INSIDER’S GUIDE
TO NEW YORK CITY
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Art Museums

Midtown, 11 West 53rd Street (5th/6th Avenues):  Founded in 1929, the MoMA is one of the world’s largest museums devoted to modern and contemporary art. The permanent collection holds iconic works like Van Gogh’s “Starry Night,” Picasso’s “Les Demoiselles d’Avignon,” and three large panels of Monet’s “Water Lilies” as well as celebrated works by Frida Kahlo, Jackson Pollock, Georgia O’Keeffe, Mark Rothko, to name but a few of the artists featured at the MoMA.

Insider Tips: Even if you have been in the past, the MoMA has recently changed its gallery structure. There is now a floor devoted to The Sixties. You may not see a remembered painting in the same place you last saw it. Photography has been integrated into other galleries.

MoMA PS1, 22-25 Jackson Avenue, Long Island City (Subway 7 to Court Square): MoMA PS1 is devoted to today’s most experimental, thought-provoking contemporary art. Founded in 1971, it is the first nonprofit arts center in the U.S. devoted solely to contemporary art.

The MET – The Metropolitan Museum of Art  www.metmuseum.org
The MET recently changed its admissions policy, so anyone not a resident in New York State or a student from New Jersey or Connecticut must pay full admission, which can be as high as $25.

The MET Fifth Avenue, 1000 Fifth Avenue (at 82nd Street): The Met Fifth Avenue presents over 5,000 years of art spanning all cultures and time periods. Since the Museum opened its doors to the public in its current location in Central Park in 1880, its footprint has expanded to cover more than two million square feet. Today, art comes alive in the Museum’s galleries and through its exhibitions and events, revealing both new ideas and unexpected connections across time and cultures.

Insider Tip: When you are done with the museum, make sure you walk around Central Park – bring your camera, there are great views of the skyline!

The MET Breuer, 945 Madison Avenue (at 75th Street): The Met does modern on Madison at The Met Breuer. The bold architecture of Marcel Breuer’s landmark building provides a superb setting in which to experience art of the 20th and 21st centuries. Taking a global approach, The Met Breuer presents modern and contemporary works by artists from around the world.

The MET Cloisters, 99 Margaret Corbin Drive in Upper Manhattan (Subway A to 190th Street or Bus M4 to last stop): The Met Cloisters, located on four acres overlooking the Hudson River in northern Manhattan’s Fort Tryon Park, is the branch of the Museum dedicated to the art, architecture, and gardens of medieval Europe. Deriving its name from the medieval cloisters that form the core of the building, it presents a harmonious and evocative setting for more than 2,000 exceptional artworks and architectural elements from the medieval West.
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99 Gansevoort Street in Manhattan’s stylish Meatpacking District: As the preeminent institution devoted to the art of the United States, the Whitney Museum of American Art presents the full range of 20th century and contemporary American art, with a special focus on works by living artists. Designed by architect Renzo Piano and situated between the High Line and the Hudson River, the Whitney’s spectacular new building vastly increases the Museum’s exhibition and programming space, providing the most expansive view ever of its unsurpassed collection of modern and contemporary American art.

Insider Tip: Start on the top floor of the museum and walk down on the outdoor stairs; have a drink and take in the extraordinary views of the Meatpacking District from the outside terraces.

The Solomon R Guggenheim Museum
1071 Fifth Avenue (at 88th Street): One of the most significant architectural icons of the 20th century (Frank Lloyd Wright, 1959), the Guggenheim Museum is a vital cultural center, an educational institution, and the heart of an international network of museums. Visitors can experience special exhibitions of modern and contemporary art, lectures by artists and critics, performances, film screenings, classes and daily tours of the galleries led by museum educators. Founded on a collection of early modern masterpieces, the Guggenheim today is an ever-evolving institution devoted to the art of the 20th century and beyond.

Insider Tip: Start at the top floor and wind your way down the spiral.

