

*Frommer's*<sup>®</sup>

# New York City **day** BY **day**<sup>™</sup>

2nd Edition



by Alexis Lipsitz Flippin



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## Letter from the Editorial Director

Organizing your time. That's what this guide is all about.

Other guides give you long lists of things to see and do and then expect you to fit the pieces together. The Day by Day guides are different. These guides tell you the best of everything, and then they show you how to see it *in the smartest, most time-efficient way*. Our authors have designed detailed itineraries organized by time, neighborhood, or special interest. And each tour comes with a bulleted map that takes you from stop to stop.

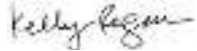
Hoping to explore the treasures at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, or to see some of Brooklyn's best neighborhoods and clubs? Planning a walk through Greenwich Village or Harlem, or just a whirlwind tour of the best that Manhattan has to offer? Whatever your interest or schedule, the Day by Days give you the smartest routes to follow. Not only do we take you to the top attractions, hotels, and restaurants, but we also help you access those special moments that locals get to experience—those "finds" that turn tourists into travelers.

The Day by Days are also your top choice if you're looking for one complete guide for all your travel needs. The best hotels and restaurants for every budget, the greatest shopping values, the wildest nightlife—it's all here.

Why should you trust our judgment? Because our authors personally visit each place they write about. They're an independent lot who say what they think and would never include places they wouldn't recommend to their best friends. They're also open to suggestions from readers. If you'd like to contact them, please send your comments our way at [feedback@frommers.com](mailto:feedback@frommers.com), and we'll pass them on.

Enjoy your Day by Day guide—the most helpful travel companion you can buy. And have the trip of a lifetime.

Warm regards,



Kelly Regan, Editorial Director  
Frommer's Travel Guides


## About the Author

**Alexis Lipsitz Flippin** is a writer and editor who lives in New York City. She is the author of several Frommer's audio walking tours and the forthcoming *Frommer's Portable St. Maarten/St. Martin, Anguilla & St. Barts*, 2nd Edition.

## An Additional Note

Please be advised that travel information is subject to change at any time—and this is especially true of prices. We therefore suggest that you write or call ahead for confirmation when making your travel plans. The authors, editors, and publisher cannot be held responsible for the experiences of readers while traveling. Your safety is important to us, however, so we encourage you to stay alert and be aware of your surroundings.

## Star Ratings, Icons & Abbreviations

Every hotel, restaurant, and attraction listing in this guide has been ranked for quality, value, service, amenities, and special features using a **star-rating system**. Hotels, restaurants, attractions, shopping, and nightlife are rated on a scale of zero stars (recommended) to three stars (exceptional). In addition to the star-rating system, we also use a **kids icon** to point out the best bets for families. Within each tour, we recommend cafes, bars, or restaurants where you can take a break. Each of these stops appears in a shaded box marked with a coffee-cup-shaped bullet .

The following **abbreviations** are used for credit cards:

AE	American Express	DISC	Discover	V	Visa
DC	Diners Club	MC	MasterCard		



## Frommers.com

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- Vacation sweepstakes and contest giveaways
- Newsletters highlighting the hottest travel trends
- Podcasts, interactive maps, and up-to-the-minute events listings
- Opinionated blog entries by Arthur Frommer himself
- Online travel message boards with featured travel discussions

## A Note on Prices

In the "Take a Break" and "Best Bets" sections of this book, we have used a system of dollar signs to show a range of costs for 1 night in a hotel (the price of a double-occupancy room) or the cost of an entree at a restaurant. Use the following table to decipher the dollar signs:

Cost	Hotels	Restaurants
\$	under \$100	under \$10
\$\$	\$100–\$200	\$10–\$20
\$\$\$	\$200–\$300	\$20–\$30
\$\$\$\$	\$300–\$400	\$30–\$40
\$\$\$\$\$	over \$400	over \$40

