



The Top 10 Guide to New York City™

**The Internationalist
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The Internationalist[®]

International Business, Investment and Travel

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The Top 10 Guide to New York

Welcome to New York City.

New York City is one of the great cities of the world. Powerful, dynamic, pulsating with life, New York has been the inspiration of artists and writers, entrepreneurs and titans. It is where the wealthy make deals, performers make their mark, and romantics make love. New York is one of the most exciting cities to visit and to live in. There is more to see and do in just a few blocks of New York than in most other cities of the world combined. What a disappointment it would be to visit New York City and not experience the very best the city has to offer.

THE TOP 10 GUIDE TO NEW YORK CITY is designed so you will experience the very best of New York: the best restaurants, the best museums, the best sights and the best entertainment. THE TOP 10 GUIDE TO NEW YORK CITY is the only guide you will need. Turn the pages as it leads you through the best of classic and contemporary New York City.

There is so much to New York City that you can get overwhelmed and miss some of the city's outstanding high points. Patrick Nee makes sure you experience the city's crown jewels: the great museums, the dramatic panoramas, the romantic restaurants, the hot discos, and the world famous New York City restaurants.

New York for most visitors means Manhattan. Even for New Yorkers Manhattan is where the action is. This guide focuses on Manhattan as the key to a great New York experience.

Whether you are visiting for a few days or a few weeks, on a business trip or a once-in-a-lifetime vacation, THE TOP 10 GUIDE TO NEW YORK CITY lets you focus on the best of everything so that your New York City experience is a rich and rewarding one.

THE TOP 10 TRAVEL GUIDES are designed to meet the needs of today's sophisticated travelers. They highlight the best the world has to offer. They are available for other cities of the world. Just ask your bookseller.

Best wishes for an exciting visit to New York City.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

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The Top 10 New York City Must-See Areas

New York is not a city of ancient monuments and statues. It is a vibrant city that roars to life every day and keeps going full throttle well past midnight. Here are some of the most exciting areas at which to enjoy “the New York experience.”

- 1. Rockefeller Center/5th Avenue**

This is quintessential New York. Starting at Rockefeller Center, Saks Fifth Avenue, and St. Patrick’s Cathedral head up Fifth Avenue towards Trump Tower, Tiffany’s, and the Plaza Hotel. It’s fast moving, glamorous, and exciting.
- 2. Times Square/Broadway**

One of the most famous entertainment centers in the world. Make sure you see it at night. Colorful, noisy, and busy, the Square is filled with the bustling activity of limousines, taxis, police cars, excited theatre-goers rushing to be on time, stars rushing to make opening curtains, and students rushing to get discount tickets; with flashing neon lights and blasting horns, it’s a collage of color, sound, and excitement.
- 3. SoHo**

The hot scene for young New Yorkers. Originally the warehouse district south of Houston Street (thus its name, SoHo). Artists moved into the area for its incredible 10ft. ceilings. Where could you find enormous spaces like that in Manhattan? Soon the word spread and the young and hip started buying up lofts and converting them into living quarters. Suddenly a dull, dark area of Manhattan came alive. Now the streets are filled with stylish stores and people. It is a fun, dynamic area to visit.
- 4. 57th Street/Madison Avenue**

If you’re a shopper, or appreciate designer clothes and jewelry, or just like to look at beautiful women all dressed up, then stroll down 57th Street and up Madison Avenue. This is where the Beautiful People go to shop. Stunning designer clothes, sexy shoes, glistening jewelry, handsome men, gorgeous women, what more could anyone want in a stroll? It’s all money, but you don’t have to have it to enjoy the show.
- 5. Lincoln Center**

Walk up Broadway to Lincoln Center from 57th Street. You’ll notice the tempo slow, the noise soften. This is old New York with some of the solid apartment buildings featuring the early architecture of the city. Lincoln Center was the first arts center complex and has become a model around the world. Here is where the great performing arts institutions of New York reside: the Metropolitan Opera, the New York Philharmonic and the New York City Ballet are just a few. These are among the best in the world, so while you are there, see if there are tickets for one of the performances.
- 6. Wall Street**

Despite the events of Sept. 11th, Wall Street is still an important part of any visit to New York. A good portion of all the money that makes the world go ‘round (as they say) goes through Wall Street. The first thing that will impress you will be the compactness of the area located in Lower Manhattan at Broadway and Wall Street. Within just a few blocks a huge portion of the world’s wealth is traded here every day. Take in the New York Stock Exchange and the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.
- 7. Empire State Building**

There is no better statement of New York City’s grandeur than the Empire State Building. Once the tallest building in the world, it still is the most elegant. It commands the city with striking presence and grace. Visit the open-air observation deck on the 86th floor for spectacular views. This is a must visit and the best place in New York to have your picture taken with the city spread out below. See: The Top 10 New York Buildings.
- 8. Central Park**

Take a walk in Central Park, where lovers stroll, children run free, and older people sit to philosophize. It is a grand space in the midst of noisy, congested city. Meander up to the Bethesda Terrace and fountain. Treat yourself to a ride on the carousel or take a horse and carriage ride through the park. It’s romantic and peaceful; what more could anyone want from the park? See: The Top 10 Things to See and Do in Central Park.



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9. Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island

Seeing is believing. The Statue of Liberty is more grand and impressive than any photograph could ever convey. The boat trip to it is fun—the Lady grows larger and larger, finally reaching an impressive 150 ft., and the return trip gives a terrific view of the working New York harbor and the Manhattan skyline.

While Lady Liberty was an inspiration to millions of immigrants arriving in America; they first had to pass through Ellis Island, the portal to the new world. The restored Ellis Island historic site captures the anxiety and hope that all immigrants faced as they set foot in America. Circle Line ferries (Tel: 212.563.3200) run to both sites from Battery Park South Ferry at the very tip of Manhattan. (Subway train: 1-9)

10. East 42nd Street to the United Nations

- Start at the newly-renovated Grand Central Station, one of the city's great buildings. Go into the main hall and be dazzled by its grandeur and practicality. It's a busy working commuter transportation center yet beautiful to the eye.
- Then visit the lobby of the Chrysler Building at Lexington Ave. and 42nd St. for an example of elegant 1930s Art Deco.
- The Ford Foundation building at 320 E. 42nd St. has a full 1/3 of an acre garden growing inside the building. Check it out.
- Finally, approach the United Nations. These buildings were designed by some of the leading architects in the world, and the interiors are as impressive as the exteriors.



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The Top 10 New York Industries (And where to find them.)

What makes New York a powerhouse is the demanding business that is done in this town every day. In very narrow, concentrated areas, world standards are set and huge industries managed. The glamour of New York flows from the power of New York in its many major industries.

1. Television/Communications

Rockefeller Center

Within a half dozen blocks of this central point are the headquarters of NBC, ABC, CBS, Time Magazine, People Magazine, Sports Illustrated, AP Wire Services, and most of your major publishers, public relations companies, talent agencies, and advertising agencies.

2. Advertising

Madison Ave

New York invented modern advertising and the place it began was Madison Avenue between 42nd and 57th Street. “Madison Avenue” has become synonymous with advertising, just as “Wall Street” has become synonymous with capitalism. The street itself is not that interesting, and many of the advertising agencies have moved to places like Third Ave, the West Side, and the Chelsea area. But in its day, it was on Madison Avenue that men in gray flannel suits crafted America’s perception of itself.

3. Corporate Headquarters

Park Avenue

Park Avenue exudes power. This is where the masters of capitalism have their plush offices, waiting limousines and impressive board rooms. This is the avenue that gave rise to the “Park Avenue Lawyer”, that smooth, tailored practitioner who services the needs of corporate America. Wall Street may be where the “traders” work, but it is on Park Avenue that the “Titans” command.

4. Finance

Wall Street

Despite the events of Sept. 11th, Wall Street is still an important part of any visit to New York. A good portion of all the money that makes the world go ‘round (as they say) goes through Wall Street. The first thing that will impress you will be the compactness of the area located in Lower Manhattan at Broadway and Wall Street. Within just a few blocks a huge portion of the world’s wealth is traded here every day. Take in the New York Stock Exchange, The Federal Reserve bank of New York (with a memorable tour of the gold reserves and currencies).

5. Diamonds & Jewelry

West 47th St.

Walk down West 47th Street between 5th Ave. and Avenue of the Americas. On this one block, more diamonds and jewelry are sold than at any other place in the world. Dominated by Hassidic Jews, it is fascinating to watch this subculture go about its business. They carry the diamonds they are trading on their person (yes, in those baggy pants may be a million dollars in diamonds). Transactions are based on a person’s word, and the negotiations (sometimes on the street corner) are always animated. It’s a dynamic and interesting environment. There are lots of stores on this street that sell to the public. You can shop around and bring home a dazzling souvenir from New York.

6. Fashion

Seventh Ave.

It’s called “Seventh Avenue” and it is yet another New York address that has become synonymous with an industry. In this case, the fashion industry. No matter where you buy your clothes in the United States, the decisions about them are made on Seventh Avenue. Color, style, trends, accessories, availability and shipments; you name it and the shots are called in the lofts on the side streets off Seventh Avenue between Macy’s (W. 34th) and W. 42nd Street. Check it out and watch the truck drivers and rack pushers fight for space.

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7. Theatre

Broadway

There is only one Broadway. It is the standard for excellence around the world. “A Broadway show” says it all—glamorous, polished, dramatic, complete. Any serious theatre person must come to Broadway and the surrounding theatre scene. It is the toughest arena to break into; and when you do, it’s even tougher to reach stardom. Check out Broadway and Off Broadway (where union rules are sometimes the only difference) and Off-Off Broadway where tomorrow’s stars are testing their skills in more avant-garde productions. If you can make it here, you can make it anywhere.

8. Performing Arts

Lincoln Center

New York is the richest performing arts center in the world, maintaining the greatest diversity of dance, opera, and concerts anywhere. The performances are scattered about Manhattan, but mostly on the West Side. If you want to see the venues of the world’s best performing artists check out Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall. At Lincoln Center, you’ll see the young ballet dances gracefully walking about, serious musicians heading to practice with their instruments in tow, and composers and directors deep in thought. There are plenty of restaurants in the Center and the environs. Be sure to check out the Lincoln Center library with the world’s largest collection of performing arts materials.

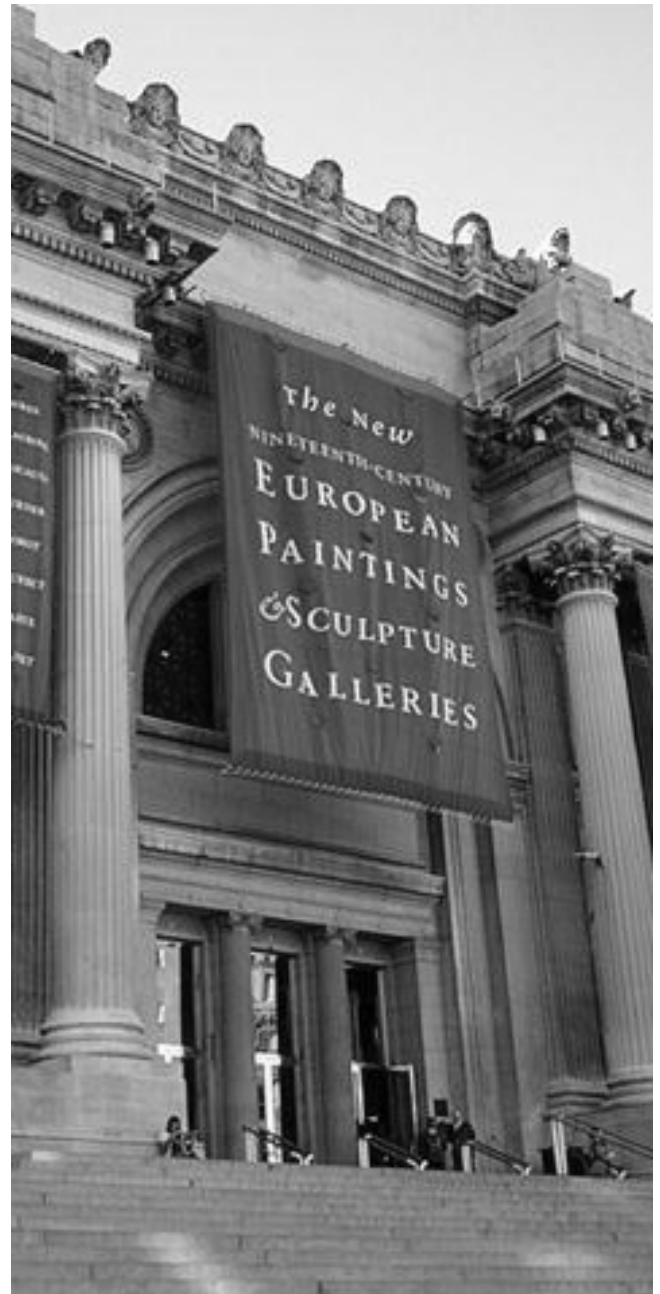
9. Art

57th St., Madison Ave., and SoHo

You’ll find more original art, more art bought and sold, and more starving and prosperous artists in New York than anywhere in the world. Art is big business in New York. At the high end, check out the galleries along 57th Street and upper Madison Avenue. For the contemporary, hot artists, go to the galleries in SoHo.

10. Real Estate

The biggest business of them all, it is quiet, boring, and unglamorous in a noisy, exciting, and glamorous city. But remember this: as you walk down endless streets upon streets of buildings, every inch of every floor of every building is owned by someone. And, yes, they’re doing very well, thank you.





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The Top 10 Things to Do in New York

No matter how short or long your visit to New York City, here are the Top 10 things you should do to make it a memorable experience.

1. See a Broadway show.

For show times and tickets call The Broadway Line (212.302.4111) or check The New York Times. For on the day tickets try the TKS half-price tickets. One is located at the center of Times Square on Broadway. Be aware that TKS, while discounted, takes cash only. Try Off -Broadway shows for the same professionalism at a lower price. TKS may have tickets for these shows as well. See: The Top 10 Things to Know About Broadway Shows.

2. Visit the Metropolitan Museum.

One of the greatest Museums in the world. It's a must for any trip to New York City. See: The Top 10 Museums.

3. Stroll down Fifth Avenue and up Madison for the greatest window shopping in the world.

You'll see the greatest collection of glamorous department stores, designer shops and jewelry stores in the world. So what if you can't afford any of it. It's a great show. See: The Top 10 Sights on Fifth Avenue.

4. Go to the top of the Empire State Building.

There is no better statement of New York City's grandeur than the Empire State Building. Once the tallest building in the world, it still is the most elegant. It commands the city with striking presence and grace. Visit the open-air observation deck on the 86th floor for spectacular views. This is a must visit and the best place in New York to have your picture taken with the city spread out below. See: The Top 10 New York Buildings.

5. Get lost in SoHo.

Wear your black turtleneck and shades to fit into the hippest neighborhood in the City. This is where it's happening today in NYC. See: The Top 10 Sights - SoHo/TriBeCa.

6. Enjoy the spectacle of Times Square at night.

It's colorful, noisy, exciting, and one of a kind. There are more theatres, taxis, limousines and excited people rushing to shows here than at any other place on earth. See: The Top 10 New York Must-See Areas.

7. Go to the ballet or opera.

You would never do that back home. See the best in the world. See: The Top 10 Guide to the Performing Arts.

8. Watch the taping of a television show such as the Today, Letterman, or Conan Shows.

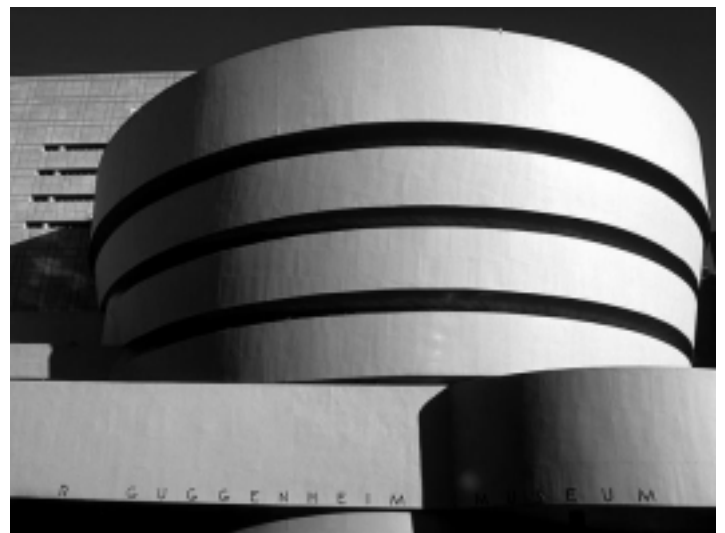
Get up early and go watch the making of the Today Show at Rockefeller Center. Or call in advance for tickets to the David Letterman Show (Tel: 212.975.5853), Conan O'Brian (Tel: 212.664.4000), Saturday Night Live (212.664.4000), or MTV Studios (212.398.8549).

9. Take in Central Park.

Enter anywhere along Central Park South and you'll find a friendly, easy-to-get-around city park. One of the greatest in the world. With its carousel, zoo, ice skating rink, monuments, and interesting people, the Park is a delight to visit. See The Top 10 Things to See and Do in Central Park.

10. Have dessert in the Palm Court of the Plaza Hotel, drinks at the King Cole Bar, or lunch at the Carnegie Deli.

These great New York institutions provide memorable New York experiences. (Located at The Plaza Hotel, 5th Ave. and 59th St.; The St. Regis Hotel, 55th St. at 5th Ave.; 7th Ave. at 55th Sts.; respectively).





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The Top 10 Things To Do if You're Alone in the Evenings

There is more to do in New York in the evening than any other city in the world. And, it's safe and exciting. So if you're in New York alone, whether as a tourist or on business, don't touch that TV in your room. After a long day, take a shower, freshen up and head out to the excitement and fun of New York. There is a lot you can do alone.

1. Go to a museum.

New York has some of the greatest museums in the world. And, most have late hours and at least one free evening a week. So head right out to your nearest museum and refresh your eyes and your spirit. See: The Top 10 Museums.

2. Take in a Broadway show.

Or an Off-Broadway show if you don't want to spring for the big bucks. The Times Square area is filled with people so you won't feel uncomfortable being there alone. Go to TKTS in the center of Times Square for last minute tickets at bargain prices. See: The Top 10 Tips for Buying Tickets to Broadway Shows

3. Go shopping.

Check out some of the exciting stores of the city. New York has the greatest variety of stores in the world. See: The Top 10 Guides to Shopping.

4. Take in the ballet or the opera.

Things you just won't do back home. With choices such as The New York City Ballet or the Metropolitan Opera, both at Lincoln Center, you'll see the best in the world.

5. Treat yourself to a great meal.

Dining alone is very accepted in New York; and, needless to say, the food is terrific. See: The Top 10 Guides to Restaurants.

6. Put on your sneakers and stride.

Been stuck in a meeting all day? Then put on your sneakers and stride down some of the best walking streets in the world. New York is just as busy at night as during the day. The Village, Midtown, the Upper East Side, and Upper West Side are just a few of the bustling neighborhoods that are good for walking after dusk.

7. Go to a gym.

Most health clubs offer one day memberships for out-of-town travelers. Workout with those intense New Yorkers. See: The Top 10 Health Clubs.

8. Go to a bar or club.

Trust us, you won't be alone for long. If hesitant, go to the bar or club in the hotel. There's lots of protection there. But, remember, don't give out your room number. (And, don't drink too much.) See: The Top 10 Guide to Nightlife.

9. Spend an hour or so in SoHo.

With a wide variety of diverse stores and galleries, it's filled with great window shopping. Most stores are open late. Take a stroll, have dinner, and then take a taxi back to your hotel.

10. Go ice skating.

Tel: 212.396.1010

This will clear your head. The Wollman Rink in Central Park is open until 9:30PM on most nights and provides both skate rental and lessons. Skating under the skyline of New York on a brisk winter's evening...there's nothing like it. (During the summer, they have in-line skates and skating.) Enter the Park at 59th and Avenue of the Americas.



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The Top 10 Museums

New York loves art and art museums. It has the greatest concentration of art museums in the world. Listed below are the Top 10. You are guaranteed the type of exhilarating experience that only a great museum can provide.

1. The Metropolitan Museum of Art

1000 5th Ave. @ 82nd St.

Tel: 212.535.7710, closed Mondays

One of the world's largest museums, with a collection spanning thousands of years of world culture, including American, African, Asian, and European art. Not to be missed, especially with its pay-what-you-wish entrance policy.

2. Museum of Modern Art

11 W. 53rd St.

Tel: 212.708.9480, closed Wednesdays

Paintings, sculptures, drawings, prints, and photographs by Picasso, Matisse, Van Gogh, Pollock, Cezanne, Seurat, and others.

3. Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum

1071 5th Ave. @ E. 88th St.

Tel: 212.423.3500, closed Thursdays

Extensive collection of twentieth century art. Works by Degas, Gauguin, Monet, Toulouse-Lautrec, Manet, Klee, Kandinsky, and Chagall, among others, housed in Frank Lloyd Wright's landmark building. Also, don't miss the Guggenheim Museum SoHo Branch (575 Broadway at Prince Street) for exhibitions complementing those at the museum's uptown location.

4. The Frick Collection

1 E. 70th St. @ 5th Ave.

Tel: 212.288.0700, closed Mondays

Housed in the former home of Henry Clay Frick, this collection boasts French furniture, paintings by European masters such as Titian, Rembrandt and El Greco, Limoges enamels and fine bronze sculpture.

5. Museum of the City of New York

5th Ave. @ E. 103rd St.

Tel: 212.534.1672, closed Mondays and Tuesdays

New York City's history is documented in fascinating exhibits of photographs, memorabilia, documents, arts, toys and costumes.

6. Museum of Television and Radio

25 W. 52nd St. @ 5th Ave.

Tel: 212.621.6800, closed Mondays

Founded by William S. Paley in 1975, this museum's collection consists of tapes of radio and television programs spanning 70 years of entertainment history.

7. Whitney Museum of American Art

945 Madison Ave. @ E. 75th St.

Tel: 212.570.3676, closed Mondays and Tuesdays

Extensive collection of twentieth century American Art including paintings, photographs, sculptures and prints. Exhibitions often showcase the works of up-and-coming artists.

8. Museum of African Art in SoHo

593 Broadway @ Houston St.

Tel: 212.966.1313, closed Mondays

One of the two museums in the country with an exclusive focus on African Art. Special exhibitions and programs offer a range of painting, storytelling, dance performances, and films.

9. American Museum of Natural History

Central Park West @ 79th St.

Tel: 212.769.5100

Features one of the largest collections of dinosaur fossils in the world, as well as anthropological exhibits tracing the origins of creation and evolution through models and interactive technology. IMAX films are shown daily.

10. National Academy of Design

1083 5th Ave. @ E. 89th St.

Tel: 212.369.4880, closed Mondays and Tuesdays

One of the world's most extensive collections of nineteenth and twentieth century paintings, sculptures and drawings, including works by Winslow Homer, I.M. Pei, Thomas Eakins, John Singer Sargent and Frank Lloyd Wright.



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The Top 10 Museums for Children

Can children enjoy going to a museum? In New York, they can and do. New York has the greatest collection of museums for kids anywhere in the world. There is a wide variety, and they're all exciting.

1. American Museum of Natural History, Hayden Planetarium

*Central Park West @ W. 81st St.
Tel: 212.769.5100*

One of the greatest museums for children in the world. Permanent exhibits, such as the enormous dinosaur fossils and replicas enthrall young visitors. There is also the Guggenheim Space Theater, with its twenty-two wrap-around screens, and the Sky Theater, one of the largest of its kind in the world. Parents can relax in the Hall of Ocean Life, which offers a cocktail lounge.

2. Children's Museum of Manhattan

*The Tisch Bldg., 212 W. 83rd St. @ Amsterdam Ave.
Tel: 212.721.1234; closed Tuesdays.*

Activities for children of all ages. From the Early Childhood Center, geared toward children under four, to the Family Learning Center, for families with children under six, to interactive media and environmental exhibits for older children, this museum is sure to please.

3. Children's Museum of the Arts

182 Lafayette St. @ Grand St.

Tel: 212.274.0986; Wed. noon-7, Thurs.-Sun. noon-5.

A hands-on museum in SoHo for children in grades K-5. Kids can participate in interactive exhibits and view the permanent collection of children's art from around the world before creating their own masterpieces in daily art workshops.

4. National Museum of the American Indian

1 Bowling Green, Lower Manhattan

Tel: 212.668.6624

One of America's leading museums on Native Americans is not located on the rolling plains of Montana but in the stone and mortar caverns of Manhattan. A branch of The Smithsonian, the museum is staffed by native Americans and has the largest collection of Indian artifacts in the world. Exhibits artfully presented.

5. Intrepid Sea-Air-Space Museum

Pier 86, W. 46th St. @ 12th Ave.

Tel: 212.832.1155; closed Mondays.

The U.S.S. Intrepid, a 40,000 ton, 900-foot-long aircraft carrier houses exhibits in its hull and hangar deck. Also on display: the Lockheed A-12 Blackbird reconnaissance jet, the nuclear-missile submarine U.S.S. Growler, the destroyer U.S.S. Edison and the 1936 Coast Guard lightship Nantucket.





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6. Sony Wonder Technology Lab

550 Madison Ave. @ E. 56th St.

Tel: 212.833.8100; closed Mondays. Free admission.

At this museum, children and adults can participate in a hands-on, interactive exploration of the latest technology and learn about professions in the field of communications and advanced, futuristic technology. Great for children 8yrs. and older.

7. South Street Seaport Museum

207 Front St. @ Fulton St., East Side of Lower Manhattan

Tel: 212.748.8600

Ships, shopping, food and fun; they have turned this working seaport into a museum extraordinaire. You can board old sailing vessels, talk to sea captains and study ancient shipping records. You can walk among the working fish mongers in the Fulton Fish market where all the fish for New York comes in fresh every morning. You can look across and see the dramatic sweep of the Brooklyn Bridge. A refreshing outdoor experience.

8. Statue of Liberty National Monument and Exhibit

Liberty Island

Tel: 212.363.3200

Take the ferry to Liberty Island and climb to the top of the United States' most famous national monument for a breathtaking view of the City. A small museum on the statue's pedestal (accessible by elevator) displays exhibits on immigration and traces the history of the monument.

9. Brooklyn Children's Museum

145 Brooklyn Ave.

Tel: 718.735.4432

The oldest children's museum, it offers hands-on tunnel, book, animal and plant exhibits. Take the A train to Kingston-Throop Aves., open every day but Tuesday in the summer and every day but Monday and Tuesday in the fall and winter.

10. New York City Fire Museum

278 Spring St. # Varick St.

Tel: 212.691.1303; Tues-Sunday 10-4.

Every kid loves fire trucks and firefighters. Here is their chance to get up close and personal with some of the colorful fire engines and equipment. Actual New York City firefighters are the tour guides as they present the history of the NYFD from the days of the horse drawn carriages to contemporary events. It is now hallowed ground.



The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Buildings in New York

New York has a wide variety of architecture and design in its buildings. These are the Top 10 buildings of New York City.

1. Rockefeller Center

Fifth Avenue @ 50th St.

Classic Art Deco. Classic New York. The Rockefeller Center houses The Today Show, Radio City Music Hall, The Rainbow Room, NBC HQ and GE HQ. Tours available.

2. Empire State Building

5th Ave. @ 34th St.

There is no better statement of New York City's grandeur than the Empire State Building. Once the tallest building in the world, it still is the most elegant. It commands the city with striking presence and grace. Visit the open-air observation deck on the 86th floor for spectacular views. This is a must visit and the best place in New York to have your picture taken with the city below. See: The Top 10 New York Buildings.

3. Chrysler Building

East 42nd St. @ Lexington St.

This is an art deco classic both inside and out. The ornate top glistens in the sun and turns silver-red in the sunsets. The lobby has dramatic murals, vibrant marble and elevators out of a 1930's movie. Contrast the Chrysler Building by William Van Allen with the Seagram Building by van der Rohe and you have a dramatic illustration of the classic designs of their day. Both were corporate buildings, both have landmark exteriors, and both have distinctive lobbies, yet they could not be more different. There is no better illustration of the evolution (or revolution) of architectural design within just a few blocks.

4. Lincoln Center

W. 62nd St. to 66th St. on Broadway

The first of the concentrated performing art complexes in the world. Each building is elegant and individualistic, yet complementary to each other. The best of 1960s design. Includes Avery Fisher Hall, the Metropolitan Opera House, and the New York State Theater. Tours available.

5. United Nations Building

1st Ave. @ 42nd St. on East River

The best of International Style design, this flag-fronted building has become a symbol for international cooperation.

6. Grand Central Station

42nd St. @ Park Ave.

If you've never seen one of the grand railroad stations of old (and they are disappearing) make sure you visit Grand Central Station. It's one of the best designed buildings in America. It has been completely renovated, and it's spectacular.

7. New York Public Library

5th Ave. @ 57 St.; free admission.

The majestic, marble Lions guard this venerable building. Built in a generation that respected intelligence, revered wisdom and honored books, the Library set the standard for libraries across America.

8. Seagram Building

375 Park Ave. @ 52nd St.

Designed by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, the Seagram Building is one of the leading examples of International Style in the world. The innovative ground-level plaza is now a mainstay in modern skyscrapers. Its clean lines set the standard that others had to follow. Built in 1958 it has withstood the test of time.

9. Guggenheim Museum

1071 5th Ave. @ 88th St.

One of the first of the museums as works of art, the Guggenheim opened in 1959, and is the only contribution to New York City by Frank Lloyd Wright. Classic simplicity inside and out make it a joy in which to view its vast modern art holdings. Extensive Picasso, Kandinsky, and French Impressionists collections also.

10. Trump Tower

5th Ave. @ 57th St.

This is the tower that made Donald Trump famous, as much for the audacity of the deal that put it together as for the glamour of the design. It rejuvenated a dowager corner of New York. Stroll through the pink marble lobby with its six story waterfall and designer boutiques. This 68-story building boasts 263 of the most luxurious apartments in New York, one of which is home to Donald himself.