Neue Galerie  www.neuegalerie.org
1048 Fifth Avenue (at 86th Street): Neue Galerie is a museum devoted to early 20th century German and Austrian art and design. The collection features art from Vienna circa 1900, exploring the special relationship that existed between the fine arts (of Gustav Klimt, Egon Schiele, Oskar Kokoschka, Richard Gerstl and Alfred Kubin) and the decorative arts (created at the Wiener Werkstätte by such well-known figures as Josef Hoffmann, Koloman Moser and Dagobert Peche, and by such celebrated architects as Adolf Loos, Joseph Urban and Otto Wagner).

Insider Tips: After you have admired “The Woman in Gold” (rumored price tag: $135 million), relax and enjoy a piece of Sacher Torte in the Viennese Café Sabarsky on the ground floor of the Museum. The Café also occasionally hosts Cabaret performances in an intimate setting.
The Frick Collection  www.frick.org
1 East 70th Street (at Fifth Avenue): Internationally recognized as a premier museum and research center, the Frick is known for its distinguished Old Master paintings and outstanding examples of European sculpture and decorative arts. The collection was assembled by the Pittsburgh industrialist Henry Clay Frick (1849–1919) and is housed in his former residence on Fifth Avenue. One of New York City’s few remaining Gilded Age mansions, it provides a tranquil environment for visitors to experience masterpieces by artists such as Bellini, Rembrandt, Vermeer, Gainsborough, Goya, and Whistler. The museum opened in 1935 and has continued to acquire works of art since Mr. Frick’s death. Insider Tips: Stand in the middle of the main gallery and take in the two large Turners. Make sure you go to the lower level for the special exhibit.

Cooper-Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum https://www.cooperhewitt.org/

The Pierpont Morgan Library & Museum  www.themorgan.org
225 Madison Avenue (36th/37th Streets): The Morgan began as the private library of financier Pierpont Morgan, one of the preeminent collectors and cultural benefactors in the U.S. Today it is a museum, independent research library, music venue, architectural landmark, and historic site. A century after its founding, the Morgan maintains a unique position in the cultural life of New York City and is considered one of its greatest treasures. With the 2006 reopening of its newly renovated campus, designed by renowned architect Renzo Piano, and the 2010 refurbishment of the original library, the Morgan reaffirmed its role as an important repository for the history, art, and literature of Western civilization from 4000 B.C. to the 21st century.

The New Museum for Contemporary www.newmuseum.org
235 Bowery (at Prince Street, Lower East Side): Founded in 1977, the New Museum is a leading destination for new art and new ideas. It is Manhattan’s only dedicated contemporary art museum and is respected internationally for the adventurousness and global scope of its curatorial program. The New Museum’s building was designed by Tokyo-based architects Kazuyo Sejima and Ryue Nishizawa/SANAA, the 2010 Pritzker Architecture Prize winner and named one of “The World’s 50 Most Innovative Companies” by Fast Company in 2016.
Chelsea Art Galleries

Museum-Quality Art:

Gagosian  www.gagosian.com
Several locations, incl. 555 West 24th Street, 522 West 21st Street

David Zwirner Gallery  www.davidzwirner.com
Several locations, incl. 519, 525 & 533 West 19th Street, 537 West 20th Street

Pace Gallery  www.pacegallery.com
Several locations, incl. 537 West 24th Street, 510 West 25th Street

More Affordable Art:

Buildings containing several art galleries, e.g.:  547 West 27th Street; 529 West 20th Street.

Also check out the streets and buildings surrounding 520 West 28th Street – a residential building designed by the late Zaha Hadid, the first woman to receive the Pritzker Architecture Prize (2004).

There are numerous galleries featuring artists from the U.S. and around the world.
Free / Low Cost Activities
Public Art

Cleopatra’s Needle (1450 BC) Central Park, behind the Metropolitan Museum of Art: This stone sculpture was transported from Egypt to NYC and placed in Central Park in 1881.

Forrest Myers, “The Gateway to SoHo” (1973) 599 Broadway (South/West corner of Houston & B’way): 42 aluminum bars on the building wall symbolize the void created when buildings were torn down to widen Houston Street.

Bowery/Houston Mural North/West corner of East Houston Street & Bowery: Wall with ever-changing murals; past artists have included Keith Haring, Swoon, Shepard Fairey, and Kenny Scharf.