## An Invitation to the Reader

In researching this book, we discovered many wonderful places—hotels, restaurants, shops, and more. We're sure you'll find others. Please tell us about them, so we can share the information with your fellow travelers in upcoming editions. If you were disappointed with a recommendation, we'd love to know that, too. Please write to:

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# 15 Favorite Moments



## 15 Favorite Moments



- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>1</b> Dine in Little Italy in the Bronx                 | <b>10</b> View Manhattan from the Empire State Building at night. |
| <b>2</b> Say hello to Rembrandt at the Met.                | <b>11</b> Get a taste of the Greenmarket in Union Square.         |
| <b>3</b> Play in Central Park.                             | <b>12</b> Walk the storied streets of Greenwich Village.          |
| <b>4</b> Stare up at the Barosaurus.                       | <b>13</b> Eat dim sum in Chinatown.                               |
| <b>5</b> Dress up for the opera.                           | <b>14</b> Relive the immigrant experience at Ellis Island.        |
| <b>6</b> Feel like a Gilded Age millionaire.               | <b>15</b> Smell the sea at Battery Park.                          |
| <b>7</b> Visit Gus the polar bear at the Central Park Zoo. |   |
| <b>8</b> Window shop on Fifth Avenue.                      |   |
| <b>9</b> Sip a cocktail at an über-NYC lounge.             |   |

Previous page: Rowers on the lake in Central Park.

Visitors often wonder how Manhattan residents put up with the city's crowds and frenetic pace—not to mention the tiny, cramped apartments. But when we're out exploring any of the 15 attractions below, we wouldn't be anywhere else. Every New Yorker has a list of favorite places to visit and things to see. Here's mine.

**1 Dine in Little Italy in the Bronx.**

I like to stroll down Arthur Avenue and window-shop at the bakeries, cheese shops, and meat purveyors there. But what I love best is to order a big red-sauce-laden meal in one of the neighborhood's old-fashioned Italian restaurants. My pick? The legendary Dominick's. *See p 116.*

**2 Say hello to Rembrandt at the Met.**

A self-portrait of the Dutch painter is one of thousands of masterpieces on view at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the city's premier museum and one of the world's best. It's open until 9pm on Friday and Saturday nights, so soak up a little art and sip an evening cocktail on the elegant Great Hall Balcony Bar or in the Roof Garden if it's warm out. *See p 50.*

**3 Play in Central Park.** Manhattan's backyard is loved for its endless variety: undulating paths and greenswards, formal gardens, boat ponds, a castle, a puppet theater, an Egyptian obelisk, a lake, and even a storied carousel. *See p 102.*

**4 Stare up at the Barosaurus.** Yes, the largest free-standing mounted dinosaur in the world is impressive, but the American Museum of Natural History offers more than just giant reptile fossils. The adjacent Rose Center planetarium is spectacular during the day—and pure magic at night. *See p 58.*

**5 Dress up for the opera.** Even on casual Fridays New Yorkers like to get gussied up to see Metropolitan Opera productions at Lincoln Center (the sets alone are reason to visit).



*The barosaurus skeleton at the American Museum of Natural History.*

Opera not your bag? Simply cross the newly renovated plaza to see world-class performances in ballet, the symphony, and theater. *See p 144.*

**6 Feel like a Gilded Age millionaire.** Take a walk in a robber baron's slippers and see priceless art in the bargain at steel magnate Henry Frick's Fifth Avenue mansion. The warm, elegant rooms are adorned with choice works by Rembrandt, El Greco, Gainsborough, and others, as well as original furnishings. *See p 25.*

**7 Visit Gus the polar bear at the Central Park Zoo.** This small-scale zoo is perfect for kids and adults in



The Gramercy Hotel's Jade Bar.

need of a relaxing break from big-city prowling. The animals at play include polar bears, penguins, and monkeys. *See p 105.*

