

Since January, 5 dining spots have just opened in Rockland County; what else is coming, what closed?

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What's happening in Rockland?

The food choices have expanded by five in the last month, with the addition of a Cajun crab boil spot, a new Vietnamese restaurant, a larger space for a popular no-frills Salvadorean eatery, and two new dining options at Valley Rock Inn & Mountain Club in Sloatsburg.

And, more is coming. For now, put these on your list to try:



Vietnam Central opened Feb. 19 in Nyack. (Photo: Submitted)

Vietnam Central, a sister restaurant to <u>Vietnam's Central</u> in Scarsdale, opened Feb 19 at 108 Main St. in Nyack. It is open Tuesday to Sunday and features a similar, albeit smaller, menu than Scarsdale, featuring fried pork spring rolls, grilled chicken vermicelli, and an assortment of pho.

Shaking Crab, which opened at 100 E. Route 59 in Nanuet in late January, is all about the Cajun crab boil experience. On the menu: a host of seafood including crab legs, shrimp and crawfish with the option of various sauces that are then literally shaken in a bag in front of you along with the handing out of lobster bibs and plastic gloves.

Meanwhile, **Rey de Pollo**, which had been at 95 N. Main St. in Spring Valley, moved to a larger and more prominent location at 80 E. Route 59 a month ago. Among the featured items: carne asada (grilled steak with rice and salad), tacos and pollo asada (chicken with rice and salad).

Both Shaking Crab and Rey de Pollo were leased thanks to Cushman & Wakefield, who, in a press release, noted that the dining sector remains one of the hottest retail categories, both in the New York/New Jersey area and nationwide.



Shaking Crab in Nanuet specializes in the Cajun seafood boil experience. (Photo: Submitted)

Said David Townes of the firm's East Rutherford, New Jersey, office who spearheaded the leases: "As local and national brands seek to grow their businesses, the demand for second-generation restaurant space with existing kitchen infrastructure continues to be at its highest."

In Sloatsburg, there are now two new dining options, both of which are part of Valley Rock Inn & Mountain Club: An all-day seven-day-a-week cafe called Mountain Market Cafe & Provisions and an upscale restaurant open Thursday to Sunday called The Lodge.

The Market features grocery items such as produce, vegetables, frozen items, and snacks along with a hot and cold buffet that runs the gamut from classic mac and cheese to Halal chicken to kale Caesar salad, much of which is organic and locally sourced. There's also coffee and pastries.

For more elegant and upscale dining, The Lodge is open for dinner and Sunday brunch where, among other items, you'll find Pasture-Raised Chicken, Local Stout Braised Short Rib, Vegan Vadouvan Stew and Chicken Liver Pate.