Arturo Di Modico, “Charging Bull” (1989) & Kristen Visbal, “Fearless Girl” (2017) Currently located in Bowling Green (southern tip of Manhattan): Two sculptures facing each other – very now! Note: Because these two sculptures are so popular, they may be moved to a location better able to accommodate large crowds – check online before you head out!

Oculus World Trade Center Transit Hub Between Church, Fulton and Greenwich Streets in the Financial Center in Downtown Manhattan: Designed by Santiago Calatrava, the Oculus “resembles a bird being released from a child’s hand.” Breathtaking!
Strawberry Fields (1985)

Central Park, near West 72nd Street: Memorial to John Lennon, with embedded mosaic, bronze plaque and flower arrangements. From the Central Park website: “Strawberry Fields was officially dedicated on October 9, 1985, the 45th anniversary of Lennon’s birth. Lennon’s widow, Yoko Ono Lennon, worked with landscape architect Bruce Kelly and Central Park Conservancy to create a meditative spot. The mosaic was created by Italian craftsmen and given as a gift by the city of Naples. Based on a Greco-Roman design, it bears the word of another of Lennon’s songs: Imagine. A designated Quiet Zone in the Park, the memorial is shaded by stately American elms and lined with benches. In the warmer months, flowers bloom all around the area. Along the path near the mosaic, you’ll find a bronze plaque that lists the 121 countries that endorse Strawberry Fields as a Garden of Peace.”

Lee Lawrie and Rene Paul Chambellan, “Atlas” (1937)

630 Fifth Avenue, main entrance forecourt (across the street from St. Patrick’s): The Titan condemned to carry the world on his shoulders for eternity is one of Rockefeller Center’s greatest Art Deco icons. www.rockefellercenter.com/art-and-history/art/atlas/

Paul Manship, “Prometheus” (1934)

Rockefeller Center: The Titan bringing fire to mankind is probably the most photographed public art piece in NYC. www.rockefellercenter.com/art-and-history/art/prometheus/

Art on The High Line

West Side of Manhattan, from the Whitney Museum to 34th Street: There are several pieces of public art on and near the High Line, and they frequently change. www.thehighline.org
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City Views

The Exchange Place (Jersey City) www.panynj.gov/path/exchange-place-station.html
Subways to World Trade Center Hub: A, C, E, J, R, W, Z, 2, 3, 4 and S. Take the PATH train one stop from the Oculus World Trade Center Hub to Exchange Place for the 3-minute ride (fare $2.75; MetroCards accepted). The park adjacent to Exchange Place station has beautiful views of downtown Manhattan, the Statue of Liberty and NY Harbor.

Staten Island Ferry www.siferry.com
Subway 1 to Whitehall Street/South Ferry or 5 at Bowling Green. The 5 mile, 25 minute boat ride provides spectacular views of NY Harbor, including the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. Ferries leave approximately every 20-30 minutes, and passage is free. All passengers must disembark and re-board on Staten Island for the return trip to Manhattan. Snacks and (adult) beverages are available at both terminals.

Insider Tip: Time your trip around sunrise or sunset, about 6:10 am and 7:30 pm respectively during the week of April 16th. Bonus: The Alexander Hamilton U.S. Custom House, “Charging Bull” and “Fearless Girl” are near the Manhattan Terminal.

Central Park www.centralparknyc.org/things-to-see-and-do
Suggested itinerary for an hour’s stroll: Enter at 59th Street and Fifth Avenue (across the street from the Plaza Hotel and NYC’s flagship Apple store). Walk around the Pond, stopping at the iconic Gapstow Bridge. Continue north past Wollman Rink toward Literary Walk, located on the southern end of the mall. Continue up the mall to Bethesda Terrace. To return to Fifth Avenue, walk east (if facing the fountain with the mall behind you, east is your right). Return to Grand Central Terminal via the subway number 4 or 6 at Lexington and 68th Street, or continue to the Frick, the MET Fifth Avenue, or the MET Breuer (see Art Museum Section of this guide).

Among the many monuments, the Insiders note for you the Alice in Wonderland statue on the north side of the Conservatory Lake, near 76th Street and Fifth Avenue.