**8 Window-shop on Fifth Avenue.** Legendary stores such as Saks, Bergdorf Goodman, Tiffany & Co., Cartier, and Harry Winston are now rubbing shoulders with va-va-voom upstarts such as Gucci, Cavalli, and Versace. All vie hard for your attention. *See p 15.*

**9 Sip a cocktail at an über-NYC lounge.** Choose an old standard such as the King Cole Lounge in the St. Regis or a new classic-in-the-making such as the Gramercy Hotel's Rose Bar or Jade Bar, and you'll see why the biggest star of *Sex and the City* is New York. *See p 128.*

**10 View Manhattan from the Empire State Building at night.** The city that never sleeps begins to glitter at dusk, when millions of lights set it aglow. You won't see

any stars in the New York sky, but you won't miss them with views like this. *See p 43.*

**11 Get a taste of the Greenmarket in Union Square.** Country comes to city 4 days a week year-round at New York's largest Greenmarket. Most of the excellent fresh produce, flowers, meats, and other artisanal food comes from small farmers in Long Island and New Jersey. Open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. *See p 18.*

**12 Walk the storied streets of Greenwich Village.** This historic, human-scale neighborhood affords serendipitous charms around every corner—from vintage brownstones to fabled watering holes. Many famous writers, artists, and poets of yesteryear called this former hamlet home. *See p 76.*

**13 Eat dim sum in Chinatown.** You can choose one of the big Hong Kong-style eateries with multiple floors and endless rolling carts of tasty, surprising morsels, or a smaller, less frenetic spot such as Ping's or the Oriental Garden. *See p 85.*

**14 Relive the immigrant experience at Ellis Island.** Whether or not your family entered America through Ellis Island, a visit here is extremely moving. The on-site museum does an excellent job of bringing the immigrant experience to life. *See p 65.*

**15 Smell the sea at Battery Park.** This is where Manhattan was born. Start at the yacht basin at the World Financial Center and head south. When you reach the southern tip of Manhattan, you get a magnificent view of the mouth of the mighty New York Harbor with big ships chugging into view. *See p 9, bullet 9.* ●

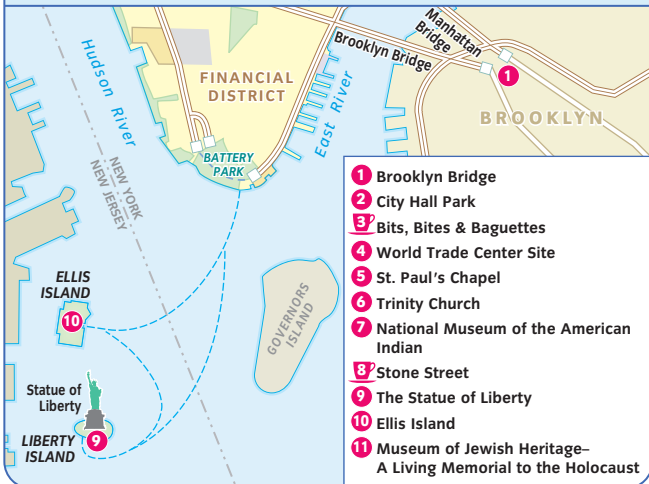
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# The Best **Full-Day** **Tours**

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# The Best in One Day



- 1** Brooklyn Bridge
- 2** City Hall Park
- 3** Bits, Bites & Baguettes
- 4** World Trade Center Site
- 5** St. Paul's Chapel
- 6** Trinity Church
- 7** National Museum of the American Indian
- 8** Stone Street
- 9** The Statue of Liberty
- 10** Ellis Island
- 11** Museum of Jewish Heritage—A Living Memorial to the Holocaust

Previous page: Lady Liberty in New York Harbor.