The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Churches and Synagogues

New York may not have the historic religious buildings of Europe, but it does have a broad selection of dynamic houses of worship that are well worth the visit.

1. St. Patrick's Cathedral

*5th Ave. @ 50th St.
Tel: 212.753.2261*

The largest Catholic Cathedral in America sitting at the center of New York.

2. Riverside Church

*490 Riverside Dr. @ 120th St.
Tel: 212.222.5900*

The largest Gothic cathedral in the world and still growing. Step back in time and watch craftspeople carve stone in this century-old structure.

3. Temple Emanu-El

*5th Ave. @ 65th St.
Tel: 212.744.1400*

The largest reform synagogue in the world. Congregation includes some of New York's most prominent Jewish families.

4. Trinity Church

*Broadway @ Wall St.
Tel: 212.602.0800*

Trinity's 281-foot high steeple was once New York's tallest structure. This Gothic Revival building is dwarfed by skyscrapers today, but the church remains a prosperous and vital part of the surrounding community. Tours offered daily.

5. St. Paul's Chapel

*Broadway @ Vesey St.
Tel: 212.602.0872*

Manhattan's oldest church is housed in its only existing pre-Revolutionary building. George Washington worshipped here.

6. Central Synagogue

*123 E. 55th St. @ Lexington Ave.
Tel: 212.838.5122*

Built in 1872, this synagogue is an excellent example of Moorish Revival architecture.

7. St Peter's Lutheran Church

Lexington Ave. @ 54th St.

Citicorp built this modern church for St. Paul's as a consolation when Citicorp Center was erected on its former site.

8. Marble Collegiate Church

*5th Ave. @ 29th St.
Tel: 212.686.2770*

One of the oldest and most popular churches in New York. Sermons are preached from the pulpit made famous by Norman Vincent Peale

9. Abyssinian Baptist Church

*132 W. 128th St.
Tel: 212.862.7474*

This Harlem church is known for its beautiful gospel music and earth-shaking sermons.

10. John Street United Methodist Church

*44 John St.
Tel: 212.269.0014*

Home of the oldest Methodist Society in America, organized in 1766.



The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Parks, Gardens & Zoos

New Yorkers love their parks. They are carefully-planned, well-maintained, and a wonder to enjoy.

1. Central Park

Central Park is one of the great parks of the world. Situated in the heart of Manhattan, it provides an oasis of tranquility in the midst of one of the busiest, noisiest, active cities anywhere. This is a carefully designed park, always providing something of interest an easy walk ahead. Carousel, flower gardens, and walkways designed by Frederick Law Olmstead and Calvert Vaux—it captures the natural contours of the city's softer side. See: The Top 10 Things to See and Do in Central Park.

2. New York Botanical Gardens

200 Street and Kazimiroff Blvd., The Bronx
Tel: 718.817.9700
Subway: Bedford Park Blvd.
This is not just a garden, it's an experience. It features 250-acres of lush, beautiful, lovingly-cared-for vegetation surrounding the old Lorillard Snuff Mill.

3. The Cloisters

Fort Tryon Park
Tel: 212.923.3700
The medieval collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Fine Arts has monastery-like colonnaded walks, a French chapel, and Roman apse. Be sure to check out the elegant tapestries. See: The Top 10 Museums.

4. Bronx Zoo

Bronx River Parkway and Fordham Rd.
Tel: 718.367.1010
They said it couldn't be done: build an animal-friendly, natural environment home for a wide variety of world animals; but the Bronx Zoo did it.

5. Prospect Park Wildlife Center

450 Flatbush Ave., Brooklyn
Tel: 718.399.7339
This park is the closest reproduction of actual wildlife in New York City, unlike Central Park with its sky scrapers looming at the borders.

6. Hudson River Park

Corner of Chamber and West Sts.
Tel: 212.533.PARK
This beautiful oasis nestled between the City and Hudson River offers visitors the Real World sculpture garden, a playful set by Tom Otterness which takes some digs at New York's capitalist mentality.

7. Central Park Wildlife Center

It used to be called the Central Park Zoo, but they redefined it and made it friendly for animals and people. It also offers a children's petting zoo. A great destination for a walk in the Park. See: The Top 10 Things to See and Do in Central Park.

8. Riverside Park

This long, narrow, tree-lined park runs along the Hudson River from 72nd to 159th St. Breathe deeply in the 79 St. Basin, an idyllic oceanside spot in the all-too-urban excesses of the City.

9. Battery Park

Broadway at Battery Place
Besides serving as the take-off point for the Statue of Liberty ferry and housing the Castle Clinton National Monument, the park provides some natural wandering places for the outdoorsy types. And everywhere you turn, another beautiful statue is watching you.

10. Brooklyn Botanic Garden

1000 Washington Ave. @ Empire Blvd. and south side of the Brooklyn Museum
Tel: 718.622.4433
The Japanese Garden is the major attraction here, with a tranquil lake fashioned in the shape of the Japanese character for love. Other gardens with names like Shakespeare, Fragrance, and Cranford Rose will beguile you with their beauty.



The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Things to Do With Children

Can children enjoy a visit to New York? You bet they can! It is full of sights and sounds they will never see anywhere else. Here are the Top 10 things you can do specifically with children. They will talk about them all the way home.

1. Take them to a Broadway Show.

The memory will stay with them forever. With Disney now on the Big White Way there is something for every age group. Call The Broadway Line (Tel: 212.302.4111) for show and activity listings.

2. Visit the Museum of Natural History.

This museum's huge skeletons of dinosaurs and interactive displays amaze children. Kids love this place. See: The Top 10 Museums for Children.

3. Go to the top of the Empire State Building.

It provides breathtaking views of the city from over 1000 feet. Its open-air observatory on the 86th floor is refreshing and has been featured in "tons" of movies. Take your children's picture with the city in the background. It's the best "I did New York" photo.

4. Visit the Statue of Liberty.

The boat trip into the New York Harbor is as exciting as the actual statue. See: The Top 10 New York City Must-See Areas.

5. Explore Radio City Music Hall.

Awesome is one word that comes to mind. The building was designed to be impressive due to its immense size. There is just no theatre or show like it and the overwhelming magnitude of everything is dazzling.

6. Take the NBC tour.

It's always interesting to see where television shows come from.

7. Take a Double Decker Tour ride.

The different perspective will keep them and you mesmerized. See: The Top 10 Sightseeing Tours.

8. Take them to FAO Schwarz.

The world's biggest toy store (or so they say) will entertain not only your child but you as well. Be prepared to buy something, though, it's hard to leave empty-handed and the toys are not cheap. This paradise for children of all ages is located between 58th and 59th Sts. at 767 5th Ave.

9. Take in a zoo.

The Bronx Zoo is by far the best choice, but for a closer option, there is a small children's petting zoo in Central Park on the East Side.

10. Ride the Central Park Carousel.

It's one of the great carousels of the world.





The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Things to Do With Teens

In recognition that teens are more independent-minded than younger children, these are things that they will enjoy and which will leave an indelible impression. They are distinctly New York.

- 1. Enjoy a Broadway show.**
Let them choose the show. There is lots of great stuff on Broadway that teens and you will enjoy.
- 2. Take in a fine arts museum, preferably the Met.**
They may resist, but they'll remember it. Best to keep it short.
- 3. Bring them to SoHo.**
Action, original people, and cool stores will keep them interested. Meanwhile you can dip into some interesting art galleries.
- 4. Visit the Intrepid Sea Museum.**
Ships and planes that have actually been in battle. A great hands-on experience.
- 5. Take advantage of the ballet or the opera.**
Expand their minds.
- 6. Visit the W. 48th St. guitar stores.**
Check out this one block between Avenue of the Americas and 7th Ave. This is where rock stars buy their wares. They can go in and browse around all the weird and exciting instruments and maybe even rub shoulders with one of their favorite rock stars.
- 7. Ice Skate in Central Park or Rockefeller Center.**
At the southeast corner of the Park, Wollman Rink offers ice skating in winter, in-line skating in the summer. Open most nights until 9:30pm, skate rentals available. Fulfill every teenager's winter fantasy by skating in the world famous Rockefeller Center Ice Rink, open until 8PM.
- 8. Rent bicycles or roller blades.**
For Central Park when it's closed to traffic. The best way to see the park and look like a health-conscious New Yorker. See: The Top 10 Bicycle and Skate Rentals.
- 9. Take them shopping to some really hip stores.**
New York has cutting edge stuff for teens. They'll love what they buy and won't be able to wait 'til they can show their friends back home. It will make spending a vacation with their parents worthwhile. See: The Top 10 Stores for Teens.
- 10. Enjoy a noisy, bustling New York restaurant.**
Theme ones are usually a sure bet, but restaurants with sidewalk tables are always exciting. Try the Upper West Side, the Village, or SoHo. See: The Top 10 Restaurants for Teens.



The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Things to See and Do in Central Park

There is much to see and do in Central Park including just relaxing after a long day of sightseeing. Below are just a few of the highlights. The list goes from South to North—you should enter at the corner of Fifth Ave. and 59th St.

1. The Pond

This is what you'll first see once you go inside the Park from Fifth Ave. You may experience the eerie sense of déjà vu. The Pond has been featured in dozens of New York movies. See: *The Top 10 Movies Set in New York*.

2. Wollman Rink

North into the Park from 59th St. and Avenue of the Americas
This classic ice-skating rink overlooks the Pond. Besides being the most ubiquitous romantic scene in New York, the rink's beautiful construction and attractive setting make it a must for any tourist. Open until 9:30PM on most nights.

3. Central Park Zoo and Wildlife Conservation Center

Near the corner of 5th Ave. and E. 65th St.
Keep walking north on Fifth Ave. and you'll see this Wildlife sanctuary. The Tisch Zoo for Children will keep the kids occupied while you appreciate the artfully-displayed wildlife.

4. The Dairy

Near the intersection of 65th St. Transverse and East Dr.
Take the 65th St. Transverse west to The Dairy (built in the 19th century), which now serves as a the information center for The Park. Originally a milk vendor, it now offers interactive multimedia information on Central Park.

5. Carousel

Near intersection of Center Dr. and the 65th St. Transverse
Stay on the 65 St. Transverse until you see the oft-imitated, never-replicated Carousel, one of the oldest in America. Riding it, though, will never get old.

6. Strawberry Fields

72nd St. on the west side

Bear right up West Drive until you see this memorial to John Lennon. See the diverse crowd that comes to pay homage to the greatest singer-songwriter of his generation.

7. Belvedere Castle and Shakespeare Garden

Between the Great Lawn and the 79th St. Transverse

Keep following West Drive and hang a right onto the 79 St. Transverse, where you'll see the Garden. The lush gardens have flowers and wildlife featured in the Bard's works. Belvedere Castle, which can be seen from Vista Rock, is now a measurement station for the U.S. Weather Bureau and has a nature center inside.

8. The Great Lawn

You can't miss it.

Staying on the 79 St. Transverse, the Great Lawn will stretch out in front of the Metropolitan Museum of Art on your left. After a huge renovation project, the area formerly named the Great Dust Bowl has become every suburbanites dream, with perfectly kept grass.

9. The Conservatory Water

At E. 74th St. and 5th Ave.

Take a right down East Drive (which runs in front of the Met). You'll pass the Loeb Boathouse on your right. You'll know the stone, symmetric Conservatory Water when you see it—it's crowded with model sailboats. This is the Park's most formal area.

10. Bethesda Fountain and Terrace

Along 72nd St. Transverse

Staying on East Drive, the Fountain will be on your left. The romantic vista from the stairs down onto the ornate, three-tiered fountain is unmatched. Named after its Jerusalem counterpart, it is supposedly blessed with healing powers by an angel (There she is in stone at the top of the stairs). Follow East Drive out back to the corner of Fifth Ave. and 59 St., bringing to the end of your tour of Central Park.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Sights on Fifth Avenue

Take a stroll up Fifth from the Empire State Building to Central Park. This is the heart of New York City.

1. The Empire State Building

5th Ave. @ 34th St.; open daily to midnight

Built in 1931, the Empire State building is a beloved symbol of the city. Visit the observation decks at the 86th floor (at 1,050 feet) and the 102nd floor (at 1,250 feet). See: The Top 10 Buildings in New York.

2. The New York Public Library

5th Ave. @ 42nd St.

A wonderful example of beaux arts architecture, this white marble building (built in 1911) houses the headquarters one of the world's most comprehensive library system. Free tours are given Monday to Saturday at 11:00am and 2:00pm.

3. Rockefeller Plaza

5th Ave. @ 50th St.

This fabulous art deco center is made up of 18 buildings spread out over 21 acres, playing host to an array of businesses and entertainment options. This is the place to ice skate (Lower Plaza), watch Today Show tapings (7:00am - 9:00am at the southwest corner of 49 St. and Rockefeller Plaza), or take a tour of Radio City Music Hall (1260 Sixth Ave. at 50th Street, Mon. to Sat 10:00am to 5:00pm and Sun. from 11:00am to 5:00pm.) Take a self-guided walking tour to acquaint yourself with the art and architecture of the Plaza.

4. Saks Fifth Avenue

611 5th Ave. @ 50th St.

This department store is a New York institution with designer clothing for men and women, as well as an exhaustive selection of cosmetics and accessories. Worth a visit to splurge or simply soak up the ambience.

5. St. Patrick's Cathedral

5th Ave. @ 50th St., facing Rockefeller Center

This Gothic Cathedral, designed by James Renwick in the late nineteenth century, is the largest Roman Catholic Church in the United States.

6. Trump Tower

725 5th Ave. @ 56th St.

This is the tower that made Donald Trump famous, as much for the audacity of the deal that put it together as for the glamour of the design. It rejuvenated a dowager corner of New York. Stroll through the pink marble lobby with its six story waterfall and designer boutiques. This 68-story building boasts 263 of the most luxurious apartments in New York, one of which is home to Donald himself.

7. Tiffany & Co.

727 5th Ave. @ 57th St.

This elegant store displays some of the most beautiful jewelry in the world. The diamonds are spectacular, the watches elegant and the pearls beautiful. Don't hesitate to go in and browse. A good part of their business is to tourists.

8. The Plaza Hotel

5th Ave. @ 59th St.

Quintessential New York glamour. The Plaza has been featured in so many movies that you will probably feel as if you've been there already. Nevertheless, it is worth a stroll through the lobby, resplendent in gold leaf and dazzling to the eye.

9. FAO Schwarz

767 5th Ave. @ 58th St.

Tel: 212.644.9400

You don't have to be a kid to enjoy this celebrated store.

10. Central Park

The best entrance to the Park is at the corner of 5th and 59th Sts. You enter with the Pond area where you can sit and enjoy the peaceful view and catch your breath before heading off to your next adventure. See: The Top 10 Things to See and Do in Central Park.



The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Sights - SoHo/TriBeCa

1. New Museum of Contemporary Art

583 Broadway @ Prince St.
Tel: 212.219.1222

Cutting edge art, often controversial.

2. Guggenheim Museum SoHo

Broadway @ Prince St.
Tel: 212.423.3500

The first attempt of The Guggenheim to branch out from its 5th Ave. location. It must have worked because from here they went to Bilbao, Spain.

3. New York Fire Museum

278 Spring St. @ Varick
Tel: 212.691.1303

Real firefighters present this history of NYFD from the days of horse drawn engines to contemporary events. It is now hallowed ground

4. Museum for African Art

593 Broadway
Tel: 212.966.1313

Original, spellbinding African Art.

5. Spring St.

This street has some of the best shopping: cutting edge, traditional, famed Italians, and over the top.

6. Tribeca Film Center

375 Greenwich St. @ Franklin

De Niro's vision created a cinematic powerhouse in this small section of New York. Have lunch at the Tri BeCa Grill, also a De Niro creation. You may be discovered.

7. Greene St.—King St.—Queen St.

Architectural delight. Get there when the shadows fall on the cast iron grills. Very dramatic. Great location for stylized photography.

8. Gagosian

136 Wooster St.
Tel: 212.228.2828

One of the leading art dealers in SoHo. Many large scale items. Get rid of that boring garage door back home. Replace it with a giant work of art from Gagosian.

9. Let There Be Neon

White St. @ Broadway

Neon creations. Bring one home and liven up your neighborhood.

10. Famous Odeon

145 W. Broadway
Tel: 212.233.0507

Art Deco bar, open until 2 a.m.



The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Sights in Lower Manhattan

1. Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island

New York Harbor

Tour boats depart from Battery park South at the very tip of Manhattan. Subway trains 1 and 9 take you there. Circle Line ferries to the sites (Tel: 212.563.3200)

Seeing is believing. The Statue of Liberty is more grand and impressive than any photograph could ever convey. The boat trip to it is fun and the return trip gives a terrific view of the working New York harbor and the Manhattan skyline.

While Lady Liberty was an inspiration to millions of immigrants arriving in America, they first had to pass through Ellis Island, the portal to the new world. The restored Ellis Island historic site captures the anxiety and hope that all immigrants faced as they set foot in America.

2. The New York Stock Exchange

8-18 Broad St.

Tel: 212.656.5165

Money makes the world go 'round, and a good portion of it goes through Wall Street. The first thing that will impress you will be the compactness of the area located in Lower Manhattan at Broadway and Wall Street. Within just a few blocks a huge portion of the world's wealth is traded here every day. The engine driving this wealth machine has been The New York Stock Exchange. The visitor's center is at 20 Broad street.

3. Federal Reserve Bank

33 Liberty Street

Tel: 212.720.6130

Money and gold, wealth and power, it's all here in this singularly impressive building. Take the public tour to see the gold bullion vaults (worth billions) and cash reserves (worth billions) and the cash processing centers (more billions). A billion here and a billion there, it's exciting.

4. Federal Hall

26 Wall Street

Tel: 212.825.6888

Where George Washington took his Oath of Office and the United States of America officially began. Washington took the oath on the balcony thus establishing the precedent of an outdoor, very public taking of the Oath. A must for any visit.

5. South St. Port

East Side of Lower Manhattan

Ships, shopping, food and fun; they have turned this working seaport into a museum extraordinaire. You can board old sailing vessels, talk to sea captains and study ancient shipping records. You can walk around the Fulton Fish market where all the fish for New York comes in fresh every morning. You can look across and see the dramatic sweep of the Brooklyn Bridge. A refreshing outdoor experience.

6. Brooklyn Bridge

East Side of Lower Manhattan

It has a sweep of grandeur like no other bridge in the world. It has a pedestrian walkway that lets you walk out over the middle of the East River and look back on Manhattan.

7. National Museum of the American Indian

1 Bowling Green

Tel: 212.668.6624

More Indian artifacts from tribes from all over continent than almost any other museum.

8. New York City Fire Museum

278 Spring St. @ Varick St.

Tel: 212.691.1303

Here is a chance to get up close and personal with some of the colorful fire engines and equipment. Actual New York City firefighters are the tour guides as they present the history of the NYFD from the days of the horse drawn carriages to contemporary events. It is now hallowed ground.

9. Fraunces Tavern Museum

54 Pearl St.

Tel: 212.425.1778

Preserved from pre-Revolution America. Here, George Washington made his farewell address to his officers. A working restaurant downstairs, a Revolutionary War museum upstairs.

10. Battery Park

At the very tip of Manhattan.

Outstanding views of one of the world's busiest working harbors. A great place to relax among the greenery and watch the ships go by.



The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Outdoor Adventures

You may be surprised at how many opportunities there are to enjoy nature in and around the City. If you get tired of sightseeing, unwind with a day of fun in the sun.

1. Rollerblade in Central Park

The automobile roads are closed all weekdays, 10AM-3PM and 7PM-10PM, and all-day weekends and holidays. In-line skates may be rented at Wollman Rink in the Park or various other locations. See: The Top 10 Bicycle and Skate Rentals.

2. Rent a bike at Loeb Boathouse in Central Park.

Spend the afternoon exploring the Park or the city streets on a Sunday morning. Bicycles can be rented at The Boathouse or locations near the Park. See: The Top 10 Bicycle and Skate Rentals.

3. Ice Skate in Central Park or Rockefeller Center

At the southeast corner of the Park, Wollman Rink offers ice skating in winter, in-line skating in the summer. Open most nights until 9:30pm, skate rentals available. Fulfill everyone's winter fantasy by skating in that golden rink at Rockefeller Center; it is open until 8PM.

4. Play tennis at Central Park's tennis center.

If you arrive alone, just sign up for one of more than 50 courts. Someone else is bound to come along for a pick-up game. Call Tel: 212.280.0201 for details.

5. Hit golf balls into the Hudson River.

The Golf Club at Chelsea Piers actually has a driving range facing out into the river. Located at 23rd St. and the Hudson River, heated hitting stalls even allow winter golfers to practice their swing. See: The Top 10 Health Clubs.

6. Explore The Cloisters.

Tel: 212.923.3700

The Metropolitan's medieval-style museum in northern Manhattan is incredibly relaxing. Even if you don't feel like viewing the fabulous collection of medieval art, the gardens alone are worth the trip. Take the A train to 190St. and Overlook Terrace.

7. For a relaxing afternoon, head for the Sheep Meadow, a designated quiet area on the southwestern side of Central Park.

Take a book, a picnic, and a friend. Just relax, and you'll see why New Yorkers fall in love with the Park

8. Enjoy the New York Botanical Garden.

If you haven't seen a great garden, you should. Located at 200th St. and Kazimiroff Blvd., The Bronx (D train or No.4 to the Bedford Park Blvd.), these 250 acres of lush greenery include the Forest, the Peggy Rockefeller Rose Garden and the Everett Children's Adventure Garden.

9. Row, row, row your boat.

Tel: 212.517.2233

Rent a rowboat from Loeb Boathouse in Central Park. Call for details .

10. Visit Brooklyn's Coney Island.

Take the B, D, F, or N line to the end, around an hour's subway ride from Manhattan. Walk along the 3-mile boardwalk and eat cotton candy by the ocean.





The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Bicycle and Skate Rentals

You can rent a bike or skates to see the city, but it is recommended that you travel only in the parks. Traffic can be dangerous. One exception, however, is Sunday mornings, when you can ride the near-empty streets. Listed below are leading shops for bike or skate rentals.

- 1. Larry and Jeff's Bicycles Plus**
2nd Ave. @ 87th St.; Tel: 212.722.2201
- 2. Toga Bike Shop**
110 West End Ave. @ 64th St.; Tel: 212.799.9625
- 3. Metro Bicycle Stores**
East Side: 88th St. @ corner of Lexington Ave. and 88th St.
Tel: 212.427.4450
Midtown: 360 W. 47th St. @ 9th Ave.; Tel: 212.581.4500
- 4. ANewGen Bicycles**
Midtown: 832 9th Ave. @ 54th St.; Tel: 212.757.2418
- 5. Canal St. Bicycles**
417 Canal St. @ 6th Ave.; Tel: 212.334.8000
- 6. Blades Board and Skate**
Westside: 120 W. 72nd St.; Tel: 212.787.3911
Eastside: 160 E. 86th St.; Tel: 212.996.1644
- 7. Peck and Goodie In-line Skates**
919 8th Ave @ 54th St.; Tel: 212.246.6123
- 8. The Starting Line**
180 8th Ave.; Tel: 212.691.4729
- 9. Sky Rink - In-line and Ice Skating Rinks**
23rd St. and The Hudson River; Ice Skating: 212.336.6100
Roller Rink: 212.336.6200
- 10. The Rink at Rockefeller Center/Wollman Rink at Central Park**
Rockefeller Center: 601 5th Ave; Tel: 212.332.7654
Wollman Rink: North into the Park from 59th St. and Avenue of the Americas; Tel: 212.396.1010





The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Sightseeing Tours

A professional tour is always a good supplement to a do-it-yourself sightseeing extravaganza.

1. New York Double-Decker

Tickets sold at the Empire State Building, Rockefeller Center, and Times Square

Tel: 212.967.6008

Tours from Harlem to the Statue of Liberty in several languages.

2. Gray Line New York Tours, Inc.

Tickets sold at 54th St. and 8th Ave.

Tel: 212.397.2600

All Sightseeing. All the time.

3. New York Apple Tours

Tel: 212.944.9200

Double-decker buses, foreign language tours, hop-on/hop-off service. Call for information.

4. Circle Line Harbor Lights Cruise

Pier 83 @ W. 42nd St. and Hudson River

Tel: 212.563.3200

Cruises around Manhattan give gorgeous vistas of the skyline.

5. Circle Line Seaport Liberty Cruise

Pier 16, South St. Seaport

Tel: 212.563.3200

See the view witnessed by millions of immigrants upon arrival in the Land of the Free.

6. Citywalks: Walking Tours of New York

410 W. 20th St.

Tel: 212.989.2456

Walking is one way to appreciate the scope and magnitude of the City.

7. Central Park Bicycle Tour

310 W. 55th St.

Tel: 212.541.8579

The only way to see the entire Park in one day. On-site tours.

8. Radio City Music Hall Productions

1260 Avenue of the Americas

Tel: 212.246.4600, 212.247.7777 (schedules), 212.632.4041 (tours).

Behind-the-scenes at NYC's most celebrated venue with the Rockettes.

9. Metropolitan Opera House Backstage Tour

Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts

Broadway @ 62nd St.

Tel: 212.769.7020

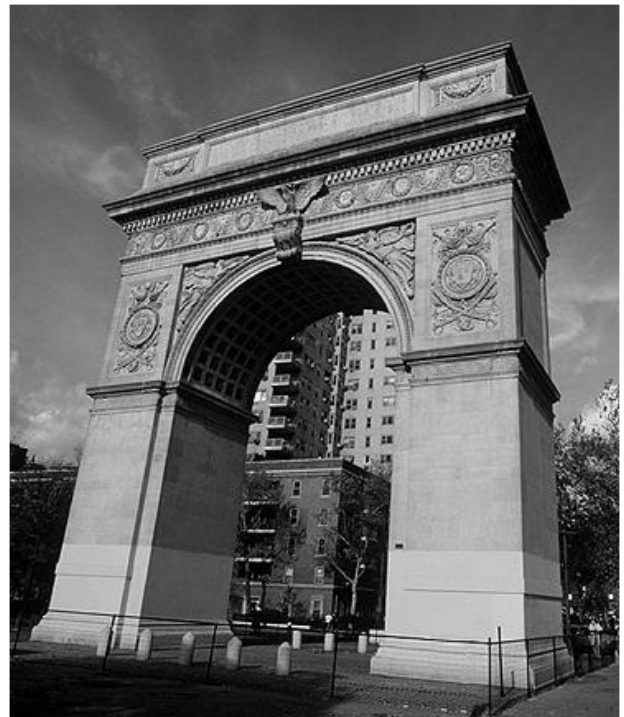
Backstage passes. Meet the people who make the final product happen.

10. Helicopter Flight Services

421 E. 60th St.

Tel: 212.355.0801, 888.WE.FLY.NY

Personalized sightseeing and charters. Other services include airport service, aerial photography, and cinematography.



The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Hotels

For the ultimate in luxury and service, New York City has some of the best hotels in the world.

1. Four Seasons

57 E. 57th St.

Tel: 212.758.5700

This is one of the great hotels of the world with I.M. Pei's sharp clean lines in the lobby but opulent guest rooms above. The service is crisp, the attention to detail is extraordinary, and the feeling of welcome is pronounced. It is very expensive, but then you will be treated like royalty.

2. The New York Palace

455 Madison Ave. (at 50th St.)

Tel: 800.697.2522

It feels like a palace or a grand European estate. You are in the heart of the city yet apart. It has the distinctive feel of European luxury in both in decor and service. The hotel restaurant, Le Cirque200, is one the best in the world (See: Top 10 Restaurants)

3. The Pierre

5th Ave. @ 61st St.

Tel: 800.332.3442

This is the choice of those who want refined luxury, quiet ambiance and to still be close to the action. Located across from Central Park, it is just off the bustle of mid-town. It is an ideal location for a quiet morning walk in the Park. Then it's an easy stroll up Fifth Avenue to the sights of the city.

4. St. Regis

2 E. 55th St. (at 5th Ave.)

Tel: 800.759.7550

Revisit the Gilded Age at the St. Regis. It is located right in the heart of mid-town, giving it terrific access to the city. It has spacious rooms, excellent service, the most beautiful restaurant on the world (Lespinasse) and the most glamorous bar in New York (The King Cole Bar).

5. The Plaza

5th Ave. @ Central Park South

Tel: 800.228.3000

Everyone should stay at the Plaza at least once in their lifetime. It is the quintessential romantic, New York City hotel.

6. Waldorf Astoria

301 Park Avenue @ 50th Street

212.355.3000

A "Power" hotel. Presidents, Kings and assorted Power Brokers have stayed at this impressive Park Avenue hotel. Got a big deal? Stay here. You'll intimidate your adversary.

7. Regent Wall Street

55 Wall Street @ Williams St.

Tel: 212.845.8600

This is one of the best conversions in the world of a landmark building into a functioning, contemporary edifice. It was originally the Merchants Exchange and then the U.S. Customs House (talk about a heritage). Now it is one of the most impressive hotels in New York with its use of great stone on the outside, vast spaces on the inside and elegant marble in the guest rooms.

8. Trump International Hotel and Tower

1 Central Park West

Tel: 212.299.1000; 800.457.4000

This is right on the edge of midtown and is perfectly situated for the West Side theatre and music events. Broadway and 8th Ave. pass by its doors. Everything is a la Trump, meaning first class, glitzy and the best. The views of Manhattan are spectacular and one of the best French restaurants in the world is in the hotel.

9. The Lowell

28 E. 63rd St. @ Madison Ave.

Tel: 800.221.4444

This is the choice of those who want quiet luxury. They load it on here. It has large guest suites, working fireplaces, private terraces, kitchenettes and in each suite a mini-library. Add attentive service and great location on a tree lined street off Madison Avenue and you have it all

10. The Carlyle

35 E. 76th St.

Tel: 800.227.5737

This where New Yorkers would stay if they had to stay in a hotel. It has style. Whether its the Cafe Carlyle, with its elegant evenings with Bobby Short, or the smart Bemelman's Bar with its sophisticated clientele, the hotel exudes style and elegance...and old New York money.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Mid-Priced Hotels

Call for rates, which vary from season to season, but these are generally the mid-priced hotels in New York's high-priced venue.

