

New York City – The Big Apple

Urban Discoveries



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Brooklyn, New York, Thursday, May 5, 2005, 9:55 am

Hello from New York City (1) - First Impressions of the Big Apple

So yesterday morning our American Airways flight (booked for free with my [Airmiles](#)) left at 7:13 am to bring us to the Big Apple, a place I had always had a fascination with, but only had visited twice very briefly in my life, and that more than 10 years ago.

Just flying in over NYC was an experience itself, seeing all the [skyscrapers of Manhattan](#), the various bridges linking the mainland with the island, and shortly after flying over the Rykers Island prison we landed at LaGuardia Airport, a rather small airport actually, when compared to Toronto.

Our luggage was out in no time and we grabbed a couple of week long transit passes (a pretty good deal at US\$24 for unlimited travel for a whole week) and we started our trip to Brooklyn. One bus (through a mostly Latin area in Queens) and one subway ride (through [Manhattan](#)) later, we ended up in our lovely bed and breakfast in a gorgeous neighbourhood, just south of [Prospect Park](#) in Brooklyn.

Since we didn't know the area and the website of our B&B had provided just a tiny little map, we had chosen the wrong subway line to get off from and we had to walk about 1/2 hour to find the B&B, but it gave us a good first look at this part of [Brooklyn](#).

It is an area with stately homes and houses that are about a century old. Magnolia and cherry trees are blooming everywhere and gardens are meticulously kept around here. Our Brooklyn neighbourhood feels very safe and we got to meet our bed and breakfast hosts: a very hospitable and outgoing couple in their 40s by the name of Harry and Bibi. They showed us to our room, a nice room on the third floor of this spacious house, with a shared bathroom.

Actually the whole house has been turned into a B&B and there are 8 bedrooms, the 2nd and 3rd floor of the house each have their own kitchen and bedroom areas and it actually makes for a really comfortable stay since it feels more like having your own apartment, rather than just renting a room.

Before leaving I thoroughly researched accommodation options in New York City, and after looking at all the options (hotels, hostels, B&Bs), I decided the B&B option would be the most comfortable route to go. And at US\$90.00 a night it's definitely turned out to be one of the most affordable options and a great base to start exploring New York City...



Approaching LaGuardia airport



Our beautiful street in Brooklyn



Everybody in front of the B&B



Avenue H – our subway station

Brooklyn, New York City, Wednesday, May 5, 2005, 10:10 am

Hello from New York City (2) - Exploring Mid-Town Manhattan

Since our plane landed nice and early we had virtually a whole day left to explore yesterday. The weather was pretty nice, quite sunny when we started, although it clouded over a little and was a little on the cool side, it never got much above 15 degrees Celsius.

Around noon time we hopped on the Q subway line, which is literally 5 minutes from our bed and breakfast, and we made our way into [Manhattan](#). The subway actually emerges at the Manhattan Bridge and we got a good look at the [Brooklyn Bridge](#) and the south-eastern tip of Manhattan.

We decided to get off on [Times Square](#), figuring that this would be pretty good place to start exploring NYC. Times Square, with all its neon advertising signs, and promotional displays is something else. The sidewalks were totally full of people strolling and tons of promoters were handing out flyers for Broadway shows, comedy shows and other entertainment events. There is so much advertising in the Times Square area with lights and displays blinking everywhere, that the individual advertisements actually started to run into one another in my mind, probably not the effect the advertisers tried to achieve. Indeed, the hustle and bustle in this area is huge and can get a little overwhelming.

We strolled around that area for a while, and walked by [Rockefeller Center](#), although we did not get to explore the whole complex. Then we tracked down Grand [Central Terminal](#) and walked through this grandiose historic train station which opened in 1913. There are over 100 commuter train platforms at Grand Central and they all run off a glorious central concourse.

The east side of Grand Central opens out almost straight onto the [Chrysler Building](#), and considering that I am a huge fan of [Art Deco skyscrapers](#), I had to go inside this 1929 masterpiece. As a tourist you can only access the lobby, but the central area with its ceiling mural and the authentic Art Deco elevators (and their doors covered in wood marquetry) are definitely worth a little detour.

Then we snaked our way up towards [Central Park](#), mostly on Lexington and Fifth Avenues. We walked by the (apparently just closed) famous Plaza Hotel and into

the south end of Central Park, a masterpiece of landscape design and 850 acres of much-needed recreational space by the famous landscape designer Frederick Law Olmstead. We only explored the south end, including the Dairy and Sheep Meadow and headed out onto Central Park West with all its stately apartment buildings, including the [Dakota Building](#), in front of which [John Lennon](#) was shot in 1980. The Strawberry Fields hillside garden was dedicated to his memory.

Everything is blooming here right now, and New York City is definitely a few weeks ahead of Toronto in terms of the horticultural cycle. Something was in the air, and I had to sneeze about a hundred times, and by the end of the day we both had to pick up some allergy medication since we were both battling major hayfever symptoms.

Then a brief hop on the subway later, we popped up again in [Greenwich Village](#), a beautiful neighbourhood of brownstone townhouses and took in the ambience. We ended up at a nice little restaurant on 7th Avenue, called "Pennyfeathers" where we had a beautiful dinner in an enclosed porch so we could take in the street life.

A couple of subway rides later we came back to our temporary home in Brooklyn where we dropped into bed exhausted from all the walking, trying to catch up on a bit of rest for the next day.



The Dakota Building.



Urban views from Central Park



Neon lights galore at Times Square



The famous Chrysler Building.

Brooklyn, New York, Friday, May 6, 2005, 7:45 am

Hello from New York City (3) - Crossing the Brooklyn Bridge, Exploring Downtown Manhattan

What a full day we had yesterday. We had a delightful breakfast in our bed and breakfast at about 8:30 am and shared some nice conversations with a young couple from Sweden and an older couple from Holland, the hostess was participating as well. This is one of my favourite things about bed and breakfasts, usually they offer really tasty filling meals and a great conversation to go with it.

We got going at around noon and hopped off the subway just before the [Brooklyn Bridge](#) and ended up exploring the historic Brooklyn Heights neighbourhood a bit, a place with many well-preserved brownstones and expensive apartment buildings with a perfect view of downtown [Manhattan](#). Then we started our walk across the Brooklyn Bridge, and started to soak in the vistas of the famous skyscrapers.

The Manhattan Bridge is very close to the [Brooklyn Bridge](#) and the [Empire State Building](#) is visible on the horizon. Tons of walkers and bikers were making the trekk across the bridge and the weather was pretty decent, sunny with about 16 degrees Celsius.

After the bridge we arrived at NYC City Hall which was blocked off to pedestrian traffic and there was a big congregation of media people on the front steps. Tons of people were sitting around the beautiful fountain just outside of city hall and with the blue sky, the blooming trees and the surrounding architectural arrangements this was just the perfect place to snap away with the camera. I particularly fell in love with the ornate spires of the Woolworth Building.

Then we headed further west, explored the yard of St. Paul's Cathedral which is right across from the [World Trade Center](#) location. As a first place of refuge after the tragedy, the churchyard has many plaques commemorating the events of [911](#) and it took more than 2 years to clear all the debris from the yard that had fallen down with the collapse of the buildings.

We then proceeded to [Ground Zero](#). The area is fenced off with various posters showing the history of the buildings, the events of 911, and the names of the

more than 2700 victims. The tragedy of 9/11 is very hard to grasp and when you are right there where it happened, you remember all the horrible pictures and the even more horrible events of that fateful day, now more than 31/2 years ago. It is so hard to imagine these 2 enormous buildings collapsing, surrounded on all sides by other highrise towers, and what it must have been like that day, with people running through the streets, debris raining down, rescue workers risking their lives to help the victims. The police presence, by the way, was very strong and we weren't sure if there was a special reason for that or if that was the case every day.