Main Street Park at Dumbo www.brooklynbridgepark.org/park/main-street
Subway F to York Street or A/C to High Street Brooklyn Bridge Station. A 3.5 acre park on the Brooklyn waterfront in the DUMBO (Down Under the Manhattan Bridge Overpass) neighborhood with beautiful views of the Brooklyn Bridge, Manhattan Bridge, and Lower Manhattan. Ride Jane’s Carousel, admire the rotating public art, browse local shops, or buy a coffee at Brooklyn Roasting Company (25 Jay Street, www.brooklynroasting.com) and find a spot in the park to sit and admire the view. Look up and down the East River from these vantage points.

If you are feeling ambitious, walk across the 135-year old Brooklyn Bridge back to lower Manhattan. The pedestrian overpass ends in front of City Hall Park, home of New York City Hall. The nearby 4/5/6 Subway goes to Grand Central Terminal. Alternatively, walk north to Foley Square, home to many courthouses, including the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, or walk south to the World Trade Center, Wall Street or Trinity Church (see Historical Section of this guide).
The Elevated Acre, 55 Water Street (take escalator up from street level in front of the Standard & Poors Building): Lawn, dune grass and wooden benches and tables cantilevered over East River Drive with spectacular views of the East River, New York Bay and helicopters taking off and landing from Wall Street Heliport. An oasis in the Financial District!

**Iconic Sites**

**NY Public Library, Stephen A. Schwarzman Building**  [www.nypl.org/events/tours](http://www.nypl.org/events/tours)
476 Fifth Avenue (42nd Street and Fifth Ave). Walking distance from The Grand Hyatt. Tour the New York Public Library’s 1911 Beaux Arts lion-guarded building with a free one-hour docent led tour. The tour visits many of the must-see spaces—including the Rose Main Reading Room and the Library’s exhibitions. Tours are available starting at 11 am until 2 pm, Monday through Saturday, and are first come, first served.

**Bryant Park Monuments**

Behind the New York Public Library. The monuments to public figures are rather eclectic, with Benito Juarez, Gertrude Stein and Johann Wolfgang von Goethe easily mixing among others.

**The Grand Tour**  [www.nyc.com/guided_tours/the_grand_tour.1020476/](http://www.nyc.com/guided_tours/the_grand_tour.1020476/)
Fridays at 12:30 pm in the Atrium at 120 Park Avenue, located at the southwest corner of East 42nd Street and Park Avenue, directly across from Grand Central Terminal. No reservation required. The Grand Central Partnership offers a free 90-minute walking tour of the Grand Central neighborhood that provides a survey of many of the architecturally and historically significant sights around the Grand Hyatt. Learn the secrets of the Whispering Gallery in Grand Central Terminal and why Pershing Square isn’t really square; gaze upon the hubcaps and the roadsters on the side of the Chrysler Building; discover the favorite Midtown Manhattan hangout of Mercury, Hercules, and Minerva; circle the globe in a matter of seconds like Superman; and visit the original Lincoln Memorial by Daniel Chester French. The AAA Guide to New York rated The Grand Tour as New York City’s “Best Walking Tour.”
St. Patrick’s Cathedral  www.saintpatrickscathedral.org
Fifth Avenue (between 50th and 51st Streets). Subway E or M to 53rd/Fifth Ave or 6 to 51st Street. The huge Neo-Gothic Church contains a giant organ with 7,855 pipes (there is a smaller one too), a bevy of stained-glass windows, more than 20 altars – two of which were designed by Tiffany & Co. – and a marble “Stations of the Cross”, which won recognition at the 1893 World’s Fair in Chicago.

One Bowling Green. Subway 4/5 to Bowling Green. The striking seven-story 1907 Beaux Arts U.S. Custom House designed by Cass Gilbert (architect of the Woolworth Building and the U.S. Supreme Court building in D.C.) is on the south side of Bowling Green at the foot of Broadway. A national and NYC historic landmark, the federal building has been meticulously renovated. The ground floor houses the NY branch of the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian, open 7 days a week with free entrance. http://nmai.si.edu/visit/newyork/ Don’t just stand outside; walk in to see the work of art (and feat of engineering) that is the rotunda. The federal bankruptcy court is located on the upper floors of the building.