1. Quality Hotel and Suites Rockefeller Center

59 W. 46th St. @ 5th Ave.
Tel: 212.719.2300; 800.567.7720

2. Loews New York Hotel

569 Lexington Ave. @ 51st St.
Tel: 212.752.7000; 800.836.6471

3. Gramercy Park Hotel

2 Lexington Ave. @ 21st St.
Tel: 212.475.4320; 800.221.4083

4. Helmsley Middletowne Hotel

148 E. 48th St. @ 3rd Ave.
Tel: 212.755.3000; 800.843.2157

5. Hotel Metro

45 W. 35th St. @ 5th Ave.
Tel: 212.947.2500; 800.356.3870

6. The Wyndham

42 W. 58th St. @ 5th Ave.
Tel: 212.753.3500; 800.257.1111

7. The Ameritania

1701 Broadway @ 54th St.
Tel: 212.247.5000; 800.922.0330

8. Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel

851 8th Ave. @ 52nd St.
Tel: 212.581.4100; 800.654.2000

9. Hotel Beverly

125 E. 50th St. @ Lexington Ave.
Tel: 212.753.2700; 800.223.0945

10. Hotel Beacon

2130 Broadway @ 75th St.
Tel: 212.787.1100; 800.572.4969

The Top 10 Budget Hotels

These hotels are well-kept, clean, and in safe areas of the city.

1. Herald Square Hotel

19 W. 31st St. @ 5th Ave.
Tel: 212.279.4017; 800.727.1888

2. Washington Square Hotel

103 Waverly Pl. @ 5th Ave.
Tel: 212.777.9515; 800.222.0418

3. Pickwick Arms Hotel

230 E. 51st St. @ 2nd Ave.
Tel: 212.355.0300; 800.PICKWIK

4. The Larchmont

27 W. 11th St. @ 5th Ave.
Tel: 212.989.9333

5. Hotel Stanford

43 W. 32nd St. @ 5th Ave.
Tel: 212.563.1480; 800.365.1114

6. Hotel Wolcott

4 W. 31st St. @ 5th Ave.
Tel: 212.268.2900

7. Portland Square Hotel

132 W. 47th St. @ 6th Ave.
Tel 212.382.0600; 800.388.8988

8. Grand Union Hotel

34 E. 32nd St. @ Park Aves
Tel: 212.683.5890

9. Chelsea Inn

46 W. 17th St. @ 5th Ave.
Tel: 212.645.8989

10. Hotel Edison

228 W. 47th St. @ Broadway Ave.
Tel: 212.840.5000; 800.637.7070

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Hotels for Business Travelers

1. The Regency

540 Park Ave. @ 61st St.

Tel: 212.759.4100; 800.23.LOEWS

Home of the original “power breakfast,” the Regency offers in-room fax machines, a fitness center, and voice mail, all in a purely luxurious setting.

2. Doubletree Guest Suites

1568 Broadway @ 47th St.

Tel: 212.719.1600; 800.222.TREE

This all-suite hotel is in the heart of Times Square. Each suite comes fully-equipped. The Doubletree will entertain children with a variety of planned activities and interactive videos.

3. Sheraton New York Hotel and Towers

811 7th Ave. @ 53rd St.

Tel: 212.581.1000; 800 325.3535

Planning a convention? The Sheraton New York, with its new Executive Conference Center and nearly two thousand rooms, will be able to accommodate groups of any size. Some rooms have work areas with faxes, copiers, and printers.

4. Marriott World Trade Center Hotel

3 World Trade Center @ Liberty St.

Tel: 212.938.9100; 800.228.9290

This newly revitalized financial district standby has enormous rooms with two-line phones and 24-hour room service. A business center and health club on site cater to the needs of busy execs, and the hotel’s transportation service is an added convenience.

5. Rihga Royal Hotel

151 W. 54th St. @ 6th Ave.

Tel: 212.307.5000; 800.937.5454

This all-suite hotel offers three levels of luxury for its customers. These suites are truly homes away from home, with penthouse views and ample space for entertaining clients. A multi-lingual staff, private fitness center, and business center are just a few of the resources the Rihga Royal has to offer.

6. Marriott Financial Center Hotel

85 W. St. (between Albany and Carlisle Sts.)

Tel: 212.385.4900; 800.242.8685

With a business center, a health club, and rooms equipped with two-line phones, data port, and voice mail, the Marriott Financial Center caters to the needs of the business traveler.

7. Millenium Hilton

55 Church St. (between Fulton and Dey Sts.)

Tel: 212.693.2001; 800.835.2220

Enjoy luxurious service at the Millenium Hilton. The 24-hour business center, spacious rooms with fax and two-line phone, not to mention the health club, pool, and complimentary car service to Midtown have made it the Financial District’s best hotel.

8. Marriott East Side Hotel

525 Lexington Ave. (at 49th St.)

Tel: 212.755.4000; 800.223.0939

A brand new business center, spacious rooms, and distinguished, dark wood decor make the Marriott East Side a good place to retire at the end of the day. You’ll stay connected via fax, phone, and e-mail while relaxing and enjoying the atmosphere at this fine, full-service hotel.

9. The Dumont Plaza

150 E. 34th St. (at Lexington Ave.)

Tel: 212.481.7600; 800.ME.SUITE

This moderately priced, all-suite hotel is conveniently located and provides the do-it-yourself convenience of home. Rooms are equipped with ironing boards, microwaves, and stocked refrigerators (just leave your grocery list with the concierge).

10. Drake Swissotel

440 Park Ave. (at 56th St.)

Tel: 212.421.0900; 800.372.5369

The Drake lures business travelers with desks, fax machines, and rolling chairs in every room. Also offers a luxurious health club and a business center fully-equipped with Mac and PC workstations, as well as a conference center free for the use of guests (call ahead to reserve the conference center).



The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Uptown Hotels

1. Trump International Hotel and Tower

*1 Central Park West
Tel: 212.299.1000; 800.457.4000*

This is right on the edge of midtown and is perfectly situated for the West Side Theatre and music events. Broadway and 8th Ave. are by its doors. Everything is a la' Trump, meaning first class, glitzy and the best. The views of Manhattan are spectacular and one of the best French restaurants in the world is in the hotel.

2. The Lowell

*28 E. 63rd St.
Tel: 212.838.1400; 800.221.4444*

The Lowell offers theme suites for those who find that over-the-top luxury is simply not enough to satisfy them.

3. The Pierre

*5th Ave @ 61st St.
Tel: 212.838.8000; 800.332.3442*

For those who want constant reminders of exactly how much they're paying, the Pierre offers glitter and gilt enough to satisfy anyone.

4. The Regency

*540 Park Ave @ 61st St.
Tel: 212.759.4100; 800.235.6397*

The Regency is fancy with a swank clientele.

5. The Stanhope

*995 5th Ave @ 81st St.
Tel: 212.288.5800; 800.828.1123*

The Stanhope is a sophisticated option located near cultural centers like the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

6. The Mark

*215 E. 77th St.
Tel: 212.744.4300; 800.843.6275*

The Mark is a classy, if low-key, hotel in one of the best neighborhoods in New York.

7. Carlyle

*35 E. 76th St.
Tel: 212.744.1600; 800.227.5737*

This is one of the most respected hotels on the Upper East Side. It's conservative but elegant in a terrific Upper East Side

location, has a good bar, and the best cabaret in the city. It is where East Siders and Old time New Yorkers encourage the friends to stay.

8. Hotel Wales

*1295 Madison Ave. @ 92nd St.
Tel: 212.876.6000; 800.528.5252*

An oasis of good sense and good taste in a sea of conspicuous consumption, Hotel Wales is relatively well-priced. Be forewarned that "well-priced" for Madison Avenue is excessive most anywhere else.

9. Mayflower

*15 Central Park West
Tel: 212.265.0060; 800.223.4164*

The ship-theme at the Mayflower definitely makes it stand out. The thoughtful amenities make up for the unexciting rooms.

10. Radisson Empire

*Broadway @ 63rd St.
Tel: 212.265.7400; 800.333.333*

A good basic hotel, the Radisson is not terribly exciting, but it is a good deal.



The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Downtown Hotels

1. Regent Wall Street

*55 Wall Street @ Williams St.
Tel: 212.845.8600*

It is one of the best conversions in the world of a landmark building into a functioning, contemporary edifice. It was originally the Merchants Exchange and then the U.S. Customs House (talk about a heritage). Now it is one of the best hotels in New York and one of the most striking. There is lots of use of great stone on the outside, vast spaces on the inside and elegant marble in the guest rooms.

2. SoHo Grand

*310 W. Broadway @ Grand St.
Tel: 212.965.3000*

A “hot” hotel. You say that a lot about restaurants but rarely about hotels. But you say it about the SoHo Grand. It’s sleek and stylish with young Hollywood celebs swishing through the lobby.

3. Morgans

*237 Madison Ave., between E. 37th and E. 38th Sts.
Tel: 212.686.0300*

How confident is the Morgans? It’s a hotel without a sign outside. Now that’s confidence. Regulars come back again and again. They don’t need no sign!

4. Roger Williams Hotel

*131 Madison Avenue @ 31st Street
Tel: 212.448.7000*

A tight, very well managed hotel with lots of polished woods and hi-tech accessories. And, fresh fruit in the evenings.

5. The Inn @ Irving Place

*56 Irving Place, between 17th and 18th Sts.
Tel: 212.533.4600*

This is a small inn in a brownstone with much of the detail from its 1830’s architecture still in place. Step back in time into the days of long dresses and afternoon teas. The whole place is so genteel. They even remember your name.

6. TriBeCa Grand

*2 Ave. of the Americas, between Walker and White Sts.
Tel: 212.519.6600*

Good location, but not quite as stylish as its SoHo sister.

7. Mercer Hotel

*147 Mercer St. @ Prince St.
Tel: 212.966.6060*

A different hotel experience. Understated but confident, formal but receptive; there is no glitz here.

8. Doral Park Avenue

*70 Park Ave. @ 38th St.
Tel: 212.687.7050*

A Park Ave. South institution. A longtime favorite of those doing business on the lower half of Manhattan.

9. The Gershwin

*7 E. 27th St. @ 5th Avenue
Tel: 212.545.8000*

What is it about The Gershwin that makes it so popular? Is it the reasonable prices? Or, the energy of the young travelers pushing their through its doors? Or, the wisdom of the experienced travelers sitting in its lobby reminiscing? Or the Pop artwork on the walls. Or, its Funkiness? You decide.

10. Washington Square Hotel

*103 Waverly Place @ MacDougal St.
Tel: 212.777.9515*

You won’t feel like a tourist walking out of this hotel. This hotel has been around for ever serving those who want the “Village” experience. Famous writers, artists, collectors and sharp-eyed, European gallery owners have been coming through this hotel since the days of the beatniks. Ah, those were the days when being hip really meant something.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Midtown West High-End Hotels

1. Essex House, Hotel Nikko, NY

160 Central Park South @ 6th Ave.

Tel: 212.247.0300; 800.645.5687

Recently renovated, you will not find a classier hotel, or one with better services. Additionally, the hotel houses Les Celebrities, one of the finest restaurants in the City.

2. The Royalton

44 W. 44th St.

Tel: 212.869.4400; 800.635.9013

The decor is so modern, some may find it borders on bizarre. But, for pampering and celeb spotting, no hotel can top the Royalton.

3. The Ritz-Carleton

112 Central Park South @ 6th Ave.

Tel: 212.757.1900, 800.241.3333

For name recognition, the Ritz-Carleton is tops, as in “What do you think this is, the Ritz?” Here, at least, the reality lives up to the hype. The hotel is regularly updated to make sure they are giving you your money’s worth.

4. The Michelangelo

152 W. 51st St.

Tel: 212.765.1900; 800.237.0990

The original Michelangelo would have gotten an itchy chisel finger with all of the marble in the lobby of this Italian-style hotel. Also, they serve high-quality, high-calorie Italian treats for breakfast instead of the traditional Continental breakfast.

5. Rihga Royal

151 W. 54th St.

Tel: 212.307.5000; 800.937.5454

The Rihga Royal is not flashy, just well-appointed. The suites have great services for business people.

6. The Sherry-Netherland

781 5th Ave. @ 59th St.

Tel: 212.355.2800, 800.247.43.77

A classic hotel with modern amenities, the Sherry-Netherland is a standard.

7. Algonquin

59 W. 44th St.

Tel: 212.840.6800; 800.548.0345

Fans of early 20th Century literature will already recognize the name. The hotel also has a great cabaret venue.

8. Renaissance

714 7th Ave @ 47th St.

Tel: 212.765.7676; 800.628.5222

Located near Broadway, this luxury hotel has a great view of Times Square.

9. The Shoreham

33 W. 55th St.

Tel: 212.247.6700; 800.553.3347

Hyper-modern, this hotel looks a bit like the set from a sci-fi flick, but the accommodations are very comfortable.

10. Le Parker Meridian

118 W. 57th St.

Tel: 212.245.5000; 800.543.4300

The sheer magnitude of this hotel may leave some feeling a bit cold, but you will get a great view of Central Park.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Midtown West Moderate and Budget Hotels

1. The Mansfield

12 W. 44th St.

Tel: 212.944.6050; 800.255.5167

The Mansfield is a truly unique hotel that offers creative, well-considered services like 24-hour refreshments, a big-screen movie lounge, and free parking. (Yes, that does say free parking.)

2. Broadway Inn Bed and Breakfast

264 W. 46th St.

Tel: 212.997.9200; 800.826.6300

Given the price, you might be tricked into thinking the Broadway Inn Bed and Breakfast will be substandard. It is simple, but it is also clean and hospitable and the location can't be beat.

3. The Wyndham

42 W. 58th St.

Tel: 212.753.3500; 800.257.111

The rooms are a bit shabby, but the price, location, and impressive art collection make up for the bare spots at the Wyndham.

4. Casablanca

147 W. 43rd St.

Tel: 212.867.1212

Patterned after the movie, if you have ever had the urge to say "Here's looking at you, kid," in the appropriate environs, Casablanca is the place to do it.

5. Ameritania

1701 Broadway @ 54th St.

Tel: 212.247.5000; 800.922.0330

Some consider the dark decor the last word in hipness. But most people stay here in hopes of being the target of a David Letterman gag.

6. The Gorham

136 W. 55th St.

Tel: 212.245.1800; 800.735.0710

The Gorham has comfortable, well-equipped rooms with kitchens.

7. Paramount

235 W. 46th St.

Tel: 212.764.5500; 800.225.7474

The Paramount features a hip attitude and teeny-tiny rooms.

8. Harold Square Hotel

14 W. 31st St.

Tel: 212.279.4017; 800.727.8888

The Harold Square Hotel has a historic atmosphere and creative, low-budget decoration. The best part is the price.

9. Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel

851 8th Ave. @ 52nd St.

Tel: 212.581.4100; 800.654.2000

The Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel is a reasonably good hotel in a fun area.

10. Wentworth

59 W. 46th St.

Tel: 212.719.2300; 800.848.0200

This is a great hotel if you are on a tight budget.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Midtown East High-End Hotels

1. Four Seasons

*57 E. 57th St.
Tel: 212.758.5700*

This is one of the great hotels of the world with I.M. Pei's sharp clean lines in the lobby but opulent art deco rooms above. The service is crisp, the attention to detail is extraordinary, and the feeling of welcome is pronounced. It is very expensive, but then you will be treated like royalty.

2. New York Palace

*455 Madison Ave.
Tel: 212.888.7000*

Home to not one, but two fine restaurants, New York Palace is an all around deluxe experience. To work off all the calories you consume at Cirque 2000 and Istana, check out the health club, which provides TVs and personal earphones on all machines. You can also gaze out on St. Patrick's Cathedral.

3. St. Regis

*2 E. 55th St.
Tel: 212.753.4500*

At the St. Regis, the rooms are as beautiful as the lobbies with chandeliers and marble bathrooms. If you can bring yourself to leave the room, consider eating in the hotel's restaurant, Lespinasse, one of the finest in the city.

4. Waldorf Astoria

*301 Park Ave. @ 50th St.
Tel: 212.355.3000*

The Waldorf Astoria is synonymous with the words "luxury accommodations." The decor is classic and traditional.

5. Hotel Elysse

*60 E. 54th St.
Tel: 212.753.1066*

The Hotel Elysse has an onsite masseuse and complimentary tea, coffee, and snacks in the Club Room. Some rooms have terraces, but you must make reservations early to get one.

6. Regal UN Plaza

*1 United Nations Plaza
Tel: 212.758.1234*

Great for fitness buffs who like a view with their workouts, the Regal UN Plaza has a 27th floor swimming pool and rooftop tennis. Additionally, it is great for business travelers due to its proximity to the UN and 24-hour business center.

7. Drake

*440 Park Ave.
Tel: 212.421.0900*

Another New York classic, the Swissotel-owned Drake features Swiss touches that make staying here a unique experience.

8. Beekman Tower

*3 Mitchell Pl.
Tel: 212.355.7300*

Located near the UN, Beekman Tower has a refreshing rooftop bar and all suites are equipped with kitchens.

9. Plaza Fifty

*155 E. 50th St.
Tel: 212.872.7272*

With its traditional yet comfortable feel, the Plaza Fifty is great for business travelers.

10. The Regency

*540 Park Ave. @ 61st St.
Tel: 212.759.4100*

The Regency has a comfy library and a gorgeous lounge. The fixtures in the rooms are baroque and sparkly.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Midtown East Moderate and Budget Hotels

1. The Tudor

304 E. 42nd St. @ 1st Ave.
Tel: 800.879.8836

The Tudor has all the amenities of a luxury hotel and is often a bargain compared to other New York hotels.

2. Barbizon

140 E. 63rd St.
Tel: 212.888.4271

Another “you can barely tell it from a luxury” hotel, Barbizon has renovated and is now a great place to stay. The three-floor spa is a special attraction.

3. Roger Smith

501 Lexington @ 47th St.
Tel: 212.755.1400

You will not find a more unique setting in all of New York. Roger Smith is a popular art dealer in New York and his flair shows in the interior decoration of his hotel.

4. San Carlos

150 E. 50th St.
Tel: 212.755.1800

Although not fancy, San Carlos is clean and safe. Besides, if you stay here, you can spend all the money you’re saving on fabulous meals.

5. Doral Inn

541 Lexington Ave. @ 49th St.
Tel: 212.755.1200

The great location has its good and bad points. You are close to a lot of what you want to see, but everybody wants to be there so the public spaces can be crowded.

6. Lexington

511 Lexington Ave. @ 48th St.
Tel: 212.755.4400

Like a little piece of Texas in the heart of the city, the dance club, Denim and Diamonds, is a big draw at this midtown hotel.

7. Vanderbilt YMCA

224 E. 47th St.
Tel: 212.756.9600

Set up like a dorm, the Vanderbilt will remind you of your freshman year in college, only it’s probably much, much cleaner. Unlike the dorms, you have a full-scale health club on sight.

8. Pickwick Arms Hotel

230 E. 51st St.
Tel: 212.355.0500

The rooms are diminutive and the hotel offers few services, but it is still a good bargain in an area where lodging prices border on the ridiculous.

9. Helmesley Middletowne

148 E. 48th St. @ Lexington Ave.
Tel: 212.755.3000

Despite Leona’s intimidating reputation, Helmesley Hotels are always a good bet for a good hotel.

10. Beverly Hotel

125 E. 50th St.
Tel: 212.753.2700

The Beverly offers a pretty atmosphere at non-astronomical prices.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Restaurants in New York

These are the very best restaurants in New York and among the best in the world. They are very expensive but worth it. They provide a glorious dining experience. The hosts are gracious and they will make sure your visit is a memorable one. Obviously, call well in advance for reservations.

1. Le Cirque 2000

*New York Palace Hotel
455 Madison Ave. @ 50th St.
Tel: 212.794.9292*

An outstanding dining experience of exquisitely prepared food, dramatic ambiance and pampering service. Serves French cuisine with extraordinarily delicious desserts. Popular with power players, but the food is the star.

2. Lespinasse

*St. Regis Hotel
2 E. 55th St.
Tel: 212.339.6719*

Elegant, refined, stunning to look at, and mesmerizing in its subtleties. You will be transported to a total environment of warm colors, overflowing flowers and delicious French food. A superb experience. If only every day could be like a Lespinasse day.

3. Daniel

*60 east 65th St.
Tel: 212.288.0499*

Everything a restaurant should be. A total dedication to outstanding food, service and hospitality. Ever in tune with the seasons, Daniel prepares excellent French food that is presented at the table with grace and care. The staff is very friendly and welcoming. A delightful dining experience.

4. Jean Georges

*Trump International Hotel
1 Central Park West
Tel: 212.299.3900*

Formal French food from a Master's hands define this haute cuisine artistically presented. Here the Master creates, the staff responds, and you enjoy superb, leading-edge French cuisine.

5. Bouley Bakery

*120 West Broadway @ Duane
Tel: 212-964-2525*

This is a change of pace from the formal elegance of most of the pricey restaurants in this category. Originally, Bouley Bakery was an extraordinary bakery with a small cafe with exquisite French food. But the dining demand was so great that David Bouley had to expand. So he just changed the proportions. Now it's a full restaurant with exquisite French food and a small extraordinary bakery. The food is inspired, the service outstanding and the experience delightful.

6. Four Seasons

*99 E. 52nd St., The Seagram Building/Park Avenue
Tel: 212.754.9494*

The Pool Room is like no other dining room in the world. A large reflector pool sits in the middle of a room with ceilings so high they don't seem to exist. The food is excellent as is the service.

7. La Grenouille

*3 E. 52nd St.
Tel: 212.752.1495*

The First Lady of New York French restaurants. Just off Fifth Avenue, this is where Jackie O. loved to dine. Intimate and quiet with wonderfully delicious food and attentive service.

8. Alain Ducasse

*Essex House, 155 W. 58th St.
Tel: 212.265.7300*

If you are serious about French Food this is the place for you. Alain Ducasse is considered one of the top French chefs in the world with the stars and medals to prove it. The food is precisely prepared and elegantly served. The staff is attentive, respectful and wanting you to have a perfect dining experience. This is one of the most expensive restaurants in New York but they will cater to you like you were royalty of old. But it cries out for that old Broadway line "kick up your heels and live a little."



The Top 10 Guide to New York

9. Le Bernardin

*155 W. 51st St. @ 6th Ave.
Tel : 212.489.1515*

Unbelievably delicious seafood with a French touch. A spacious, open room. Innovative, smart and imaginative cooking by a master who loves the bounty of the sea. Come, let yourself go, enjoy superb seafood and stunning deserts.

10. Chanterelle

*2 Harrison St. @ Hudson
212.966.6960*

A careful, thoughtfully prepared work of art: the decor, the ambiance and especially the food. Everything is planned for you to have an exceptional dining experience. The food is superb, the service excellent and the ambience is elegant.



The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Italian Restaurants

1. Babbo

*110 Waverly Pl.
Tel: 212.777.0303*

Babbo spoils its customers with innovative food, luscious wines and friendly ambiance. Downstairs in the carriage house is crowded and electric, upstairs is open and calm. The staff is diligent, the owners attentive and the meals are inspired. With an attractive location in the center of the Village, what more could anyone want for a night out Italian.

2. San Domenico

*240 Central Park South @ Broadway
Tel: 212.265.5959*

San Domenico's is grand Italian cooking seldom found anywhere anymore, not even in Italy. The food is classically prepared, the presentation is extravagant and the taste is extraordinarily delicious. This is expensive but you dine in an elegant room with spacious table settings and the host and staff are very attentive.

3. Felidia

*243 E. 58th St.
Tel: 212.758.1479*

You've seen her on TV, now you can taste the glories of her Northern Italian cuisine. Yes, Lidia Bastianich of Lidia's Italian Table is alive and well on Manhattan's East Side. You'll find her here most evenings greeting customers and making sure everything is "just right." So, if you want to taste the wonders of her cooking you have seen for so many years on TV, this is the place for you.

4. Luca

*1712 First Ave.
Tel: 212.987.9260*

Let's have some fun. Let's go to a place that's crowded, noisy, colorful and full of excited chattering people enjoying top contemporary Italian food. It's Luca's of course. Inventive dishes, attentive chef and relaxed locals make this one of the hot spots on the Upper East Side.

5. Da Silvano

*260 Sixth Ave.
Tel: 212.228.6144*

Popular among celebrities, this upscale Tuscan restaurant cooks for an interesting crowd of people in calculated dress-down attire. Fabulous food and lively sidewalk seating in the Village guarantees you will have a very New York experience.

6. Le Zie

*172 Seventh Ave at 21st St.
Tel: 212.206.8686.*

Ah, the sophisticated tastes of Venice, where Eastern spices first entered Europe. Romantic Venice, of lovers' swoons in floating gondolas. Le Zie brings all that romance and sophisticated tastes to an extraordinary evening of delicious Venetian food. Not to be missed.

7. Viceversa

*325 W. 51st St.
Tel: 212.399.9265*

This Northern Italian restaurant near Broadway is a handsome setting of modern Italian design; the food is meticulously prepared, elegantly presented and simply delicious. A great performance. Bravo. Encore.

8. Palio

*151 W. 51st St.
Tel: 212.245.4850*

A stunningly attractive Italian restaurant whose stylish clientele return again and again for the near-perfect Italian food, service, and ambiance.

9. Da Umberto

*107 W. 17th @ 6th Ave.
Tel: 212.989.0303*

An exhilarating, full-experience restaurant with outstanding food, attractive decor, friendly staff, and terrific desserts. A favorite among Manhattanites.

10. Chianti

*1043 2nd Ave. @ 55th St.
Tel: 212.980.8686*

They make you feel at home, they take pride in their professional service, they explain the subtleties of the menu, and then they present you with a delightful, flavorful meal that exceeds your expectations. What could be better?

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 French Restaurants

While the Top 10 Restaurants in New York are primarily French cuisine, they are not the only French restaurants in town. Here are the other best in the City.

1. Balthazar

*80 Spring Street @ Crosby St.
Tel: 212.965.1414*

A French brasserie with outstanding food, beautiful people, desserts to die for, excitement in the air, glistening woodwork, busy waiters dashing about, laughter and chatter filling the room; what more could anyone want from a restaurant?

2. The Brasserie

*100 E. 53rd St.
Tel: 212.751.4840*

Stylish and dramatic, this revitalized brasserie breaks the mold and sets the standards for brasseries around the world. A sweeping staircase leads to an open dining room and terrific contemporary French food. Once seated you can watch other beautiful people make their entrance down the grand staircase.

3. La Cote Basque

*60 E. 55th Street
Tel: 212.688.6525*

Consistently fine French cooking, professional and respectful service, and expansive desserts have been bringing back loyal fans again and again for years. Classic New York.

4. Destinee

*134 E. 61st St.
Tel: 212.888.1220*

Le Grand Cuisine trumps nouveau Cuisine in the hands of star chef Jean-Yves Schillinger. It's a return to the cooking classics that made French meals so famous.

5. Raouls

*180 Prince St.
Tel: 212.966.3518*

SoHo's neighborhood bistro of outstanding French food. Serves until 2:30a.m., filling the tables with sophisticated New Yorkers who can't go to bed without a delicious French meal.

6. L'Absinthe

*227 E. 67th St.
Tel: 212.794.4950*

A chic, sidewalk, Parisian-style bistro with an impeccable wine list and excellent, contemporary, French fare.

7. Provence

*38 McDougal St., SoHo
Tel: 212.475.500*

This quiet, relaxed restaurant boasts a civilized garden setting, a great wine list, and incredible food.

8. Le Regence

*Hotel Plaza Athenee, 37 E. 64th St.
Tel: 212.606.4647*

This restaurant combines exceptional food with attentive service and an opulent, yet subdued, ambiance.

9. Cafe des Artists

*1 W. 67th St.
Tel: 212.877.3500*

For a transporting dining experience, look no further. Cafe des Artists is one of the most romantic restaurant in New York. Reserve your table well in advance.

10. Park Bistro

*414 Park Avenue South @ 28th St.
Tel: 212.689.1360*

This crowded, charming little bistro is like a bit of Paris in Manhattan.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Seafood Restaurants

1. Le Bernardin

155 W. 51st St.

Tel: 212.489.1515

Unbelievably delicious seafood with a French touch. Spacious, open room. Innovative, smart, imaginative cooking by a master who loves the bounty of the sea. Come, let yourself go, enjoy superb seafood and stunning deserts.

2. Aquagrill

210 Spring St. @ 6th Ave.

Tel: 212.274.0505

A standout raw bar, affordable prix fixe lunch specials and, of course, ambrosial grilled fish have New Yorkers lining up. Join them for a memorable dining experience.

3. Oceana

55 E. 54th St. @ Park Ave.

Tel: 212.759.5941

Elegant, yet unassuming, Oceana is a favorite with New Yorkers who love its fresh, impeccably-prepared seafood.

4. Cello

53 E. 77th St.

Tel: 212.517.1200

Seafood with the French touch. Service with French precision. Dining with French elegance. This is a dress up, come to dine restaurant specializing in seafood prepared with French flavors and ingredients. A wonderful dining experience.

5. Esca

402 W. 43rd St.

Tel: 212.564.7272

What great things Italians can do with seafood. At Esca's you'll enjoy great Italian sauces and beautiful fresh fish. Experience the gusto that Italians bring to a meal, but now built around a wide variety of delectable fish. He wants Italian, she wants seafood. They'll both love Esca's. Everybody else does.

6. Pearl Oyster Bar

18 Cornelia St.

Tel: 212.691.8211

New England seafood in Manhattan. Do they pack them in here for the oysters, or the chowder or the lobsters? Or is it just transplanted New Englanders trying to get a touch of home. But pack them in they do. So if it's traditional New England seafood you want this is the place for you. You can't get a better lobster roll outside of Maine.