After reflecting for a while and absorbing the incomprehensible nature of that tragedy we walked south on Liberty Street into Battery Park. Lots of African entrepreneurs were around with suitcases and bags full of merchandise and it seems they were very careful not to be seen by the police. We had a beautiful view across the bay towards the statue of liberty and proceeded to our next destination - the [Staten Island Ferry](#) terminal, where our next adventure began...



The Manhattan Skyline from Brooklyn Heights.



The open expanse of Ground Zero



The Woolworth Building



Crossing the Brooklyn Bridge.

Brooklyn, New York, Friday, May 6, 2005, 8:05 am

Hello from New York City (4) - Staten Island and a Random Act of Violence

The Staten Island Ferry is a fabulous institution. It is a huge ferry that departs from a very modern, glass enclosed terminal, holds several thousand people and in just about 20 minutes whisks you over to [Staten Island](#), very close to the [Statue of Liberty](#), and all this for free! One thing we really noticed about New York City is that we definitely love the public transportation system. With our week long pass we have been hopping on an off subways as we please and we have found the transit system to be very efficient, pretty clean and quite safe (for the most part).

The Staten Island Ferry is a great insiders way of sneaking a peak at the Statue of Liberty since it passes pretty close by [Ellis Island](#). Not close enough to take really great pictures with a simple digital camera like mine, but I gave it a shot anyway.

As we got off the ferry terminal on Staten Island I had a bit of a hare-brained idea: I suggested that we board one of the buses that was waiting there, just to hop on and ride around and see the island. Of course I didn't have a bus map with me, didn't have any literature about Staten Island, so didn't know where we were going or what the major destinations were on the island. So we got on the #46 bus without any idea where we were going or how long it was going to take. (I guess I figured how big can the island be? Well, it's bigger than I thought...).

But we saw a good chunk of [Staten Island's](#) neighbourhoods and there are some pretty nice residential neighbourhoods, although I had expected a more upscale, more landscaped environment. The ethnic mix in the area seemed to be very much characterized by Blacks and Latinos, at least those were pretty much the only people getting on the bus. School had just ended so a bunch of highschool kids had gotten on with us.

Well, we rode the darn bus until the end, which ended up being a non-descript shopping mall called "West Shore Plaza", where we ended up having a sandwich and strolling around in a sports store which had amazingly good prices on most merchandise. Then finally another bus showed up and we had to run to catch it.

It was a pretty non-eventful bus ride, people of all ages got on and off, then two young black teenage boys got on, but didn't pay. The bus driver didn't question them and we just continued the ride. All of a sudden, I heard a big noise, like someone's fists hitting another person and all the people in the bus turned around, and the two young men were beating up a young short Latino teenager. It all took just a few seconds, right before a bus stop. The whole event was too quick for anyone else to react, although I have to say, the crowd showed compassion and shock at what had happened. The minute the bus came to a stop, the two guys jumped out and ran away.

Everybody was shocked. The Latino kid was sitting there, rumped, stunned, not seriously hurt, but had a very pained expression on his face. After he had calmed down he explained that about 8 kids were trying to extract money from him at the bus stop, he said he didn't have any and gave them an expired transit pass and 2 of the guys followed him onto the bus.

I have never personally witnessed public violence, so this was very shocking to me and I was glad that the kid wasn't really hurt. But I did feel very sorry for the victim and the whole event left a bad taste in my mouth, particularly since we had had the impression that New York City had felt so clean and safe. As a matter of fact we had commented on that a number of times, of how little litter there was in the street, how few street people or hustlers there were, how there was no graffiti in the subways, and how safe it felt to be taking transit at all hours of the day. We heard that former mayor [Rudy Giuliani](#) as well as current mayor Michael Bloomberg have really been cleaning up the city, and it shows. I guess it still doesn't prevent all violence from happening.

After our return to [Manhattan](#) we subwayed it all the way up to 103rd Street and essentially walked all the way down through [Central Park](#), admiring all the recreational facilities and the beauty of this giant green space. Further south we strolled over to 5th Avenue and then down into the [Broadway](#) Area just north of [Times Square](#), where we had some quick Italian food at Ray's Pizza. The evening was pretty chilly, probably only about 12 degrees or so and past 11 we headed back home on the Q train, processing the memories of another packed day and studying the behaviour of our fellow transit riders all the way back.



Departing from the Staten Island ferry dock.



Battery Park



San Remo apartment towers at dusk.



Miss Liberty, taken with my little camera.

Brooklyn, New York, Saturday, May 7, 2005, 11:00 am

Hello from New York City (5) - A Local Expert Takes Us Through Queens

Yesterday was a pretty interesting day, the weather was cool and overcast, with rain coming in during the latter part of the afternoon. A few weeks ago I had booked a meeting with one of the Big Apple Greeters, an organization of local NYC volunteers that takes out-of-town visitors around the city and shows them local sights and shares local information. The service is a great way to link up with a local New Yorker, and best of all, it's free of charge.

We were supposed to meet Suzanne, our greeter, at 11:00 am at the 71st Street subway station, but we got a late start after breakfast and there were some delays on the subway system, so we didn't meet Suzanne until 11:50 am.

Suzanne is a former highschool teacher, in her sixties, and a very friendly and outgoing individual. We felt bad about being late, but she said it wasn't a problem at all. She was extremely gracious and helpful throughout our entire time with her.

Suzanne started the tour by taking us through a very upscale [Queens](#) neighbourhood called Forest Hill Gardens, which is a neighbourhood with private streets where local residents pay higher than normal taxes for additional services, such as more frequent garbage pickup etc. Suzanne indicated that these homes go from anywhere from US\$ 1 million and up. Everything was blooming and many local handymen, gardeners and maids were on the road. We also had a chance to visit the old US Open Tennis Center which is located in an amphitheatre right next to the Forest Hill Country Club.

On from there we took a bus to the [Flushing](#) neighbourhood, an area with lots of Chinese and Korean stores, where Suzanne treated us to some savory Chinese dumplings. All the time she explained to us the multicultural character of Queens, and that one of the main subway trains (the 7 train) is called "The International Express" because it cuts through all sorts of ethnic neighbourhoods.

A quick jump onto this very subway later, which runs on elevated tracks through a good chunk of Queens, so you can actually see the neighbourhood, and we arrived in Jackson Heights, an area with a lot of Latin American immigrants and

further west we saw lots of South Asian (Indian, Pakistani and Bangladeshi) stores. For a Torontonians seeing all these ethnic stores is not all that unusual, since we have a lot of that in Toronto too, but I am sure these ethnic neighbourhoods must be quite unusual and unique for people who come from smaller less international places.

We then took the 47 and 19 Queens bus to a neighbourhood called Astoria, where a lot of Greek immigrants congregate. We ended up having dinner in a little quaint and cosy Greek restaurant called Zygos Restaurant ("zygos" means "libra" or "balance") where we continued our nice conversation with Suzanne, our local expert. Suzanne has been a greeter for the last 12 years and has studied all areas of New York City. She said she travels, by herself, into all areas of NYC, including [Harlem](#) and the [Bronx](#), and she loves exploring and sharing the city that she loves with people from all over the world.

When we left at about a quarter to 7 pm, Suzanne had spent more than 7 hours with us and we had really gotten to know each other quite well on a personal level. We also we ended up exchanging email addresses and we extended mutual invitations to stay in touch and I said I'd love to take her around whenever she comes to the Toronto area.

The Greeter experience has been excellent, our personal local expert really loves her city and she loves interacting with visitors and we definitely enjoyed her enthusiasm. I am sure we have a new friend to call up next time we come to New York City.



Forest Hill Gardens



Everything was in bloom



Chinese stores in Flushing



Warning: Entering Private Streets

Monday, May 9, 2005, 10:48 am

Hello from New York City (6) - Checking out (somewhat desolate) Coney Island and (amazingly clean) Harlem

So I am sitting here back in my office and I want to bring our last 2 days in New York City to paper. Considering that the weather forecast for Saturday was pretty bad (rain and maximum temperatures of 13 degrees C), the day turned out much nicer than expected.

