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It's the water! Brooklyn-style water the secret to Florida's Original Brooklyn Water Bagel Co. bagel

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The secret to the perfect [Brooklyn bagel](#)? It's all in the water. That's the claim by [Canarsie](#) native [Steve Fassberg](#), who opened the [Original Brooklyn Water Bagel Co.](#) - 1,200 miles from his home borough.

The [Delray Beach, Fla.](#), shop relies on an elaborate water-treatment process to replicate the chemical composition of Brooklyn tap water - and after that, Fassberg says, whipping up an authentic New York bagel is a piece of cake.

Fassberg, 49, worked as a banker on [Wall Street](#) and owned several restaurants in the [New York](#) area before moving to Florida in 1998 - where he found a few things lacking.

"Pizza and bagels outside of New York are horrible," he said. "I've been on a quest for the perfect bagel my entire life."

He toyed with the idea of having water shipped from Brooklyn, but found it would be prohibitively expensive. So he and a local water purification company spent 16 months testing formulas to replicate Brooklyn water.

"It's so crisp. At the right temperature, it tastes exactly like the water we have in New York," Fassberg said.

And the bagels? "We think we've nailed it 110%," he said. "They're very soft inside, and they're very crispy outside."

Fassberg admitted the scheme might strike Brooklynites as a little far-fetched, but customers are responding.

He said the shop sold 2,000 bagels by mid-afternoon on the first day of business.

"It's out the door and around the block," he said. "We used three days worth of bagels in one day."