## The most wonderful—and maddening—thing about New York?

The endless number of choices. To explore the city's beginnings, head first to Lower Manhattan, with its Dutch roots and cobblestoned streets. But this area of New York is not limited to centuries-old structures frozen in time; it's also the dynamic center of city government and world finance. For more details on southern Manhattan, see "Historic Downtown" on p. 64 in chapter 4. **START:** Subway A or C to High Street in Brooklyn

**1 ★★ Brooklyn Bridge.** For a glorious view of New York City, you can't beat the 30-minute walk across the Brooklyn Bridge. The celebrated suspension bridge is a wonder in itself, with its Gothic-inspired towers, Maine granite, and intricate web of steel cables. *See p 48. Subway: A/C to High St. in Brooklyn.*

**2 City Hall Park.** City Hall has been the seat of NYC government since 1812. Security concerns prevent visitors from touring inside, but you can get close enough to appreciate the handsome French Renaissance exterior, built from 1803 to 1811. Abraham Lincoln was laid in state in the soaring rotunda. Equally grand is the colossal Municipal Building (1 Centre St. at Chambers), built on the other side of Centre Street in 1915 by McKim, Mead, and White; it was the celebrated firm's first "skyscraper." Across Broadway at no.

233 is that temple of commerce known as the **★ Woolworth Building.** Built from the proceeds of a nickel-and-dime empire in 1913, this neo-Gothic masterpiece is the work of Cass Gilbert. At press time, the public was not allowed inside the building. *City Hall Park (btwn. Broadway & Park Row).*

**3 Bits, Bites & Baguettes.** Grab a sandwich or one of the hearty salads. *22 Park Place (btwn. Church & Broadway). ☎ 212/374-1111. \$.*

**4 ★ World Trade Center Site.** The Twin Towers once dominated the city's skyline, and visitors from around the world have made pilgrimages to the vast, gaping hole left after their destruction during the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Today, it's a bustling

The Brooklyn Bridge and Manhattan skyline.





Founding Father Alexander Hamilton is buried at Trinity Church.

construction site with a small area devoted to the attacks and their aftermath. A Wall of Heroes lists the names of those who died that day. Daniel Libeskind's proposed 1,776-foot-tall (533m) **Freedom Tower** will eventually stand here, along with a permanent memorial entitled **Reflecting Absence**. A bird wing-like steel and glass canopy, designed by Catalan architect Santiago Calatrava, will shelter the nearby World Trade Center transportation hub and PATH station. Construction work is ongoing and is expected to last till 2015. The **Tribute WTC Visitor Center** ([www.tributenyc.org](http://www.tributenyc.org)), at 120 Liberty St. (at the site's south border), was created by the nonprofit September 11th Families' Association; it offers daily walking tours (\$10), led by people whose lives were affected by the disaster. *Bounded by Church, Barclay, Liberty & West sts.* ☎ 212/484-1222. [www.wtc.com](http://www.wtc.com). Subway A/C to World Trade Center; N/R to Cortland St.

**5 ★ St. Paul's Chapel.** This is Manhattan's only surviving pre-Revolutionary church, from 1766. Built to resemble London's St. Martin-in-the-Fields, with an elegant Georgian

interior, the chapel was a refuge for rescue workers after September 11, and is home to the "Unwavering Spirit" exhibition, which chronicles 9/11 with artifacts and donations from around the world. The churchyard in back is filled with 18th- and 19th-century tombstones. ⌚ 45 min. 209 Broadway (at Fulton St.). ☎ 212/233-4164. Mon–Fri 10am–6pm; Sat 8am–3pm; Sun 7am–3pm. Free concerts Mon 1–2pm. [www.saintpaulschapel.org](http://www.saintpaulschapel.org). Subway: 2/3 to Park Place; 1/9/4/5/A to Fulton St./Broadway Nassau.

**6 ★★ Trinity Church.** This lovely neo-Gothic marvel was consecrated in 1846 and is still active today. The main doors, modeled on the doors in Florence's Baptistery, are decorated with biblical scenes; inside are splendid stained-glass windows. Among those buried in the pretty churchyard are Alexander Hamilton and Robert Fulton. ⌚ 30 min. Broadway (at Wall St.). ☎ 212/602-0800. Mon–Fri 10am–6pm; Sat 8am–4pm; Sun 7am–4pm. [www.trinitywallstreet.org](http://www.trinitywallstreet.org). Subway: 4/5 to Wall St.