Surrounded mostly by Caribbean retail outlets, we got a headstart by walking down Flatbush Avenue in the heart of [Brooklyn](#). At Avenue U we grabbed a bus to the west end of [Coney Island](#) and started walking along the boardwalk.

When you come from Toronto you associate the term "Boardwalk" with a nice upscale residential neighbourhood, mature trees, manicured lawns, Victorian houses, well maintained playgrounds, tennis clubs etc. Well, the boardwalk in [Coney Island](#) is just a little different.

Essentially it is a very wide beach with a wooden boardwalk, made up of 5 sections of wooden planks laid down in a different orientation, probably 15 to 20 m wide, that is surrounded by a large number of low rental apartment buildings. There are huge parking lots for school buses, and all the buildings are closed off with high fences so residents and visitors only have access through the main streets to get to the boardwalk.

Then you reach the main drag around Key Span Park, home to the [Brooklyn Cyclones](#) minor league baseball team. Just a bit further east is the Astroland Amusement Park where the more than 75 years old "Cyclone" roller coaster is still giving kids a thrill. Right in front of it are a few huts with food, including the famous "Nathan's Hot Dogs" ("Since 1916", the taste wasn't actually as famous as you might think..), and various fast food and amusement booths ("Shoot The Freak - Live Human Targets" paintball).

The area to the west of this park had a bit of a desolate feel, but from the Amusement Park on eastwards towards Brighton Beach we started to see more pedestrians strolling about, people sitting down and reading on benches... By this time the weather had warmed up nicely and the locals were enjoying the outdoors.

We headed up from the [Brighton Beach](#) boardwalk into the local neighbourhood, also called Brighton Beach, or more informally "[Little Odessa](#)", due to the large number of Russian Immigrants. The stores, delis and hairdressing shops underneath the elevated subway tracks were humming with shoppers, a very lively neighbourhood.

Then we decided it was time to explore Harlem. Encouraged by [our Greeter's comments yesterday](#), we figured Harlem these days was safe enough to go and explore on our own without any fear for our safety.

Sure enough, just like moles we popped up at Broadway & 145th Street and walked all the way south to 103rd Street and [Harlem](#) sure felt pretty much like any other neighbourhood in NYC. The historic apartment buildings looked like they were in pretty good shape, the streets were quite clean, lots of local Black and Latin residents were ambling around on the streets or hanging out with friends in front of buildings, the whole area seemed quite well kept and did not have a dangerous or dingy feel to it. At 3333 Broadway we were awestruck by a public housing project consisting of 5 huge apartment block towers, up to 35 stories high, and we tried to figure out just how many thousands of people would be living in just this one complex. Along this stretch we actually saw lots of older apartment towers, but viewed from the street, everything looked pretty orderly.

Both my husband and I remember [New York City](#) very differently. We had both been there more than 10, 15 years ago, and New York City had a distinct edge, tons of graffiti, dirty streets with lots of litter, people occasionally giving you some questionable looks.

The contrast between then and now is amazing. We have literally ridden subway trains, buses and ferries all over New York City, and we were hard pressed to find candy wrappers in any public vehicles, streets were clean, as a matter of fact we saw tons of cleaning crews cleaning up street debris. And most importantly, we always felt safe and comfortable, and we were out sometimes in public transit until close to midnight.

Now that doesn't mean that crime doesn't exist, as evidenced by [the little incident](#) on the [Staten Island](#) bus on Thursday, but overall, in our opinion at least, New York City seems to have lost a lot of its grime, dirt and threatening air, and we did

indeed explore huge areas of [Queens](#), [Brooklyn](#), [Harlem](#), [Staten Island](#) and [Manhattan](#), so I figure we have gotten a pretty good overview.

Further south we checked out the Campus of Columbia University and had a nice little dinner in a Mexican restaurant on Broadway, called Nachos. Broadway south of Columbia University has a very upscale feel to it, with lots of designer store windows, French-inspired bistros, whole or gourmet food outlets. Some parts with outdoor patios almost have a Parisian feel to it.

Later that evening at dusk we took a bus down to Columbus Circle where we were awed by Time Warners Corporate Headquarters, which are flanked on the right by the glitzy Trump International Hotel & Tower. Then, after a little walk through southern [Central Park](#), past the glitzy lit up Tavern on the Green (soups from \$15 and up....), we were off to pick up a few souvenirs, and we finally managed to find the Ed Sullivan Theatre, where [David Letterman](#) entertains his global audience with his late-night sarcasm and wit. Wading our way through a throng of people (mostly tourists) we finally got on a subway near Times Square that was crammed with late night party goers.

About 45 minutes later we plopped into bed, exhausted, from another day with about 4 to 5 hours of urban trekking.



Coney Island: school buses and apartment buildings.



Columbia University neighbourhood



3333 Broadway



"Shoot The Freak"...

Monday, May 9, 2005, 11:25 am

Hello from New York City (7) - The final day: Brooklyn's Prospect Park and Manhattan's Washington Square Park

Yesterday was our last day in New York City and our flight left at 7:57 pm, so we figured we'd store our luggage at the B&B for a few hours and head out one more time for one more round of urban exploration.

Well, one area we hadn't seen much yet was [Brooklyn](#) (other than [Coney Island](#) which we explored on Friday). We really liked Brooklyn, formerly a sleepy suburban area, which has nicely matured into one of the most desirable neighbourhoods in New York City, no wonder, thanks to its stately architecture, multicultural shopping areas and green mature trees in many areas.

Our beloved Q train got us to [Prospect Park](#), another masterpiece by landscape designer Frederick Law Olmstead, although this exhibit is a lot wilder and more natural than its [Central Park](#) counterpart. Although the day was a bit on the cool side, there were tons of people jogging, biking, walking and Prospect Park, just like its big cousin in Manhattan, has big fields with multiple baseball diamonds and soccer fields. The action was in full swing and we caught a live performance by a Mexican mariachi band, fronted by a young girl who was literally singing her heart out.

At the north end of Prospect Park is Grand Army Plaza, which is dominated by a massive Civil War memorial arch. Across from the arch is the Brooklyn Public Library, opened in 1941 in a late Art Deco style, and now blocked off for some renovations. Just around the corner is the [Brooklyn Botanical Garden](#) and the monumental [Brooklyn Museum of Art](#).

But we had no time to explore these areas further, we only had less than a couple of hours left before we had to pick up our luggage to head to the airport. Off we went and hopped onto another subway to head towards Washington Square Park, one area that I had definitely wanted to see.

It was a little quiet there on this cloudy and cool day and the [Washington Arch](#), compared to other monuments, seemed a little diminutive. We had a quick pizza in one of the cheap student eateries around [New York University](#) and got back to

the subway. However, we realized we were on the wrong platform (for northbound trains), so we headed back out the subway to reenter on the correct side.

Guess what - our metro transit card didn't let us back in! The display said "Just used" and there was no way we could get back in at a different entrance at the same subway station. I guess that's a built-in mechanism to safeguard against 2 people using the same transit card. So we had to trekk about 20 minutes south to Prince Street and use our metro card there. Our \$24 transit pass got major use over the last 4.5 days and when we go to NYC again, we'll definitely pick up another transit pass. Well, at least we won't make the same mistake again to swipe the card and then exit the subway station...

Just after 2:30 pm we picked up our luggage at the B&B and spent the next 2 hours discovering a new subway line (the N line) which we caught all the way to Astoria Boulevard, where we picked up the M60 bus to get to [LaGuardia airport](#). It took us a couple of hours, but it was great to get one last ride through the New York City neighbourhoods.

