

LIVING SIDE DISH

Aussie-inspired cafe set to give Manhattan a healthy taste

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Manhattan is a veritable ghost town on summer weekends, but that doesn't stop new restaurants from coming to life.

The latest is Coco & Cru, an Aussie-inspired Noho cafe from REC Hospitality, the force behind Upstate Craft Beer & Oyster Bar, Edwin & Neal's Fish Bar and Sauce. The cafe, at 643 Broadway and Bleecker Street, is slated to open in June.

One of REC's partners, Cory Lee, grew up in Sydney and wanted to bring a taste of his home country to Manhattan.

The menu will feature healthy dishes like Acai bowls with activated buckinis, seasonal berries and pistachio crumb along with the "Omega" of chilled soba noodles.

Comfort dishes on the menu, such as grass-fed beef burgers, can be Oz-ified by adding a beet and fried egg, or pineapple and bacon. Cold brewed house coffee can also morph into an Aussie "heart starter" by adding Kahlua or Fidencio Mezcal.