

Ukrainian East Village Restaurant
140 Second Avenue (at East 9th Street)
New York, NY 10003

Fasten Your Borscht Belt...It's Going to Be a Delicious Meal

The last place you might expect to find a great meal is in a funeral home, but in New York City, anything is possible. Okay, the Ukrainian East Village Restaurant isn't really inside a funeral home but it is attached to the Ukrainian funeral parlor next door. The place is a real hideaway, as you have to enter a building on Second Avenue and then enter the actual restaurant from inside this building. Once inside, though, you will find lovely decor and an inviting atmosphere.

Best of all, the Ukrainian East Village Restaurant has incredibly reasonable prices. The menu is traditional Eastern European cuisine. On my first visit, I had cold borscht, which was cool and refreshing, nicely complemented by the addition of chopped hard boiled egg. A little extra salt and pepper and a dollop of sour cream make this a great warm weather starter (for the cold weather, have the warm borscht).

Several different kind of pierogies are on the menu. I had the meat, my dining partner had the potato. Both were delicious, served with fried onions and sour cream.

Lunch specials include a pastrami sandwich for only \$5.75 that looks just as good and filling as what you would get for triple the price at most Jewish delis. Dinner entrees include such comforting fare as Wiener Schnitzel topped with a fried egg, boiled beef with horseradish sauce, and broiled trout. All are under \$16.00 and come with potato and salad – try finding prices like that anywhere else.

The place is so secluded, even though it's right off Second Avenue, that it makes you think it is the perfect rendezvousing spot for couples who don't want to be seen by anyone they know. So perhaps we should not let too many people know about this little gem. Keep it between us.