After being thoroughly searched, patted down, having my shoes x-rayed and otherwise being inspected, we finally got on our American Airlines ride back home to Toronto and saw one last vista at dusk of the City that never sleeps.

We will return.....



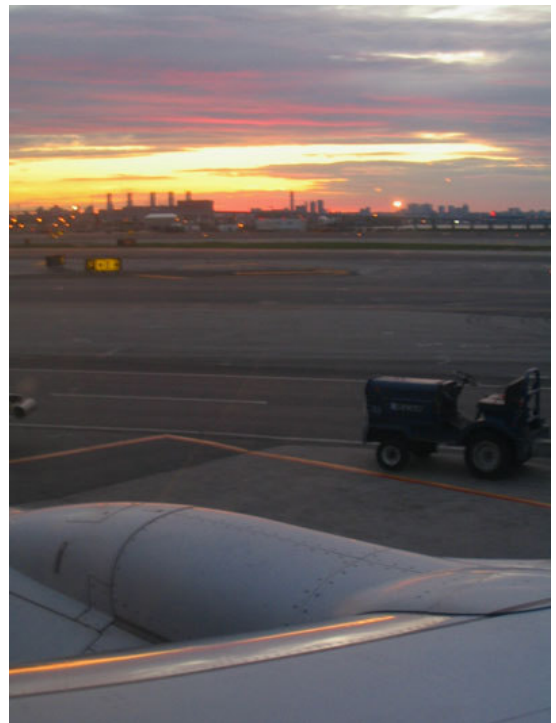
The Washington Arch



Building in Prospect Park



Grand Army Plaza.



Departing from LaGuardia Airport.

New York City Reference

New York City General Information

New York City is located on the Eastern Atlantic coast of the United States, at the mouth of the Hudson River. The city center resides at the exact location of 40 degrees, 42 minutes, 51 seconds N latitude, and 74 degrees, 0 minutes 23 seconds W longitude.

[New York City](#) is the largest city in the United States and one of the world's major global cities. Located in the state of New York, the city has a population of over 8 million within an area of 321 square miles (approximately 830 km²). With a population of 18.7 million, the New York Metropolitan Area is one of the largest urban areas in the world. Officially named “The City of New York”, it is popularly known as the “[Big Apple](#)” and the “City That Never Sleeps”.

When and how did New York City come to be called “[The Big Apple](#)”?

This is by far the most frequently asked question—and the most hotly debated. There are actually several answers,. Various accounts have traced the “Big Apple” expression to Depression-Era sidewalk apple vendors, a Harlem night club, and a popular 1930s dance known as the “Big Apple.” By the 1930s and '40s, the phrase had become firmly linked to the city’s jazz scene. “Big Apple” was the name both of a popular night club at West 135th Street and Seventh Avenue in [Harlem](#). The term had grown stale and was in fact generally forgotten by the 1970s. After a campaign to attract tourism to town, the Mayor John Lindsay took as symbol of renewal a plump red apple. “I ♥ NY” campaign was launched toward the end of the Lindsay administration in 1971, complete with a cheerful Big Apple logo in innumerable forms.

New York City is an international center for business, finance, fashion, medicine, the media, and culture, with an extraordinary collection of museums, galleries, international corporations, and financial markets. The city is also home to the headquarters of the [United Nations](#), and many of the world's most famous skyscrapers.

New York City is made of five boroughs separated by various waterways.

[Brooklyn](#) and [Queens](#) occupy the western portion of [Long Island](#), while [Staten](#)

[Island](#) and [Manhattan](#) are completely on their own land mass. [Bronx](#), to the north, remains attached to the New York State mainland.

Some of prouder attractions are the [Empire State](#) and [Chrysler buildings](#), the [Statue of Liberty](#), [Rockefeller Center](#), [Times Square](#), [the Bronx Zoo](#), Staten Island Ferry, [Brooklyn Bridge](#) and all other world-famous attractions.

New York City History

The region was inhabited by the Lenape Native Americans at the time of its European discovery by Italian [Giovanni da Verrazzano](#). It was not until the voyage of Henry Hudson, an Englishman who discovered Manhattan on September 11, 1609, that bears his name, the Hudson River. The Dutch established [New Amsterdam](#) in 1613, which was granted self-government in 1652 under Peter Stuyvesant. The British took the city in September 1664, and renamed it "New York" after the English Duke of York and Albany. The Dutch briefly regained it in August 1673, renaming the city "New Orange," but ceded it permanently in November 1674.

The city was under British occupation until the end of the war, and was the last port British ships evacuated in 1783.

[New York City](#) was the seat of the government under the Articles of Confederation from 1785 until 1788, and then the capital of the newly-formed United States from 1788 to 1790. In the 19th century, the opening of the [Erie Canal](#) in 1825 enabled New York to overtake Boston and Philadelphia in economic importance. It was also an era associated with economic and municipal integration, culminating in the consolidation of the five boroughs in 1898.

A series of new transportation links, most notably the opening of the New York City Subway in 1904, bound together the newly-enlarged city. Later, in the 1920s, the city saw the influx of African-Americans as part of the Great Migration from the American South. [The Harlem Renaissance](#) blossomed during this period, part of a larger boom in the [Prohibition era](#) that saw the city's skyline transformed by construction of the [skyscrapers](#) that have come to define New York. It overtook London as the most populous city in the world in 1925.

New York City suffered during the [Great Depression](#), which saw the end of Tammany Hall's eighty years of political dominance with the 1934 election of reformist mayor [Fiorello LaGuardia](#). The city's government and infrastructure underwent a dramatic overhaul under LaGuardia and his controversial parks commissioner [Robert Moses](#).

New York City played a major role in World War II as a port and a center of finance and industry. It became as the leading city of the world, with [Wall Street](#) leading America's emergence as the world's dominant economic power, the United Nations headquarters, built in 1952 emphasizing its political influence, and the rise of Abstract Expressionism displacing Paris as the center of the art world.

However, the growth of post-war suburbs saw a slow decline in the city's population. A decline in manufacturing, rising crime rates and white flight pushed New York into a social and economic crisis in the 1970s. These problems plagued the city until the 1990s. Racial tensions calmed in these years; a dramatic fall in crime rates, improvements in quality of life, economic growth and new immigration renewed the formerly dying city.

The city was one of the sites of the [September 11, 2001](#) attacks, when nearly 3,000 people were killed in the destruction of the city's tallest buildings, the [World Trade Center](#). In 2012 a new building is to be built on the site, The Freedom Tower, intended to be exactly 1,776 feet tall.

Music

To music lovers New York City has everything you can dream of, like concerts, opera, pop, radio events and more.

[Carnegie Hall](#) has long welcomed music lovers from all parts of the globe for the finest in performance and arts education. Filling its three performance spaces with the greatest artists and audiences, and expanding its service to the world of music education through The Weill Music Institute, Carnegie Hall's 114th season upheld the institution's status as an international symbol of cultural excellence.

The Lincoln Center Orchestra was created to enrich the artistic substance and perpetuate the democratic spirit of America's music. They offer top quality musicianship and universal friendship to innovative collaborative programs with

artists in diverse idioms, by taking the feeling of jazz on tour and by inviting artists and audiences from all over the world into New York City.

[The Metropolitan Opera](#) is a vibrant home for the most creative and talented artists working in the multidisciplinary field of opera, including singers, conductors, composers, orchestra musicians, stage directors, designers, visual artists, choreographers, and dancers from around the world. Most recently it has introduced a comprehensive and landmark new media plan to make its opera performances available regularly on multiple platforms. These include live high-definition transmissions to movie theaters in North America and Europe; a 24-hour subscription-radio channel on SIRIUS, featuring live and historic broadcasts; and, in partnership with Real Networks, the streaming of live performances on the Met website and archival broadcasts via Real's Rhapsody online music service.

