



New York City City Guide







New York City's Brooklyn Bridge at dusk

Quick Facts

Country	USA	
Currency	US Dollar \$	
	100 cents makes \$1	
Language	English	
Population	18,498,000	
Time Zone	GMT -5 or GMT -4 (March to November)	

Climate

Summer Av Max	28°C	
Autumn Av Max	15°C	
Winter Av Max	5°C	
Spring Av Max	15°C	

Introducing New York City

Capital of the world's financial, consumer and entertainment fields, [New York](#) is a city of towering skyscrapers, bright neon lights and world-class museums. It is one of the most dynamic cities on earth. It pulsates with life and has something to suit every taste. It comprises the five districts of Manhattan, the Bronx, Queens, Brooklyn and Staten Island. It has over 6 000 miles of streets, so walking isn't an easy option! Use the buses, subways and unique yellow cabs.

[Chinatown](#) and [Little Italy](#) on the Lower East Side are colourful neighbourhoods adding to the cosmopolitan flavour of The Big Apple.

[Wall Street](#), the centre of the financial district, is home to the 17-storey [New York Stock Exchange](#). When the NYSE crashes, so does the universal financial world.

Manhattan lies between the East and Hudson rivers. The most famous landmark is the 305-ft Statue of Liberty on a small island at the entrance to New York harbour, symbol of freedom designed by French sculptor Bartholdi. The broken shackles at her feet can only be seen from the air. The rays of her crown represent the seven seas and seven continents.

What to See in New York City

Architecture Interesting buildings include 50 cast-iron buildings in SoHo District; the Jefferson Market Courthouse in Greenwich Village; the [Flatiron Building](#); the [New York Public Library](#); [Grand Central Terminal](#); the [United Nations headquarters](#), an international zone with its own post office and stamps; the [Rockefeller Center](#); the [Chrysler Building](#) with its gleaming stainless-steel spire.

The [Empire State Building](#) is the tallest and most striking skyscraper. Climb the Empire State Building's 1576 steps from the lobby to the observation deck on the 86th floor.

Museums New York's famed art museums include the [Museum of Modern Art](#) and the [Metropolitan Museum of Art](#) in a Gothic Revival. The wondrous [Guggenheim Museum](#) is a work of art in itself and a city landmark. See it just for the building!

The [America Museum of Natural History](#) features exciting exhibits like dinosaurs, ocean life, meteors and has a planetarium.

Central Park Catch your breath in [Central Park](#), 843 acres of lush greenery, ponds, lakes and a reservoir. Streams run through the densely-wooded Ramble, home to 250 species of birds! There is a skating rink and a Wildlife Conservation Center.



Getting into New York City

From **JFK** A **taxi** ride costs a flat-rate of \$45 to Manhattan, excl tips and tolls. The **train** takes 60 – 90 mins to mid-town Manhattan and costs \$7. You'll need to take the AirTrain to Jamaica or Howard Beach, then change there to the subway and take that to to mid-town Manhattan. You can catch a Q10 **bus** outside each terminal to connect to the E and F subway lines.

From **La Guardia** A **taxi** will cost \$16 - £25 excl tips and tolls. The M60 **bus** connects La Guardia with Manhattan and subway stations.

From **Newark** A **taxi** fare will cost \$45 - \$60 to mid-town Manhattan, excl tips and tolls. The **AirTrain** links Newark with Penn Station in about 60mins.

Getting Around New York City

Walking is often the best way to experience the city, and during rush hours, when buses and taxis are caught up in the gridlock and the subway is overcrowded or delayed, it can also be the fastest way to get around.

Subways Subways are a fast, safe, easy and inexpensive way to get around the city. Trains run 24 hours a day, with waiting time between trains normally just a few minutes, depending on the time of day.

Buses Bus services are extensive and bus stops are located on street corners approximately every two or three blocks. Bus fares are paid with a MetroCard or exact change (no bills accepted). Buses also operate 24 hours.

Taxis Taxis are plentiful in New York City and are one of the preferred modes of transport. Each taxi can take up to four passengers and fares start from \$2.50.

Shopping in New York City

Major art galleries keep company with the vast array of chic clothing stores in **SoHo**.

Fifth Avenue, from Central Park South to Rockefeller, is one of New York's most famous and best-loved districts. The boulevard that was once home to some of the biggest names in New York retailing has lost some ground in recent years to **Madison Avenue** north of 57th Street but still remains an important stop for the shopper.

57th Street, the thoroughfare of Carnegie Hall, the Russian Tea Room and the Hard Rock Cafe, is home to stores that sell everything from discount books to diamond bracelets worth six figures.

Midtown, near Grand Central, is home to the best men's tailors and clothiers. Women seeking business suits and formal wear are also well catered for.

Annual Entertainment in New York City

Hardly a week goes by without a special event taking place in New York. In fact, there are some 50 officially recognised parades each year, along with more than 400 street fairs.

In **May** the Tribeca Film Festival, co-organised by Robert DeNiro, kicks off, while in **mid-June** head for Fifth Ave between 44th and 86th Sts for the salsa sounds of the Puerto Rican Day Parade.

On 4 **July**, Macy's sponsors an Independence Day fireworks spectacle on the East River.

Don't miss the Halloween Parade on **October** 31, when the kooks take over Sixth Ave in the West Village. Back in the straight world, Macy's Thanksgiving Parade in **November** is always popular, and for more festive cheer don't miss the Rockefeller Centre Christmas Tree Lighting on the following Tuesday.

Our New York City Favourites...

Hotels

\$\$\$ **Gramercy Park Hotel** 2 Lexington Ave



\$\$ **Econo Lodge Times Square** 302 W 47th St



\$\$ **The 64** 244 W 64th Street



\$ **Hotel Riverside Studios** 342 W 71st St



\$ **Hotel Alexander** 306 W 94th St



Restaurants

\$\$\$ **21 Club**



21 West 52nd Street – classic, gourmet, smart dress

\$\$ **Nobu**



105 Hudson Street – modern decor, Japanese, celebrity crowd

\$ **Katz's Deli**



205 East Houston Street – quick food, much-loved, casual

Don't miss...

Rockefeller Centre
1230 6th Ave

Why? Incredible views over Manhattan from its Observation deck ([buy tickets online](#)) & sensational ice rink in winter.



One Day Itinerary

Morning Start with a two-hour "Semi Circle" cruise to take in the skyline, key buildings & Lady Liberty.

Early Lunch Cab it to 5th Avenue for coffee & pastries near Central Park, & window shopping along 5th Avenue.

Afternoon Walk or cab down to the Empire State & Macy's - two NYC icons.

Dusk Head to Times Square for dinner at Ellen's Stardust Diner, then end the day with drinks surrounded by the lights of Times Square.