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New Openings

Meatball Shop Brings the Balls to the 'Burg

by James Mulcahy





The back dining room; photos by Elizabeth Archer

Meatball addicts in Willamsburg just got some good news: the latest outpost of LES fave The Meatball Shop is now open for dinner on Bedford Avenue. The restaurant isn't straying far from the recipe that brought it success in Manhattan – the menu will be the same as the original location and the hours will be the same (the joint will stay open until 2 AM on Sunday through Wednesday and until 4 AM on Thursday through Saturday).

There are a few key differences that separates the Billyburg locale from its predecessor. First of all, it's bigger – those who have had to wait FOREVER for a table on the LES should have an easier time here – there's a full bar, and open kitchen with stool seating and a dining area in the back. This location also has a full bar (would Williamsburg boozers settle for any less?). The cocktail menu will feature a customizable grid where guests can choose mixers like house bitters, pink grapefruit and blackberry by checking them off.

This week it's open for dinner only, but next week it will start rolling out the balls every day at noon (170 Bedford Ave.; 718-551-0520).