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REACH FOR THE SKY
Furnished with Brazilian designs, the flexible rooftop restaurant and bar features retractable glass walls

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HIGH HOPE

La Piscine, NYC's new rooftop grill and pool bar, makes a splash

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Mix a good dose of Mexican hospitality with a dash of French seduction and a sprinkle of Greek spices, and you'll get this impossibly cool rooftop pool bar and restaurant in West Chelsea, New York.

Part of *Hôtel Americano*, opened last year as Mexican chain *Grupo Habita*'s first hotel abroad, the restaurant is named after *La Piscine* (*The Swimming Pool*), a 1969 French film starring a smouldering Romy Schneider and Alain Delon. But thankfully, unlike its Saint-Tropez namesake, the space – which overlooks Chelsea's art district – has a relaxed, cosy feel.

The main dining area is decorated for the most part with Brazilian furniture, supplied by NYC gallery *Espasso*, including contemporary 'Largo' sofas by Claudia Moreira Salles and classic 'Mocho' stools, designed in 1954 by Sergio Rodrigues. Leave it to the incredible views of the Empire State Building, the High Line and the Hudson River to remind you that you are very much in New York. Thanks to the restaurant's glass walls – retractable in summer and able to fully enclose the restaurant in winter – diners can enjoy the vistas all year round.

La Piscine's Greek-inspired summer menu, designed by Joseph Buenconsejo, is based on a simple selection of grilled seafood, meats and salads. (The winter offerings have a more Alpine character.) As for the adjoining cocktail bar, it serves colourful hibiscus margaritas, mojitos and caipirinhas, Greek beers, and an impressive selection of Mezcal.

Although you don't have to set foot in the hotel to get to the restaurant – architect Enrique Norten's eye-catching, metal-clad building features an exterior lift that whisks visitors straight up from the street to the rooftop space – you'd be well advised to book one of the 56 stylish, pared-back rooms, created by Parisian designer Arnaud Montigny. ★

La Piscine, Hôtel Americano, 518 West 27th Street, New York, tel: 1.212 525 0000, hotel-americano.com