Manhattan - ARLIS Local Guide

There are countless things to do, eat, drink, and visit in New York City, so we won’t try to list them all here. In keeping with the “Out of Bounds” conference theme, we have made some suggestions below for things to do and see that may not be found on the average “Must-see New York” lists. We hope you take the time to explore off the beaten paths and enjoy an alternative taste of NYC.

Libraries and Archives

The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture
https://www.nypl.org/locations/schomburg
515 Malcolm X Boulevard (135th St and Malcolm X Blvd) New York, NY, 10037
The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture located in Harlem, New York, is a research unit of The New York Public Library system. The Center consists of three connected buildings: The Schomburg Building, the Langston Hughes Building, and the Landmark Building. It is recognized as one of the leading institutions focusing exclusively on African-American, African Diaspora, and African experiences. (nypl.org)

Tamiment Library and Robert F. Wagner Labor Archives, New York University
https://www.nyu.edu/library/bobst/research/tam/
70 Washington Square South, 10th Floor New York, NY 10012 (inside New York University’s Elmer Holmes Bobst Library)
The Tamiment Library and Robert F. Wagner Labor Archives at New York University form a unique, internationally-known center for scholarly research on Labor and the Left. The primary
focus is the complex relationship between trade unionism and progressive politics and how this evolved over time. Archival, print, photograph, film, and oral history collections describe the history of the labor movement and how it related to the broader struggle for economic, social, and political change. Tamiment has one of the finest research collections in the country documenting the history of radical politics: socialism, communism, anarchism, utopian experiments, the cultural left, the New Left, and the struggle for civil rights and civil liberties. It is the repository for the Archives of Irish America, the Abraham Lincoln Brigade Archives, and a growing Asian American labor collection. (nyu.edu)

Fales Library and Special Collections, New York University
http://library.nyu.edu/about/collections/special-collections-and-archives/fales-library-and-special-collections/
70 Washington Square South, 10th Floor New York, NY 10012 (inside New York University’s Elmer Holmes Bobst Library)
Major collections in the Fales Library & Special Collections include the Fales Library of English and American Literature, the Downtown New York Collection, the Marion Nestle Food Studies Collection, the Riot Grrrl Collection, and the general Special Collections of NYU. These complement the collection policies of the Libraries by supplying rare or fine editions of text and original copies of media, or by prospectively collecting in areas of historical and cultural interest. Researchers who are not affiliated with NYU must make an appointment. (library.nyu.edu)

The Frick Art Reference Library
http://www.frick.org/research/library
10 East 71st Street New York, NY 10021
The collections of the Frick Art Reference Library relate mainly to paintings, drawings, sculpture, and prints from the fourth to the mid-twentieth centuries by European and American artists. Known internationally for its rich holdings of auction and exhibition catalogs, the Library is a leading site for collecting and provenance research. Archival materials and special collections augment the research collections with documents pertaining to the history of collecting art and of Henry Clay Frick’s collecting in particular. The Library is free to use and open to all registered researchers over the age of 18. (frick.org)

NYC Municipal Archives
31 Chambers Street, Room 103, New York, NY 10007
Founded in 1950, the Municipal Archives preserves and makes available the historical records of New York City municipal government. Dating from the early seventeenth century to the present, the Municipal Archives holdings total approximately 221,000 cubic feet. Accessioned from more than one hundred city agencies, the collections comprise office records, manuscript material, still and moving images, ledger volumes, vital records, maps, blueprints, and sound recordings. (nyc.gov)
National Archives at New York City
https://www.archives.gov/nyc
One Bowling Green, 3rd Floor New York, NY 10004
The National Archives at New York City maintains the historically significant records of Federal agencies and courts in New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands dating from 1685 to the present. We also hold select microfilm publications of the National Archives and provide access to a variety of online historical resources. Visit us on the 3rd floor of the historic Alexander Hamilton U.S. Custom House at One Bowling Green in lower Manhattan. Researchers wishing to use textual records must schedule an appointment prior to visiting.
(archives.gov/nyc)

Museums and Galleries

Asia Society Museum
http://asiasociety.org/museum
725 Park Avenue New York, NY 10021
The Asia Society is America's leading institution dedicated to fostering understanding of Asia and communication between Americans and the peoples of Asia and the Pacific. A nonprofit, nonpartisan educational institution, the Asia Society presents a wide range of programs including major art exhibitions, performances, media programs, international conferences and lectures, and initiatives to improve elementary and secondary education about Asia.
(asiasociety.org)