New York City Opera was founded in 1943 to provide financially accessible opera performances to a wide audience—opera that would reflect the company's commitment to innovative repertory choices and the development of American opera.

The New York Philharmonic is by far the oldest symphony orchestra in the United States, and one of the oldest in the world. Founded in 1842 by a group of local musicians led by American-born Ureli Corelli Hill, the Orchestra currently plays some 180 concerts a year. On December 18, 2004, the Philharmonic gave its 14,000th concert — a milestone unmatched by any other orchestra in the world.

[Radio City Entertainment](#), a part of the Cablevision family of companies and a division of Madison Square Garden, is a worldwide entertainment company recognized for its signature combination of event production and entertainment marketing. Radio City Entertainment presents and promotes live entertainment events at Radio City Music Hall, [Madison Square Garden](#), and the Theater at Madison Square Garden. In addition, Radio City Entertainment develops events and attractions that appear nationally and internationally.

Brooklyn Academy of Music. Dating from its first performance in 1861, BAM has grown into a thriving urban arts center that brings international performing arts and film to Brooklyn. The first BAM facility at 176-194 Montague Street in

Brooklyn Heights was originally conceived by the Philharmonic Society of Brooklyn as a home for its concerts. It housed a large theater seating 2,200, a smaller concert hall, dressing and chorus rooms, and a vast "baronial" kitchen. BAM presented both amateur and professional music and theater productions. Performers included Ellen Terry, Edwin Booth, Tomas Salvini, and Fritz Kreisler.

Arts

New York City is an important international center for music, film, theater, dance and visual art. The city has more than 2,000 arts and cultural non-profits and more than 500 art galleries.

[The Metropolitan Museum of Art](#) was founded on April 13, 1870, for the purpose of establishing and maintaining in the City of New York, a museum and library of art, of encouraging and developing the study of the fine arts, and the application of arts to manufacture and practical life, of advancing the general knowledge of kindred subjects, and, to that end, of furnishing popular instruction.

Established in 1984, **Agora Gallery** is dedicated to the promotion of national and international contemporary artists. The Gallery caters to the taste and trends of the sophisticated New York art market and the Gallery's discerning worldwide collector base. The Gallery's wide client-base includes private collectors, art consultants, corporate art consultants, architects and interior designers as well as business, government, diplomatic and social VIPs. Agora Gallery offers the client an extraordinary opportunity to acquire some of the most carefully curated art in the contemporary, global art market. It is located in Chelsea at the center of the art community and within close proximity to the Chelsea Museum of Fine Art and the DIA Center for the Arts among others.

[The Museum of Modern Art](#), founded in 1929 as an educational institution, is dedicated to being the foremost museum of modern art in the world. It's main objectives are establishing, preserving, and documenting a permanent collection of the highest order that reflects the vitality, complexity, and unfolding patterns of modern and contemporary art; by presenting exhibitions and educational programs of unparalleled significance; by sustaining a library, archives, and conservation laboratory that are recognized as international centers of research; and by supporting scholarship and publications of preeminent intellectual merit.

Visit the **Frick Art Reference Library**, which spends more than \$18,000,000 a year to provide public access to its art and research collections. The historic buildings of The Frick Collection and Frick Art Reference Library provide access to scholarly resources, stimulating exhibition and education programs, and lively concert and lecture series.

The [American Museum of Natural History](#) was established in 1869. It is a landmark of Manhattan's Upper West Side in New York, USA, at 79th Street and Central Park West. The museum has a staff of more than 1,200, and it sponsors over 100 special field expeditions each year.

The **Jewish Museum of New York** was first established in 1904, when the Jewish Theological Seminary received a gift of 26 Jewish ceremonial art objects from Judge Mayer Sulzberger. In 1944, Frieda Schiff Warburg, widow of philanthropist Felix Warburg, donated the family mansion (located at Fifth Avenue and 92nd Street in the middle of Museum Mile in New York City) for use as the museum.

The **Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum** is the United States' national museum of design history and contemporary design. It is the only museum in the U.S. whose collection is solely focused on design. The museum is located in New York at Fifth Avenue and East 91st Street, and is a part of the Smithsonian Institution. The museum presents the annual National Design Awards in more than ten categories, "celebrating the best in American design."

The [Museum of the City of New York](#) is an art gallery and history museum founded in 1923 to present the history of New York City and its people. It is located at the northern end of the Museum Mile section of Fifth Avenue in Manhattan, between 103rd and 104th Streets, facing Central Park.

[The Harlem Renaissance](#). In the early 1900s, particularly in the 1920s, African-American literature, art, music, dance, and social commentary began to flourish in [Harlem](#), a section of New York City. This African-American cultural movement became known as "The New Negro Movement" and later as the Harlem Renaissance. More than a literary movement, the Harlem Renaissance exalted the unique culture of African-Americans and redefined African-American expression.

The **Brooklyn Museum**, housed in a 560,000-square-foot, Beaux-Arts building, is one of the oldest and largest art museums in the country. It's world-renowned permanent collections range from ancient Egyptian masterpieces to contemporary art, and represents a wide range of cultures. Only a 30-minute subway ride from midtown Manhattan, with its own newly renovated subway station, the Museum is part of a complex of nineteenth-century parks and gardens that also includes [Prospect Park](#), the [Brooklyn Botanic Garden](#), and the Prospect Park Zoo.

Theater and Entertainment

As a visitor of New York City you have everything to enjoy, the [Empire State Building](#), [Statue of Liberty](#), [Central Park](#), and [Times Square](#), amongst others.

The Empire State Building soars more than a quarter of a mile into the atmosphere above the heart of [Manhattan](#). Located on the 86th floor, 1,050 feet (320 meters) above the city's bustling streets, the Observatory offers panoramic views from within a glass enclosed pavilion and from the surrounding open-air promenade. Almost 110 million visitors have been thrilled by the awe-inspiring vision of the city beneath them. The building, one of New York City's main tourist attractions, offers a variety of activities for its visitors. One can tour the Observatory all year round, day and night, for breathtaking views of Manhattan and beyond. Also, there are two restaurants, a sushi bar, three coffee shops, a drug store, a Hallmark card shop, a post office and two banks, in addition to the plethora of restaurants and nightlife activities in the surrounding area.

The [New York City Ballet](#), one of the foremost dance companies in the world, is unique in US artistic history. Solely responsible for training its own artists and creating its own works, the New York City Ballet was the first ballet institution in the world with two permanent homes, the New York State Theater at Lincoln Center and the Saratoga Performing Arts Center in Saratoga Springs, New York.

The [Statue of Liberty](#) (also called Liberty Enlightening the World) was a gift of friendship from the people of France to the people of the United States and is a universal symbol of freedom and democracy. The Statue of Liberty was dedicated on October 28, 1886, designated as a National Monument in 1924 and restored for her centennial on July 4, 1986.

[Central Park](#) - In 1853 the state legislature authorized the City of New York to acquire more than 700 acres of land in the center of Manhattan. It was the first landscaped public park in the United States, having also its own zoo, shaped by the public that uses it, from the joggers, disco roller skaters, and softball leagues to bird watchers and nature lovers.

[Fifth Avenue](#), it runs through the heart of Midtown and along the eastern side of Central Park, in the center of the borough of Manhattan, and because of the expensive park-view real estate and historical mansions along its course, it is a symbol of wealthy New York. It is one of the best shopping streets in the world, often paired with London's Oxford Street and the Champs Elysées in Paris. You can find for example: Cartier, H. Stern, Sephora, Takashimaya, Fendi, Gucci, Louis Vuitton, Prada, Tiffany and Versace.

[Times Square](#) consists of the blocks between Seventh and Ninth Avenues from east to west, and West 39th and West 52nd Streets from south to north, making up the western part of the commercial area of [Midtown Manhattan](#). It is principally defined by its lighted and animated advertisements and not only has it become a symbol of New York, it has also achieved the status of an iconic world landmark. New York boasts an enormous amount and variety of theatrical performances. These shows usually fall into one of three categories: [Broadway](#), Off-Broadway, or Off-Off-Broadway.

