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THE TRADITIONAL KIWI BBQ TRANSLATES TO NEW YORK

Auckland born landscaper Philip Roche living in New York is often seen BBQ'ing for a large group on his roof top garden. Roche told Ponsonby News, "New Yorkers don't seem to entertain on a large scale as we do in New Zealand – they either can't cook – don't need to cook or have a kitchen that is way too small."

"A great supply of vacuum packed Australian (I don't tell the Americans it's Australian) trimmed lamb culetts or boned legs of lamb are available at about 1/3 the cost as in New Zealand."

His other great favorites on the 'barbie' are a side of salmon on a cedar plank with lemon and olive oil – lots of grilled vegetables – carrots sweet potatoes (a poor compromise for Kumara) and peppers. Candied Brussel Sprouts in a pan on the BB are also a goodie - chopped with olive oil and a little honey. "I like a little charring," he told us.

On recent visits Philip's cousin Bill has helped him perfect the four hour slow-roasted, smoked leg of pork on the BBQ. "It's easy and great for a crowd – in the US pork is the cheapest meat unlike in New Zealand."

The local wine places all now seem to have a great supply of New Zealand wines and the Americans love the un-oaked Chardonnays and Sav blancs. "I also likes to slightly chill the light NZ reds in really hot NYC summers – Kiwi wines are cheaper here than at home as I think its less tax."

Roche is often seen on his terrace belting the BBQ with a broom handle to break off the ice and snow, so it can be opened and started, as he says, "why stop the BBQ in the winter".

Philip went to NY on holiday 15 years ago and now owns Plant specialists in partnership with Graeme Hubbard. They install roof gardens all over NYC and most of the time include outdoor kitchens. www.plantspecialists.com



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