7. Docks Oyster Bar and Seafood Grill

2427 Broadway

Tel: 212.724.5588

A lively, friendly fish house that has been serving delightful seafood dishes to demanding New Yorkers for years. If you want delicious seafood in a lively New York atmosphere where the experience is as much fun as the food, this is the place for you.

8. Oyster Bar and Restaurant

Grand Central Terminal, 42nd St. (On lower level)

Tel: 212.490.6650

You won't be sure if you're there for the ambience or the food. Situated in the cavernous, tiled halls below Grand Central Station, The Oyster Bar is perfect for lunch.

9. Manhattan Ocean Club

57 W. 58th St. @ 5th Ave.

Tel: 212.371.7777

This refined restaurant boasts fabulous food in a luxurious and subdued setting. A well-chosen wine list rounds out the Ocean Club's offerings.

10. The Captain's Table

860 Second Ave. @ 46th St.

Tel: 212.697.9538

A basic, friendly, traditional fish house. A favorite of New Yorkers who want their fish fresh and delicious in a nautical setting.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Steakhouses

1. Peter Luger

*178 Broadway @ Driggs Ave., Brooklyn
Tel: 718.387.7400*

New York's number one steakhouse. Located in Brooklyn, it is one of the only reasons many Manhattanites cross over the Brooklyn Bridge. This is a trip back to old New York (1890s) when steaks were the mainstay of the hard-driving New Yorkers' diets. The ambience is turn-of-the-century with waiters and tables that seem to have been around since that time. The steaks are delicious, the servings are large and the side dishes are excellent. Don't ask for a menu, they're well past that. Credit cards not accepted, cash only.

2. Smith and Wollensky

*201 E. 49th St.
Tel: 212.753.0444*

One of Midtown's best steakhouses. A restaurant that has ignored the trends and fads. They just serve generous, delicious steaks in an intimate steakhouse setting. They have a loyal following that keeps coming back year after year. After you have been there you'll understand why.

3. Spark's Steakhouses

*210 E. 46th St.
Tel: 212.687.4855*

Perfect for a business dinner, Sparks boasts an impressive wine list as well as lobster and aged steaks.

4. Michael Jordan's: The Steak House

*Grand Central Terminal
23 Vanderbilt Ave.
Tel: 212.655.2300*

Michael has put together a quiet, classy restaurant with steaks and traditional American food. The food is excellent, the service is responsive, and the atmosphere subdued. Basketball is non-existent inside the dining room. This is Michael Jordan, the man of taste.

5. Bull & Bear

*Waldorf-Astoria Hotel
301 Park Ave. @ 49th St.
Tel: 212.872.4900*

A men's club feeling with regulars who order "the usual." The location is just right for the Park Avenue executives who still want two Martinis before they dig into a large juicy steak. The steaks are tasty and the ambience is all business.

6. Post House

*The Lowell Hotel, 23 E. 63rd St. @ Park Ave.
Tel: 212.935.2888*

This elegant steakhouse is an appealing place for a romantic dinner. Its varied menu includes seafood and the wine list is a winner.

7. Palm

*837 2nd Ave. @ 44th St.
Tel: 212.687.2953*

The servings are big, the waiters play surly, and a good time is had by all.

8. Gallagher's Steakhouse

*228 W. 52nd St. @ Broadway Ave.
Tel: 212.245.5336*

This theater district restaurant is a New York classic with a sophisticated clientele and a cigar-puffing bar scene.

9. Keen's Steakhouse

*72 W. 36th St. @ 5th Ave.
Tel: 212.947.3636*

Tradition abounds in this 110-year old steakhouse. Great steaks and great scotch will please the old boys club.

10. Angelo and Maxie's Steakhouse

*233 Park Avenue South @ 19th Ave.
Tel: 212.220.920*

This trendy new steakhouse attracts a young crowd. The cigar-friendly bar is packed on weekday afternoons.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Asian Restaurants

1. Republic

*37 Union Sq. W @ 16th St.)
Tel: 212.627.7172*

What a place. It's a big hall loaded with tables and people and waiters and the food keeps coming, the people keep coming, everybody's busy talking, everybody's busy eating, waiters are rushing about, the food keeps tasting better and better and the place is cheap. Hey, what could be better? No pretensions here. Just terrific food, people-watching, service, ambiance and price. Ah, if only the rest of the world could be that way.

2. Rain

*100 W. 82nd St.
Tel: 212.501.0776*

This is not your mother's Asian restaurant. Sleek and polished, this pan-Asian restaurant caters to the trendy crowds of the East Side and West Side. It's a comfortable atmosphere to enjoy traditional Southeast Asian food.

3. Cendrillon

*43 Mercer St. @ Grand St., SoHo
Tel: 212.343.9012*

This is an upscale Filipino/Asian restaurant. Because the Philippines is located between many cultures and has been influenced by many cultures the food is a wonderful culmination of those influences. One can taste the influences of Malaysia, China, India, Spain, Thailand and the Philippines itself. If you want Asian but in an attractive, traditional restaurant, then the Cendrillon is your choice.

4. Ruby Foo's

*1626 Broadway @ 49th St.
Tel: 212.489.5600*

Busy, crowded, exciting and good. It's a Chinese/Japanese pan-Asian restaurant with a lot of other Asian side dishes thrown in. The service is excellent and the food the same. It's an experience.

5. Le Colonial

*149 E. 57th St.
Tel: 212.752.0808*

Le Colonial takes your back to the Saigon of French Indochina. It has ceiling fans and rattan and Vietnamese and French waiters. The food is French-Vietnamese with a touch of American.

6. Indochine

*430 Lafayette St. @ 4th St.
Tel: 212.505.5111*

Introduced the new wave of Southeast Asian cooking to New York. This is elegant dining in a handsome setting with beautiful people all about. (It used to be a hang-out for super models.) The gourmet Vietnamese food with a French influence is delightful and makes for a delicious evening of dining.

7. Mekong

*44 Prince Street @ Mott
Tel: 212-343-8169*

Lively, noisy and filled with people enjoying themselves, this Vietnamese restaurant is a SoHo favorite. The food is terrific, the waiters are friendly and the ambiance is very relaxed.

8. Saigon Grill

*2381 Broadway
Tel: 212.8759072*

On the otherwise pricey Upper West Side, Saigon Grill serves up low-cost, delicious Vietnamese treats in fast-food style. Large portions compensate for the less-than-perfect staff and occasional long waits.

9. La Soiree D'Asie

*165 E. 64th St.
Tel: 212.421.7899*

A marvelous staircase marks the entrance to this elegantly designed French-Vietnamese restaurant in a lovely Upper East Side location. The clientele is mainly local and the atmosphere perfect for a calm soiree. Alas, the atmosphere may be better than the food itself.

10. Kin Khao

*171 Spring Street @ Thompson St.
Tel: 212.966.3939*

This trendy SoHo Thai joint oozes coolness and celebrities. The fabulous selection of regional Thai specialties alters every month. The place may get so packed it's too close for comfort, but the delicious food is well worth it.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Japanese Restaurants

There are a large number of Japanese living in the New York area and they are very demanding when it comes to their food. So, New York has a large number of excellent Japanese cuisine restaurants.

1. Nobu

*105 Hudson St. @ Franklin St
Tel: 212.219.0500*

The best Japanese restaurant in America. Nobu is surprisingly unpretentious and relaxed. Its chef, a former star of a Japanese cooking show, gives his dishes a Peruvian touch. All meals are artfully prepared and exquisitely presented. Nobu boasts celebrity clientele, pleasant interior, and impeccable service. You'll need reservations days (maybe weeks) ahead.

2. Sugiyama

*2511 West 55th Street @ Broadway
Tel: 212-956-0670*

A rising star in the sky of Japanese restaurants in the City, Sugiyama owes its rapid success to a superb chef who cooks up immaculate contemporary dishes. Most items on the menu are little known so let your imagination run wild. The food, the service, the interior, and the prices are all the same: divine.

3. Nobu Next Door

*105 Hudson Stree @ Franklin St.
Tel: 212-2190500*

Yes, the same high quality as its famous brother next door but with significant differences: 1. No reservations, 2. Less formal 3. More eclectic crowd. But with one similarity: high demand to get in and experience the best Japanese food in Manhattan.

4. Sushi Samba

*245 Park Ave. South @ 19th Street
Tel: 212-475-9377*

Talk about fusion! The cool precision of Japan meets the hot spice of South America. Wow! Who would have thought it. And it works. Hot, sexy and packed, this is the place for that very different experience. Sushi will never be the same.

5. Sono

*106 East 57th Street
212-752-4411*

After several years at the French *La Caravelle*, Tadashi Ono embraces his Japanese heritage. The result is Sono, a "garden enhanced by a man," which blends Japanese and French cuisine in a unique, exquisite style. The clientele is mostly local and the interior is soothing. The polite staff tops the atmosphere fit for a fine, relaxing meal.

6. Tomoe Sushi

*172 Thompson St. (between Bleecker and Houston Sts.)
Tel: 212.777.9346*

The Village's best sushi joint attracts a diverse crowd of locals, students, and tourists. The lines may be too long, but the food is too good to give up.

7. Sushizen

*57 W. 46th St. (between 5th and 6th Aves.), Midtown West
Tel: 212.302.0707*

The lofty prices are worth it, say veterans of this sushi staple. Check out the "interesting" hand rolls, a Sushizen signature. The outdoor garden mirrors the menu, changing seasonally.

8. Yama

*122 E. 17 St. (Irving place)
Tel: 212.475.0969*

The bargain here is the enormous portions of sushi piled onto your plate. (It's crowded for a reason, a good reason.)

9. Kuruma Zushi

*7 E. 47th St.
Tel: 212.317.2802*

This restaurant may be more Japanese than some in Japan. The chef presents sushi treats that are incredibly delicious and jokes with customers at the bar. The prices are steep, but the reward is priceless.

10. Benihana

*47 W. 56th St. (between 5th and 6th Aves.)
Tel: 212.581.0930*

Benihana is still a terrific, fresh, Japanese steakhouse experience.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Mexican Restaurants

It's been commonly said that you can get better Mexican food in New York than you can in Mexico. Check out our favorites.

1. Maya

1191 First Ave.

Tel: 212.585.1818

Mexican haute cuisine. A contradiction in terms or a new breakthrough in cooking? Maya's delightful dishes answer that question in the affirmative. Maya's chefs add polish and finesse to the rich flavors and textures of Mexico's cultural ingredients. The result is a delicious adventure of the palate. It's expensive, but it may be the best Mexican food in the world.

2. Rosa Mexicano

1063 1st Ave. (@ 57th St., Midtown East

Tel: 212.753.7407

Considered by many to be the best Mexican food on the Eastern seaboard, Rosa's makes guacamole to your specifications.

3. Zarela

953 2nd Ave. (@ 50th St., Midtown East

Tel: 212.262.8080

Step into Mexico in Midtown Manhattan. This lively, colorful, friendly restaurant brings regulars back again and again. It has a wide range of Mexican dishes. The whole experience is festive and fun. There's something about Mexican food that says that's the way it should be.

4. Mi Cocina

57 Jane St. @ Hudson St., West Village

Tel: 212.627.8273

This restaurant elevates Mexican food to "Mexican cuisine" with elaborate dishes based on old favorites. You'll never be able to think about Mexican food the same way again. Mi Cocina has a strong following among those who love Mexican food but want a more gourmet presentation. Mi Cocina is their place. Try it and it will be yours.

5. Mexico Lindo

459 Second Ave.

Tel: 212.679.3665

Beautiful, colorful or pretty, take your pick, but your first impression will be how pleasant to the eyes is this attractive restaurant. A mixture of Mexican and Spanish cuisine creates an exuberant taste experience. In its second generation of family management it has a strong following.

6. Mexicana Mama

525 Hudson St.

Tel: 212.924.4119

How many angels can dance on the head of a pin? Try Mexicana Mama and you'll have some idea. It seems like everybody in SoHo wants to get into this tiny Mexican restaurant. The food is terrific, the service is fast and the location in SoHo makes it ideal for a night out in the heart of the action.

7. Maz Mezcal

316 E. 86th St.

Tel: 212.472.1599

A touch of Mexico on the Upper East Side. Newly renovated and always packed, Maz Mezcal will give you the Mexican fix you need when no other cuisine will do. A local favorite.

8. Gabriela's

311 Amsterdam Ave.

Tel: 212.875.8532

Mexico City in New York City, Gabriela's will charm you with its ambiance and seduce you with its food.

9. Zocalo

174 E. 82nd St. @ 3rd Ave.

Tel: 212.717.7772

A conspicuously upscale restaurant, Zocalo aims high with tastey dishes and attractive decor.

10. Cafe Espanol

172 Bleecker St. @ MacDougal St., Washington Square

Tel: 212.505.0657

Check out the Sangria and cool off in the dimmed dining room for the standanrd high quality, low cost dining.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Vegetarian Restaurants

Most restaurants have vegetarian items on their menus, but for a great selection, guaranteed, visit one of these restaurants, known for their creative and varied vegetarian fare.

1. Hangawi

*12 E. 32nd St.
Tel: 212.213.0077*

Take off your shoes, sit at low tables and get ready for one of the best vegetarian dining experiences in Manhattan. Exquisite Korean food and a serene atmosphere make Hangawi an excellent choice for a special occasion.

2. Chola

*232 E. 58th St.
Tel: 212.688.4619*

Imaginative and flavorful Southern Indian food that will have you raving at how great vegan food can be.

3. Pongal

*110 Lexington Ave. @ 27th St.
Tel: 212.696.9458*

This purely vegetarian mecca of a restaurant boasts the best South Indian cuisine in the City. The food is all kosher and the decor testifies to the restaurant's Jewish influences. The service may be a tad slow, but you'll leave home satisfied.

4. Josie's

*300 Amsterdam Ave.
Tel: 212.769.1212*

Specializing in organic, dairy-free delights, Josie's is a perfect place for the ultimate health food fanatic.

5. Mavalli Palace

*46 E. 29th St.
Tel: 212.679.5535*

Flavorful Southern Indian food at low prices is the specialty at Mavalli Palace, one of the best Indian restaurants in Murray Hill.

6. Vatan

*409 3rd Ave. @ 29th St.
Tel: 212.689.5666*

Terrific ambiance that transports you to an inspired world of delicious vegetarian food.

7. Angelica Kitchen

*300 E. 12th St.
Tel: 212.228.2909*

This vegetarian haven specializes in organic, imaginative cuisine. Its laid-back atmosphere and reasonable prices make it a great escape from the city.

8. Vegetarian Paradise

*144 W. Fourth St. @ 6th Avenue
33 Mott Street @ Pell St.*

Chinese-vegetarian tofu paradise.
What could be better?

9. The Sanctuary

*25 First Ave.
Tel: 212.780.9786*

The meditative atmosphere of this vegan restaurant provides a true sanctuary from the rush and meat-crazed New York.

10. Zen Palate

*663 Ninth Avenue @ 46th St..
Tel: 212.582.1669*

Buddhist monks vegetarian food in the heart of New York. Ignore the Ninth Avenue traffic and be transported to a world of peace, calm and veggie delights

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Indian Restaurants

1. Tabla

*11 Madison Ave. @ 25th St.
Tel: 212.889.0667*

Elegant and spacious with superior mastery of Indian spices there is no better place to experience classic Indian food. The staff and management are committed to providing a top flight dining experience and they achieve it. But then you pay for it; it's expensive, but the total experience is worth it.

2. Dawat

*210 E. 58th St.
Tel: 212.486.5700*

This is a traditional favorite of East Side diners who love the welcoming nature of the host and staff and the masterful creations of exquisite Indian food from the Master Chef.

3. Tamarind

*43 E. 22nd St.
Tel: 212.674.7400*

Outstanding flavorful Indian cooking in a stylish, contemporary design restaurant with a management committed to excellence in food, service and ambiance. A delightful dining experience.

4. Pongal

*110 Lexington Ave. @ 27th St.
Tel: 212.696.9458*

This purely vegetarian mecca of a restaurant boasts the best South Indian cuisine in the City. The food is all kosher and the decor testifies to the restaurant's Jewish influences. The service may be a tad slow, but you'll leave home satisfied.

5. Salaam Bombay

*317 Greenwich St @ Duane St.
212.226.9400*

Spicy and creative North Indian dishes are some of the best in New York. It's like being in Bombay. Occasional sitar music fills the serene atmosphere.

6. Bukhara Grill

*217 E. 49th St. @ Second Ave.
Tel: 212.888.2839; 212.888.2849*

Exquisite North Indian dishes in an exotic wooden interior with a waterfall. Attentive staff completes a wonderful dining experience.

7. Tiffin

*18 Murray St. @ Broadway
Tel: 212.791.3510*

Don't expect the typical Indian fare—Tiffin prides itself in non-traditional specialties. The excellent service, the delightful food, and the swing where you may rest after dinner create a homey ambiance.

8. Nirvana

*30 Central Park S.
Tel: 212.486.5700*

Set in a penthouse overlooking Central Park this restaurant presents an Indian experience that is totally encompassing with carefully prepared food flavored with delightful Indian spices served in a room with lush Indian decor set high over the world's most famous park.

9. India Grill

*240 E. 81st St. @ 2nd Ave.
Tel: 212.988.4646*

Dark colors, traditional sitar music and waitresses in sarongs is not the only way to enjoy Indian food. This is a contemporary Indian restaurant with bright colors, neon and young Indian clientele. This is India today.

10. Jewel of India

*15 W. 44th St.
Tel: 212.869.5544*

Specializing in spicy fare, this restaurant offers excellent pre-theater meals.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Chinese Restaurants

There are times when there is nothing better than a Chinese meal. New York has some of the best Chinese restaurants outside of Beijing.

1. Tse Yang

34 E. 51st St.

Tel: 212.688.5447

This is a New York style luxury restaurant with a commitment to Grand Cuisine Chinese food. The food is excellent, the service polished and the ambiance sophisticated.

2. Shun Lee Palace

155 E. 55th St. @ Lexington Ave.

Tel: 212.371.8844

Here you will be stepping into a dramatic, totally involving world of Chinese opulence that will capture your imagination and transport you into the world of Chinese dynasties. The food is extravagant, the presentation flamboyant and the taste is extraordinary.

3. Mr. Chow

324 E. 57th St.

Tel: 212.751.9030

The haute Chinese cuisine of Mr. Chow is imaginatively prepared and beautifully served for an exquisite dining experience. This is a favorite of the Power Brokers of New York.

4. Canton

45 Division St. @ Bowery St.

Tel: 212.226.4441

Chinatown's best Cantonese restaurant with outstanding food and a low-keyed atmosphere. The best stoop when doing Chinatown.

5. Shun Lee Cafe

43 W. 65th St.

Tel: 212.769.3888

This restaurant serves the Lincoln Center crowd with fine Chinese food. It is less expensive than its upscale big brother. This is where sleek ballet dancers and buffo opera singers from Lincoln Center dine side-by-side at the Cafe's luncheon specials.

6. Chin Chin

216 E. 49th St. @ 2nd Ave.

Tel: 212.888.4555

This elegant gourmet Chinese restaurant is a great place for a business lunch or a leisurely dinner. The service is superlative and the food imaginative.

7. Chiam

160 E. 48th St.

Tel: 212.371.2323

The hip and beautiful hang out in Chiam, a trendy, midtown spot with outstanding dishes and an extensive wine menu.

8. Grand Sichuan

125 Canal St. @ Bowery

Tel: 212.625.9212

745 9th Ave. @ 50th St.

Tel: 212.582.2288

The best Szechwan food you'll find in America. Not glamorous but the food is delicious.

9. Joe's Shanghai

9 Pell St. @ Bowery St.

Tel: 212.233.8888

This restaurant is a favorite with New York's Asian community. Go early or prepare for a long wait.

10. Shanghi Cuisine

89 Bayard St.

Tel: 212.732.8988

Startling 1930's movie posters decorate this Chinatown oasis of great regional dishes from Shanghai. The food tastes better than in most of Chinatown, but is just as cheap.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 American Restaurants

New York has the greatest variety of outstanding restaurants in the world. Among them are terrific, classic American restaurants. Here are the best.

1. Peter Luger

*178 Broadway @ Driggs Ave., Brooklyn
Tel: 718.387.7400*

New York's number one steakhouse is one of the only reasons many Manhattanites cross over the Brooklyn Bridge. Credit cards not accepted, cash only.

2. Michael Jordan's: The Steak House

*Grand Central Terminal
23 Vanderbilt Ave.
Tel: 212.655.2300*

What could be more American than Michael Jordan? Michael has put together a quiet, classy restaurant with steaks and traditional American food. The food is excellent, the service is responsive, and the atmosphere subdued. Basketball is non-existent inside the dining room. This is Michael Jordan, the man of taste.

3. Aureole

*34 E. 61st St.
Tel: 212.319.1660*

This midtown restaurant will make you proud to be a Yank, with the highest quality American food anywhere. It's impossible to save room for the exquisite desserts, so Aureole may justify two trips.

4. Union Square Cafe

*21 E. 16th St.
Tel: 212.243.4020*

The Union Square Cafe is another of New York's favorite restaurants. After just one meal there, you'll know why. The friendly atmosphere, top-notch food, service and low prices make it a winner.

5. Post House

*The Lowell Hotel,
23 E. 63rd St.
Tel: 212.935.2888*

This elegant steakhouse is an appealing place for a romantic dinner. Its varied menu includes seafood and the wine list is a winner.

6. Maloney and Porcelli

*37 E. 50th St.
Tel: 212.750.2233*

Imaginative presentation and excellent service make Maloney and Porcelli the place to impress guests.

7. Gramercy Tavern

*42 E. 20th St.
Tel: 212.477.0777*

People come from far and wide for the nightly specials and the extensive wine list. This place is popular, so get your reservations far in advance.

8. March

*405 E. 58th St.
Tel: 212.754.6272*

The New American cuisine is perfect for a special occasion, and the highly American decor is the perfect cadre for this haute American cuisine.

9. Arcadia

*21 E. 62nd St.
Tel: 212.233.2900*

Close quarters make up this haven for the New American cuisine. A "hot" place for the Upper east side crowd. Attractive people, outstanding food, electric ambience; what more could you want for dining out?

10. Gotham Bar and Grill

*12 E. 12th St.
Tel: 212.620.4020*

This New York classic is a favorite with locals. The food is imaginative, the atmosphere is right for business dinners, and the service never disappoints.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Power Restaurants

These are the city's most popular deal-making restaurants. They are impressive places to meet for business lunches, drinks, or dinner.

1. The "21" Club

21 W. 52nd St.

Tel: 212.582.7200

A 19th hole country club setting with power brokers talking the inside game in a relaxed atmosphere. Some of the most powerful business leaders in America walk down 52nd Street and casually drop into the their club, but you are welcome as well. The hosts make sure you feel at home. The food is very good, the drinks are excellent, and the atmosphere is unique. You'll recognize many of the faces from the pages of Fortune.

2. Four Seasons Grill

Seagram Building/Park Avenue

99 E. 52nd St.

Tel: 212.754.9494

This is the East Side version of the West Side club. Excellent food, informal atmosphere, terrific drinks, power at every table; hey, that's why people come to New York. Go and soak up the atmosphere.

3. Bull & Bear

Waldorf-Astoria Hotel

301 Park Ave. @ 49th St.

Tel: 212.872.4900

Has a men's club feeling with regulars who order "the usual." The location is just right for the Park Avenue executives who still want two Martinis before they dig into a large juicy steak. The steaks are tasty and the ambience is all business

4. Michael Jordan's: The Steak House

Grand Central Station

23 Vanderbilt Ave.

Tel: 212.655.2300

Michael Jordan's is becoming a player in the power venue. This is because Michael has put together a quiet, class restaurant with steaks and traditional American food. The food is excellent, the service is responsive and that atmosphere subdued. This is Michael Jordan, the man of taste.

5. Smith and Wollenskey

201 E. 49th St.

Tel: 212.753.0444

One of Midtown's best steakhouses; it has ignored the trends and fads. They just serve generous, delicious steaks in an intimate steakhouse setting.

6. Gotham Bar and Grill

12 E. 12th St.

Tel: 212.620.4020

This New York classic is a favorite with locals. The food is imaginative, the atmosphere is just right for business diners and the service never disappoints.

7. Maloney and Porcelli

37 E. 50th St.

Tel: 212.750.2233

Maloney and Porcelli's energetic service, enormous steaks and fresh seafood make it a winner for business dining. The good old boys will enjoy the bar, where cigars are welcome.

8. Harry Cipriani

Sherry Netherland Hotel

781 5th Ave.

Tel: 212.753.5566

The setting and cuisine at Harry Cipriani is so authentic, you'll think you're in Venice. If you don't have time for dinner, stop by the bar for a drink and enjoy the atmosphere.

9. Park Avenue Café

100 E. 63rd St.

Tel: 212.644.1900

The Park Avenue Café serves stylish food to a buttoned-up, sophisticated clientele. Save room for one of their exquisite desserts.

10. Carlyle Restaurant

Carlyle Hotel,

35 E. 76th St.

Tel: 212.744.1600

The Uptown power venue with an elegant dining experience. The menu is French, the service impeccable, and the mood subdued. For the quiet deal away from the limelite.



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The Top 10 Inexpensive Restaurants

1. La Bonne Soup

45 W. 55th St. @ 6th Ave.
Tel: 212.586.7650

Soups, fondus, French breads and salads. What more could one want from a neat French bistro experience on the cheap?

2. La Crepe de Bretagne

46 W. 56th Street @ 6th Ave.
Tel: 212.245.4565

A compact French restaurant with a great selection of delicious crepes served by a friendly staff that will make you feel at home, as if home were a neighborhood bistro in Paris.

3. Little Saigon

658 9th Ave. @ 46th St.
Tel: 212.956.0639

Maybe the cheapest spot in the Theater District for a pre-theater meal.

4. Le Tableau

511 E. 5th St. @ Avenue B
Tel: 212.260.1333

You want inexpensive, but you still want a dining-out in New York experience. This is the place.

5. Mayrose

920 Broadway @ 21st St.
Tel: 212.289.8226

Some places people just like to go to. This is one of them. Models, bankers, secretaries and vagabonds gravitate to Mayrose. Don't ask why, just go.

6. Good Enough to Eat

483 Amsterdam Ave. @ 83rd St.
Tel: 212.496.0163

The name says it all, or should it be "Good Enough to Eat at a Low Price".

7. Silk Road Palace

447B Amsterdam Ave. @ 82nd St.
Tel: 212.580.6294

West Side Chinese food in a somber West Side environment, but still good food at a low price.

8. Cafe Mozart

154 W. 70th St. @ Broadway
Tel: 212.595.9797

This is where the starving artists of Lincoln Center eat because they get inspirational food at a low price.

9. Jazz Mine

1619 2nd Ave. @ 84th St.
Tel: 212.517.8854

It's a Thai restaurant that provides exotic meals at a reasonable price.

10. Lombardi's

32 Spring St. @ Mott
Tel: 212.941.7994

Brickoven pizza at its best. One of the top pizza places in all of New York.



The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Pre-Theater Restaurants

These restaurants are located in the Theatre District and know how to make sure you have an outstanding meal and still make it to opening curtain.

1. Le Bernardin

*155 W. 51st St. @ 6th Ave.
Tel: 212.4896.1515*

This is one performance that should not be distracted by a Broadway show. However, if you want the best in pre-theater dining, this is it. Unbelievably delicious seafood with a French touch. Spacious, open room. Innovative, smart, imaginative cooking by a master who loves the bounty of the sea. Come, let yourself go, enjoy superb seafood and stunning deserts.

3. Judson Grill

*152 W. 52nd St. @ 6th Ave.
Tel: 212.582.5252*

Open, fresh and full of energy, this dynamic restaurant offers some of the best food on the West Side. A first class act all the way, it's your ticket to a terrific theater evening.

3. District

*Muse Hotel, 130 W. 46th St. @ 6th Ave.
Tel: 212.485.2999*

Right in the heart of the theater district is the District, an innovative restaurant of New American food with all the dazzle, glitter, and satisfaction of a top Broadway show.

4. Joe Allen

*326 W. 46th St. @ 8th Ave.
Tel: 212.581.6464*

This is where the young movers and shakers of today's theater meet. Broadway and Off-Broadway cross pollinate here. You've seen them on the stage now watch them co-mingle sans make-up, costumes, and scripted lines.

5. Orso

*322 W. 46th St. @ 8th Ave.
Tel: 212.489.7212*

Today's Sardi's where theater deals are made, property-rights negotiated and actors coldly dissected. Leave art at the door please, this is where the business of theater gets done.

6. Chez Josephine

*414 W. 42nd St.
Tel: 212.594.1925*

Named after the legendary Josephine Baker, Chez Josephine is a sure bet. The food and atmosphere set the tone for the evening perfectly. Also, if you are lucky, you may catch some of the impromptu entertainment that often occurs at this fun, little bistro.

7. Casa Di Meglio

*235 W. 48th St. @ Broadway
Tel: 212.582.6577*

A gracious restaurant, this serves terrific Italian food for happy patrons going off to a grand Broadway show. Reasonably priced.

8. Le Madeleine

*403 W. 43rd St. @ 9th Ave.
Tel: 212.246.2993*

A little French bistro serving New York theater goers for years with a delightful French cuisine.

9. Palm West

*250 W. 50th St. @ Broadway
Tel: 212.333.7256*

Steaks in the heart of the Theater District. Solid, prime-cut food that will stick with you through all three acts and then some.

10. Sardi's

*234 W. 44th St. @ Broadway
Tel: 212.221.8440*

New York's classic theater restaurant filled with history and tradition. If you're a longtime follower of New York theater, a visit to Sardi's is a must.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Restaurants With a View

1. Top of the Tower: Beekman Tower

*3 Mitchel Place First Ave. @ 49th St.
Tel: 212.904.796*

This is Manhattan out of a 1940's movie. Dine high atop an East Side Tower, with the lights of the city flickering across the majestic skyline while a piano plays softly in the background. The room is elegant and sophisticated; men are neatly attired, and women move in flowing dresses; the service is attentive and professional. Ah, this is the way romance in New York was meant to be.

