

Where Michael Bruno of 1stdibs Gets His Buzz On

New York City has more stores than anyone could physically tackle, but somehow we always keep returning to the usual suspects. To break out of the rut, we've asked some local shopping and fashion gurus to provide their hidden retail gems—those unique stores around our fantastic city that we might not all know about. Cue the Beatles: We're about to get a little help from our friends.



Michael Bruno is the founder of online luxury marketplace **1stdibs**, where you can buy antiques, art, vintage couture, and even houses curated from over 1,500 dealers. Bruno's empire reached \$500 million in sales in 2011, so it's safe to assume he's a busy man. When he needs to chill out, he checks out this spot on the **Upper East Side** that specializes in both tea and honey.

Since I've become addicted to yoga and cut down on the amount of coffee I drink, I am always on the hunt for tasty and satisfying teas and chais. I recently stumbled on **The Tea & Honey Store**. It is a little jewelbox of a shop across the street from Bloomingdales—blink and you miss it. Inside is like a beehive with honeycomb—like hexagons that house an amazing selection of teas and organic honey. The staff knows their stuff and I always find the most obscure and fascinating items from around the world.

I just sampled the Rishi Orange Blossom Green Tea that is just terrific on ice. Their selection of artisanal honey is just as eclectic, and many come from local apiaries on the East End of Long Island. Right now I can't live without their Tupelo Honey. It's also a great place to find beautiful and unusual tea accessories that make the best gifts.