The Studio Museum in Harlem
https://www.studiomuseum.org/
144 West 125th Street New York, New York 10027
The Studio Museum in Harlem is internationally known for its catalytic role in promoting the works of artists of African descent. The Artist-in-Residence program was one of the Museum’s founding initiatives, and gives the Museum the “Studio” in its name. The program has supported more than one hundred emerging artists of African or Latino descent, many of whom who have gone on to establish highly regarded careers. Alumni include Chakaia Booker, David Hammons, Kerry James Marshall, Julie Mehretu, Wangechi Mutu, Mickalene Thomas and Kehinde Wiley. The Museum’s permanent collection includes nearly two thousand paintings, sculptures, watercolors, drawings, pastels, prints, photographs, mixed-media works and installations dating from the nineteenth century to the present. (studiomuseum.org)

The New Museum
http://www.newmuseum.org/
235 Bowery New York, NY 10002
The New Museum is established by an independent curator Marcia Tucker in 1977. It is dedicated to introduce new art and new ideas, by artists who have not yet received large
exposure or recognition. Ever since it is founded, the museum has taken on the mission to challenge the stiff institutionalization of art museum. It continues to bring fresh air into the art world, connects it with common public and releases it from its elitist association. (wikipedia.org)

The Rubin Museum of Art  
http://rubinmuseum.org/  
150 West 17th Street New York, NY 10011  
Located in New York City’s vibrant Chelsea neighborhood, the Rubin Museum of Art is an urban arts oasis that stimulates learning, promotes understanding, and inspires personal connections to the ideas, cultures, and art of the Himalayas, India, and neighboring regions. (rubinmuseum.org)

Tenement Museum  
http://tenement.org/  
103 Orchard Street, New York, NY 10002  
The Lower East Side Tenement Museum, located at 97 Orchard Street in the Lower East Side neighborhood of Manhattan, New York City, is a National Historic Site. The five-story brick tenement building was home to an estimated 7,000 people, from over 20 nations, between 1863 and 1935. The museum, which includes a visitors' center down the block, promotes tolerance and historical perspective on the immigrant experience. (wikipedia.org)

Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum  
https://www.cooperhewitt.org/  
2 East 91st Street (between 5th and Madison Avenues) New York, New York 10128  
The Cooper Hewitt was originally founded in 1896 by the granddaughters of American industrialist Peter Cooper and opened to the public the following year. In 1968 it became part of the Smithsonian Institution. The museum is located in the Carnegie Mansion on New York City’s Fifth Avenue. The 64-room mansion, a national landmark, is itself an example of design innovation, having been the first American home to have a steel frame and central heating. The Cooper Hewitt’s permanent collection consists of more than 210,000 pieces, including both one-of-a-kind pieces and mass-produced objects. (britannica.com)

The Jewish Museum  
http://thejewishmuseum.org/  
1109 5th Ave at 92nd St New York, NY 10128  
Located on New York City’s Museum Mile, the Jewish Museum is a museum at the intersection of art and Jewish culture for people of all backgrounds. Founded in 1904, the Museum was the first institution of its kind in the United States and one of the oldest Jewish museums in the world. The Museum maintains a unique collection of nearly 30,000 works of art, ceremonial objects, and media reflecting the global Jewish experience over more than 4,000 years. (jewishmuseum.org)
The Cloisters
http://metmuseum.org/visit/met-cloisters
99 Margaret Corbin Drive Fort Tryon Park New York, NY 10040
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.

The 15 Best Art Galleries in New York City-Foursquare-Published June 16, 2017

Return to top

Other Cultural Institutions/Attractions

The Center for Book Arts
http://centerforbookarts.org/
28 West 27th Street, 3rd Floor. New York, NY 10001
The Center for Book Arts is one of few contemporary arts organizations dedicated to the art of the book, and the only location in New York City at which visitors can view book arts exhibitions in the context of an active, working studio. In keeping with the Center’s mission, our exhibitions endeavor to place book art practice within the larger context of contemporary art, exploring the book as object, as media, and as a site of resistance. Founded in 1974 and still located in Manhattan, it was the first not-for-profit organization of its kind in the nation, and has since become a model for others around the world. (centerforbookarts.org)

The New York Historical Society
http://nyhistory.org/
170 Central Park West at Richard Gilder Way (77th Street) New York, NY 10024
The New-York Historical Society, one of America’s pre-eminent cultural institutions, is dedicated to fostering research, presenting history and art exhibitions, and public programs that reveal the dynamism of history and its influence on the world of today. Founded in 1804, New-York Historical is the oldest museum in New York City. New-York Historical has a mission to explore the richly layered political, cultural and social history of New York City and State and the nation, and to serve as a national forum for the discussion of issues surrounding the making and meaning of history. (nyhistory.org)