Coney Island  www.coneyisland.com/tourist-information
1208 Surf Avenue. Subway D, Q, N or F at Stillwell Avenue (45-60 minutes from Midtown Manhattan). Weekends only in April. Leave the glitz and glamour of Manhattan to enjoy the old-school amusement of Brooklyn’s storied Coney Island. The destination offers thrills, sun, surf and a unique brand of entertainment that will feel worlds away from the rest of the City. Home to the Cyclone (the legendary wooden roller coaster) and Luna Park amusement park, the New York Aquarium, the original Nathan’s Famous (home of the hot dog eating contest), the Brooklyn Cyclones minor league baseball team, a world-renowned boardwalk and, of course, Atlantic beaches.
New York City and the surrounding area was the site of significant activity in the early days of the Revolutionary War. Following the Declaration of Independence in July 1776 and the evacuation of Boston by the British, New York became the focal point for both sides. Washington anticipated an attack on the city, and given the perceived Loyalist base in New York, Howe viewed the city as a strategic necessity. Howe attacked Brooklyn from Staten Island, and a flanking maneuver along an undefended road along the American left flank drove the Americans to Brooklyn Heights. Washington evacuated his forces to Manhattan and retreated northward. The Battle of Brooklyn (Long Island) was a significant victory for the British and fed the faction of the American Congress that had doubts about Washington’s leadership. The battle occurred August 27, 1776.

Insider’s Tip: In the park under the Brooklyn Bridge on the Brooklyn side, near the Brooklyn Ice Cream Factory, are markers showing the location of the “Brookland Ferry Landing” where Washington’s troops were evacuated. Other sites in Brooklyn are found in Prospect Park, along the East Drive and elsewhere. You can find markers for the New York Revolutionary War Heritage Trail that includes Manhattan at https://parks.ny.gov/historic-preservation/heritage-trails/revolutionary-war/default.aspx. You can also go on www.hmdb.org and search for Revolutionary War sites in Kings County (Brooklyn).

More convenient for those in Manhattan is tracing the Battle of Kips Bay, which occurred on September 15, 1776. Following the August 29 evacuation of Brooklyn, a strange interlude of just over two weeks occurred. During this interim period, Admiral Richard Howe sought to engage Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, and Edward Rutledge in another peace conference, but that was rejected. You can visit Conference House on Staten Island (http://conferencehouse.org/).
Four days after that September 11 initiation, his brother, General Howe launched a massive amphibious assault on Kips Bay on September 15, 1776. The British assaulted with over 80 flatboats and 4,000 men beginning around 10 a.m. The bombardment from five British man-of-war ships and 86 guns began at 11 a.m. and continued to 1 p.m. It was the eighteenth-century equivalent of D-Day. Washington’s forces, entrenched along the East River in the vicinity of 34th Street, abandoned the ditches that passed for defensive fortifications. Despite his efforts to rally the Americans, Washington was forced to concede the loss of the position at Kips Bay and the British successfully made the landing in Manhattan. Although Washington was furious with the retreat of the Connecticut troops, more sympathetic contemporary historians agree that they were grossly outnumbered and had they stayed and fought, they would have been slaughtered.

Insider’s Tip: If you are adventurous, and take 34th or 35th Street down to the East River, or just to the north around 36th or 37th Street, you will be in the area of Kips Bay, although landfill has pushed the actual shoreline out into the river.

In the area of the New York City Public Library, Washington encountered retreating Continental troops. Washington moved his troops to the northern part of Manhattan Island. Washington’s victory at Harlem Heights on September 16, like the First Battle of Trenton, was not strategically significant; it was an accidental battle on Manhattan Island that did not save New York from British occupation. Nonetheless what began as a skirmish turned into a series of fierce engagements along what is now Broadway, Barnard College campus and the area around Grant’s Tomb. The Americans forced the British to retreat various times, and after the debacle in Brooklyn on August 27, 1776 three weeks earlier, this battle on September 16, 1776 proved the Americans were capable of standing up to the Regulars. Washington’s headquarters was the Morris-Jumel Mansion. A few days after the battle, a fire swept New York City. Washington withdrew his forces from the Heights after the British retreated, and fortified the area around White Plains.

