



FirstService
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NYC Lifestyle

Cinco de Mayo

Kick off the month of May and immerse yourself in Mexican culture for Cinco de Mayo. We've put together a list of events and activities to help you plan, taste and dance your way through the holiday.

The Real History of Cinco de Mayo

Do you know the true story behind Cinco de Mayo? In [this audio clip](#), NPR sheds light on the holiday which dates back to the Franco-Mexican War and the Mexican army's victory at the Battle of Puebla. The History Channel [dives even deeper](#) into the historical significance of the holiday and common misconceptions.

Festive Films

If you've already binged the latest Netflix shows, consider watching [one of these Mexican-made and inspired films](#) to elevate your holiday. Award-winning selections include *The Book of Life*, *Coco* and *Tortilla Soup* – perfect for the whole family to enjoy.

NYC's Best Mexican Spots

It's no question that tacos are one of Mexico's most popular exports. [Check out Thrillist's best Mexican restaurants in New York City](#) and treat yourself to an extra side of guacamole and chips. Whether you're dining in, ordering take-out or getting delivery, this is a great way to honor Mexican culture and satisfy your taco craving.

Mexican Authors

While you're enjoying your margaritas and taquitos, consider taking a moment to celebrate Mexican culture with a book. [These page turners by contemporary Mexican writers](#) like Valeria Luiselli and Álvaro Enrigue will transport you to Mexico one page at a time.



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Birria Tacos Cooking Class

[Birria tacos are taking over](#) the Mexican food scene. What better way to get in on the trend than making them right in your own kitchen! Join Chef Joel Gamoran from *Homemade* and Earthbound Farms for a live class that will walk you through the process of making delicious cauliflower chicken birria queso tacos. Sign up for the free event [here](#)!

Paint & Sip Dog Fiesta

The Barking Dog restaurant on the Upper East Side will host an outdoor Cinco de Mayo-themed paint and sip night. Guests are encouraged to grab a margarita and a side of chips, while painting a themed portrait of their pet. The best part is you can bring your furry friend along for the fun! Register for the event [here](#).

The Great Kills Finer Things Club: Mexico!

If you're a fan of *The Office*, then The Finer Things Club might ring a bell. Join the Great Kills Library club as they celebrate Cinco de Mayo at this month's meeting. The program will be held online via Google Hangout where they will virtually travel to Mexico to chat about Mexican culture and the historical significance of the holiday. Register for the event [here](#).

Salsa Dance Tutorial

Spice up your Monday night and get in the spirit by trying out a virtual salsa dancing class. [Get moving with Talia Castro-Pozo](#) as she teaches the popular Latin-American dance. The online event is free of charge, but donations can be made to the organization CurePSP. If you're nervous about showing off your dance moves, just leave your camera off.