹) are a welcome sight and sound during Chinese New Year. Firecrackers are no longer legal in New York City, but residents will shoot gigantic confetti poppers instead. The scraps of red paper left behind are a symbol of good luck and fortune and are left for a whole day before they are swept away.



What is a Tray of Togetherness?

A Tray of Togetherness is a usually round or octagonal sectional serving platter with six (symbolizing luck) or eight (symbolizing fortune) compartments filled with bite-sized treats. The general notion is that offering guests these sweet nibbles wishes them a sweet life in the year ahead, with each individual item conveying additional hopes for prosperity, longevity, happiness and good fortune.



MEETCHINATOWN.COM/DIRECTORY



Explore more of our local favorites & must see small destinations with the community's first digital directory: *Meet Chinatown*

Scan the QR code to use the digital directory!

This free guide was produced by Welcome to Chinatown, a non profit organization amplifying and addressing the critical needs of our community and its entrepreneurs. Make a donation to support our efforts and together, we will keep Chinatown open for generations to come. Donate to us at welcometochinatown.com/donate

GIFTS

DAHING PLANTS

289 Grand St, New York, NY 10002
dahingplants.com

One of the best plant shops, not just in Chinatown, but all of NYC! They have a huge selection of plants that will spruce up your apartment, and they offer free delivery for orders over \$40. Time to pick up that tree you've always wanted!



GOOD FIELD TRADING

74 Mott St B, New York, NY 10013

This shop looks like Lunar New Year all year round! From decor to red envelopes, Good Field Trading is your one-stop shop for everything you need to celebrate the Year of the Tiger!

SHAKYA TRADING

82A Mulberry St, New York, NY 10013
shakyatradinginc.com/

This family-run business features handmade goods from Tibet and Nepal, from Buddhist statues to incense and thankas (paintings). A great place to shop for traditional and religious iconography to celebrate the Lunar New Year!



TING'S GIFT SHOP

18 Doyers St, New York, NY 10013

One of Chinatown's oldest trinket shops, carrying vintage pieces dating back to the 1950s. Their selections include discontinued hand painted porcelain, stationary, and lanterns. Shopping here is like taking a step back in time!

YU AND ME BOOKS

44 Mulberry St, New York, NY 10013
[@yuandmebooks](https://www.yuandmebooks.com)

This brand-new installment in Chinatown's network of small businesses features books by BIPOC authors and stories with a strong focus on the immigrant experience. A great place to learn about the vast tapestry of diversity that makes NYC one of the best places to live.

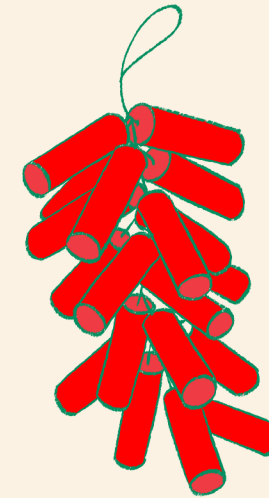


FOOD & DRINK

BANGKOK GROCERY CENTER

104 Mosco St, New York, NY 10013
[@bangkokcentergroc](https://www.bangkokcentergroc.com)

This hidden gem features Thai products and groceries that you won't find anywhere else in Chinatown. If you have any questions, the staff are super friendly and will help you find whatever you need.



GO BELIEVE BAKERY

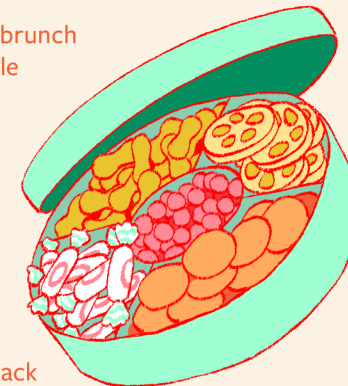
239 Grand St, New York, NY 10002
[@go_believe_bakery](https://www.go-believe-bakery.com)

A classic Chinatown bakery that has everything you need to make you a star for Lunar New Year celebrations. Grab a box of traditional handmade Cantonese pastries, dim sum, and even frozen dumplings.

ROUND K BY SOL

78 Canal St, New York, NY 10002
[@roundk_by_sol](https://www.roundkby.com)

This coffee shop offers a unique selection of Korean-inspired brunch options and award-winning coffee concoctions! The Flat Purple (black coffee with ube cream on top) is a must-try for anyone looking to inject some culture into their morning routine.



SAM WAI LIQUOR

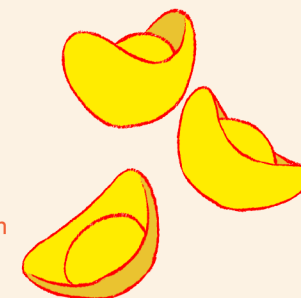
17 E Broadway # 4, New York, NY 10002

This place has the oldest liquor license in Chinatown, dating back 120 years! Celebrate Lunar New Year with a bottle of baijiu, a traditional Chinese liquor.

SUN'S ORGANIC GARDEN

79 Bayard St, New York, NY 10013
sunsog.com

A seamless melding of traditional tea culture and modern sensibilities, this little shop offers a wide selection of organic teas and blends. Ask about what kinds of tea will supplement and improve your health – you're guaranteed to learn something new!



SUGARTOWN NYC

63 Bayard St, New York, NY 10013
[@sugartownchinatown](https://www.sugartownnyc.com)

One of the sweetest shops in all of Chinatown! They specialize in snacks from China, Japan, and Korea including traditional Chinese treats found in Trays of Togetherness (pistachios, candied fruits, sweetened lotus root, etc).

TLB TRADING

153 E Broadway, New York, NY 10002
[@tlbtrading](https://www.tlbtrading.com)

This long-standing shop has everything you need to celebrate a traditional Chinese Lunar New Year, from dried goods to fresh fruit, kitchen supplies to home decor. Everything you find here is as authentic as it gets!

BEAUTY

LEE REN BEAUTY SALON

104 Forsyth St #1, New York, NY 10002

New year, new look! Get ready for the Year of the Tiger with a brand new hairstyle at this long-standing beauty salon, which has served the community since 2003.

0035MM

81 Mott St FLOOR 2, New York, 10013
0035mm.com/

A new year means new opportunities to treat yourself! This shop has a great selection of hand-picked cosmetics, fragrances, and beauty creams - everything you need to look your best. Shop in person or at their online store!

MADE IN CHINATOWN

madeinchinatownny.com

Looking for some new looks for the new year? Come check out the *Made in Chinatown* collection. Designed by the Welcome to Chinatown team, our brand features apparel and home decor pieces celebrating culture and small businesses including: **Big Wong, Jing Fong, The Little One**, and many more! Shop our online store to get it shipped directly to you.