**7 ★★ Kids National Museum of the American Indian.** This Smithsonian Institution museum is a little-known New York treasure. The collection spans more than 10,000 years of Native heritage, housed in a glorious 1907 Beaux Arts building designed by Cass Gilbert. ⌚ 1 hr. 1 Bowling Green. ☎ 212/514-3700. [www.americanindian.si.edu](http://www.americanindian.si.edu). Free. Daily 10am–5pm (Thurs till 8pm). Subway: 4/5 to Bowling Green; 1/9 to South Ferry.

**8 ★ Stone Street.** This historic cobblestoned street is lined with restaurants. You might try **Adrienne's Pizzabar**, a new spot (with alfresco seating) that has gotten raves for its thin-crust square pizza.

54 Stone St. (btwn. William & Pearl sts.). ☎ 212/248-3838. \$-\$\$.

**9 ★ Kids The Statue of Liberty.** For the millions who arrived in New York by ship, Lady Liberty was their first glimpse of America. A gift from France to the United States, the statue was designed by sculptor Frédéric-Auguste Bartholdi and unveiled on October 28, 1886. The crown and torch are not accessible, but visitors can explore the Statue of Liberty Museum, peer into the inner structure through a glass ceiling near the base of the statue, and enjoy views from the observation deck. **Tip:** The Staten Island Ferry (a free 25-min. trip) provides spectacular skyline views of Manhattan and is a wonderful way to see the harbor. You'll pass by (though not stop at) the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. Check [www.siferry.com](http://www.siferry.com) for details.

🕒 1 hr. (ferry ride: 15 min.). *On Liberty Island in New York Harbor. Buy tickets online or in Castle Clinton National Monument (see above).*

☎ 212/363-3200 (general info).

[www.nps.gov/stli](http://www.nps.gov/stli). Free admission; ferry ticket to Statue of Liberty & Ellis Island \$12 adults, \$10 seniors, \$5 children 3-17. ☎ 877/523-9849; [www.statuecruises.com](http://www.statuecruises.com). Daily 9am-4pm (last ferry departs around 3pm); extended hours in summer. Subway: 4/5 to Bowling Green; 1/9 to South Ferry.

**10 ★★★ Kids Ellis Island.** For 62 years (1892-1954), this was the main point of entry for newcomers to America. Today it's one of New York's most moving attractions—particularly for the 40% of Americans

whose ancestors passed through the immigration center here. Among the points of interest: the **Immigration Museum**, which skillfully describes coming to America through the eyes of the immigrants; the **American Immigrant Wall of Honor**, which commemorates more than 500,000 immigrants and their families; and the **American Family Immigration Center**, where interactive exhibits can help you research your own family history. 🕒 90 min. (ferry ride: 10 min. from Liberty Island) ☎ 212/363-3200. [www.nps.gov/elis](http://www.nps.gov/elis) or [www.ellisland.org](http://www.ellisland.org). For tickets, see *Statue of Liberty, above*. Subway: 4/5 to Bowling Green; 1/9 to South Ferry.

**11 ★★ Museum of Jewish Heritage—A Living Memorial to the Holocaust.** Dedicated to teaching people of all backgrounds about 20th-century Jewish life, this award-winning museum was designed in a six-sided shape to symbolize the Star of David and honor the six million Jews who died in the Holocaust. Inside are photos, artifacts,

and moving accounts from survivors. A second-story stone garden—where each of the hollowed-out boulders has a tree growing out of it—overlooks New York Harbor.

🕒 90 min. 36 Battery Place.