Broadway is the oldest north-south main thoroughfare in the city. The street is famous as the pinnacle of the American theater industry. Starring in a successful Broadway musical is considered by most singers, dancers, and actors as the ultimate success in their chosen profession, and many songs, stories, and musicals have themselves been based around the idea of such success. Plays like, [A Chorus Line](#), [The Color Purple](#), [The Phantom of the Opera](#), Radio City Christmas Spectacular, [Les Miserables](#), or [The Lion King](#) are some of them you can enjoy.

The city's vibrant visual art scene in the 1950s and 1960s also defined the American pop art movement, which gave birth to such giants as [Andy Warhol](#), [Jasper Johns](#), [Robert Rauschenberg](#) and [Roy Lichtenstein](#).

New York is a global center for the international art market. The industry is clustered in neighborhoods known for their art galleries, such as Chelsea and

DUMBO, where dealers representing both established and up-and-coming artists compete for sales with bigger exhibition spaces, better locations, and stronger connections to museums and collectors. Wall Street money and funds from philanthropists flow steadily into the art market, often prompting artists to move from gallery to gallery in pursuit of riches and fame.

Comedy: There are many comedy clubs in New York, most of them claim to have launched today's top comedians. The major difference between the clubs is ambiance, food menu and admission price. Some of the well-known of these clubs are Boston Comedy Club, Caroline's on Broadway, Comedy Cellar, Comic Strip live, Dangerfield's, Gotham Comedy Club, New York Comedy Club or Stand-up New York.

Cuisine

[Cuisine of New York City](#) comprises many cuisines belonging to various ethnic groups that have entered the United States through the city. Almost all ethnic cuisines are well represented in NYC.

Some dishes attributed to New York City are Manhattan clam chowder, New York-style pizza, NY Strip steak, NY-style bagel, NY-style pastrami and NY-style cheesecake.

In the street you can eat some delicious fast food like, Nathan's Hot Dog, Gray's Papaya, Papaya King, souvlaki, gyros, shish kebab, grilled chestnuts, pretzels, knish, bratwurst, arepas, dumplings, muffins and why not a hamburger.

There are literally tens of thousands of restaurants, ranging from dingy \$2-a-slice pizza joints to the \$500-a-plate prix fixes sushi at Masa. If you want good food at good values, walk at least some distance from Times Square and other areas frequented almost exclusively by tourists. If you choose to stay in the Theater District, look for a variety of good-value options on 9th Av. in the 40s and lower 50s.

Cinema

New York's film industry is much smaller than that of Hollywood, but its billions of dollars in revenue makes it an important part of the city's economy and places it as the second largest center for the film industry in the United States.

In the earliest days of the American film industry, New York was the epicenter of filmmaking, however, the better year-round weather of Hollywood made it a better choice for shooting. The Kaufman-Astoria film studio in Queens, built during the silent film era, was used by the [Marx Brothers](#) and W.C. Fields. It has also been the set for [The Cosby Show](#) and *Sesame Street*.

New York City has recently seen a renaissance in filmmaking; according to the Mayor's Office of Film, Theater and Broadcasting New York City attracted over 250 independent and studio films in 2005, an increase from 202 in 2004 and 180 in 2003. More than a third of the actors in the United States are based in New York.

Perhaps the filmmaker most associated with New York is [Woody Allen](#), whose films include [Annie Hall](#) and [Manhattan](#). Other New Yorkers in film include the actor [Robert De Niro](#), who started the Tribeca Film Festival after the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, and the directors [Martin Scorsese](#) and [Francis Ford Coppola](#).

As the capital of independent American cinema, New York is home to a number of important film festivals, including the Tribeca Film Festival, the New York Film Festival and the Human Rights Watch Film Festival, as well as film companies like Miramax Films. New York is also home to Anthology Film Archives, the earliest surviving collective of avant-garde filmmakers, which preserves and exhibits hundreds of underground works from the entire span of film history.

The **Tribeca Film Festival** was founded in 2002 by Jane Rosenthal and [Robert De Niro](#) in a response to the September 11, 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center and the consequent loss of vitality in the Tribeca neighborhood in Manhattan.

The mission of the film festival is to enable the international film community and the general public to experience the power of film by redefining the film festival experience. The Tribeca Film Festival was founded to celebrate New York City as a major filmmaking center and to contribute to the long-term recovery of lower Manhattan.

The **New York Film Festival** is the one of the United States's most prestigious film festivals, first held in 1962 in New York. The films are selected by the prestigious Film Society of Lincoln Center. The festival does not award prizes.

Miramax Films was a Big Ten film motion picture distribution and production company headquartered in New York City before being bought out by The Walt Disney Company.

Anthology Film Archives is a cinema and film archive in the East Village neighborhood of New York City devoted to the preservation and exhibition of experimental film. It is the only non-profit organization of its kind in New York City, independent through self-support. In addition to preserving and exhibiting films (about 700 public screenings yearly), Anthology also publishes books and catalogs and houses a research library and art gallery.

American Museum of the Moving Image contains a museum devoted to, literally, moving images, so visitors will find exhibits on zoetrope and video games in addition to film and television. They also put on a terrific screening program, with films showing continuously throughout the day.

Angelika Film Center, just down the street from Film Forum, plays new independent and foreign films, many of which are only screened in New York. The cafe upstairs is something of a hotspot as well.

Film Society at [Lincoln Center](#) always puts on a terrific repertory program and shows a wide variety of experimental and foreign films. In addition, numerous talks and panels are held here, many featuring bold-named directors, screenwriters, and actors.

Sports

The New York metropolitan area is the only one in the United States with more than one team in each of the four major sports, with nine such franchises. New Yorkers are passionate about sports, both as participants and as spectators.

Baseball: New York City is one of the few cities in United States (as well as Boston, Chicago, and St. Louis) in which baseball is the most popular sport in the city.

Three early clubs, the [New York Giants](#), [Brooklyn Dodgers](#) and [New York Yankees](#), were among the most storied clubs of professional baseball, and were home to such players as [Willie Mays](#), [Jackie Robinson](#) and [Babe Ruth](#). Two of the early teams moved, and the city now has two Major League Baseball teams, [the Yankees](#) (at Yankee stadium) and [the Mets](#) (at Shea stadium), who were formed in 1962. The rivalry between the two teams is fierce.

Basketball: At Madison Square Garden, visitors can watch [the New York Knicks](#) play NBA basketball and the New York Liberty play in the WNBA. Continental Airlines Arena in the Meadowlands, located across the Hudson River in New Jersey, is home to [the New Jersey Nets](#) NBA basketball team.

Football: New York's NFL teams, [the New York Giants](#) and [New York Jets](#), play in Giants Stadium, which is located within the New York Metropolitan Area.

It is argued that the Jets may actually be more popular with New York's younger generations than the Giants. The Jets are also seen more as "Long Island's Team", which is supported by the fact that they make their home base in Hempstead at Hofstra University, they get more coverage in Long Island-based Newsday, and a larger percentage of their fans come from Long Island.

Hockey: Ice Hockey is also popular in New York. [The New York Rangers](#) of the National Hockey League play in [Madison Square Garden](#). The Rangers are one of the Original Six, a term given to the six NHL teams in existence before the league expanded in 1967.

The NHL's New Jersey Devils play in the New Jersey Meadowlands, while the New York Islanders, the third NHL team in the Metro area, play their home games in Nassau Coliseum on Long Island. All three teams play in the same division, providing fans with intense rivalries.

The NHL's headquarters is also located in New York City.