The Morris-Jumel Mansion still stands, located at 160th Street, east of Amsterdam Avenue. On Broadway north of 117th Street, on the side of the Columbia University Engineering School Building, is a plaque showing the American leaders at the battle of Harlem Heights.

General William Howe, looking to strike a blow at the Continental army, originally attempted to land his forces at Throgs Neck, but when that proved fruitless, he reboarded his men and landed them farther north, at Pell’s Point in Eastchester Bay on October 18, 1776. Colonel John Glover, who had successfully led the evacuation of the Continental Army at Brooklyn, supposedly stood on Glover’s Rock to observe the British landing. Severely outnumbered, Glover positioned his men on either side of Split Rock Road, which was marked by the actual split rock and is now part of the golf course in Pelham Bay Park. Glover commanded about 750 men and engaged the British in a rear guard action to slow them down and allow Washington’s main army to reach White Plains. In addition to his men, he fielded three pieces of artillery. The battle lasted several hours, with Hessian forces suffering the most casualties, some of whom are buried in the St. Paul’s churchyard. Artillery fire was exchanged until darkness. American losses were eight killed and 13 wounded; the British had 3 killed and 20 wounded, with an unknown but larger number of Hessian dead and wounded.
Pell’s Point is in the Bronx and not as easily accessible by subway.

The battle of White Plains, New York on October 28, 1776 was Washington’s effort after the loss of Brooklyn to protect New York City. Following the British victory at White Plains, Fort Washington fell to the British. The Americans then abandoned Fort Lee on the New Jersey side and made their way across New Jersey to the Delaware River. Washington’s position in White Plains stretched from Chatterton’s Hill on the right to Merrit Hill on the left, separated by the Bronx River. The assaults up Chatterton’s Hill were costly, if ultimately successful. Washington’s line reformed among the hills, and finally, following bad weather he withdrew his forces.

There is a preserved area of the battlefield, but White Plains is a train ride from Manhattan or otherwise you would need a cab or Uber.

Against Commander-In-Chief General George Washington’s initial instincts, General Nathanael Greene was confident that Fort Washington on Manhattan could be held, and New York should not be abandoned. Washington acquiesced, despite his withdrawal at White Plains on October 28, 1776. Also abandoning his cautious, if not otherwise inexplicable hesitancy after Brooklyn and at White Plains, Howe embarked upon an aggressive three-pronged assault on Fort Washington. Fort Washington was situated on the high point of Manhattan and, together with Fort Lee on the New Jersey side, was meant to control the Hudson River. On November 16, 1776, Hessian General William von Knyphausen led one force from the north, General Charles Cornwallis from the east, and General Lord Hugh Percy from the south. The American lines collapsed into the fort, where Colonel Robert Magaw surrendered. Four days later Fort Lee was abandoned to the British, and the Americans would not return to Fort Washington until the end of the war.

Fort Washington Park is between West 183rd and 185th Streets, between Fort Washington Avenue and Pinehurst Avenue. Fort Washington Park under the George Washington Bridge provides good views of the Hudson River. Also, if visiting the Cloisters in Fort Tryon Park, you can see the redoubt, marked by a plaque, and see where the Hessian prong of the attack occurred.

Reference is made to the “battle” of Fort Lee but once Fort Washington fell on November 16, 1776, Fort Lee was abandoned on November 20, 1776 and the American forces retreated across northern New Jersey. British General Charles Cornwallis had landed on the 20th with 4000 men six miles to the north. American General Nathanael Greene, who had insisted on defending Fort Washington, now led the Americans out. They made it to New Bridge, crossed the Hackensack River, and camped in Hackensack, New Jersey. From there they retreated southward, to Newark, on to New Brunswick, reaching Trenton on December 2. Washington crossed the Delaware River into Pennsylvania and restored morale with his December 26, 1776 taking of Trenton.