☎ 646/437-4200. [www.mjh.nyc.org](http://www.mjh.nyc.org). Admission \$10 adults, \$7 seniors, \$5 students, free for children 12 and under. Sun-Tues & Thurs 10am-5:45pm; Wed 10am-8pm; Fri & eves of Jewish holidays 10am-3pm. Subway: 4/5 to Bowling Green; 1/9 to South Ferry.

*Artifact at the National Museum of the American Indian.*



# The Best in Two Days

**1** Metropolitan Museum of Art

**2** Eating at the Met

**3** Central Park

**4** The Obelisk

**5** Belvedere Castle

**6** Shakespeare Garden

**7** The Lake

**8** American Museum of Natural History

**9** Museum Dining

**10** Rose Center for Earth & Space

**11** The Dakota

**12** Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts

**13** Shun Lee West/Shun Lee Cafe

**I**f Lower Manhattan is the city's historic heart, uptown is its artistic soul, as home of the Metropolitan Museum and Lincoln

Center. It's also home to Central Park, an urban oasis that recharges body and mind. This part of town has a wealth of museums—most of them along Fifth Avenue. To avoid burnout, decide which ones you want to focus on before heading out. If you have kids in tow, don't miss the American Museum of Natural History. **START: Subway 4, 5, or 6 to 86th Street**

**1** ★★★ **kids** **Metropolitan Museum of Art.** At 177,777 square yards (148,644 sq. m), this is the largest museum in the Western Hemisphere, attracting five million visitors annually. Nearly all the world's cultures through the ages are on display—from Egyptian mummies to ancient Greek statuary to Islamic carvings to Renaissance paintings to 20th-century decorative arts—and masterpieces are the rule. You could go once a week for a lifetime and still find something new on each visit. Everyone should see the **Temple of Dendur**, the jewel of the Egyptian collection. But let personal preference be your guide to the rest. My touchstones are the exceptional Rembrandts, Vermeers, and other Dutch master paintings. I also love the transplanted period rooms—from the elegant 18th-century bedroom from a Venetian castle to the warm and inviting 20th-century Frank Lloyd Wright living room. For a full tour of the Met, see p 50. 🕒 2½ hr. **Fifth Ave. (at 82nd St.).** ☎ 212/535-7710. [www.metmuseum.org](http://www.metmuseum.org). **Admission \$20 adults, \$5 seniors, \$10 students, free for children under 12 with adult. Sun & Tues–Thurs 9:30am–5:30pm; Fri–Sat 9:30am–9pm. Closed Mon (except holiday Mon, like Labor Day). Subway: 4/5/6 to 86th St. Bus: M1/2/3/4.**

**2** **Eating at the Met.** If you're visiting between May and October, check out the Roof Garden's casual **cafe/bar** (\$) and breathtaking

treetop view of Central Park. Year-round you can grab lunch at the ground-floor **cafeteria** (\$) or at the elegant **Petrie Court Café** ☎ 212/570-3964; \$\$), which overlooks Central Park. On Friday and Saturday evenings, cocktails and appetizers are served at the **Balcony Bar** (\$) overlooking the Great Hall.

**3** ★★★ **kids** **Central Park.** Manhattanites may not have yards, but they do have this glorious swath of green. Designed by Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux in the 1850s, the park is 2½ miles (4km) long (extending from 59th to 110th sts.) and a half-mile (.8km) wide (from Fifth Ave. to Central Park West). It encompasses a zoo, a carousel, two ice-skating rinks, restaurants, children's playgrounds,

*The Metropolitan Museum's glass-walled gallery containing the Temple of Dendur.*

