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Num Pang Sandwich Shop

★★★★☆ 3.0

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Neighborhood: Greenwich Village
21 E. 12th St.
New York, NY 10003
212-255-3271

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Ask for banh mi and owner Ratha Chaupoly, who is also the owner of [Kampuchea](#) on the Lower East Side, may give you a highly accented "Pardon me?" That's because this super-narrow two-story shop showcases the sandwiches of Cambodia, not Vietnam, where banh mi originates. Called num pang, they're cousins in taste but nevertheless distinct from their Vietnamese brethren. Inside baked breads provided by Parisi Bakery, you can pile on pulled pork, peppercorn catfish, coconut tiger shrimp (funked out with coconut

flakes), hoison veal meatballs, [skirt](#) steak or a veggie vision pairing cauliflower with a double dose of eggplant, and all served with cucumber, pickled carrots, cilantro and a moderate chili mayo you can scorch up as needed. Being perfect lunch grub, queues here form fast, and the seats are, shall we say, less than friendly to the wide of hip. Still, lounging Lilliput-style is one thing, vying for the few window seats is something else. Those on the second floor, reached by black spiral stairs, are as prized as getting num pang for your buck.

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GETTING THERE

Cross Streets: E. 12th St. bet. University Pl. and Fifth Ave.

Parking: Metered, Nearby, Street, Street Parking Difficult, and Paid Lot

Public Transportation: 4, 5, 6, R, W, N, L to Union Square

THE BASICS

Hours: Mon.-Thu. 11:30 a.m.–11 p.m.
Fri. 11:30 a.m.–12 a.m.
Sat. 1 p.m.–12 a.m.

Cuisine: Asian and Sandwiches

Meals Served: Business Lunch, Dinner, Lunch, Weekday Brunch, and Weekend Brunch