Downtown, visit Trinity Church, also on the Heritage Trail, and the site of the grave of Alexander Hamilton. For those attending the Princeton Retreat, you can see the grave of Aaron Burr in the Princeton Cemetery; Burr killed Hamilton in a duel on the cliffs of Weehawken on the New Jersey side of the Hudson River.
NY Pizza:
Lombardi’s Pizza  http://www.firstpizza.com/
32 Spring Street, between Mott & Mulberry Streets in SoHo (Subway 6 to Spring St):
Lombardi’s was founded in 1905, making it the first pizzeria in the United States. Located on a quiet street in a trendy area of NYC, Lombardi’s offers its beautiful, smoky-crusted coal oven baked pizza, topped with San Marzano tomato sauce, fresh mozzarella and basil, keeping locals and visitors alike coming back.

L&B Spumoni Gardens  http://www.spumonigardens.com/
2725 86th Street, between West 10th & 11th Streets in the Gravesend Section of Brooklyn (Subway N to 86 Street): Ludovico Barbati came to the United States in 1917 from Torella Di Lombardi, Italy. He married his bride Paolina Maugeri in 1918. They had six children: Carmine, Rose, Anna, Mary, Salvatore & Ludovico, Jr. In 1938, Ludovico learned from a baker how to make pizza in a garage on West 8th Street, Brooklyn. So he purchased Babe, the horse, and a wagon, and sold his products up and down the streets of Gravesend and Bensonhurst, Brooklyn. In the mid-1950s, L&B Spumoni Gardens built the second of the now three buildings, which is now the Pizzeria, selling its famous thick Sicilian pies, as well as the regular round pies.

Katz’s Delicatessen  https://www.katzsdelicatessen.com/
205 East Houston Street, at Ludlow Street (Subway F to Second Ave): In 1888, a small deli by the name of Iceland Brothers was established on Ludlow Street in New York’s Lower East Side by the Iceland brothers. Upon the arrival of Willy Katz in 1903, the name of the store was officially changed to “Iceland & Katz.” Willy’s cousin Benny joined him in 1910, buying out the Iceland brothers to officially form Katz’s Delicatessen. Katz’s Deli was moved across the street, to its present location, during the construction of the subway system. The vacant lot on Houston Street (pronounced “House-ton”) was home to barrels of meat and pickles until the present storefront facade was added between 1946 and 1949. You may recognize Katz’s from the famous scene in the movie When Harry Met Sally: “I’ll have what she’s having!”

LOS TACOS No.1  https://www.lostacos1.com/
Locations in Chelsea Market (75 Ninth Ave.) and Times Square (229 West 43rd Street):
Created after three close friends from Tijuana, Mexico, and Brawley, California, decided to bring the authentic Mexican taco to the east coast.

The Halal Guys!  https://thehalalguys.com/
Several locations in Manhattan, including near Radio City Music Hall: The Halal Guys legend began in 1990, when the three founding partners opened up a hot dog cart on West 53rd Street & Sixth Avenue in New York City. As business grew, they recognized a huge demand from Muslim cab drivers looking for a halal food. That is when the famous platter of chicken and gyro over rice was born. And let’s not forget the famous white and red sauces.

New York Quick Fixes

Food

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Sit-downs:

**Keens Steakhouse**  http://www.keens.com/
72 West 36th Street between Fifth & Sixth Avenues (Subways B,D,F,M,N,Q,R,W to 34th Street Herald Square): In 1885, Keens Chophouse opened under the ownership of Albert Keen, by then a noted figure in the Herald Square Theatre District. Keens soon became the lively and accepted rendezvous of the famous. Actors in full stage make-up hurried through the rear door to “fortify” themselves between acts at the neighboring Garrick Theatre. By the time Keens celebrated its 20th anniversary, you could glance into the Pipe Room and see the jovial congregations of producers, playwrights, publishers and newspaper men who frequented Keens. Today, Keens is the only survivor of the Herald Square Theatre District. Make sure you check out the hundreds of antique clay pipes hanging from the ceiling!