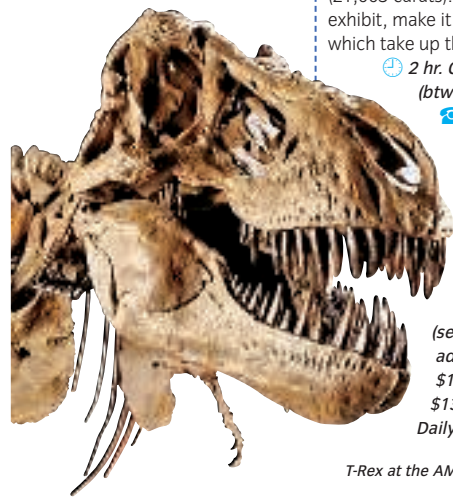


even theaters. *See p 102 for a full tour.*

**4 The Obelisk.** Also called Cleopatra's Needle, this 69-foot (21m) obelisk is reached by following the path leading west behind the Met. Originally erected in Heliopolis, Egypt around 1475 B.C., it was given to New York by the khedive of Egypt in 1880. Continue on the path to the **Great Lawn**, site of countless softball games, concerts, and peaceful political protests.

**5 ★ Belvedere Castle.** Built by Calvert Vaux in 1869, this fanciful medieval-style fortress-in-miniature sits at the highest point in the park and affords sweeping views. The many birds that call this area home led to the creation of a bird-watching and educational center in the castle's ranger station. To get here, follow the path across East Drive and walk west.

**6 Shakespeare Garden.** Next to Belvedere Castle, you'll find this garden where the only flowers and plants in evidence are those mentioned in the Bard's plays.



**7 ★★ The Lake.** South of the garden, you'll cross the 79th Street Transverse Road to reach The Lake, with its perimeter pathway lined with weeping willows and Japanese cherry trees. The neo-Victorian Loeb Boathouse at the east end of the Lake rents rowboats and bicycles; on summer evenings, you can arrange gondola rides. Walk back up to the 79th Street Transverse Road and follow it west; it exits the park at 81st Street and Central Park West.

**8 ★★★ Kids American Museum of Natural History.** If you can get past the spectacular entrance—a **Barosaurus**, the world's largest freestanding dinosaur exhibit—you'll find plenty more to see. Founded in 1869, the AMNH houses the world's greatest natural science collection in a square-block group of buildings made of whimsical towers and turrets, pink granite, and red brick. The diversity of the holdings is astounding: some 36 million specimens, ranging from microscopic organisms to the world's largest cut gem, the **Brazilian Princess Topaz** (21,005 carats). If you only see one exhibit, make it the **★ dinosaurs**, which take up the entire fourth floor.

**🕒 2 hr. Central Park West**  
(btwn. 77th & 81st sts.).

**📞 212/769-5100.**

[www.amnh.org](http://www.amnh.org).

**Admission (includes entrance to Rose Center, below)**

**\$15 adults, \$11 seniors & students, \$8.50 children**

**2-12; Space Show (see below) & museum admission \$22 adults, \$17 seniors & students, \$13 children under 12.**

**Daily 10am-5:45pm (Rose**

*T-Rex at the AMNH.*



The Rose Center for Earth & Space, home of the Hayden Planetarium.

Center open Fri to 8:45pm). Subway: B/C to 81st St.

1 W. 72nd St. (at Central Park West). Subway: 1/2/3/4 to 72nd St.

**9** **kids** **Museum Dining.** The **Food Court** (\$) has a kid-friendly selection of pizzas, hot entrees, sandwiches—and even down-home barbecue from five different regions of the country. The **Starlight Café** (\$) features sandwiches, chicken nuggets, hot dogs, and fresh fruit or Dippin' Dots ice cream treats.