Other Sports, Did you know you can go rock-climbing, sailing, kayaking, and golfing in New York City? A city as large and diverse as New York does not restrict itself to the four major sports. The New York metropolitan area is also home to professional soccer and lacrosse teams, such as Red Bull New York in

Major League Soccer and both the Long Island Lizards and the New Jersey Pride in Major League Lacrosse.

Rugby is growing in popularity in New York. The city has two division one rugby teams, the New York Athletic Club RFC, and the Old Blue, both play in the Rugby Super League (rugby union). New York City consistently produces players of international standard who play in the United States national rugby league team that will soon be competing in the 2008 Rugby League World Cup qualifying series in Atlantic City.

Running: [The New York City Marathon](#) is an annual marathon foot-race run over a 26.2 mile course through the five boroughs of New York City. Next to the Boston Marathon, it is considered the pre-eminent long-distance annual running event in the United States.

The race is produced by the New York Road Runners and has been run every year since 1970. In recent years, it has also been sponsored by financial giant ING. It is held on the first Sunday of November and attracts professional competitors and amateurs from all over the world. Because of the popularity of the race, participation is limited to 35,000 entrants chosen by a lottery system, with preference given to previous participants.

Tennis: The [U.S. Tennis Open](#) is the fourth and final event of the *Grand Slam* tennis tournaments and is held annually in late summer at the USTA National Tennis Center in Flushing Meadows Park in Queens. The main tournament consists of five championships: men's and women's singles, men's and women's doubles and mixed doubles, with additional tournaments for junior and wheelchair players.

Public Transportation

All the excitement of New York is a subway or bus ride away. Ride with a MetroCard and save money, it's your key to the city. MetroCard is how fares are paid on New York City subway and buses, making public transit convenient and economical. More than 90 percent of trips taken on NYC Transit are made with MetroCard. Buses also accept exact change.

You can use other services as well, cruises, ferries, Amtrak, Hudson- Bergen Light Rail, New Jersey Transit and PATH (Rapid-Transit System.)

Architecture

The city of New York is a great creation of modern American culture, but to the eyes of a medievalist the histories of the European, Byzantine, and Islamic Middle Ages are documented in its streets and buildings.

As New York emerged as the major commercial center in North America, banks, [bridges](#), and [skyscrapers](#) were erected; huge middle-class residential neighborhoods were developed; and great mansions were built. With the wealth that was generated from commerce, New Yorkers were able to fund great institutional buildings; the libraries, the museums, and other cultural establishments for which the city is known.

Some of the greatest buildings NYC offers are:

Building	Architect	Construction Year
Brooklyn Bridge	John Augustus Roebling	1869 to 1883
Brownstone House	Vernacular	late 1800 's
Central Park	Frederick Law Olmsted	1853 to 1878
Chase Manhattan Bank	Gordon Bunshaft/ SOM	1961
Chrysler Building	William Van Alen	1928 to 1930
Citicorp Center	Hugh Stubbins	1976 to 1978
Empire State Building	Shreve, Lamb and Harmon	1931
Ford Foundation Building	Roche-Dinkeloo	1963 to 1968
Low Library	McKim, Mead and White	1903
McGraw-Hill Building	Raymond Hood	1930
Museum of Modern Art	Philip S. Goodwin and Edward D. Stone	1938 to 1939
New York Herald Building	McKim, Mead, and White	1894
New York Public Library	Carrere and Hastings	1897 to 1911
Paley Park	Zion and Breen	1967
Rockefeller Center	Raymond Hood	1932 to 1940

Statue of Liberty	Frederic Bartholdi	1884 to 1886
U.S. Custom House	Town and Davis	1833 to 1842
Woolworth Building	Cass Gilbert	1910 to 1913
United Nations Headquarters	Le Corbusier, Oscar Niemeyer, Sir Howard Robertson, et al. with Harrison and Abramovitz	1947, finished 1953
World Trade Center	Minoru Yamasaki	1966 to 1977

Travel Booking Tools

Online Travel booking Engines

www.expedia.com

Online booking service for flights, car rentals, accommodations

www.orbitz.com

Online travel agency

www.travelocity.com

Online 'one-stop' for customers looking to purchase travels

www.onlinetravel.com

UK's online travel provider, access to special, discounted fares

www.bravofly.co.uk

Low cost flight and traditional airlines

www.despegar.com

Latin America Major online travel agency

www.site59.com

Last minute travel agency

www.orient-express.com

Online Hotels, trains and cruises

www.priceline.com

Online travel agency

www.Thompson.co.uk

Online travel agency

www.economytravel.com

Online travel agency

Location Specific Travel Agencies

www.ThomasCook.com

Online travel agency, German

www.Neckermann-Reisen.de

Online travel agency and tour operator, Germany

www.ebookers.com

Online cheap flights booking and hotel reservation agency

www.opodo.co.uk

UK's travel agency, insurance

www.africapoint.com

Africa-Online Booking and Information for Safari, Tours, Vacations, Hotels, Airline Tickets and Rental Cars

www.funjet.com

America online travel agency

www.cheapcaribbean.com

Online travel agency, discount hotels and vacations to the Caribbean and Mexico

www.lifeinkorea.com

Online travel agency, Korea

www.africaguide.com

Online travel agency, all you need to travel to Africa

www.hawaiiactive.com

Online travel agency, Hawaii

www.shermanstravel.com

Online travel agency

www.travelocity.ca

Online Canada travel agency

www.eurorelais.com

Online holiday homes in the Benelux, NETHERLANDS

www.4vacations.com

Online travel network

www.HolidayExtras.co.uk

Online travel agency in UK

www.floridavacationstation.com

Online outstanding value on Disney Vacations

www.bucherreisen.de

Online Last Minute Travel Agency, Germany

www.aldiana.de

Online travel agency, Germany all inclusive

Niche Travel Agencies (by activity / theme)

Alpventures.com

World War II tours

www.bossladyranch.com

Online ranch western adventure

www.scavengerhuntanywhere.com

Online scavenger hunt adventure

www.usaadventure.com

Online American adventure, bike tours, hiking.

www.travelworm.com

Online travel agency, America, casino resorts & leisure destinations

www.lonelyplanet.com

Online adventure agency

www.neilson.co.uk

Online skiing, snowboarding, dinghy sailing, wakeboarding, waterskiing, windsurfing, etc.

www.peltours.com

Online tour operator to Egypt and the Red Sea

www.grandcanyontourcompany.com

Book online Tours to Grand Canyon

www.statravel.co.uk

Online specialized in discounted student

www.sunburstvacations.com

Online travel agency to the Caribbean

Transportation

Major Airlines

www.economitravel.com
www.taca.com
www.condor.com
www.alohaairline.com
www.britishairways.com
www.delta.com
www.quantas.com.au
www.jal.com
www.iberia.com
www.klm.com
www.airbaltic.com
www.flybe.com
www.ryanair.com
www.wizzair.com
www.flyzoom.com
www.click.com.mx
www.spanair.com
www.binternet.com
www.aireuropa.com
www.cubana.cu
www.aircanada.com
www.westjet.com
www.airfrance.fr
www.continental.com
www.united.com
www.nwa.com
www.lufthansa.com
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www.cathaypacific.com
www.aeromexico.com
www.hawaiianair.com
www.mexicana.com

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Online Royal Dutch airline
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Europe lowest airfares
Europe's largest low fares carrier
Poland based airline
Canada based airline travel to Europe
Mexican online lowest airfares
Spain based local airline
Canarian Islands, Spain local airline
Spain based online booking agency
Cuba based airline
Canada based airline
Canada based airline
France airline
Online Continental Airlines
Online United Airlines
Online Northwest Airlines
Online Lufthansa Airline
Online Austrian Airlines
Online Swiss International Airline
Online Cathay Pacific Airline
Online AeroMexico Airline
Hawaii based airline
Online Mexicana Airline

Car Rentals

www.budget.com
www.travelautos.com
www.foxrentacar.com
www.dollar.com
www.easycar.com
www.ideamerge.com
www.autoeurope.com
www.alamo.com
www.herz.com
www.nationalcar.com
www.bigbus.co.uk

Online rental cars
Online rental cars in Spain, Portugal & Italy
Online rental cars
Online rental cars
Online rental cars
Europe short-term car leases
Europe online rental cars
Online rental cars
Online rental cars
Online rental cars
Online sights of London, Philadelphia and Dubai from the deck of a traditional open-top double decked bus.