2. The View

*Marriott Marquis, 1535 Broadway @ 46th St.
Tel: 212.704.8900*

This is the only rotating restaurant in New York City. Right in the heart of Times Square. See the greatest city in the world rotate right before your eyes. Rotating restaurants are fun, and this is one of the best. Ideal for cocktails.

3. Foley's Fish House

*Renaissance Hotel, 714 7th Ave. @ 48th St.
Tel: 212.261.5200*

Dine with Times Square spread out before you. On the 3rd floor, just high enough so that the flashing lights, dashing theatregoers and careening taxis becomes a colorful abstraction before your eyes. Relax with terrific seafood.

4. Tavern on the Green

*Central Park West @ 67th St.
Tel: 212.873.3200*

There's nothing like pulling up to this famous restaurant in Central Park. There is not a celebrity in New York who has not dined in this restaurant at one time or other. The food is excellent and the desserts outstanding. And, on summer evenings you can walk hand-in-hand through the park back to your hotel. What could be more romantic?

5. Bryant Park and Cafe & Grill

*240 West 40th @ 6th Avenue
Tel: 212.840.6500*

This is part of one of the great small parks in New York. Right after work it fills with young New Yorkers living their dream in the city. When they leave, theatregoers fill the tables. As the evening moves on, it's the romantics who take over the place

and waiters let them linger. As you sip wine, you can hear the distant rumble of the traffic up 6th Avenue and the honks of the taxis rushing to their destinations. It's a symphony that can only be heard in New York.

6. Restaurant Above

*Times Square Hilton, 234 West 42nd St.
Tel: 212.642.2626*

American cuisine with exotic Asian flavors provides original dishes and memorable meals while overlooking Times Square. The lights of Times Square provides the energy, the chef provides the flavors. Here they offer a prix fix pre-theatre meal that is reasonably priced and gets you to the theatre on time. It makes for an exciting evening.

7. Chelsea Brewing Company

*Pier #59
West Side Highway @ 23rd St.
Tel: 212.336.6440*

This is a sports/bar pub with great views of the Hudson River. In the summer it has hundred of outdoor tables so you are assured of a table to relax in the cool harbor breezes.

8. Nirvana

*30 Central Park S.
Tel: 212.486.5700*

Set in a penthouse overlooking Central Park this restaurant presents an Indian experience that is totally encompassing with carefully prepared food flavored with delightful Indian spices served in a room with lush Indian decor set high over the world's most famous park.

9. Metrazur

*Grand Central Station/East Balcony
Tel: 212.687.4600*

This is a view with the clouds and stars above you and people rushing about below you...and you are inside Grand Central Station. Yes, set high above the grand concourse of Grand Central Station is a stylish restaurant with sharp design and high style American cooking.

10. Hudson River Club

*250 Vesey St. @ West St.
Tel: 212.786.1500*

This is worth a call to determine if it is open yet. Set on the New York Harbor it has an outstanding view of the harbor and the Statue of Liberty.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Brunch Restaurants

There are plenty of brunch offering all over New York, but these are the best both in the quality of food and distinctiveness of brunch experience.

1. Tavern on the Green

*Central Park West @ 66th St
Tel: 212.873.3200*

A spectacular place to top off your week or weekend in New York. Maybe it was too pricey for dinner but now you can enjoy the dynamic environment at their lavish Sunday brunch.

2. Aquavit

*13 West 54th Street
212.307.7311*

A totally invigorating brunch a la Scandinavia. Why come to New York to have a bagel and cream cheese brunch when you can be transported to the Scandinavian world of fresh fruits, breads and seafood in one of New York's top restaurants. (Have brunch here while waiting for the Museum of Modern Art to open their doors right across the street.)

3. Le Pain Quotidien

*1131 Madison @ 85th Street
212.625.9009*

A communal brunch experience which delightful French pastries, fresh breads and friendly clientele. (Have brunch here while waiting for the Metropolitan Museum to open their doors just up the street.)

4. Isabella's

*359 Columbus Avenue @77th Street
212.742.2100*

One of the best sidewalk cafes in New York with large accommodations so you're likely to get a sidewalk seat. (Have brunch here while waiting for the Natural History Museum to open their doors just around the corner.)

5. Le Jardin Bistro

*25 Cleveland Place @Spring St. (?)
212.343.9599*

A terrific spot for a warm Sunday morning brunch in this friendly restaurants' outdoor garden. The best place in SoHo for brunch. The staff is friendly, the atmosphere European and the brunch filled with succulent French flavors.

6. Hudson River Club

*4 World Finance Center
250 Vesey Street @ West St.
212.786.1500*

Sit outside on Sunday morning and enjoy the fresh air and spectacular views of New York Harbor.

7. Park Bistro

*414 Park Avenue South @28th St.
212.689.1360*

A French-style bistro with delicious French pastries.

8. Popover Cafe

*551 Amsterdam Avenue @87th St.
718.278.5414*

Popovers! Where can you get popovers anymore?! Nowhere, that's where. Popovers have terrific texture and a distinctive taste and the Popover Cafe makes some of the best in the world.

9. Josephina

*1900 Broadway @64th Street
212.799.1000*

It's a late brunch (starts @11:30) but the food is imaginatively created with distinct flavors and a heavy emphasis on natural foods. The main room is open and spacious with a West Side of New York feel. Located across from Lincoln Center it's a perfect spot for brunch before the symphony, ballet or opera.

10. The Palm Court

*Plaza Hotel
768 Fifth Avenue
212.546.5350*

A classic brunch experience in one of the most famous hotel rooms of New York.

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The Top 10 Romantic Restaurants

Here are the most romantic restaurants in New York. You are assured an evening you will long remember. Some are very pricey, so romantics be aware. If you want a memorably romantic time with that special person, these are the places to choose. Romance, isn't that what a trip to New York is all about?

1. Top of the Tower

*Beekman Tower Hotel, First Ave. @ 49th St.
Tel: 212.904.796*

This is Manhattan out of a 1940's movie. Dine high atop an East Side Tower, with the lights of the city flickering across the majestic skyline while a piano plays softly in the background. The room is elegant and sophisticated; men are neatly attired, and women move in flowing dresses; the service is attentive and professional. Ah, this is the way romance in New York was meant to be.

2. Lespinasse

*St. Regis Hotel, 2 E. 55th St.
Tel: 212.339.6719*

For an intimate romantic evening with the most beautiful person in your life bring them to the most beautiful restaurant in New York. You are assured of an outstanding evening. See: The Top 10 Restaurants in New York.

3. Tavern on the Green

*Central Park West @ 67th St.
Tel: 212.873.3200*

There's nothing like pulling up to this famous restaurant in Central Park. There is not a celebrity in New York who has not dined in this restaurant at one time or other. The food is excellent and the deserts outstanding. And, on summer evenings you can walk hand-in-hand through the park back to your hotel. What could be more romantic?

4. Lutece

*249 East 50th Street @ 2nd Avenue
Tel: 212.752.2225*

A premier French restaurant with elegant French service. The waiters are sharp, the food is graciously presented and ornate silver serving plates are everywhere. You could be dining in Paris. The food is excellent, the dining room is spacious and the staff respectful of romantics as only the French can be.

5. Bryant Park and Cafe & Grill

*240 West 40th @ 6th Avenue
Tel: 212.840.6500*

This is part of one of the great small parks in New York. Right after work it fills with young New Yorkers living their dream in the city. When they leave, theatregoers fill the tables. As the evening moves on, it's the romantics who take over the place and waiters let them linger. As you sip wine, you can hear the distant rumble of the traffic up 6th Avenue, the honks of the taxis rushing to their destinations and the rustle of leaves in the breeze overhead. For romantics it's a symphony that can only be heard in New York.

6. Provence

*38 MacDouglas @ Prince
Tel: 212.475.7500*

You'll feel very romantic in this attractive French bistro, which has been serving the SoHo neighborhood for years. Candlelit tables, attentive staff and delicious French food make this a sure bet for a romantic evening as only the French can create.

7. Panache

*470 6th Avenue @ 11th Street
Tel: 212.243.2222*

This is a little French bistro where they will recognize the love in your eyes and provide you with an intimate, memorable evening. It's low cost, personal, intimate and memorable. What more do you want for a night of romance?

8. Viceversa

*325 W. 51st St. @ 9th Ave.
Tel: 212.586.7714*

One of the most romantic spots for before or after the Theatre. It's a stylish restaurant specializing in Italian Cuisine.

9. Alison on Dominick Street

*38 Dominick St.
Tel: 212.727.1188*

This restaurant radiates relaxed elegance. The food is country French and particularly good, while the service is watchful. At reasonable prices, this is one of the best values in the city.

10. One of By Land, Two if by Sea.

*17 Barrow St. @ W. 4th St.
Tel: 212.228.0822*

Lilting piano music, outstanding food and understanding staff make this one of the favorites for romantic New Yorkers.



The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Delis

1. Carnegie Deli

854 7th Ave. @ 55th St.
212.757.2245

A New York must. Enjoy real New Yorkers chowing down oversized sandwiches beneath a roar of conversation and chatter. Terrific food. You'll love it.

2. Sarge's Deli

548 3rd Ave. @ 36th St.
212.679.0442

A real New York neighborhood deli that New Yorkers go to for that deli sandwich at 3 am. Open 24/7. Delicious sandwiches.

3. Second Avenue Deli

156 Second Ave. @ 9th St.
212.677.0606

A New York institution on Second Avenue in the East Village. Crowded, filled with New York characters, and big sandwiches.

4. Barney Greengrass

541 Amsterdam Ave. @ 86th St.
212.724.4707

This classic New York deli has been serving New Yorkers on the West Side for generations.

5. Stage Deli

834 7th Ave. @ 53rd St.
212.245.7850

This tight deli serves the Times Square crowd with giant size sandwiches.

7. Katz's Deli

205 E. Houston St. @ Ludlow St.
212.254.2246

Cafeteria style lower East Side deli serving hard-core New Yorkers who want an old-style sandwich with great taste.

8. Ben's Kosher Delicatessen

208 W 38th St. @ 38th Ave.
212.398.2367

Old line deli with minimal decor.

9. Eisenberg's Sandwich Shop

174 5th Ave. @ 22nd St.
212.675.5096

A friendly luncheonette that serves the Flatiron area. Food's good, staff friendly.

10. Pastrami Queen

124 Queens Blvd. @ 82nd Ave., Queens
718.263.1717

Terrific deli sandwiches for the East Side.





The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Late Night Restaurants

The City that never sleeps has a number of outstanding all-night eateries. After a night on the town, head for one of these restaurants for an atmospheric breakfast.

1. Empire Diner

*210 10th Ave. @ 22nd St.
Tel: 212.243.2736*

This classic art deco diner in Chelsea may have the best people-watching potential of all the 24-hour eateries listed here.

2. L'Express

*249 Park Avenue South @ 20th St.
Tel: 212.254.5858*

This bistro is a charming place for a quick bite at any hour.

3. Carnegie Deli

*854 7th Ave. @ 55th St.
Tel: 212.757.2245*

The middle of the night may be the best time to enjoy a meal at this New York landmark. At night, lines shorten, tourists go back to their hotels, and you can order your gigantic deli sandwiches, knishes and pickles in peace.

4. Corner Bistro

*331 W. 4th St @ Jane St.
Tel: 212.242.9502*

The place for a late night burger and beer in a bar setting.

5. The Blue Ribbon

*97 Sullivan St. @ Prince St.
Tel: 212.274.0404*

Where do the restaurant cooking staffs of New York restaurants go when they get off work? The Blue Ribbon.

6. Florent

*69 Gansevoort St. @ Greenwich St.
Tel: 212.989.5779*

Go to Florent for great French food at 4AM. Linger over coffee and watch the eclectic crowd drift in and out.

7. French Roast Cafe

*2340 Broadway @ 85th St.
Tel: 212.799.1533
458 6th Ave. @ 11th St.
Tel: 212.533.2233*

These cheap, funky cafes attract a black-clad, Euro crowd. The attractive waitstaff and fabulous desserts, not to mention the coffee, will make you want to stay up all night.

8. Le Zinc

*139 Duane St. @ Church
Tel: 212.513.0001*

A fun place in the West Village with friendly people and good food into the night.

9. Sarge's Deli

*548 3rd Ave. @ 36th St.
Tel: 212.679.0442*

A terrific New York Deli. Open 24 hours.

10. Gray's Papaya

*2090 Broadway @ 72nd St.
402 6th Ave. @ 8th St.*

Shock treatment for after a night of drinking.



The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Pizza Places

New York is a great place to eat pizza. Pizza by the slice, of varying quality, is available on most street corners. Chains like Pizza Hut and Dominoes also do a brisk business. However, if you want real New York pizza, try one of these restaurants.

1. Lombardi's

32 Spring St. @ Mott St.

Tel: 212.941.7994

This family-friendly SoHo restaurant has the freshest toppings in town and a mouth-watering brick oven baked crust.

2. Patsy's Pizza

2287-91 1st Ave. @ 117th St., East Harlem

Tel: 212.534.9783

509 3rd Ave. @ 34th St., Murray Hill

Tel: 212.689.7500

61 W. 74th St. @ Columbus Ave.

Tel: 212.579.3000

Patsy's specializes in the thin crust brick oven pizza rumored to have been Frank Sinatra's favorite.

3. Totonno Pizzeria Napolitano

1544 2nd Ave. @ 80th St.

Tel: 212.327.2800

A Coney Island legend, Totonno's pizza is now available on the East Side.

4. Little Italy Pizza

65 Vanderbilt Ave. @ 45th St.

Tel: 212.687.3660

72 W. 45th St. @ 6th Ave.

Tel: 212.730.7575

11 Park Place @ Broadway

Tel: 212.227.7077

This crowded, popular pizza parlor is a great place for a quick lunch.

5. Sofia Fabulous Pizza

1022 Madison Ave. @ 79th St.

Tel: 212.734.2676

Head for the East Side and eat your pizza on Sofia's inviting terrace.

6. Pintaile's Pizza

26 E. 91st St. @ 5th Ave.

Tel: 212.722.1967

1577 York Ave. @ 83rd St.

Tel: 212.396.3479

1443 York Ave. @ 76th St.

Tel: 212.717.4990

Thin crust pizza with gourmet toppings makes great takeout at these East Side restaurants.

7. La Pizza Fresca

31 E. 20th St. @ Park Avenue South

Tel: 212.598.0141

This Flatiron District pizza joint's menu includes brick oven pies, pasta, and salads.

8. John's Pizzeria

278 Bleecker St. @ 6th Ave.

Tel: 212.243.1680

This old-fashioned pizzeria serves a good thin crust pizza in a charming setting.

9. Moustache

265 E. 10th St. @ Avenue A

Tel: 212.228.2022

90 Bedford St. @ Barrow St.

Tel: 212.229.2220

The pita-based "pitzza" served at these Middle-Eastern cafes is original and tasty.

10. California Pizza Kitchen

201 E. 60th St.

Tel: 212.755.7773

The only thing CPK's pizza has in common with other New York pies is its thin crust. These wood oven baked pizzas come with eclectic combinations of toppings inspired by Mexican, Mediterranean and Cajun cuisine.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Theme Restaurants

1. Planet Hollywood

*1540 Broadway @ 45th St
Tel: 212.333.7827*

This child-friendly, gaudily-decorated pop mecca is perfect for celebrity spotting, talking about movies and having a fun time.

2. ESPN Zone

*Times Square @ 42nd St
Tel: 212.768.0461*

It's sports, sports and more sports but with a New York edge. Lots of games to play while waiting for the food.

3. The Hard Rock Cafe

*221 W. 57th @ 7th Ave
Tel: 212.489.6565*

The Hard Rock is the Hard Rock is the Hard Rock, but New Yorkers will tell you that New York's Hard Rock is the best.

4. Mars 2112

*1633 Broadway @ 51st St
Tel: 212.582.2112*

This is a restaurant with a Mars theme. Yes, the planet Mars. Who would have thought it. But they pulled it off and it's a lot of fun. It's total immersion in color and design of the planet Mars. The food is earth-based and above average for a theme restaurant. It's a trip.

5. Harley Davidson Cafe

*1370 Sixth Ave @ 55th St
Tel: 212.245.6000*

The glistening Harleys are great to see. A biker experience you won't mind telling your mother about.

6. WWF-NY

*1501 Broadway @ 43rd St
Tel: 212.398.2563*

Yes, there's a restaurant under the WWF banner. What about the food? Please, you don't go there for the food.

7. Ellen's Stardust Diner & Club

*1650 Broadway @ 51st St.
Tel: 212.956.5151*

A delight. Waiters and waitresses sing 1950's tunes. A return to diners of old. Lots of fun.

8. Texas Texas

*1600 Broadway @ 48th St.
Tel: 212.956.RIBS*

Western-style barbecue steaks and ribs. Servings are large and the food is tasty. Texas hospitality in tough ol' New York.

9. Mickey Mantle's Restaurant

*42 Central Park South @ 5th Ave.
Tel: 212.688.7777*

This ode to the Yankee great boasts a prime sidewalk location (across from Central Park) and museum-quality memorabilia.

10. Benihana Japanese Steakhouse

*47 West 52nd St.
Tel: 212.581.0930*

Journey back to the time of the Japanese masters as your own private chef twirls his knives and slices and dices right before your very eyes.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

Top 10 Communal Dining Restaurants

Communal dining is a lot of fun, especially in New York.

Communal is dining at long tables with people you've never met before. In New York that's bound to be interesting. It also makes solo dining not so lonely.

1. Le Pain Quotidien.

*100 Grand Street @ Mercer
1131 Madison @ 85th Street
212.625.9009*

This is communal dining with a European flair. They are located in two of the best locations, SoHo and near the Met Museum on the Upper East Side. They serve flavorful food; have friendly patrons who love the place and friendly staff. Terrific for solo dining.

2. Carnegie Deli

*854 Seventh Ave @ 55th St.
212-757-2245*

There are a number of communal tables in this classic New York deli. Here you will find the hardboiled New Yorkers enjoying their pastrami on rye. If you start reading your "Top 10 Guide to New York," they'll lighten up, take notice, and give you their personal Top 10 sites that you "must see." See Top 10 Delis.

3. Hudson Cafeteria

*Hudson Hotel.
356 W 58th St. @ 8th Ave.
212.554.6000*

One of New York's "hot" spots. A stylish, exciting communal restaurant with stylish patrons. A dazzling, happening place.

4. Republic

*37 Union Sq. West @ 16th St.
212-627-7168*

A dynamic Asian dining place with lots of tables, people, great food, and positive karma. And cheap. See Top 10 Asian Restaurants.

5. Pipa

*38 E 19th St. @ Broadway
212-677-2233*

In the ABC Carpet & Home store, with hot/spicy Latino fare and hot/spicy patrons. Everybody has fun.

6. Commune

*12 E 22nd St. @ Broadway
212.447.2600*

You'll share a table with attractive New Yorkers and glamorous models enjoying Mediterranean cuisine.

7. Cafe Fiorello

*1900 Broadway @ 63rd St.
212.595.5330*

There are a number of communal tables in the Lincoln Center eatery with a long following of the "classical" crowd.

8. Taperia Madrid

*1471 Second Ave. @ 76th St.
212.794.2923*

Here you will be transported back to Madrid with wooden communal tables and flavorful Spanish food.

9. Nicole

*10 E 60th St. @ 50th
212.223.2298*

Euro-American-Moroccan fusion dishes deliver spicy tastes and memorable meals.

10. Ulkika's

*115 E 60th St. @ Lexington
212.355.7069*

Scandinavian communal tables are known around the world and this is one of the best.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Burger Joints

1. City Hall

*131 Duane St. @ Church St.
Tel: 212.227.7777*

This is a restaurant that pays tribute to “Old New York” by serving up classic, traditional meals with a contemporary touch. Its hamburgers are among the best in New York.

2. Corner Bistro

*331 W. 4th St. @ Jane St.
Tel: 212.242.9502*

Huge, scrumptious burgers, chilly beer, a renowned jukebox, and an exciting location make this a jumping joint. Don’t miss the excitement.

3. Jackson Hole

*1270 Madison Ave. @ 91st St.
Tel: 212.427.2820
1611 2nd Ave. @ 83rd St.
Tel: 212.737.8788
232 E. 64th St. @ 2nd Ave.
Tel: 212.371.7187*

“Home of the 7 oz. Burger,” Jackson Hole is well-known around the city for simply delicious burgers in a no-frills setting. Choose from their list of over 20 different kinds of burgers, and don’t miss out on the yummy appetizers.

4. Big Nick’s Burger Joint

*2175 Broadway @ 77th St.
Tel: 212.362.9238*

Don’t expect a fancy environment or polite service—just fabulous burgers.

5. Island Burgers & Shakes

*766 9th Ave. @ 51st St.
Tel: 212.307.7934*

Tiny and hardly scenic, Island’s burgers (and chicken sandwiches) make up for the decor. They come in an exotic variety all the way down to the bread.

6. J.G. Melon

*1291 3rd Ave. @ 74th St.
Tel: 212.744.0585*

Still the same comfortable hangout it was 20 years ago, J.G. Melon continues to serve up consistently good beer and burgers.

7. Hamburger Harry’s

*157 Chambers St. @ Greenwich St.
Tel: 212.267.4446
145 West 45th St. @ Broadway
Tel: 212.840.0566*

Grilled over mesquite charcoal, Harry’s hamburgers are just plain good. Don’t forget to top your meal off with a rich, chocolate dessert.

8. Cal’s

*55 W. 21st St. @ 5th Ave.
Tel: 212.929.0740*

Cal’s burgers are well-liked, as is its spacious interior. Go for a business lunch or just a relaxing, enjoyable meal.

9. Chelsea Grill

*135 8th Ave. @ 16th
Tel: 212.242.5336*

The burgers are just above average, but you may spot someone in this hipster joint.

10. Fanelli

*94 Prince St. @ Mercer St.
Tel: 212.226.9412*

To see what SoHo used to be like, visit Fanelli for a good beer and burger. And don’t complain about the artsy clientele, the darkness, or the smoke—you’re getting the full experience.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Restaurants for Children

1. Serendipity 3

225 E. 60th St. @ 2nd Ave.
Tel: 212.838.3531

Serendipity 3 is a dessert bar and a toy store. There is enough there to please any child. You probably won't find fancy on the menu, but the offering is creative: basic enough that kids will love them and prepared with enough skill that parents will appreciate them.

2. Ellen's Stardust Diner & Club

1650 Broadway @ 51st St.
Tel: 212.956.5151

A delight. Waiters and waitresses sing 1950's tunes. A return to diners of old. Lots of fun.

3. Cowgirl Hall of Fame

519 Hudson St. @ 10th Ave.
Tel: 212.633.1133

Patsy Cline would love this place. It's fun, pleasant and friendly with tasty food and an enthusiastic staff.

4. Mars 2112

1633 Broadway @ 51st St
Tel: 212.582.2112

This is a restaurant with a Mars theme. Yes, the planet Mars. Who would have thought it. But they pulled it off and it's a lot of fun. It's total immersion in color and design of the planet Mars. The food is earth-based and above average for a theme restaurant. It's a trip.

5. Benihana

47 W. 56th St. @ 5th Ave.
Tel: 212.581.0930

Kids will love the knife-flashing, sizzling show that the chefs put on. Grown-ups will love the food and the show.

6. Two Boots

37 Avenue A @ 2nd St.
Tel: 212.505.2276

Two Boots Pizzeria
42 Avenue A @ 3rd St.
Tel: 212.254.1919

Two Boots to Go-Go
74 Bleecker St. @ Broadway
Tel: 212.777.1033

Two Boots is a hip chain of pizza restaurants that kids will love, and their parents will have a good time, too. The food is good and surprisingly creative.

7. Peanut Butter & Co.

240 Sullivan St. @ Bleecker St.
Tel: 212.677.3995

Yes, a restaurant dedicated to peanut butter sandwiches! It's about time. A wide variety that your kids will love and that will bring you back to your childhood.

8. Popover Cafe

551 Amsterdam Avenue @ 87th St.
Tel: 718.278.5414

Popovers! Where can you get popovers anymore?! Nowhere, that's where. Popovers have terrific texture and a distinctive taste and the Popover Cafe makes some of the best in the world. Kids will love it.

9. Brooklyn Diner

212 W. 57th @ 7th Ave.
Tel: 212.581.8900

A nostalgic trip to the past with terrific food, service and hot dogs your kids will remember.

10. Barking Dog

1453 York Ave. @ 77th St.
Tel: 212.861.3660

Kids will love telling their friends that they went to a restaurant called "Barking Dog". It's a kid-friendly place with loads of families, and everyone has a good time.



The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Restaurants for Teens

1. Mars 2112

*1633 Broadway @ 51st St
Tel: 212.582.2112*

This is a restaurant with a Mars theme. Yes, the planet Mars. Who would have thought it. But they pulled it off and it's a lot of fun. It's total immersion in color and design of the planet Mars. The food is earth-based and above average for a theme restaurant. It's a trip.

2. Hard Rock Cafe

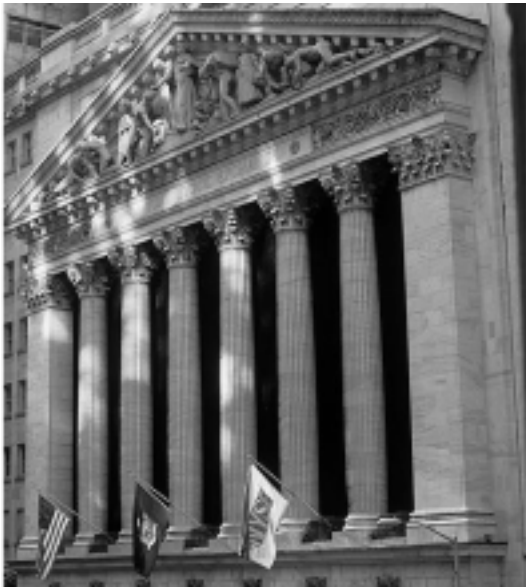
*221 W. 57th St. @ 7th Ave.
Tel: 212.489.6565*

Hard Rock Cafes are always a safe bet. The memorabilia is always fun. The food gets mixed reviews, but who could eat when sitting under Elvis Presley's jumpsuit?

3. ESPN Zone

*Times Square @ 42nd St
Tel: 212.768.0461*

It's sports, sports and more sports but with a New York edge. Lots of games to play while waiting for the food.



4. Planet Hollywood

*1540 Broadway @ 45th St
Tel: 212.333.7827*

This child-friendly, gaudily-decorated pop mecca is perfect for celebrity spotting, talking about movies and having a fun time.

5. Harley Davidson Cafe

*1370 Sixth Ave @ 55th St
Tel: 212.245.6000*

The glistening Harleys are great to see. A biker experience you won't mind telling your mother about.

6. Benihana Japanese Steakhouse

*47 West 52nd St.
Tel: 212.581.0930*

Journey back to the time of the Japanese masters as your own private chef twirls his knives and slices and dices right before your very eyes.

7. Texas Texas

*1600 Broadway @ 48th St.
Tel: 212.956.RIBS*

Western-style barbecue steaks and ribs. Servings are large and the food is tasty. Texas hospitality in tough ol' New York.

8. Carnegie Deli

*854 7th Ave. @ 55th St.
212.757.2245*

A New York must. Enjoy real New Yorkers chowing down oversized sandwiches beneath a roar of conversation and chatter. Terrific food. You'll love it.

9. Hudson River Club

*4 World Finance Center
250 Vesey Street @ West St.
212.786.1500*

Sit outside and enjoy the fresh air and spectacular views of New York Harbor.

10. Chelsea Brewing Company

*Pier 59 at Hudson River @ 18th St
212.336.6440*

Even though they can't drink the beer, teens will love the atmosphere of this big, old brewing restaurant with a great view of the Hudson River.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Midtown East Restaurants

1. Le Cirque 2000

*455 Madison Ave. @ 50th St.
Tel: 212.794.9292*

An outstanding dining experience of exquisitely prepared food, dramatic ambiance and pampering service. Serves French cuisine with extraordinarily delicious desserts. Popular with power players, but the food is the star.

2. Lespinasse

*St. Regis Hotel, 2 E. 55th St.
Tel: 212.339.6719*

Elegant, refined, stunning to look at, mesmerizing in her subtleties. You will be transported to a total environment of warm, rich colors, overflowing flowers and delicious French food. A superb experience. If only every day could be like a day at Lespinasse.

3. La Grenouille

*3 E. 52nd St. @ 5th Ave.
Tel: 212.752.1495*

The First Lady of New York French restaurants. Just off Fifth Avenue, this is where Jackie O. loved to dine. Intimate and quiet with wonderfully delicious food and attentive service.

4. Four Seasons

*99 E. 52nd St. @ Lexington Ave.
Tel: 212.754.9494*

The Pool Room is like no other dining room in the world. A large reflector pool sits in the middle of a room with ceilings so high they don't seem to exist. The food is excellent as is the service.

5. Oceana

*55 E. 54th St. @ Madison Ave.
Tel: 212.759.5941*

Elegant, yet unassuming, Oceana is a favorite with New Yorkers who appreciate its fresh, impeccably-prepared seafood. Conscientious service makes it ideal for a business lunch or dinner.

6. March

*405 E. 58th St. @ 1st Ave.
Tel: 212.754.6272*

The New American cuisine is perfect for a special occasion, and the highly American decor is the perfect cadre for this haute American cuisine.

7. The Brasserie

*100 E. 53rd St.
Tel: 212.751.4840*

Stylish and dramatic, this revitalized brasserie breaks the mold and sets the standards for brasseries around the world. A sweeping staircase leads to an open dining room and terrific contemporary French food. Once seated you can watch other beautiful people make their entrance down the grand staircase.