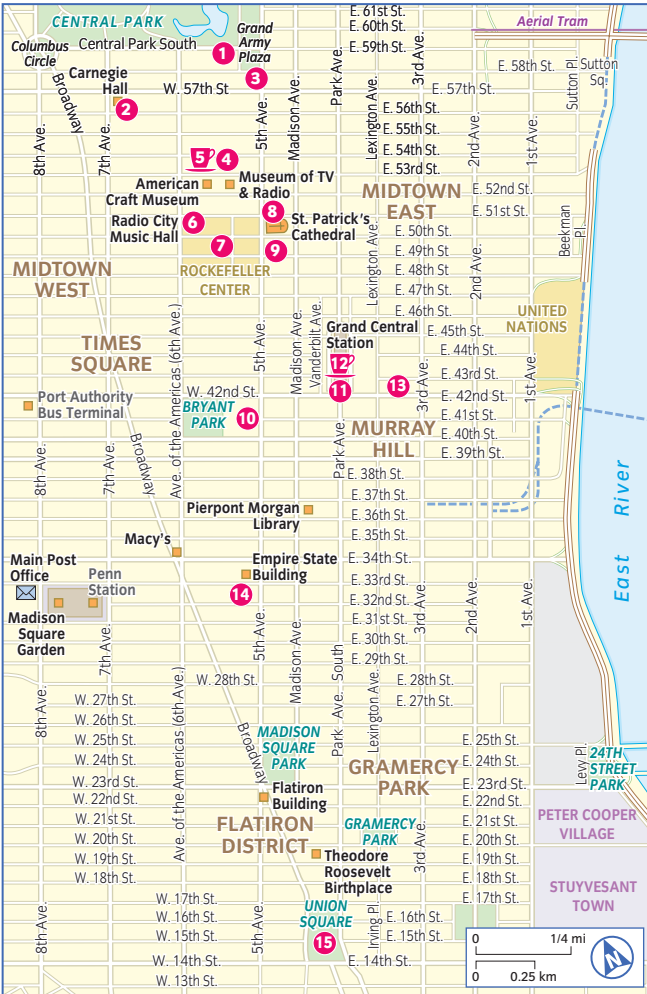
**10** **★★ kids** **Rose Center for Earth & Space.** Attached to the American Museum of Natural History, this four-story sphere “floating” in a glass square is astonishing. Even if you’re suffering from museum overload, the Rose Center will lift your spirits. The center’s Hayden Planetarium features a spectacular new space show, “Cosmic Collisions,” narrated by Robert Redford (every half-hour 10:30am–4:30pm; from 11am Wed).

**11** **The Dakota.** With its dark trim and dramatic gables, dormers, and oriel windows, this 1884 apartment house is one of the city’s most legendary landmarks. Its most famous resident, John Lennon, was gunned down next to the entrance on December 8, 1980; Yoko Ono still lives here.

**12** **★★ Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts.** New York has countless performing arts venues, but none so multifaceted as Lincoln Center—presenting world-class opera, ballet, dramatic theater, jazz, symphonies, and more. After a long day on your feet, relax on the outdoor plaza in front of the fountains. At Christmas the light displays are lovely, and on summer evenings the plaza becomes an outdoor dance party. *See p 140.*

**13** **Shun Lee West/Shun Lee Cafe.** Whenever I attend a performance at Lincoln Center, I head to this “haute Chinese” restaurant afterward for delicious and beautifully prepared Chinese dishes. I love the drama of the space, sheathed in black lacquer. Grand Marnier prawns are rich and decadent, as is the Heavenly Sea Bass Filet, cooked in a rice wine sauce. Its more casual and less expensive cafe counterpart just next door serves dim sum and other offerings. **43 W. 65th St. (btwn Columbus Ave. & Central Park West).** ☎ 212/769-3888 \$\$–\$\$\$.

# The Best in Three Days



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|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b> The Plaza               | <b>9</b> Saks Fifth Avenue         |
| <b>2</b> Carnegie Hall           | <b>10</b> New York Public Library  |
| <b>3</b> Fifth Avenue            | <b>11</b> Grand Central Terminal   |
| <b>4</b> Museum of Modern Art    | <b>12</b> Grand Central food court |
| <b>5</b> Cafe 2                  | <b>13</b> Chrysler Building        |
| <b>6</b> Radio City Music Hall   | <b>14</b> Empire State Building    |
| <b>7</b> Rockefeller Center      | <b>15</b> Union Square Greenmarket |
| <b>8</b> St. Patrick's Cathedral |                                    |



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