Rail Travel

www.raileurope.com
www.eurail.com
www.acprailnet.com/britrail
www.trenitalia.com
www.renfe.es

Online Europe train
Online Europe train
Online Britain based train
Online Italy based train
Online Spain based train

www.amtrak.com
www.viarail.ca
www.railpass.com
www.sncf.com
www.bahn.de
www.sbb.ch

Online American train
Online Canada train
Online Europe train
Online French train
Online German train
Online Swiss train

Boat Travel & Cruise Lines

www.1cruise.com
www.condorferries.co.uk
www.freightercruises.com
www.cruisedirect.com

Online travel in cruises
Online UK ferries
Online cruises all around the world
Online cruises

Accommodation

Hotels

www.hotelguide.com
www.serenamore.com
www.barcelonapoint.com
www.morzinelets.com
www.safarinow.com
www.xcapewithus.com
www.hotelopia.com
www.sandals.com
www.choicehotels.com
www.hotelplanner.com
www.sheraton.com
www.westin.com
www.bestwestern.com
www.hotelclub.com
www.octopustravel.com
www.marriott.com
www.hotels.com
www.hotelpronto.com
www.hotelconnect.co.uk
www.fourpoints.com
www.ehotel.de
www.simply-travel.co.uk

Online booking hotels
Luxurious holiday resort on Corsica
Online accommodation in Catalonia, Spain
Online Alps accommodations
Online South Africa Accommodations
Online Europe Hotels
Online Hotels
Online Caribbean Resorts
Online Hotels
Online Hotels America
Online Hotels & Resorts
Online Hotels & Resorts
Online Hotels
Online worldwide hotel booking service
Online hotel reservations
Online hotel reservations
Online Hotels reservations
Online Hotel reservation
Online Hotels UK booking
Online Hotels by Sheraton
Online German Hotels
Online UK accommodations

Villa / Apartment Rentals

www.triphomes.com
www.quickrooms.com
www.worldescape.com
www.dales-holidays-cottage.com
www.VillasinJamaica.com

Online rental vocational destinations
Online worldwide hotels, apartments & villas
Online apartments worldwide
Online cottage booking
Online villas in Jamaica

Bed & Breakfasts

www.rentalo.com

Online Bed & Breakfasts worldwide

Home Exchanges

www.vacationhomerentals.com
www.manorhouses.com

Online vacation rental houses
Manor houses of Portugal

Travel Related Accessories and Services

Currency exchange

www.foreign-currency.com

Online currency exchange

Insurance

www.worldnomads.com

www.travelguard.com

www.primaryinsurance.co.uk

Online travel insurance

Online travel insurance

Online travel insurance based Europe

City passes, discount program

www.londonpass.com

www.newyorkpass.com

www.philadelphiapass.com

www.dublinpass.ie/dublinpass

www.sim4travel.com

www.gocardusa.com

www.visiticket.com

www.prioritypass.com

www.viator.com

www.gbheritagepass.com

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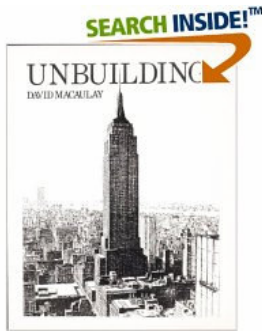
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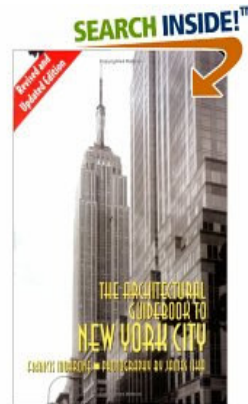
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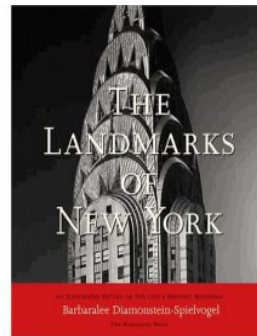
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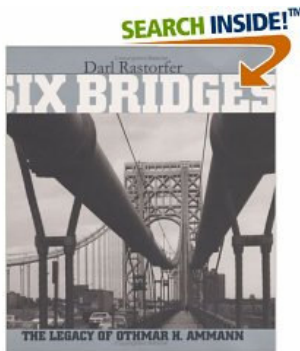
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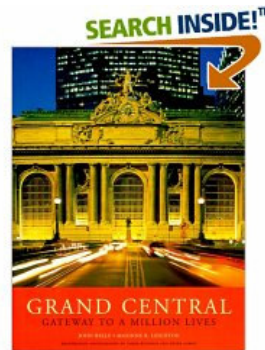
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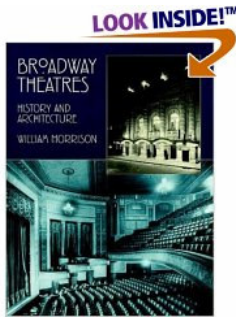
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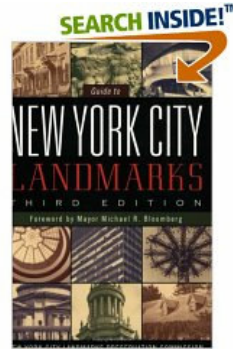
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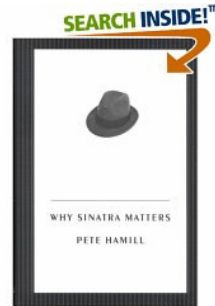
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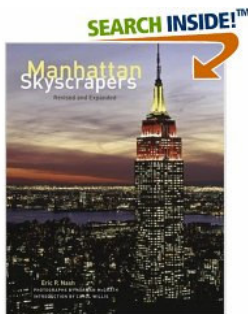
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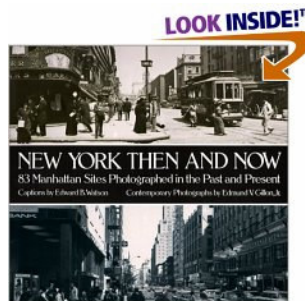
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by Eric Nash (Author), Carol Willis (Introduction), Norman McGrath's (Photographer)



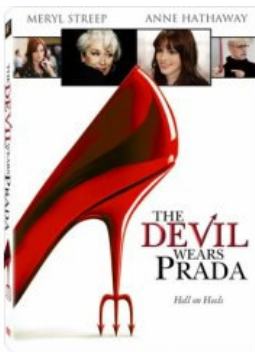
[New York Then and Now](#) (Then & Now Views) (Paperback)
by Edward B. Watson (Author), Edmund V. Gillon (Author)



United 93 (Full Screen Edition) (2006)
Starring: Christian Clemenson, Trish Gates **Director:** Paul Greengrass



New York Stories (1989)
Starring: Woody Allen, Marvin Chatinover **Director:** Woody Allen, Francis Ford Coppola



The Devil Wears Prada (Widescreen Edition) (2006)
Starring: Meryl Streep, Anne Hathaway **Director:** David Frankel



Saturday Night Fever (1977)
Starring: John Travolta, Martin Shaker



Fahrenheit 9/11 (2004)
Starring: Dick Morris, Zell Miller **Director:** Alan Peterson



The Godfather (Widescreen Edition) (1972)
Starring: Marlon Brando, Al Pacino **Director:** Francis Ford Coppola

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http://www.nycwalk.com	New York City Cultural Walking Tours