8. Felidia

*243 E. 58th St.
Tel: 212.758.1479*

You've seen her on TV, now you can taste the glories of her Northern Italian cuisine. Yes, Lidia Bastianich of Lidia's Italian Table is alive and well on Manhattan's East Side. You'll find her here most evenings greeting customers and making sure everything is "just right." So, if you want to taste the wonders of her cooking you have seen for so many years on TV, this is the place for you.

9. Smith and Wollensky

*201 E. 49th St.
Tel: 212.753.0444*

One of Midtown's best steakhouses. A restaurant that has ignored the trends and fads. They just serve generous, delicious steaks in an intimate steakhouse setting. They have a loyal following that keeps coming back year after year. After you have been there you'll understand why.

10. Michael Jordan's: The Steak House

*Grand Central Terminal
23 Vanderbilt Ave.
Tel: 212.655.2300*

What could be more American than Michael Jordan? Michael has put together a quiet, classy restaurant with steaks and traditional American food. The food is excellent, the service is responsive, and the atmosphere subdued. Basketball is non-existent inside the dining room. This is Michael Jordan, the man of taste.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Midtown West Restaurants

1. Jean Georges

*Trump International Hotel
1 Central Park West
Tel: 212.299.3900*

Formal French food from a master's hands. Haute cuisine artistically presented. A highly professional staff. The master creates, the staff responds, and you enjoy superb, cutting-edge French food.

2. Le Bernardin

*155 W. 51st St.
Tel : 212.489.1515*

Unbelievably delicious seafood with a French touch. Spacious, open room. Innovative, smart, imaginative cooking by a master who loves the bounty of the sea. Come, let yourself go, enjoy superb seafood and stunning desserts.

3. 21

*21 W. 52nd St.
Tel: 212.582.7200*

A 19th hole country club setting with power brokers talking the inside game in a relaxed atmosphere. Some of the most powerful business leaders in America walk down 52nd Street and casually drop into their club, but you are welcome. The hosts make sure you feel at home. The food is very good and the drinks are excellent and the atmosphere is unique. You'll recognize many of the faces from the pages of Fortune.

4. La Caravelle

*33 W. 55th St.
Tel: 212.586.4252*

La Carvelle proves that you can serve great French food and wine without the attitude. The wine list is also exceptional.

5. Aquavit

*13 W. 54th St.
Tel: 212.307.7311*

For exceptional Scandinavian food in a classically sleek deco featuring a stunning waterfall, try Aquavit. The upstairs cafe provides a cheaper option with similar services and menu.

6. La Cote Basque

*60 E. 55th Street
Tel: 212.688.6525*

Consistently fine French cooking, professional and respectful service, and expansive desserts have been bringing back loyal fans again and again for years. Classic New York.

7. Alain Ducasse

*Essex House, 155 W. 58th St.
Tel: 212.265.7300*

If you are serious about French Food this is the place for you. Alain Ducasse is considered one of the top French chefs in the world with the stars and medals to prove it. The food is precisely prepared and elegantly served. The staff is attentive, respectful and wanting you to have a perfect dining experience. This is one of the most expensive restaurants in New York but they will cater to you like you were royalty of old. But it cries out for that old Broadway line "kick up your heels and live a little."

8. San Domenico

*240 Central Park South @ Broadway
Tel: 212.265.5959*

San Domenico's is grand Italian cooking seldom found anywhere anymore, not even in Italy. The food is classically prepared, the presentation is extravagant and the taste is extraordinarily delicious. This is expensive but you dine in an elegant room with spacious table settings and the host and staff are very attentive.

9. Manhattan Ocean Club

*57 W. 58th St. @ 5th Ave.
Tel: 212.371.7777*

This refined restaurant boasts fabulous food in a luxurious and subdued setting. A well-chosen wine list rounds out the Ocean Club's offerings.

10. Da Umberto

*107 W. 17th @ 6th Ave.
Tel: 212.989.0303*

An exhilarating, full-experience restaurant with outstanding food, attractive decor, friendly staff, and terrific desserts. A favorite among Manhattanites.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Upper East Side Restaurants—60 to 80 Streets

1. Daniel

*60 East 65th St.
Tel: 212.288.0499*

Everything a restaurant should be. A total dedication to outstanding food, service and hospitality. Ever in tune with the seasons, Daniel prepares excellent French food that is presented at the table with grace and care. The staff is very friendly and welcoming. A delightful dining experience.

2. Aureole

*34 E. 61st St.
Tel: 212.319.1660*

This Upper East Side restaurant will make you proud to be a Yank, with the highest quality American food anywhere. It's impossible to save room for the exquisite desserts, so Aureole may justify two trips.

3. L'Absinthe

*227 E. 67th St.
Tel: 212.794.4950*

A chic, sidewalk, Parisian-style bistro with an impeccable wine list and excellent, contemporary, French fare.

4. Le Regence

*Hotel Plaza Athenee, 37 E. 64th St.,
Tel: 212.606.4647*

This restaurant combines exceptional food with attentive service and an opulent, yet subdued, ambiance.

5. Destinee

*134 E. 61st St.
Tel: 212.888.1220*

Le Grand Cuisine trumps nouveau Cuisine in the hands of star chef Jean-Yves Schillinger. It's a return to the cooking classics that made French meals so famous.

6. Luca

*1712 First Ave.
Tel: 212.987.9260*

Let's have some fun. Let's go to a place that's crowded, noisy, colorful and full of excited chattering people enjoying top contemporary Italian food. It's Luca's of course. Inventive dishes, attentive chef and relaxed locals make this one of the hot spots on the Upper East Side.

7. Cello

*53 E. 77th St.
Tel: 212.517.1200*

Seafood with the French touch. Service with French precision. Dining with French elegance. This is a dress up, come to dine restaurant specializing in seafood prepared with French flavors and ingredients. A wonderful dining experience.

8. Le Pain Quotidien.

*100 Grand Street @ Mercer
1131 Madison @ 85th Street
212.625.9009*

This is communal dining with a European flair. They are located in two of the best locations, SoHo and near the Met Museum on the Upper East Side. They serve flavorful food; have friendly patrons who love the place and friendly staff. Terrific for solo dining.

9. Carlyle Restaurant

*Carlyle Hotel,
35 E. 76th St.
Tel: 212.744.1600*

The Uptown power venue with an elegant dining experience. The menu is French, the service impeccable, and the mood subdued. For the quiet deal away from the limelite.

10. India Grill

*240 E. 81st St. @ 2nd Ave.
Tel: 212.988.4646*

Dark colors, traditional sitar music and waitresses in sarongs is not the only way to enjoy Indian food. This is a contemporary Indian restaurant with bright colors, neon and young Indian clientele. This is India today.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Upper West Side Restaurants—60 to 86 Streets

1. Cafe des Artistes

*1 W. 67th St. @ Columbus Ave.
Tel: 212.877.8500*

In the Lincoln Center area, Cafe des Artistes is a treat. Make sure to notice the murals, though it may be hard with the fantastic food.

2. Picholine

*35 W. 64th St. @ Broadway
Tel: 212.724.8585*

Picholine, with its Mediterranean flavor, is a twist on the classic French restaurant. Make sure to sample the cheese selection.

3. Two Two Two

*222 W. 79th St. @ Broadway
Tel: 212.799.0400*

The food is Continental, with French accents. Although the old townhouse is gorgeous, some find the restaurant too crowded.

4. Rancho Mexican Cafe

*466 Amsterdam Ave. @ 82nd St.
Tel: 212.362.1514*

Rancho Mexican Cafe serves some of the best Mexican north of Texas. The margaritas are something special.

5. Ocean Grill

*384 Columbus @ 78th St.
Tel: 212.579.2300*

The Ocean Grill is fairly new to the West Side, but it is so popular that it is already crowded most nights.

6. Rain

*100 W. 82nd St. @ Amsterdam Ave.
Tel: 212.501.0776*

Rain caters to a young crowd, but the food is a sophisticated mix of Vietnamese and Thai.

7. La Mirabelle

*333 W. 86th St. @ Riverside Dr.
Tel: 212.469.0458*

If you grew up in the French countryside, La Mirabelle will feel just like home. Overlook the less than perfect appearance, the food is great.

8. Mingala West

*325 Amsterdam Ave. @ 75th St.
Tel: 212.873.0787*

If you like adventurous food experiences, try Mingala West for Burmese cuisine. Language can be a bit of a problem.

9. Peter's

*128 Columbus Ave. @ 68th St.
Tel: 212.877.4747*

Peter's is not your average neighborhood bar. Dress up if you go here and save some room for the multi-national cuisine.

10. Shun Lee

*43 W. 65th St. @ Columbus Ave.
Tel: 212.595.8895*

Shun Lee is set apart from other Chinese restaurants by the striking black and white dragon decor.



The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Restaurants in the Times Square Area

1. Petrossian

182 W. 58th St. @ 7th Ave.

Tel: 212.245.2214

Near Carnegie Hall, Petrossian serves Russian food in a dazzling environment.

2. Firebird

365 W. 46th St. @ 8th Ave.

Tel: 212.580.0244

Even if caviar doesn't make your mouth water and you don't know a zakuski from a babushka, go to experience the exquisite dining rooms and superior service.

3. Manhattan Chili Company

1500 Broadway @ 43rd St.

Tel: 212.730.8666

The Chili Company is a great place to take kids. Everyone will enjoy the spicy fare and clever decor.

4. Barbetta

321 W. 46th St. @ 8th Ave.

Tel: 212.426.9171

Over ninety years old, Barbetta has proven to be a consistent good choice for high-class Italian.

5. Caravan

741 8th Ave. @ 46th St.

Tel: 212.262.2021

Caravan serves high-quality Afghani food at modest prices. Situated at the heart of the Theater District, Caravan can get very busy, but lunchtime tends to be calmer.

6. Hourglass Tavern

373 W. 46th St. @ 8th Ave.

Tel: 212.265.2060

The Hourglass Tavern is a good place to go before seeing a show if you don't want to spend a lot. You won't get a bad meal, just basic and good.

7. Brasilia

7 W. 45th St. @ 5th Ave.

Tel: 212.869.9200

Brasilia serves authentic Brazilian food in a colorful environment; a cheerful change from ordinary fare.

8. La Reserve

4 W. 49th St. @ 5th Ave.

Tel: 212.247.2993

A classic French Restaurant, La Reserve is a great place to impress your friends and family.

9. Charlotte

Millenium Broadway, 145 W. 44th St. @ Broadway

Tel: 212.789.7508

Charlotte is pricey, but still a great place to see and be seen. Try the relatively well-priced, prix fixé wine-tasting dinner.

10. Dish of Salt

133 W. 47th St. @ 6th Ave.

Tel: 212.921.4242

Although you wouldn't guess it from the name, Dish of Salt is a Chinese restaurant, and a very fine one at that. You can probably find the same quality for less money, but nothing this close to the theater district.



The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 SoHo Restaurants

1. Balthazar

*80 Spring Street @ Crosby St.
Tel: 212.965.1414*

A French brasserie with outstanding food, beautiful people, desserts to die for, excitement in the air, glistening woodwork, busy waiters dashing about, laughter and chatter filling the room; what more could anyone want from a restaurant?

2. Aquagrill

*210 Spring St. @ 6th Ave.
Tel: 212.274.0505*

A standout raw bar, affordable prix fixe lunch specials and, of course, ambrosial grilled fish have New Yorkers lining up. Join them for a memorable dining experience.

3. Raouls

*180 Prince St.
Tel: 212.966.3518*

SoHo's neighborhood bistro of outstanding French food. Serves until 2:30a.m., filling the tables with sophisticated New Yorkers who can't go to bed without a delicious French meal.

4. Provence

*38 McDougal St., SoHo
Tel: 212.475.500*

This quiet, relaxed restaurant boasts a civilized garden setting, a great wine list, and incredible food.

5. Chez Bernard

*323 W. Broadway @ Grand St.
Tel: 212.343.2583*

This restaurant specializes in terrific French food accompanied by some of the best Bordeaux and Burgundy wines available in New York.

6. Soho Steakhouse

*90 Thompson St. @ Prince St.
Tel: 212.226.0602*

You wouldn't think that steak would be popular in super-cool SoHo, but it is - in Soho Steakhouse, where deliciously-prepared, prime-cut steaks overcome the resistance of the super-cool.

7. Le Pain Quotidien.

*100 Grand Street @ Mercer
1131 Madison @ 85th Street
212.625.9009*

This is communal dining with a European flair. They are located in two of the best locations, SoHo and near the Met Museum on the Upper East Side. They serve flavorful food; have friendly patrons who love the place and friendly staff. Terrific for solo dining.

8. Blue Ribbon

*97 Sullivan St. @ Prince St.
Tel: 212.274.0404*

The service at the Blue Ribbon is friendly, for SoHo. But try to go either very early or very late, the place is packed during the dinner hour.

9. Cendrillon

*43 Mercer St. @ Grand St., SoHo
Tel: 212.343.9012*

This is an upscale Filipino/Asian restaurant. Because the Philippines is located between many cultures and has been influenced by many cultures the food is a wonderful culmination of those influences. One can taste the influences of Malaysia, China, India, Spain, Thailand and the Philippines itself. If you want Asian but in an attractive, traditional restaurant, then the Cendrillon is your choice.

10. Honmura An

*170 Mercer St. @ Houston St.
Tel: 212.334.5253*

Serving what are probably the best noodles in New York, Honmura An also boasts a calm and harmonious decor.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 West Village Restaurants

1. One if by Land, Two if by Sea

*17 Barrow St. @ 7th Ave.
Tel: 212.228.0822*

One if by Land, Two if by Sea is an overall positive dining experience. The food is inspired, the service superior, and the setting, an old townhouse, romantic.

2. Alison on Dominic

*38 Dominick @ Varick St.
Tel: 212.727.1188*

Alison is a bit hard to find, but the fine French cuisine is worth the hunt.

3. PÓ

*31 Cornelia St. @ Bleecker St.
Tel: 212.645.2189*

Chef Mario Batali, from the Food TV Network, works wonders at this small Italian restaurant, but seating is limited, so make reservations.

4. Taka

*61 Grove St. @ Bleecker St.
Tel: 212.242.3699*

There may be a bit of a line for this Japanese restaurant. But, they serve excellent edamame. Also, the china is hand-made by the sushi chef.

5. Drover's Tap Room

*9 Jones St. @ Bleecker St.
Tel: 212.627.1233*

Come here to enjoy basic, hearty, mid-west fare.

6. Home

*20 Cornelia St. @ Bleecker St.
Tel: 212.243.9579*

Home serves food like Mom used to make, only better presented and more imaginative.

7. Village Atlier

*436 Hudson St. @ Morton St.
Tel: 212.989.1363*

All of the food here is imaginative, but leave room for the desserts. They're wonderful. Ask about the ones not on the menu.

8. Shopsin's General Store

*63 Bedford St. @ Morton St.
Tel: 212.924.5160*

The decor is unassuming and the hours are...whimsical, but try Shopsin's anyway. The menu is eclectic and eating there will be one of those "New York Experiences."

9. Chez Michallet

*90 Bedford St. @ Grove St.
Tel: 212. 242.8309*

Chez Michallet may be small, but the food is big news and the waiters are attentive.

10. Gus' Place

*149 Waverly Pl. @ 6th Ave.
Tel: 212.645.8511*

Gus' Place is a fixture in the neighborhood. Make sure to catch the live Greek music and dancing. You can join in if you are not too full.



The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 East Village Restaurants

1. Il Buco

*47 Bond St. @ Bowery St.
Tel: 212.533.1932*

Come to this restaurant for the sophisticated Spanish/Italian menu and romantic, friendly atmosphere.

2. O.G. (Oriental Grill)

*507 E. 6th St. @ Ave. A
Tel: 212.477.4649*

O.G. makes serving beautifully presented, tasty Pan-Asian cuisine look easy. But don't be fooled, the staff works hard to make sure you have a great dining experience.

3. Mugsy's Chow Chow

*31 2nd Ave. @ 1st St.
Tel: 212.460.9171*

For real village ambiance, try Mugsy's. Their Italian won't disappoint and decor is fun enough to be its own attraction. But, keep your party small; crowds are turned away.

4. Bussola

*65 4th Ave. @ 9th St.
Tel: 212.254.1940*

Enjoy a quiet meal featuring high class Italian food while pondering the unique playing card motif on the walls.

5. Shabu Tatsu

*216 E.10th St. @ 1st Ave.
Tel: 212.477.2972*

Make your own Japanese barbecue! Don't worry, instructions are provided and the staff is very helpful. If the conversation doesn't sizzle, at least your food will.

8. First

*87 1st Ave. @ 5th St.
Tel: 212.674.3823*

If you are in the mood for dancing, cheap but good American fare, and a funky atmosphere, First is the place to go. But think twice before bringing the easily-shocked or very conservative.

9. Marion's Continental

*354 Bowery @ E. 4th St.
Tel: 212. 475.7621*

An eclectic menu, friendly staff, and cute decor make Marion's Continental a great option, especially for people watching and leisurely lunches.

10. Hasaki

*210 E. 9th St. @ 2nd Ave.
Tel: 212.473.3327*

A rare find, Hasaki has great sushi and a casual atmosphere.



The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 TriBeCa Restaurants

1. Chanterelle

*2 Harrison St. @ Hudson St.
Tel: 212.966.6960*

Chanterelle is a classic French restaurant, with better service. You will pay a lot for the experience of eating there, but special occasions deserve extra-special dining experiences.

2. Bouley Bakery

*120 West Broadway @ Duane
Tel: 212-964-2525*

This is a change of pace from the formal elegance of most of the pricey restaurants in this category. Originally, Bouley Bakery was an extraordinary bakery with a small cafe with exquisite French food. But the dining demand was so great that David Bouley had to expand. So he just changed the proportions. Now it's a full restaurant with exquisite French food and a small extraordinary bakery. The food is inspired, the service outstanding and the experience delightful.

3. Nobu

*105 Hudson St. @ Franklin St.
Tel: 212.219.0500*

The sushi is world-class, as is the clientele—Nobu is frequented by many celebs. This is a very attractive restaurant and the food is outstanding.

4. Montrachet

*239 W. Broadway @ Walker and White Sts.
Tel: 212.219.2777*

You can't beat Montrachet for great wine selection. The decor may be a little plain, but that just lets you concentrate on the food.

5. Craft

*43 E. 19th St. @ 5th Ave.
Tel: 212.780.0880*

Now you can act as "executive chef" in one of New York's top restaurants. (Exec chefs don't get their hands messy, they just make the decisions.) Here you will be guided to create your own full-course meal with fresh ingredients, imaginative presentation, and an enthusiastic staff. It's a fun, delightful place.

6. Union Square Cafe

*21 E. 16th St.
Tel: 212.243.4020*

The Union Square Cafe is another of New York's favorite restaurants. After just one meal there, you'll know why. The friendly atmosphere, top-notch food, service and low prices make it a winner.

7. Nobu Next Door

*105 Hudson Stree @ Franklin St.
Tel: 212-2190500*

Yes, the same high quality as it's famous brother next door but with significant differences: 1. No reservations, 2. Less formal 3. More eclectic crowd. But with one similarity: high demand to get in and experience the best Japanese food in Manhattan.

8. City Hall

*131 Duane St. @ Church St.
Tel: 212.227.7777*

This is a restaurant that pays tribute to "Old New York" by serving up classic, traditional meals with a contemporary touch. Its hamburgers are among the best in New York.

9. Gramercy Tavern

*42 E. 20th St.
Tel: 212.477.0777*

People come from far and wide for the nightly specials and the extensive wine list. This place is popular, so get your reservations far in advance.

10. Park Bistro

*414 Park Avenue South @ 28th St.
Tel: 212.689.1360*

This crowded, charming little bistro is like a bit of Paris in Manhattan.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Lower Manhattan Restaurants

1. Bayard's

1 Hanover Square @ Pearl St.

Tel: 212.514.9454

You enter a mansion. They greet you at the door and then guide you through ornate Italian rooms. Should you have worn your tux as they would have in New York of the 1800's? No, not necessary, but the feeling of someplace special permeates this landmark India House. They seat you with care at a table with a view of the spacious room and then serve you outstanding French-American cuisine.

2. Vine

25 Broad St.

Tel: 212.344.8463

An exciting restaurant in Wall Street. Is that a contradiction in terms? Well, the Vine pulls it off with its high ceilings, tall windows, and dynamically flavorful food.

3. 55 Wall Street

Regent Hotel

55 Wall Street

Tel: 212.845.8600

Wall Street is still operating and so is 55 Wall Street. This is as it should be. Classic American food right in the heart of the financial district in the great, stone Regent Hotel.

4. Delmonico's

56 Beaver Street @ South William St.

212.509.1144

This is a Wall Street institution. Since the early 1800's it has served those riding high on the Street and those headed for a crash. In most cases, it served them up a "Delmonico's Steak". It's a Wall Street standard, going up or coming down.

5. MarkJoseph Steakhouse

261 Water Street

212.277.0020

Located on this side of the Brooklyn Bridge by a general manager who used to work on the other side of the Brooklyn Bridge at the famous Peter Luger's. He brings the same commitment to old world service and tasty, tender steaks.

6. Fraunces Tavern

54 Pearl Street @ Broad St.

212.968.1776

You can't get more patriotic than dining here on your trip to New York. George Washington dined here. And, John Adams, and Madison and Hamilton and that whole gang of revolutionary patriots. This is where they went to drink in celebration after the reading of the Declaration of Independence. There is nothing more fun as you dine than thinking of all those patriots crammed in these very walls getting drunk with excitement as they looked to the future of their new and beautiful country. You can almost hear them shout, "Let's get on with it."

7. Cabana

89 South Street Seaport/Pier 17

212.406.1155

An exciting, invigorating place to dine. It's Caribbean with rhythm, freshness and charm. Located at the South Street Seaport you are assured the freshest fish; Caribbean hospitality abounds and the music keeps you smiling.

8. Morton's of Chicago

90 West Street @ Albany

212.732.5665

This is a sure bet if you're downtown and you don't want to take a risk. There is nothing more solid than the service and food that you get at Morton's. Maybe you've been trading futures all day, or playing derivatives or watching little blips on Bloomberg go in the wrong direction. Now, you want a solid American steak. No surprises. Then you want Morton's.

9. Hudson River Club

250 Vesey St. @ West St.

Tel: 212.786.1500

This is set on the New York Harbor and has an outstanding view of the Statue of Liberty. The harbor, one of the most active in the world, is a dynamic backdrop as you dine.

10. Wall St. Kitchen & Bar

70 Broad St. @ Beaver St.

Tel: 212.797.7070

Mingle with stockbrokers and bankers as they chow down after an intense morning of trading. Hundreds of different beers and wines. Here you will see the real Masters of the Universe.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Bagel Stores and Bakeries

New York is a bread lover's paradise. Its many famous bakeries ship to restaurants all over the world, but you can sample their creations right out of the oven. For an authentic New York bagel, try your neighborhood deli or visit one of these tried-and-true favorites.

1. Ess-A-Bagel

359 1st Ave. @ 21st St.
Tel: 212.260.2252
831 3rd Ave. @ 51st St.
Tel: 212.980.1010

Many say that Ess-A-Bagels are the best in the City. One thing is certain: they are the real thing. Whether you dress yours up with lox and cream cheese or just go for the plain, unadulterated bread, the twelve flavors available here will be sure to satisfy.

2. H&H Bagels

2239 Broadway
Tel: 212.595.8003
639 W. 46th St. @ 10th Ave.
Tel: 212.595.8000

Open 24-hours, H&H will deliver its bagels anywhere in the world.

3. Pick-A-Bagel

1475 2nd Ave.
Tel: 212.717.4662
1083 Lexington Ave.
Tel: 212.517.6590

Pick-A-Bagel makes up for its long lines and hectic atmosphere with great tasting bagels and one of the widest selections anywhere.

4. Balducci's

424 6th Ave. @ 9th St.
Tel: 212.673.2600

Bagels may not be the main event at this gourmet emporium, but they are something special, nonetheless.

5. A. Orwasher Bakery

308 E. 78th St. @ 1st Ave.
Tel: 212.288.6569

The Orwashers have been baking bread for over seventy years. Choose from more than 25 hearth-baked varieties on any given day.

6. Amy's Breads

672 9th Ave. @ 46th St.
Tel: 212.977.3856

Amy's breads are among New York's best. Although they are available in other locations around the city including Barneys (Madison Avenue); the busy storefront on 9th Ave. is not to be missed. Don't forget to sample the exquisite pastries.

7. Zito and Son's Bakery

259 Bleecker St. @ 6th Ave.
Tel: 212.929.6139

A bit of Italy in New York City. Sesame seed loaves baked in coal ovens will transport you to Rome.

8. Lafayette Bakery

298 Bleecker St. @ 7th Ave.
Tel: 212.242.7580

The Lafayette Bakery displays a tempting array of cookies, muffins, pastries and pies, all at surprisingly low prices.

9. Columbus Bakery

474 Columbus Ave. @ 82nd St.
Tel: 212.724.6880
957 1st Ave. @ 52nd St.
Tel: 212.421.0334

Bread, pastries, great coffee and light organic salads will tantalize you at the Columbus Bakery. Live music on the weekend.

10. Krispy Kreme Donuts

265 W. 23rd St. @ 7th Ave.
Tel: 212.620.0111

A Southern institution, Krispy Kreme has been embraced by New Yorkers who are quickly becoming addicted to the hot glazed kreme-filled delicacies. Press your nose up against the window and watch as the donuts roll down conveyor belts toward the deep fryer.



The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Green Grocers and Gourmet Stores

1. Zabar's

2245 Broadway @ 80th St.

Tel: 212.787.2000

The New York institution. Worth a visit just to look or to sample fresh foods from the deli.

2. Gourmet Garage

453 Broome St. @ Mercer St.

Tel: 212.941.5850

Gourmet produce is yours for discount prices at this green grocer.

3. Balducci's

424 6th Ave. @ 10th St.

Tel: 212.673.2600

This small Greenwich Village grocery gets crowded in the evenings. Stop by early for leisurely shopping.

4. Dean & DeLuca

560 Broadway @ Prince St.

Tel: 212.431.1691

Shop with the beautiful people in this trendy SoHo grocery and coffee bar.

5. Around the Clock Center/Chelsea Market

75 9th Ave. @ 15th St.

Tel: 212.243.6005

This food court and restaurant supplier is open to the public.

6. Italian Food Center

186 Grand St. @ Mulberry St.

Tel: 212.925.2954

Stop in at this grocery for takeout or to buy ingredients for your own kitchen.

7. Li-Lac Chocolates

120 Christopher St. @ Bedford St.

Tel: 212.242.7374

Once you try the decadent handmade truffles and heavenly buttercrunch at Li-Lac, you won't want to leave!

8. Ninth Avenue Cheese Market

615 9th Ave. @ 43rd St.

Tel: 212.397.4700

This cheese market stocks a wide selection of cheeses from around the world.

9. East Village Meat Market

139 2nd Ave. @ St. Mark's Place

Tel: 212.228.5590

This market is the place to go for Eastern European delicacies. Choose among a variety of meats, pastries, bread, pickles, and condiments.

10. K. Kalustyan

123 Lexington Ave. @ 28th St.

Aspiring curry chefs, take note! Here is the place to find all of the ingredients for your favorite middle-eastern recipes. They also operate a take-out counter for instant gratification.



The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Designer Stores for Women

As the center of international culture, New York is the sought-after venue for the world's leading designers. Within a few blocks, you can see today's most stylish and beautiful clothes.

1. Gianni Versace

647 5th Ave. @ 51st St.
Tel: 212.317.0224

This store contains the designs of one of the most famous families in fashion history. Though it may be a bit pricey, you can always say, "It's a Versace."

2. Giorgio Armani

754 Madison Ave. @ 65th St.
Tel: 212.988.9191

The most exclusive outlet for Armani clothes, this flagship store is frequented by leading New York and Hollywood stars.

3. Gucci

585 5th Ave. @ 54th St.
Tel: 212.826.2600

In addition to luxuriously soft leather shoes, Gucci offers its wide array of designs to New York shoppers.

4. Chanel

15 E 57th St.
Tel: 212.355.5050

Offers all the classic Chanel lines. See the replica of Coco Chanel's Paris apartment (by special request, of course).

5. Prada

841 Madison Ave. @ 70th St.
Tel: 212.327.4200

Straight from Milan, this designer is defining style in New York. Outstanding style, workmanship and prices.

6. Emanuel Ungaro

792 Madison Ave. @ 67th St.
Tel: 212.249.4090

This Madison Ave. fixture will lure you in with the attractive window displays and hold you with the exquisite fashions and decor inside.

7. Calvin Klein

654 Madison Ave. @ 60th St.
Tel: 212.292.9000

Where the designer comes to watch over the presentation of his most current, hot design. Everything here is perfect.

8. Christian Dior

703 5th Ave.
Tel: 212.223.4646

This store has been catering to its fashionable clientele for more years than it's polite to mention. If you want to be pampered with attention and then dressed in the most elegant French fashions this is the place for you.

9. Hermes

11 E 57th St.
Tel: 212.751.3181

The famous silk scarves and other accessories make Hermes the most luxurious attraction for those who define style in New York.

10. Givenchy

954 Madison Ave. @ 75th St.
Tel: 212.772.1040

The gowns will astonish you with their elegance. You can browse on your own or sit in a cozy chair while the staff displays the store's wares.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Designer Stores for Men

New York men are among the best-dressed in the world. Visit any of the stores for the latest in style and quality.

1. Giorgio Armani

754 Madison Ave. @ 65th St.

Tel: 212.988.9191

The designer's shop. In this elegant, four-story store, you'll find almost all Giorgio has to offer. Keep an eye out for Armani's famous clientele; you never know who will stop in.

2. Bergdorf Goodman Men

745 5th Ave. @ 58th St.

Tel: 212.753.7300

One of the broadest selection of outstanding men's furnishings in New York.

3. Fratelli Rossetti

601 Madison Ave. @ 72nd St.

Tel: 212.980.9448

The perfect store for finding the perfect pair of shoes. The aroma of Italian leather abounds, and you won't leave empty-handed.

