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117-Year-Old New York Rao's Opening Branch in Hollywood

The owners of the Harlem institution are expanding to the Golden State

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By Jessica Chou, Editor

Feb 21, 2013 @ 1:48 PM



New York staple **Rao's**, also known as that one place in that **Jay-Z music video**, or the restaurant that inspired *Goodfellas*, is finally heading to Hollywood.

Grub Street reports that **Rao's Restaurant Group will be opening at 1006 Seward St. in Hollywood**, hoping for a late spring/early summer opening. Currently, there is also a Rao's in Caesars Palace, Las Vegas.

"We've had our eye on California for quite some time and think opening a Rao's in Hollywood is a natural progression for our family," Frank Pellegrino Jr., co-owner and managing partner, said in a press release. "The people of Southern California represent a large portion of our guests in Las Vegas, and many have become good friends of ours. We can't wait to have a Rao's in their backyard to call home."

The original Rao's is known for having a history of mafia connections, along with hard-to-get reservations thanks to celebrities (ahem, Woody Allen) practically "owning" tables. We imagine the Hollywood location would have similarly influential clientele, as Rao's would probably be a great place to have a business power lunch. Just don't cross the wrong folks.

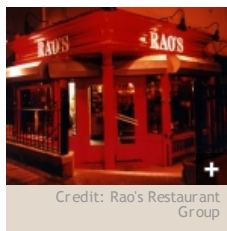
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Credit: Rao's Restaurant Group

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