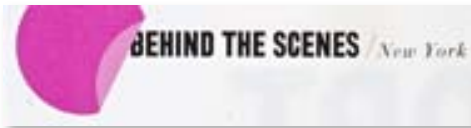


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Empire State of Mind

We shoot the coolest fall looks in the hottest city in the world for our "Skyscraper Caper" (page 190)—and bring you a rundown of where to eat, shop, drink... and maybe sleep in our hometown.

THE HIGHER THE HOTTER

Manhattan's coolest spaces are sky-high, with hotels vying for the most impressive rooftop environs. When it's not closed for parties thrown by Jimmy Fallon or Katie Holmes, the **Cooper Square Hotel's** twenty-first-floor penthouse hosts jam sessions with indie rockers like the Fiery Furnaces (25 Cooper Sq.). On the Upper East Side, the newly renovated **Surrey Hotel** has a private (guest or VIP) roof bar serving cocktails made with herbs from its own garden (20 E. 76th St.). **Le Bain**, atop André Balazs's Standard Hotel, has Astroturf and models behaving badly (848 Washington St.). Trump SoHo's seventh-floor **Bar d'Eau** has an outdoor pool and a bocce ball court (246 Spring St.). For stunning views slightly closer to the ground, the elevated **High Line** is the city's most fashionable promenade, and will unveil a new stretch this coming spring (212-500-6035). The brand-new **James New York** hotel has a sleek glass-enclosed bar that's open year-round (27 Grand St.; 888-526-3778).