4. A.T. Harris

2nd Fl., 11 E. 44th St. @ Madison Ave.

Tel: 212.682.6326

See where nine presidents have purchased their tuxedos for weddings and inaugurations. This shop for formal attire rents and sells it all.

5. Brooks Brothers

346 Madison Ave. @ 44th St.

Tel: 212.682.8800

This is the store that established "classic" men's clothing for generations. It is still classic but now it is also stylish.

6. Polo by Ralph Lauren

867 Madison Ave. @ 72nd St.

Tel: 212.606.2100

Here you'll find the full range of Polo products.

7. Lucien Pellat-Finet

226 Elizabeth St.

Tel: 212.343.7033

Nothing but the world's most exquisite cashmere. Here, you will find the most luxurious sweater or scarf you'll ever own.

8. St. Laurie Ltd.

895 Broadway @ 20th St.

Tel: 212.473.0100

Don't go abroad for hand-tailored suits. This store offers the same personalized service at reasonable prices.

9. Costume National

108 Wooster St. @ Prince St.

Tel: 212.431.1530

Find the perfect clubbing attire or just something that is New York hip.

10. Addison on Madison

Trump Tower, 725 5th Ave. @ 56th St.

Tel: 212.752.2300

An amazing selection of men's dress shirts in white, pastels, or prints.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Women's Shoe Stores

New York is the mecca for women's shoe shopping. These are the best women's shoe stores in the world.

1. Jimmy Choo

645 5th Ave., Olympic Tower

Outstanding London designer whose shoes adorned Princess Diana.

2. Sergio Rossi

835 Madison Ave., 69th St.

From Italy with that unique Italian flair for distinctive design.

3. Manolo Blahnik

15 W. 55th St.

Tel: 212.582.3007

The last word in sexy shoes for women. Most styles have precariously narrow, high heels. You may have to learn to walk all over again but Manolos believers claim it's worth it.

4. Susan Bennis/Warren Edwards

22 W. 57th St.

Tel: 212.755.4197

High fashion shoes of couture quality and design.

5. Charles Jourdan

777 Madison Ave.

Tel: 212.486.2350

No explanation is necessary here. Some of the best shoes in the world.

6. Joan & David

Madison Ave. @ 68th St.

Tel: 212.772.3970

Classic shoes to match your business suit or cocktail dress. Most styles in the \$150-200 range.

7. Patrick Cox

702 Madison Ave.

Tel: 212.759.3910

The shoes of the moment, imported from London. The store carries the popular Wannabe line in all its guises, with something for the conservative as well as the hip. Purple patent leather penny loafers, anyone?

8. Kenneth Cole

567 Broadway

Tel: 212.965.0283

A fine selection of slightly trendy, reasonably-priced shoes for men and women. Check out their socially-conscious and artfully-designed catalogue.

9. Maraolo

551 Madison Ave.

Tel: 212.308.8793

This Italian chain is the place to go for moderately priced, very stylish, well-made shoes. Chances are you won't leave with just one pair.

10. Robert Clergerie

60th St.

Tel: 212.207.8600

Unbearably stylish French footwear.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Hair Salons

What could be more glamorous than a makeover in one of Manhattan's top salons? These are the best salons in the world. You may not be famous, but at least you can look like it.

1. Frederic Fekkai Beauté de Provence

15 E. 57th St.

Tel: 212.753.9500

Located in the Chanel building, this salon specializes in creating classic looks for supermodels, actresses, and musicians alike. A series of peaceful, private rooms, this salon has few equals.

2. Garren New York at Henri Bendel

712 5th Ave. @ 56th St.

Tel: 212.841.9400

Serving as a favorite of the fashion world, Garren is responsible for famous makeovers.

3. John Delaria

433 W. Broadway @ Prince St., SoHo

Tel: 212.925.4461

This comfortable salon has a trustworthy staff well-trained in every look from classic to modern.

4. Linda Tam Salon

680 5th Ave. @ 53rd St.

Tel: 212.757.2555

One of the best hair colorists in the world, Linda Tam demands a high price; but customers say it's worth it.

5. Louis Licari Color Group

797 Madison Ave.

Tel: 212.517.8084

For the most exquisite and delicate of coloring jobs, turn to the professionals. They specialize in healthy, natural looks.

6. Vidal Sassoon

767 5th Ave. @ 59th St.

Tel: 212.535.9200

Providing service for both men and women, Vidal has been *one* of the most influential stylists in history.

7. Oribe Salon, Ltd.

691 5th Ave. @ 54th St.

Tel: 212.319.3910

Located inside Elizabeth Arden's salon, appointments are often difficult. However, this is the salon for the trendy, sexy looks of New York fame.

8. Pierre Michel Coiffeur

Trump Tower, 725 5th Ave. @ 56th St.

Tel: 212.593.1460

Though it offers complete service for both women and men, these stylists are known for their treatment of long hair.

9. John Allan's

95 Trinity Pl. @ Thames St.

Tel: 212.406.3000

This salon for men is located near Wall Street, and appeases its demanding clientele with a pool table and humidor, in addition to traditional amenities.

10. Jean Louis David

303 Park Ave. South @ 23rd St.

Tel: 212.260.3920

Stop here for straightforward and quick service. Arrive a few minutes early, though; this salon does not make appointments.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Department Stores

These are great department stores with flair, style selection, and personality. These are the stores that set trends for the rest of the United States.

1. Bloomingdale's

*1000 3rd Ave. @ 59th St.
Tel: 212.355.5900*

This New York institution fills up an entire city block. And, if you look carefully, you'll find excellent buys tucked in between the endless walkways and a myriad of cosmetic counters.

2. Saks Fifth Avenue

*611 5th Ave. @ 50th St.
Tel: 212.743.4000*

A fashion mecca (and looking the part), Saks stocks all the latest designer name-brands. It also features a comprehensive collection of men's clothing.

3. Lord & Taylor

*424 5th Ave. @ 39th St.
Tel: 212.391.3344*

American style dominates this department store. The reds, whites, and blues also make way for low-priced fashion gems from designers such as Donna Karan and Jones New York.

4. Barneys New York

*660 Madison Ave. @ 61st St.
Tel: 212.826.8900*

Don't be fooled by reports that this department store is suffering from financial difficulties. It may be true, but the Madison Ave. branch is alive and well, featuring the best conservative wardrobes in New York.

5. Bergdorf Goodman

*754 5th Ave. @ 57th St.
Tel: 212.753.7300*

Now featuring a home department to match the style and charm of the rest of the salon, this 5th Ave. fixture provides a lightly accented, mellow retreat for shoppers.

6. Henri Bendel

*712 5th Ave. @ 56th St.
Tel: 212.247.1100*

Besides providing the best in major fashion labels, Henri Bendel now works from a large in-house designer label. The tea room, featuring the beautiful lalique windows is a must-see.

7. Macy's

*Broadway @ W. 34th St.
Tel: 212.695.4400*

Size matters at Macy's. This is the biggest department store in the world. Find anything if you have the patience to find it. Expect to get lost.

8. Takashimaya

*693 5th Ave. @ 54th St.
Tel: 212.350.0100*

The fusion of East and West comes to a point at this Japanese department store. To find your inner peace, check out the gardening section.

9. ABC Carpet & Home

*881 and 888 Broadway @ 19th St.
Tel: 212.473.3000*

Furnish your home dozens of times over at this world-famous place for home furnishings.

10. Bergdorf Goodman Man

*745 5th Ave. @ 58th St.
Tel: 212.753.7300*

The male-counterpart of the main Bergdorf Goodman store across the street, this store is where the New York elite go for every type of clothing. You'll see many a couple go their separate ways in this area to separate Bergdorf Goodman stores.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Teen Clothing Stores

From ultra-trendy to vintage to grunge, teenagers will have no problem finding something special to bring home from New York that will dazzle their friends.

1. Canal Jean Company (Vintage)

504 Broadway
Tel: 212.226.3663

This store has everything from Calvin Klein underwear to very-used jeans. The clothing is very eclectic, covering expensive trendy brands as well as the bargain basement with Canal's huge collection of used jeans and army gear.

2. Urban Outfitters (Trendy)

394 6th Ave.
Tel: 212.677.9350

This store will please any style. The clothing is very village hip chic, and prices are usually reasonable. On weekends, the store is packed with interesting people.

3. Old Navy (Trendy)

610 Avenue of the Americas @ 48th St.
Tel: 212.645.0663

The rapidly growing casual clothing store, Old Navy is now all over the country, but the two New York locations are very large and offer a nice shopping atmosphere. The 18th street location boasts a 50's diner-style cafe and a photo booth.

4. Antique Boutique (Vintage)

712 Broadway
Tel: 212.460.8830

The Antique Boutique has changed its image and revamped its first floor with very expensive club clothing. Luckily, the basement is still the same collection of used leather jackets, sweat suits, jeans, and tropical shirts.

5. Andees Cheapees (Vintage)

16 W. 8th St.
Tel: 212.460.8488

Selling only recycled goods, this store is known mostly for its small but usually good collection of vintage flared pants. Their jacket collection is great, including leather, fur-collared, and belted.

6. Betsey Johnson and Olive & Bette's (Trendy)

Olive & Bette's:
252 Columbus Ave.
Tel: 212.579.2178

These two stores, conveniently placed together, provide a center for fun shopping on Columbus Ave. Continue up and down Columbus for more, but don't miss Betsey's riotous dresses (and the luxurious dressing room upstairs) or Olive's perfect tees and cool pants.

7. Infinity (Young teens)

1116 Madison Ave. @ 83rd St.
Tel: 212.517.4232

Perfect for ages 10-16, Infinity is the original Contempo Casuals. Printed tees abound as do whatever pants are in fashion. Definitely not to be missed by any die-hard adolescent shopper.

8. Steve Madden (Shoes)

540 Broadway
Tel: 212.343.1800
150 E. 86th St. @ 3rd Ave.
Tel: 212.426.0538

Steve Madden can always be counted on to have a good selection of trendy shoes for any occasion.

9. West Eighth Street (Shoes)

This stretch of two blocks is the be-all and end-all in shoe shopping. You will get dizzy from crossing constantly from one side to the other trying to hit all the stores. Shoes range from thigh-high stiletto heels to motorcycle boots to mary janes to everyday walking shoes.

10. Macy's (Trendy)

151 W 34 St. @ Avenue of the Americas
Tel: 212.695.4400

Even though it is one of the oldest and largest department stores in the world, Macy's has made it a point to be on the cutting edge of teen-age fashions, especially in their Herald Square store. It has a seemingly endless junior's department stuffed with racks of trendy clothes at low prices.



The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Stores for Bargain Shopping

This is where New Yorkers shop for bargains.

1. Moe Ginsburg

162 5th Ave. @ 21st St.

Tel: 212.982.5254

Upstairs from 5th Ave., men may find incredible buys: a selection of suits, outerwear, underwear, and more.

2. TJMaxx

620 6th Ave. @ 18th St.

Tel: 212.229.0875

Men's, women's and children's clothing and shoes, housewares and gift items.

3. Syms

400 Park Avenue @ 54th St.

Tel: 212.317.8200

Men's suits, shoes, ties, luggage, some women's clothing.

4. Dollar Bill's General Store

32 E. 42nd St. (between 5th and Madison Ave.)

Tel: 212.867.0212

Men's suits, Italian designer ties, some women's clothing.

5. Century 21

22 Cortland St. @ Church St.

Tel: 212.227.9092

Designer clothing, housewares and perfume.

6. Daffy's

111 5th Ave. @ 18th St.

Tel: 212.995.0151

Clothing, luggage for men, women, and children; open daily.

1311 Broadway @ 6th Ave.

Tel: 212.736.4477

7. The Wiz

17 Union Square @ 15th St.

Tel: 212.741.9500

Cameras, CD's, televisions, some computers.

If your tastes run to the old-fashioned, try Alice Kwartler for a fine selection of Victorian jewelry.

7. Gale Grant

485 Madison Ave. @ 51st St.)

Tel: 212.752.3142

Gale Grant makes high quality reproductions of famous pieces from the top lines.

8. Savage

267 Columbus Ave. @ 72nd St.

Tel: 212.724.4662

For out-of-the-ordinary and ethnic jewelry, try Savage.

9. Mikimoto

730 5th Ave.

Tel: 212.664.1800

Mikimoto specializes in pearls and offers a wide variety.

10. Fichera & Perkins

50 University Pl. @ 9th St.

Tel: 212.583.1430

Fichera & Perkins has a good selection of antique pieces at reasonable prices.



The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 New and Used Music Stores

Music is New York, New York is music. No city in the world has as an intense love affair with music as does New York. There are all types of music stores in Manhattan; these are the best.

1. Virgin Megastore

1540 Broadway @ 45th St.

Located in the middle of Times square, this is the largest music emporium in the world, occupying 75,000 sq. ft. With sales in excess of \$1 million each week, this store undoubtedly has something for everyone.

2. Norman's Sound and Vision

228 7th Ave.

Tel: 212.243.0500

Norman's offers the widest selection of used CDs, videos, and DVDs to be found in Manhattan.

3. Tower Records

1961 Broadway

Tel: 212.799.2500

725 5th Ave.

Tel: 212.838.8110

692 Broadway

Tel: 212.505.1500

Tower Records is to music what Barnes and Noble is to books. Peruse this company's vast selection and keep watch for any of your favorite musicians who might be making an appearance.

4. Gryphon Books and Records

2246 Broadway

Tel: 212.874.1588

This store offers rare and out of print music for a more "selective" taste. Their music includes classical, jazz, Broadway, soundtracks, ballet, and spoken arts CDs and LPs.

5. House of Oldies

35 Carmine St.

Tel: 212.243.0500

A better collection of records from 1950-1988 cannot be found. Check here to find that album you were looking for.

6. Venus Records

13 St. Mark's Pl. @ 2nd

Tel: 212.598.4459

Discount music is redefined in these two floors of CDs, LPs, and cassettes from all genres and eras.

7. Fat Flava

56 W. 125th St.

Tel: 212.348.6107

Located in Harlem, this store offers the best in hip hop, R&B, gospel, soul, reggae, and jazz.

8. Etherea Records

66 Ave. A @ 4th St.

Tel: 212.358.1126

Few establishments can compete with this music company's collection of indie, electronic, and trip-hop music.

9. El Barrio Music Center

2102 3rd Ave.

Tel: 212.876.3409

Specializing in all types of Latin Music, you will have difficulty beating the prices anywhere.

10. Footlight

113 E. 12th St.

Tel: 212.533.1572

International performance CDs of cast recordings, soundtracks, and vocals. They also offer a large variety of jazz, big band, and rock & roll LPs.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Bookstores

New York is book country. New Yorkers love to read and they all seem to be “writing a book.” They demand a lot from their bookstores, so there are a lot of great bookstores in the city to meet everyone’s particular interests.

1. Barnes & Noble

105 Fifth Ave.

Tel: 212.807.0099

The book lover’s “superstore.” This is their most famous store where New York celebs and Hollywood movie stars browse along with everyone else. You can literally bump into your favorite star.

2. Rizzoli

31 W. 57th St. @ 5th Ave.

Tel: 212.759.2424

Artsy, upscale bookstore where an intellectual clientele browses to subdued classical music.

3. Book Friends Cafe

16 W. 18th St.

Tel: 212.255.7407

This bookstore and cafe in Chelsea is a favorite literary haunt.

4. Argosy Book Store

116 E. 59th St.

Tel: 212.753.4455

Rare and out-of-print books, antique maps, posters, and prints.

5. Books of Wonder

16 W. 18th St. @ 5th Ave.

Tel: 212.989.3270

The perfect place to buy books for children or, better yet, introduce them to the joys of bookstore browsing.

6. The Strand

828 Broadway @ 12th St.

Tel: 212.473.1452

An assortment of used books and review copies (including best sellers) makes this the best place to buy books at bargain prices.

7. Murder Ink

2486 Broadway @ 92nd St.

Tel: 212.362.8905

True mystery lovers take note! This is the store for you.

8. A Different Light Bookstore and Cafe

151 W. 19th St. @ 7th Ave.

Tel: 212.989.4850

One of New York’s best gay and lesbian bookstores, A Different Light stocks a range of categories and regularly hosts readings.

9. Traveller’s Bookstore

75 Rockefeller Plaza

Tel: 212.664.0995

Worldwide travel guides.

10. Endicott Booksellers

450 Columbus Ave. @ 81st St.

Tel: 212.787.6300

Bask in the wood-paneled splendor at this atmospheric bookstore.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Collectible Stores

These are fun stores to visit even if you do not collect.

1. Cosmic Comics

2nd Fl., 36 E. 23rd St.

Tel: 212.460.5322

Featuring a wide selection of new and old comics, action figures, posters, and T-shirts, this store has been mentioned on the Today Show, CNBC, and MTV.

2. Accidental CDs, Records, and Tapes

131 Avenue A @ 9th St.

Tel: 212.95.2224

New and used CDs, records, tapes, videos, and more. Specialize in hard-to-find items.

3. Future Sports

659 Lexington Ave. @ corner of 55th St.

Tel: 212.308.1144

Autographed sports memorabilia from every major sport.

4. 46th St. Collectibles

429 W. 46th St.

Tel: 212.765.4488

Postcards, trading cards, and everything in-between.

5. Roger's Time Machine

207 W. 14th St.

Tel: 212.691.0380

Movie and print memorabilia.

6. American Telecom Inc.

350 5th Ave.

Tel: 212.244.8800

Pre-paid phone cards. Yes, people collect those...

7. Stack's Coin Co.

123 W. 57th St. @ 7th Ave.

Tel: 212.582.2580

One of America's oldest and largest coin dealers. This store offers a great collection of all kinds of coins.

8. Olden Camera and Lens Company

1265 Broadway

Tel: 212.725.1234

Sell your grandmother's Brownie and buy a Nikon cheap.

9. The Golden Spike

23 W. 45th St.

Tel: 212.354.7349

New York's only vintage train store.

10. Howdy Do Toy Collectibles

72 E. 7th Ave.

Tel: 212.979.1618

Kids and adults will love this place.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Auction Houses and Antique Stores

Some of the most beautiful art objects and antiques pass through the doors of these establishments. They are like museums where you can buy the artwork.

- 1. Sotheby's**
1334 York Ave. @ 72nd St.
Tel: 212.606.7000
You can find almost anything at Sotheby's, as long as it is rare and expensive. They are world-renown for auctioning off the effects of the very richest and most famous. But they also offer more esoteric selections like fossil remains. Try the Arcade (same address) for a relative bargain.
- 2. Christie's**
502 Park Ave. @ 59th St.
Tel: 212.546.1000
Christie's has been around for a little over two centuries, and they know what they are doing. Christie's East, 219 E. 67th St., Tel: 212.606.0400, is the "bargain basement."
- 3. L'Antiquaire and the Connoisseur, Inc.**
36 E. 73rd St.
Tel: 212.517.9176
L'Antiquaire and the Connoisseur, Inc. has numerous stunning, rare and beautiful articles spanning several centuries of European artistry and craft.
- 4. Stair & Co.**
942 Madison Ave.
Tel: 212.517.4400
The beautiful display makes the antiques look even more lovely.
- 5. Chelsea Antiques Building**
110 W. 25th St. @ 6th Ave.
Tel: 212.929.0909
If you love the thrill of the hunt when shopping, try the Chelsea Antiques Building. There are tons of vendors selling 6:45, the Philharmonic offers Rush Hour Concerts and Casual Concerts on Saturday with discussion groups afterwards.
- 6. Cobweb**
116 W. Houston St. @ Sullivan St.
Tel: 212.505.1558
Cobweb has an exotic, folkloric selection for those who like the out-of-the-ordinary shopping experience.
- 7. Darrow's Fun Antiques**
1101 1st Ave. @ 60th St.
Tel: 212.838.0730
The name says it all. This is the place to go for nostalgic toys and curiosity items.
- 8. City Barn Antiques**
269 Lafayette St.
Tel: 212.941.5757
This charming store carries primarily American antiques from the early part of the century.
- 9. Urban Archaeology**
285 Lafayette St.
Tel: 212.431.6969
Definitely not your average antique store, Urban Archaeology sells trimmings and pieces of old buildings.
- 10. Annex Antiques Fair & Flea Market**
6th Ave. @ 26th St.
Tel: 212.243.5343
The Annex Antiques Fair & Flea Market is one of the only indoor, year-round flea markets in the country. It's a great way to spend a rainy afternoon.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Tips for Seeing Broadway Shows

1. Order tickets as far in advance as possible when planning a trip to New York.

If you wait until you arrive, disappointment is almost inevitable for “hot” shows. However, theatres like to accommodate out-of-towners on the phone because they know they have one shot to get your purchase. So call the box office direct to charge tickets to your credit card. Or call Telecharge (Tel: 212.239.6200) or Ticketmaster (Tel: 212.307.4100). Matinees are Wednesdays and Saturdays.

2. Go to the Box Office.

You could be surprised to find tickets are available. Even “sold out” shows have a few tickets that become available for a variety of reasons. If you have a target show, check the Box Office first. There is also a Broadway Ticket Center in The Times Square Visitors Center on Broadway (between 46th and 47th Sts.).

3. Visit the TKTS Booth for reduced-price, same-day tickets for Broadway (and Off Broadway) shows.

These are unsold tickets that Theatres send over to TKTS on the afternoon of the performance. Not all shows are available. If you want to see a particular show go to the Box Office first. There are Two TKTS locations: One at Duffy Square, 47 St. and Broadway (open from 3:00 to 8:00pm for evening performances, 10:00 to 2:00 for Wed. and Sat. matinees, and 11:00am to 6:00pm Sun. for all performances), and one on the mezzanine at Two World Trade Center (Open Mon. to Fri. 11:00am to 5:30pm and Sat. from 11:00am to 3:30pm with matinees available only the day before). Be prepared: tickets are discounted 25-50%, but TKTS Booths only accept cash and traveler’s checks (surcharge added). The lines form early, and tickets are strictly first come, first served.

4. Standing room only...

Take advantage of this option for sold-out shows. Many theaters offer standing room tickets at lower prices.

5. Try a Ticket Broker

Ticket Brokers are legitimate. They buy blocks of tickets for hot shows and then resell them. State law prohibits premiums exceeding \$5 or 10% of the ticket price. If you plan on purchasing tickets through a broker, know the going rate for the tickets you are looking for and drive a hard bargain.

6. Last minute tickets are sometime available.

If you absolutely, absolutely have to see a particular show, hang around the box office and you might be surprised at how many people pull up in a cab to sell their tickets for that evening’s performance.

7. Be flexible.

It is often said that one cannot make a wrong turn on Broadway. All the shows that make it to Broadway have passed through a gauntlet of criticism and review. If you get shut out of that show you’ve set your sights on, pick another; you’ll be pleasantly surprised..

8. To find out about current theater offerings, consult The New York Times, The New Yorker or New York magazine.

There is also information available on the Internet. Start with <http://www.theatredirect.com> to find out about package deals.

9. Try Off Broadway

Off Broadway is a term used to designate shows that are of the Broadway caliber but do not have the glitz of The Big White Way. Usually, they are simpler in staging. Off Broadway is an official term used by unions and others to give to the producers lower rates. Therefore, Off Broadway tickets are much cheaper than Broadway and the performances are just as outstanding and the shows just as memorable.

10. Or, Try Off Off Broadway

Off Off Broadway generally refers to shows that are experimental, avant garde or exploratory. The accommodations are sparse. But, this is where Broadway Wannabes take their first steps on stage. For the adventurous or serious theater devotee.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Performing Arts Organizations / Venues

1. Metropolitan Opera Company

*Lincoln Center, Broadway @ 64th St.
Tel: 212.362.6000*

Great Opera in a great house. This company recruits the best singers and conductors from around the world. Secret: There are standing-room-only tickets available.

2. New York City Opera

*New York State Theater, Lincoln Center, Broadway @ 64th St.
Tel: 212.870.5570*

This company offers a diverse selection of performances and boasts alumni including Placido Domingo, but of course, the main draw is the consummately dazzling opera filled with vitality and style.

3. New York Philharmonic

*Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center, Broadway @ 64th St.
Tel: 212.875.5030*

From September to June, conductor Kurt Masur leads this world-renowned orchestra. In addition, every weeknight at 6:45, the Philharmonic offers Rush Hour Concerts and Casual Concerts on Saturday with discussion groups afterwards.

4. New York City Ballet

*New York State Theater, Lincoln Center, Broadway @ 64th St.
Tel: 212.870.5570*

The NYCB is the most classic of classic ballet. Winter season runs mid-November through February with the famous production of *The Nutcracker* in December. The spring season runs from April through June.

5. Carnegie Hall

*W. 57th St. @ 7th Ave.
Tel: 212.247.7800*

As the old adage goes, “It takes practice to get to Carnegie Hall.” But you can visit this paean to music on your trip to New York. The Hall plays home to every type of music.

6. Brooklyn Academy of Music

*30 Lafayette Ave, Brooklyn
718.636.4100*

The world's oldest music venue (opened in 1859) is still on the cutting edge of music and dance. Renovation will yield a multiplex movie theater and cafe.

7. Apollo Theater

*253 W. 125th St. @ Frederick Douglass Blvd.
Tel: 212.749.5838*

One of the top venues for up-and-coming artists, the Apollo offers live music every night (including a no-boo policy on Wednesday's “Amateur Night”). The Apollo's star power has waned since its golden days, but it can still draw the occasional big name performer.

8. Tisch Center for the Arts

*1395 Lexington Ave. @ 92nd St.
Tel: 212.996.1100*

The Tisch Center offers a variety of readings, lectures, and concerts—classical, pop, and jazz—with affordable ticket prices. Most series do not continue for the summer, but the jazz is always available.

9. Radio City Music Hall

*1260 6th Ave. @ 50th St.
Tel: 212.247.4777*

*1260 6th Ave. @ 50th St.
Tel: 212.247.4777*

This very New York venue hosts everything from rock and pop concerts to TV events and award shows to the famous Christmas extravaganza, headlined by its very own Rockettes.

10. The Juilliard School

*60 Lincoln Center Plaza @ 65th St.
Tel: 212.769.7406*

Throughout the school year, the school's young artists play at C. Michael Paul Hall and Juilliard Theater. Undoubtedly the most prestigious place to study music, you can see students here before they move on to fame and fortune.



The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Broadway Shows

There is nothing in the world like a Broadway Show, the dynamic power of seasoned professionals putting on a show that will last in your memory forever. Here is a list of the best on Broadway today. (See: The Top 10 Tips For Seeing Broadway Shows.)

1. The Producers

St. James Theatre
249 W. 44th St.
Tel: 212.239.6200

A masterpiece of comedy. By Mel Brooks...of course.

2. The Phantom of the Opera

Majestic Theatre
247 W. 44th St.
Tel: 212.239.6200

Captured with overpowering effect in the grand Majestic Theatre in the heart of Broadway.

3. 42nd Street

Ford Center for the Performing Arts
213 W. 42nd St.
Tel: 212.282.2900

If you can make it here you can make it anywhere.... The story of New York, again, and again, and again.

4. Les Miserables

Imperial Theatre
249 W. 45th St.
Tel: 212.239.6200

Let Broadway transport you to another time, place and age. And, feel your spirits rise.



5. Contact

Lincoln Center - Vivian Beaumont Theatre
150 W. 65th St.
Tel: 212.239.6200

Wow. This is what dancing is all about. A tour de force.

6. Chicago

Shubert Theatre
225 W. 44th St.
Tel: 212.239.6200

Sexy. Raunchy. Exciting.

7. Blue Man Group: Tubes

Astor Place Theatre
434 Lafayette St.
Tel: 212.254.4370

Mind expanding.

8. Cabaret

Studio 54
254 W. 54th St.
212.239.6200

Come, come to the Cabaret, and leave your troubles behind.

9. Kiss Me, Kate

Martin Beck Theatre
302 W. 45th St.
Tel: 212.239.6200

About the stars who make Broadway dynamic. Great egos compete within the exquisite score and lyrics of Cole Porter.

10. The Lion King or Beauty and the Beast

New Amsterdam Theatre/Lunt-Fontanne Theatre
241 W. 42nd St./205 W. 46th St.
212.719.1300/212.575.9200

Disney on Broadway with all the spectacular effects that Disney brings to a show.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Off Broadway Shows

These are the longest-running Off Broadway shows. They continuously bring joy to a dedicated theatre-going audience.

1. The Fantasticks*

Sullivan Street Playhouse
181 Sullivan St., Greenwich Village
Tel: 212.307.4100
(*Now closed)

2. Line

Thirteenth Street Repertory
50 W. 13th St.
Tel: 212.675.6677

3. Perfect Crime

Duffy Theater
1553 Broadway @ 46th St.
Tel: 212.695.3401

4. Blue Man Group

Astor Place Theater
434 Lafayette St., East Village
Tel: 212.307.4100

5. Stomp

Orpheum Theater
2nd Ave. @ 8th St., East Village
Tel: 212.477.2477

6. I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change

Westside Theater
407 W. 43rd St., Clinton
Tel: 212.239.6200

7. Late-Nite Catechism

St. Luke's Church
308 W. 46th St., Clinton
Tel: 212.239.6200

8. Tony 'N' Tina's Wedding

St. Luke's Church
308 W. 46th St., Clinton
Tel: 212.239.6200

9. De La Guarda

Daryl Roth Theatre
20 Union Square East @ 15th St.
Tel: 212.239.6200

10. Fully Committed

Cherry Lane Theatre
38 Commerce St.
Tel: 212.239.6200

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Longest Running Broadway Shows of All Time

- 1. Cats**
Number of performances: 7,485
- 2. A Chorus Line**
Number of performances: 6,137
- 3. Oh, Calcutta!**
Number of performances: 5,962
- 4. Les Misérables**
Number of performances: 5,600+
- 5. The Phantom of the Opera**
Number of performances: 5,300+
- 6. Miss Saigon**
Number of performances: 4,000+
- 7. 42nd Street**
Number of performances: 3,485
- 8. Grease**
Number of performances: 3,388
- 9. Fiddler on the Roof**
Number of performances: 3,242
- 10. Life With Father**
Number of performances: 3,224

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Cabarets

Cabaret is the most sophisticated and intimate style of live entertainment. New York has the best cabaret. Since performers change frequently we have listed the top venues. There is usually a cover charge or minimum. It is one of the best ways to spend an evening in New York.