**21 Club**  https://www.21club.com/web/onyc/21_club.jsp
21 West 52nd Street between Fifth & Sixth Avenues (Subways E, M to Fifth Ave/53 St): From the ornamental jockey figurines to the secret wine cellar, ‘21’ is an American icon. Officially opened on January 1, 1930, ‘21’ is one of America’s most famous speakeasies from the Prohibition Era. Designed with its own disappearing bar and a secret wine cellar to hide the illegal liquor from prying eyes, it’s a place where celebrities and captains of industry have dined for more than 80 years.

**Balthazar NY**  http://balthazarny.com/
80 Spring Street, at Crosby Street in SoHo (Subway 6 to Spring Street): The bustling, romantic brasserie serves traditional French fare from breakfast through supper every day, with brunch served on weekends. Balthazar offers a wide selection of fresh seafood and shellfish, as well as bread and pastries that are baked fresh every day at Balthazar Bakery.

**Peter Lugers Steakhouse**  https://peterluger.com/
170 Broadway, at Driggs Avenue in the Williamsburg Section of Brooklyn, close to the Manhattan Bridge onramp (Subways J, Z, M to Marcy Avenue): When “Carl Luger’s Café, Billiards and Bowling Alley” was opened in 1887, the restaurant quickly became a neighborhood favorite in predominantly German Williamsburg. Peter Luger owned the establishment, while his nephew, Carl, manned the kitchen. With the opening of the Williamsburg Bridge in December of 1903, Manhattan became far more accessible and a new crowd of businessmen crossed the East River. More than a century later, Peter Lugers is still earning awards as a top-rated NYC steakhouse. But you need to bring cash – they don’t accept credit cards!

**Grand Central Oyster Bar Restaurant**  http://www.osterbarny.com/
Grand Central Terminal: The Oyster Bar first opened its doors in 1913 on the lower level of Grand Central Terminal. Woodrow Wilson was President, the United States was on the threshold of World War I, and Prohibition was just six years away. New York City was slowly emerging as a literary and artistic center, and little “salons” that attracted writers and artists and dilettantes were starting to spring up in Greenwich Village and in other parts of the city. The resplendent new Grand Central Terminal opened its doors that year too, on the site of what formerly had been the old and rundown train depot. People flocked to see the new terminal that was then as now considered an engineering marvel.

**Forlini’s**  http://forlinisnyc.com/
93 Baxter Street, between Walker and White Street (Subways J, Z to Canal Street): Serving the “courthouse crowd” since the 1940s, this Little Italy restaurant is a bona fide institution known for a clientele made up of recently bailed mobsters and the judges who convict them, and a ridiculously good red sauce to back it up. Feast on crab-stuffed shrimp in butter sauce, eggplant Parm, lasagna, the signature cheesecake, and a variety of other Italian standards that are only second to your Nonna’s.
Late Night:

Cafeteria [http://cafeteriagroup.com/]
119 Seventh Avenue, at 17th Street in Chelsea (Subway 1 to 18th Street): Start by serving exceptional American comfort food with a contemporary twist. Create an electric, modern ambiance where people can gather in the heart of Chelsea. And the best part? Keep it running twenty-four seven. Since Cafeteria first opened its doors, this delicious brainchild of three local entrepreneurs has become a New York City institution. From weekend brunches to late night noshing with inimitable style, Cafeteria is your only destination.

Grays Papaya [http://grayspapaynyc.com/]
2090 Broadway, between 71st and 72nd Streets on the Upper West Side (Subways 1, 2, 3 to 72 Street Broadway): The hot dog is one of the great New York City foods, and while you easily grab a good old dirty water dog from any street cart, the better move is to head uptown to the original Gray’s Papaya. This ‘70s-era hot dog stand (not to be confused with Papaya King or Papaya Dog) slings griddled dogs and tropical fruit juices 24-7, and its “recession special” (two hot dogs and a drink for $3.50) has lasted through several economic ups and downs. Once a chain, Gray’s had recently dwindled to just one Upper West Side location, but is now making something of a comeback with a new spot in Midtown (612 Eighths Ave., 39-40 St).

L’Express [https://www.lexpressnyc.com/]
249 Park Avenue South at 20th Street (Subway 6 to 23 St): L’Express is a Lyonnaise Bouchon open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, serving up classic bistro dishes such as mussels, steak and escargot.