1. Cafe Carlyle

*The Carlyle Hotel, 35 E. 76th St. @ Madison Ave.
Tel: 212.744.1600*

No devotee of cabaret can miss this extraordinary venue. Bobby Short is the master supreme, and he has established the Cafe Carlyle as the preeminent refined cabaret in the world. Woody Allen makes regular appearances.

2. Michael's Pub

*The Park Restaurant, 109 E. 56th St.
Tel: 212.758.2272*

3. The Oak Room

*The Algonquin Hotel, 59 W. 44th St.
Tel: 212.840.6800*

4. Cafe Pierre

*Fifth Ave. (at 61st St.)
Tel: 212.940.8195*

5. Danny's Skylight Room

*346 W. 4th St.
Tel: 212.265.8133*

6. Eighty-Eight's

*228 W. 10th St., West Village
Tel: 212.924.0088*

7. Supper Club

*240 W. 47th St.
Tel: 212.921.1940*

8. Firebird Cafe

*363 W. 46th St.
Tel: 212.586.0244*

9. Blue Note

*131 W. 3rd
Tel: 212.475.8592*

10. Iridium

*48 W. 63rd St.
Tel: 212.582.2121*

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Comedy Clubs

The best comedians come to New York to prove their worth. These are the stages where you will find them while they are waiting for their call from Dave or Conan.

1. The Comic Strip

1568 2nd Ave. @ 81st St.
Tel: 212.861-9386

This club has an off-beat, corner-bar feel to it. The lineup is unpredictable but always worth checking out.

2. Catch a Rising Star

253 W. 28th St. @ 8th Ave.
Tel: 212.462.2824

The aptly named club features Saturday Night Live personalities and other established headliners.

3. Caroline's

1626 Broadway @ 49th St.
Tel: 212.956.0101

Sandra Bernhard and Gilbert Gottfried attest to Caroline's star power, but it also features up-and-coming comedians.

4. Stand Up New York

236 W. 78 St. @ Broadway
Tel: 212.595.0850

After watching network primetime sitcoms, come see many of the stars at the Upper West Side's top choice for comedy.

5. Dangerfield's

1118 1st Ave. @ 61st St.
Tel: 212.593.1650

Rodney Dangerfield's club displays the newest talent in comedy. It's oftentimes a springboard to bigger and better things.

6. Comedy Cellar

117 MacDougal St. @ Bleecker St.
Tel: 212.254.3480

What began as an experiment beneath the Olive Tree Cafe has become the place showcasing hot talent.

7. The Improv

433 W. 34th St.
Tel: 212.279.3446

Richard Pryor and others got their start at this icon of comedy.

8. The Boston Comedy Club

82 W. 3rd St.
Tel: 212.477.1000

The owner's from Boston, but the acts come from all over the country. Monday is open-mike night.

9. New York Comedy Club

241 E. 24th St. @ 3rd Ave.
Tel: 212.696.5233

This close, intimate club has one of the lowest cover charges in New York and often books big-name acts.

10. Freestyle Repertory Company

120 W. 28th St.
Tel: 212.642.8202

The troupes will compete against each other in improvisational theatre comedy. On "Spontaneous Broadway" evenings, a group will begin with a song title from the audience, create a song around it, and then an entire musical. These wits are not to be trifled with.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Dance Clubs

Clubbing in New York is a high attitude affair which doesn't really get started until after midnight. The crowds are fickle, and a club that is in today is likely to be out tomorrow. With that in mind, here are some clubs to try. Cover charges vary, and cash is preferred.

1. SOB's (Sounds of Brazil)

204 Varick St.

Tel: 212.243.4940

Latin rhythms, salsa, and reggae music are the specialties at SOB's. Call ahead to see what's on at this very popular venue.

2. Coney Island High

15 St. Mark's Place @ 2nd Ave.

Tel: 212.674.7959

Hard rock music and a Coney Island theme keep a young crowd on its feet until the small hours at this downtown club.

3. Roseland

239 W. 52nd St.

Tel: 212.247.0200

Swing to big band music Thursday through Sunday in an old-fashioned ballroom. Swing is hot and this is the place to swing. A New York institution.

4. Life

158 Bleecker St. @ Thompson St.

Tel: 212.420.1999

Life is the club of the moment (at least for now). Each night a new theme attracts an equally fabulous, often famous, crowd. It is worth trying to get in, but don't hold your breath—have a back-up plan.

5. Decade

1117 1st Ave. @ 61st St.

Tel: 212.835.5979

This club attracts a spiffy, older crowd that appreciates its champagne bar and classic music.

6. Webster Hall

125 E. 11th St. @ 3rd Ave.

Tel: 212.353.1600

This enormous club is a favorite of NYU students. Five floors of thumping dance action is sure to have something for everyone.

7. The China Club

2130 Broadway @ 75th St.

Tel: 212.877.1166

This club is hot on weeknights. It isn't always easy to get in, so wear your most painfully hip outfit and vamp it up at the door.

8. The Roxy

515 W. 18th St. @ 10th Ave.

Tel: 212.645.5156

A cross-section of New York's club scene can be found at the Roxy. Check listings for weekly theme nights.

9. Au Bar

241 E. 58th St. @ Madison Ave.

Tel: 212.308.9455

Join the beautiful people at one of their longstanding hangouts.

10. Nell's

246 W. 14th St. @ 7th Ave.

Tel: 212.675.1567

More of a lounge than a dance club, Nell's attracts a diverse crowd and features a "chic living room" aesthetic.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Jazz Clubs

Check Time Out or The New York Times for band listings, show times and cover charges. Some clubs take reservations. Many require a minimum purchase (food or drinks) to sit at tables.

1. The Village Vanguard

178 7th Ave. S. @ 11th St.

Tel: 212.255.4037

Get there early if you want a seat, but your energy will be well-spent.

2. Sweet Basil

88 7th Ave. S.

Tel: 212.242.1785

Offering three shows per night, this club is a little busier than most.

3. The Blue Note

131 W. 3rd St.

Tel: 212.475.8592

This large and renowned jazz club presents jazz, Latin, and blues artists.

4. The Jazz Standard

116 E. 27th St.

Tel: 212.447.7733

5. Birdland

315 W. 44th St.

Tel: 212.581.3080

Originally played by Charlie Parker, everyone up to Miles Davis has taken the stage.

6. Chicago Blues

73 8th Ave. @ 14th St.

Tel: 212.924.9755

7. Tramps

51 W. 21st St.

Tel: 212.544.1666

8. Brownies

169 Avenue A @ 10th St.

Tel: 212.420.8392

9. Iridium Jazz Club and Restaurant

44 W. 63rd St.

Tel: 212.582.2121

Near Lincoln Center, this club offers the best jazz, good food, and friendly service.

10. The Knitting Factory

74 Leonard St.

Tel: 212.219.3055

Relaxed and small, this spot has hosted heads of state and showcases avant-garde jazz artists.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

Top 10 Bars in New York

1. The Greatest Bar on Earth

1 World Trade Center, 107th Floor

The World Trade Center

Tel: 212.524.7000

You've got to admire an establishment that calls itself the greatest on Earth. It sits on top of the World Trade Center with certainly the greatest city views on earth. Relax and watch as the city turns golden in the sunset and then starts glistening in the dark as the lights of the city sparkle like diamonds in the night. Recently they've added live music so you can dance the night away. Hey, what could be better.

2. King Cole Bar

St. Regis Hotel

2 East 55th St. @ Fifth

Tel: 212.339.6721

A classic New York bar just off 5th Avenue in the heart of Manhattan. A great place to take a break from shopping or to have a drink before doing the town.

3. The Grand Bar

SoHo Grand Hotel

310 West Broadway @ Grand St.

Tel: 212.965.3000

A very stylish bar in hot SoHo. A cool place with super cool patrons and cell phones galore. Where the LA crowd gathers when in NY.

4. The Oak Bar at the Plaza

The Plaza Hotel

768 Fifth Avenue @ 59th St.

Tel: 212.546.5320

No flash here. Just solid oak and solid New York service in a solid room that has been an integral part of New York for as long as New Yorkers can remember. If walls could talk these walls could have some of the greatest stories in the city.

5. Gramercy Tavern

42 East 20th Street @ Park Ave. South

Tel: 212.477.0777

A terrific neighborhood bar where locals pour in the door. The staff is friendly and makes you feel at home. You'll think you're a New Yorker.

6. Roof Garden at the Metropolitan Museum.

Metropolitan Museum

1000 Fifth Avenue @ 82nd St.

Tel: 212.535.7710

Especially on warm summer days this low-key rooftop bar is extraordinary with views looking out over the city skyline. A real pleasure. (Hours of operation are tied to the museum hours & it closes 50 min. before.)

7. O'Flaherty's Ale House

334 West 46 Street @ Eighth Ave.

Tel: 212.246.8928

A great bar for before the theater (or after). It's spacious with an open garden for the summer and two fireplaces for the winter. It's a refreshing place in the heart of the theater district and they give you the space to relax.

8. Pentop Bar & Terrace

Peninsula Hotel

700 Fifth Avenue @ 55th St.

Tel: 212.956.2888

A rooftop bar in the heart of midtown with terrific views. A place to sip away the early evening after a hot afternoon of shopping and touring. But, beware, it's very expensive for simple drinks.

9. Time Lounge

The Time, 2nd Floor

224 w 49th Street @ Eighth Ave.

Tel: 212.246.5252

In the Time Hotel in Times Square. The perfect respite from the hectic pace of Times Square. A chance to review what a great time you're having in New York.

10. Bemelman's Bar in the Carlyle

Carlyle Hotel

35 East 76th Street @ Madison Ave.

Tel: 212.570.7189

A late evening bar with some of the most sophisticated patrons in New York. A perfect place for a cool finish to a hot night in the city. Elegant dress recommended.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Power Bars

1. “21” Club

21 W. 52nd St.

Tel: 212.582.7200

A conservative crowd with prestige gives “21” Club the feel of an old-time club. Go there to make high-power deals or to see familiar faces from Fortune or Business Week.

2. King Cole Bar

St. Regis Hotel, 2 E. 55th St.

Tel: 212.753.4500

Cultured, from the gorgeous decor to the famous Maxfield Parrish mural.

3. Fantino

The Ritz-Carlton, 112 Central Park South

Tel: 212.757.1900

Dressy, conservative Fantino is the home of the traditional evening cocktail.

4. Polo Lounge and Restaurant

Westbury Hotel, 840 Madison Ave.

Tel: 212.439.4835

This classically elegant bar is popular with the well-heeled business set.

5. Elaine’s

1703 2nd Ave.

Tel: 212.534.8103

Unlike Woody Allen, you will not get your regular table when you go to Elaine’s. But go late, and you’re guaranteed an exciting evening of star-watching.

6. Oak Bar

Plaza Hotel, 5th Ave. @ 59th

Tel: 212.759.3000

The Oak Bar is an oldie, but a goodie. Sophisticated, respectable people make the crowd here, with the occasional celebrity.

7. Temple Bar

332 Lafayette St. @ Bleeker St.

Tel: 212.925.4242

The martinis at Temple Bar are said to be the best in the city.

8. The Library

Regency Hotel, 540 Park Ave. @ 61st St.

Tel: 212.339.4050

A great place to dine and read, especially good light-fare.

9. Algonquin Hotel Lounge

59 W. 44th St. @ 5th Ave.

Tel: 212.840.6800

10. O’Neals

49 W. 64th St. @ Broadway

Tel: 212.787.4663

In the middle of the Lincoln Center/theater district, O’Neals offers American food and an interesting bar scene.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Casual Bars

Not everything in New York is intense, stylish, and over-the-top. Here are the best bars at which to relax with at-home New Yorkers.

1. Riverrun

*176 Franklin St. @ Greenwich St.
Tel: 212.966.3894*

This TriBeCa hangout serves a loyal clientele at reasonable prices.

2. White Horse Tavern

*567 Hudson St. @ 11th St.
Tel: 212.989.3956*

A great place to drink, relax, and people-watch.

3. Chelsea Commons

*242 10th Ave.
Tel: 212.924.9424*

This pub has outdoor seating during the warmer months, and draws a bookish crowd.

4. Landmark Tavern

*626 11th Ave. @ 46th St.
Tel: 212.757.8595*

This Irish bar is a cozy hangout. Curl up by the fireplace with a plate of good old-fashioned comfort food or a pint of Guinness.

5. Flight 151

*151 8th Ave.
Tel: 212.229.1868*

This bar serves lunch, dinner, and Sunday brunch. Sidle up to the wooden bar and order your favorite beer.

6. Tortilla Flats

*767 Washington St. @ W. 12th St.
Tel: 212.243.1053*

In the mood for fun and games? Check out Tortilla Flats for a slightly raucous atmosphere. Bingo nights, an homage to Vegas lounge acts and occasional spontaneous sing-alongs are just the beginning.

7. Knickerbocker Bar and Grill

*33 University Pl. @ 9th St.
Tel: 212.228.8490*

This neighborhood bar features top-notch, live jazz music.

8. Broome Street Bar

*363 W. Broadway @ Broome St.
Tel: 212.925.2086*

This bar attracts an artsy, black-clad crowd.

9. Man Ray

*169 8th Ave. @ 18th St.
Tel: 212.627.4220*

A hip Chelsea spot, this bar attracts an upscale crowd and offers a generous happy hour.

10. Telephone Bar

*149 2nd Ave. @ 10th St.
Tel: 212.529.5000*

Three red London phone booths adorn the entrance to this establishment. Frequented by young professionals, students and local artists.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Irish Pubs

1. O'Flaharty's Ale House

334 W. 46th St.
Tel: 212.581.9366

The charms of O'Flaharty's Ale House go on and on: fire places, live music, book cases and a charming garden. Add in the casual, artsy atmosphere and you may just decide you've found the patch of Ireland you've always dreamed about.

2. Tommy Makem's Restaurant and Pub

130 E. 57th St.
Tel: 212.759.9040

Tommy Makem's Restaurant and Pub is a fresh, modernized take on the classic pub. They also take full advantage of the full spectrum of Irish music.

3. St. Dymphnas

118 St. Mark's Place
Tel: 212.254.6636

Enjoy good food in St. Dymphnas's lovely garden.

4. Neary's

358 E. 57th St.
Tel: 212.751.1434

Neary's has great steak and, of course, a fine selection of beers. The legendary charm of Jimmy Neary is reason enough to go to this pub.

5. Landmark Tavern

626 11th Ave. @ 46th St.
Tel: 212.575.8595

Located near Broadway, try the Landmark Tavern for a pre- or post-theater Guinness.

6. McSorley's Old Ale House

15 E. 7th St..
Tel: 212.473.9148

If you are looking for authentic atmosphere and good beer, try McSorley's. For dinner, look elsewhere.

7. Fitzer's

Fitzpatrick's, Manhattan Hotel, 680 Lexington Ave.
Tel: 212.585.2100

While the food is better than average, Fitzer's lacks some of the charisma of New York's older pubs.

8. Hunters

1387 3rd Ave. @ 78th St.
Tel: 212.734.6008

The food is cheap and the fireplace, cozy.

9. Thady Con's

915 2nd Ave @ 49th St.
Tel: 212.688.9700

Thady Con's boasts four working fire places and a heady selection of beers.

10. McGee's

240 W. 55th St.
Tel: 212.957.3536

McGee's is a good basic restaurant when you are in the mood for something traditional.

The Top 10 Guide to New York

The Top 10 Romantic Places to Meet for a Drink

Here are the most romantic places to meet for a drink in New York. Also, keep in mind that most large hotels in the city have ambient bars and restaurants, perfect to unwind in after a long day of working, shopping or sightseeing.

1. The Palm Court

The Plaza Hotel, 768 5th Ave. @ 59th St.

Tel: 212.546.5350

This elegant room is an oasis on 5th Ave. appealing to a very dignified crowd. With beautiful decoration and soft music in the background, The Palm Court is always a good place to go for a quiet, intimate conversation.

2. King Cole Cafe and Bar

St. Regis Hotel, 2 E. 55th St. @ 5th Ave.

Tel: 212.339.6721

King Cole's opulent decor and friendly bartenders will put you in a relaxed mode in no time. This is a New York classic.

3. Fantino

Westin Central Park South, 112 Central Park South

Tel: 212.757.1900

In what used to be the Ritz Carlton, this restaurant bar is formal and classic.

4. Park View at the Boathouse.

Loeb Boathouse, Central Park

Tel: 212.517.2233

The Park View will fulfill your romantic fantasies. It has an outstanding setting with views of the Park and the New York residential skyline.

5. Box Tree

250 East 49th St. @ 2nd Ave.

This gorgeous French restaurant is a lovely place to start a romantic evening out. Expensive, but not to be missed.

6. Cafe des Artistes

1 W. 67th St.

Cafe des Artistes has an intimate atmosphere with attractive murals and cozy spaces to get lost in. You may not be able to get a dinner reservation, but the bar is always open.

7. The Restaurant at the Carlyle

Carlyle Hotel, 35 E. 75th St.

Tel: 212.744.1600

The Carlyle's fabulous setting, carefully chosen wines and knowledgeable staff make it one of the very best of New York's many hotel bars.

8. Vong

Lipstick Building, 200 E. 54th St.

Tel: 212.486.9592

Vong's decor is exotic, with drinks to match. You may want to stay for dinner, as their French spin on Thai cuisine is sensational.

9. Monkey Bar

Hotel Elysee, 60 E. 54th St. @ Park Ave.

Tel: 212.838.2600

This stylish bar and restaurant attracts a younger crowd with its glamorous, Art Deco atmosphere. Order a Manhattan or a Martini and soak up the ambience.

10. Le Colonial

149 E. 57th St.

Tel: 212.752.0808

Pass through the fabulous Vietnamese restaurant downstairs and head for the chic bar on the second floor.

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The Top 10 Events January through June

Call the New York Convention and Visitor's Bureau at 800.NYC.VISIT for details on these and other events going on throughout the year.

- 1. New Year's in Times Square**
December 31/January 1
Tel: 212.869.1890
Watch the ball drop with millions of others (but come early!). It's a sight everyone should see at least once.
- 2. Art Expo New York**
Early March
Tel: 212.216.2000
Twelve thousand vendors of popular art, from posters to paintings to sculptures, descend on the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center. This is a trade show, open to the public for only a few days.
- 3. St. Patrick's Day Parade**
March 17
The world's largest civilian parade begins at 44th Street and winds its way down Fifth Avenue to 86 St. with crowds of green-clad participants. On St. Patrick's Day in New York, everyone is Irish and everyone is happy.
- 4. New York Coliseum Antiques Show**
Early April
Tel: 212.255.0020
The most popular of the many antique shows throughout the year in New York, this one takes place at 10 Columbus Circle.
- 5. Bike New York: The Great Five-Borough Bike Tour**
Early May
Tel: 212.932.0778
Cars clear a 42-mile route from Wall Street to Staten Island for this biking adventure. Over 30,000 participants gather for a party at the end of the ride.
- 6. Ninth Avenue International Food Festival**
Late May
Take a stroll up Ninth Avenue between 37 and 57 Streets, sample ethnic foods and watch street performers.
- 7. Lesbian and Gay Pride Week and March**
Late June
Tel: 212.807.7433
A week of festivities and fundraisers culminating in a parade down Fifth Avenue and a wild dance party in the West Village.
- 8. Restaurant Week**
Late June
Here's your chance to eat in New York's finest restaurants for well under the normal price. Prix fixe menus for lunch and dinner require reservations far in advance, so watch for advertisements for this event in the New York Times.
- 9. Shakespeare in the Park**
June through August
Tel: 212.539.8500
A series of top notch performances by famous actors at the Delacorte Theater. Free to the public, but tickets have to be obtained slightly in advance.
- 10. Summerstage**
June through August
Tel: 212.360.2777
A series of low or no-cost outdoor concerts in Central Park featuring a variety of music by new and established artists.

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The Top 10 Events July through December

1. Fourth of July

Tel: 212.695.4400

Check The New York Times for a full list of Fourth of July festivities. The most popular events are the Lower Manhattan Festival and Macy's fireworks display over the East River. For the best view, head to FDR Drive several hours before sunset.

2. Lincoln Center Festival

July and August

Tel: 212.546.2656

A variety of performances, from ballet and music to puppet shows and theater rounds out this popular festival. There is also outdoor dining in the Plaza. Call for schedules and tickets.

3. U.S. Open Tennis Championships

Late August/ early September

Tel: 718.760.6200

Flushing Meadows, Queens becomes the epicenter of the pro tennis world during this grand slam tournament. Tickets go on sale in May.

4. New York is Book Country Street Fair

Mid September

5th Ave. (from 48th St. to 57th St.)

More than 160 book publishers and booksellers are represented. Rub shoulders with America's leading writers and authors. Bring home a book personally-autographed by one of your favorites.

5. New York Film Festival

Late September/ early October

This two week festival is one of the film industry's most important events. Go and see the work of up-and-coming directors. You may witness the discovery of the next Quentin Tarrantino.

6. SoHo Arts Festival

October

Hundreds of thousands of visitors flock to this three day festival which features exhibitions at over one hundred galleries and museums.

7. Greenwich Village Halloween Parade

October 31

Just after sunset, the ghouls fill the streets for this parade up Sixth Avenue (check the Times for the route, which changes slightly each year). You can don a costume and join in or watch. It is a big parade and event in New York.

8. New York Marathon

Early November

Tel: 212.860.4455

Over 30,000 runners attempt the five-borough course, and about two-thirds of them are from outside of New York. World champions lead and those who are there for the fun follow to the finish in Central Park.

9. Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade

Tel: 212.494.5432

This parade begins at Central Park West and winds its way down Broadway to Herald Square, but the real party begins the night before as the balloons are inflated and a carnival atmosphere prevails at Central Park West and 79th Street.

10. Big Apple Circus

November through January

Tel: 212.268.2500

Damrosch Park at Lincoln Center is the venue for this circus with a New York theme. A favorite of children and adults alike.

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The Top 10 Things to Know for Getting Around New York

1. NYC Transportation: quick, efficient, extensive.

New York's system of taxis, buses and the subway make Manhattan one of the easiest metropolises in the world to traverse. The subway and buses run at all hours, although service is less during the late night and early morning hours. Taxis dominate the avenues, so hailing one is easy.

2. The New York Subway, an adventure.

A must for any trip to New York. The subway is a New York institution. Ask anyone for the nearest subway station, and they'll point you to it without hesitation. It is the quickest way to cover long distances in New York. Trains mostly run uptown and downtown Manhattan with some trains going across. Most sites and attractions in Manhattan are easily reachable by subway. If traveled intelligently, the subway is a safe, convenient and exciting way to travel.

3. The NYC Bus, New York up close and personal.

The easiest way to get around—except in rush hour. No matter where you are in the city, you are never more than a few blocks away from the nearest bus stop. All avenues and major cross-town street have buses running on them. (It's the best means other than a taxi for going cross-town.) Before getting on, tell the driver where you want to go. He will tell you if the bus goes there. (You have to watch where to get off.) Free maps are available from the driver.

4. Getting on the system.

A ride on the bus or subway costs \$1.50. Always get a Metrocard. You can buy one with any amount of money over three dollars and they can be refilled. A Metrocard allows you to transfer from bus to subway, subway to bus, or bus to bus for free within two hours of your last trip. For every \$15 (10 rides) that you put on your Metrocard at one time, you are given one free ride. If you are staying for a while, unlimited Metrocards are available for 7- and 30-day periods. These cards are worth the cost if you plan on using the bus or subway two or more times a day. They recently introduced a one-day unlimited Metrocard. Free maps are available in buses and in subway stations.

5. Taxi!

The word "ubiquitous" seems to have been invented for New York Yellow cabs. They're everywhere. (Except when it's raining. Don't ask.) Take only yellow taxis. All other cabs are unregulated. Don't worry about the driver trying to rip you off. Most are very honest. They're professionals. They just want to take you to where you want to go and get on to their next job. Taxis are the most expensive of the three systems but if you have to get to an exact destination fast, they'll do it for you. Note: Be sure you take one last look at the back seat as you get out. You'd be surprised what you might find there (like your wallet, purse or a just-purchased gift).

6. Walking...and walking.

New York is a great walking city. Manhattan is basically level with only slight gradations. Sidewalks are wide and well maintained. So you can really cover territory quickly when walking. Bring good walking shoes or sneakers. There is plenty to see. The streets are lined with every conceivable type of store, restaurants and art gallery. People are everywhere heading off to somewhere important. Stroll along and you will discover your own favorite sights and memories of New York.

7. Driving.

Taking an automobile into the city is doable but risky. There is almost nowhere to park. (They tow vigorously.) Driving is white-knuckle. And garage parking is expensive. But if you must, here are some hints. There is street parking outside the mid-town area. Upper West Side and Upper East Side have spaces. Then you can take the subway to where you want to go. Check the parking signs carefully.

8. Know your Towns

Strange as it may seem, this massive city is referred to as a "town". Midtown is the area around Rockefeller Center. Heading South towards the tip of Manhattan you're heading Downtown. Heading North, you going Uptown. Going across Manhattan you're going Crosstown. And, "This ol' Town" is where Frank Sinatra felt the heartbeat of the world.

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9. Rest Rooms.

Always a problem for tourists. A tip: the best rest rooms are in hotels. They are very public, usually clean and no hassle to use. In New York, you are never very far from a hotel. So, if you are getting concerned, set your sights on the nearest hotel and go refresh yourself.

10. Major Transportation terminals

There are three major transportation centers in Manhattan. The Port Authority Building, Penn Station and Grand Central Station. The Port Authority handles almost all the busses coming in and going out of the Manhattan. Located between 40th and 42nd Streets on Eight Avenue, it is a center of activity 24 hrs a day. Buses to the three major NY airports depart from here; New York Airport Service to JFK and LaGuardia and New Jersey Transit Airport Express to Newark Airport.

Just a few blocks away, is Penn Station (W. 31st to 33rd on Seventh Avenue) where Amtrak operates most of its trains. You can get a train there for Boston, Washington, Florida and all points in between. It is also a major commuter train center for Long Island and New Jersey.

Grand Central Station, located on the East Side on 42nd Street, is the center for commuter trains to Connecticut and upstate New York. A few Amtrak trains also depart from here. Just outside Grand Central Station on Park Ave and 42nd Street is the Airport Bus Center with busses that go to JFK and LaGuardia.

Coming into the city from JFK and LaGuardia airports, New York Airport Service (the most efficient and hassle-free way from the airports) deliver passengers to Grand Central and the Port Authority. From Newark Airport, New Jersey Transit goes to the Port Authority.

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The Top 10 Health Clubs

There are plenty of places to work out in Manhattan for those in from out of town. Most have a tourist day-rate. Many of these clubs have multiple locations. Call in advance.

1. New York Health and Racquet Club

*E. 50th St. @ 5th Ave.
Tel: 212.593.1500*

2. Crunch

*54 E. 13th St.
Tel: 212.475.2018*

3. La Raquette Club

*119 W. 56th St.
Tel: 212.245.1144*

4. Equinox

*897 Broadway @ 19th St.
Tel: 212.780.9300*

5. Chelsea Piers

*Pier 60, 23rd St. @ Hudson River
Tel: 212.336.6000*

6. Synergy Fitness Clubs

*4 Park Ave.
Tel: 212.545.9590*

7. Excelsior Athletic Club

*301 E. 57th St.
Tel: 212.688.5280*

8. Bally Total Fitness Sports Club

*335 Madison Ave.
Tel: 1.800.695.8111*

9. Manhattan Plaza Health Club

*482 W. 43rd St.
Tel: 212.563.7001*

10. New York Sports Club

*131 E. 32nd St.
Tel: 212.860.8630*

The Top 10 Auto Showrooms

If you're into cars, Manhattan is the place for you. Because of the wealth in the city, Manhattan showrooms have some of the most glamorous versions of top-of-the-line automobiles. Most of these versions will never reach your local dealer.

1. Rolls Royce

*Manhattan Motorcars
270 11th Ave.*

2. Bentley

*Manhattan Motorcars
270 11th Ave.*

3. Jaguar

*Manhattan Jaguar
787 11th Ave. @ 54th St.*

4. Mercedes-Benz

*Mercedes-Benz Manhattan
430 Park Ave.*

5. Lexus

*Lexus of Manhattan
829 11th Ave.*

6. Porsche

*Manhattan Motorcars
270 11th Ave.*

7. BMW

*BMW of Manhattan
555 W. 57th St.*

8. Land Rover

*Zumbach Sports cars
629 W. 54th St.*

9. Lincoln

*Manhattan Lincoln
787 11th Ave. @ 54th St.*

10. Cadillac

*Potamkin Cadillac
798 11th Ave.*

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The Top 10 One-Liners About New York

1. **“New Yorkers talk very loud, very fast and all together.”**
John Adams, 1774
2. **“A city of right angles and tough people.”**
Pete Hamill, 1978
3. **“It’s the greatest place on earth.”**
John Lennon, 1975
4. **“It’s a wonderful place to visit but I wouldn’t want to live there.”**
Anonymous
5. **“It is the place where all the aspirations of the Western World meet to form one vast Master aspiration.”**
H. L. Mencken, 1927
6. **“Skyscraper National Park”**
Kurt Vonnegut, 1976
7. **“It is so convenient to everything I can’t afford.”**
Jack Barry, 1952
8. **“New York is today and tomorrow. Yesterday...what is yesterday anyway?”**
PWN, 2000
9. **“A city of dreams - promised, built and broken.”**
Ada Louise Huxtable, 1975
10. **“The world is grand, big and astonishingly beautiful. But I love New York.”**
Dorothy Kilgallen, 1936

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