Center for Jewish History
http://www.cjh.org/
15 West 16th Street New York, NY 10011
The Center for Jewish History in New York City illuminates history, culture, and heritage. The Center provides a collaborative home for five partner organizations: American Jewish Historical
Society, American Sephardi Federation, Leo Baeck Institute, Yeshiva University Museum, and YIVO Institute for Jewish Research. The partners’ archives comprise the world’s largest and most comprehensive archive of the modern Jewish experience outside of Israel. The collections span a thousand years, with more than 5 miles of archival documents (in dozens of languages and alphabet systems), more than 500,000 volumes, as well as thousands of artworks, textiles, ritual objects, recordings, films, and photographs. (cjh.org)

The High Line
http://www.thehighline.org/
from Gansevoort Street in the Meatpacking District to West 34th Street, between 10th and 12th Avenues.
The High Line is a public park built on a historic freight rail line elevated above the streets on Manhattan’s West Side. It runs from Gansevoort Street in the Meatpacking District to West 34th Street, between 10th and 12th Avenues. (highline.org) The Highline is often filled with contemporary art installations, food and drink vendors, and a lively mix of both tourists and locals. It will be quite chilly in the winter months, but will still promise spectacular views of the Meatpacking District. The Gansevoort Street entrance is located at the foot of the Whitney Museum of American Art.

Theatre

The Public Theater
https://www.publictheater.org/
425 Lafayette Street New York, NY 10003
The only theater in New York that produces Shakespeare and the classics, musicals, contemporary, and experimental pieces in equal measure, The Public serves as an advocate for the theater as an essential cultural force in leading and framing dialogue on important issues of our day. Hundreds of works that have been developed at The Public have gone on to presentations by nonprofit theaters across the country and on Broadway, extending the company’s engagement of audiences nationally and internationally. One of the theater community’s most important resources for the creation of new work, The Public has a long history of giving voice to under-represented talent and continues to foster the next generation of theater artists through professional development programs and the presentation of stagings and readings by established and emerging writers. (publictheater.org) **The Broadway sensation Hamilton had its start at the Public Theater!**

New World Stages
http://newworldstages.com/
340 West 50th Street New York, NY 10019
Nestled between bustling Times Square and trendy Hell’s Kitchen, New World Stages is the renowned theatrical complex which has served as the home of Tony-Award-winning,
Guinness-Record-setting, and Pulitzer-Prize-earning shows. When visiting the theater, be sure to check out The Green Room. You can meet your friends before a show to grab a cocktail or come in any night to enjoy the libations and lively goings-on in The Green Room each week. Drinks ARE allowed in our theaters, so grab an extra and bring it to your seat! Be sure to check out our show themed drink menu and calendar of weekly events. (newworldstages.com)

The People’s Improv Theater (The Pit)
https://thepit-nyc.com/events
123 E 24th St (b/t Park & Lex) – The Striker
123 E 24th St (b/t Park & Lex) – the PIT’s Underground
154 W 29th St (b/t 6th & 7th) – the PIT’s original location
After many years in Chelsea, this improv and sketch theater moved crosstown to a dramatic East Side location with a warm main stage proscenium, a black box in the basement and an inviting bar. Cheap shows and free jams keep the crowds young and lively. (timeout.com)

40 Notable Off-Broadway and Off Off Broadway Theaters in NYC (updated July 2017)

Shopping

Chelsea Market
http://chelseamarket.com/
75 9th Avenue (Between 15th and 16 Streets), New York, NY 10011
Chelsea Market has become in just fifteen years one of the greatest indoor food halls of the world, with more than thirty-five vendors purveying everything from soup to nuts, wine to coffee, cheese to cheesecake. Attracting 6 million national and international visitors annually, it is one of the most trafficked, and written-about, destinations of any kind in New York City. Chelsea Market is a neighborhood market with a global perspective. (chelseamarket.com)

Brookfield Place
http://brookfieldplaceny.com/
230 Vesey Street New York, NY 10281
Brookfield Place is the height of luxury shopping, dining and cultural arts in downtown Manhattan. The complex is positioned just south of Tribeca along the Hudson River waterfront and home to international fashion houses including Hermès, Bottega Veneta and Burberry, and contemporary brands such as Diane von Furstenberg, Theory, Michael Kors, Vince and Lululemon. An 85,000-square-foot Saks Fifth Avenue will open in early 2016. Best-in-class dining options include Hudson Eats, a collection of 14 chef-driven eateries; Le District, a 30,000-square-foot French-inspired marketplace; and eight signature restaurants including L’Atelier, Amada and Parm. (nycgo.com)
Food/Drink

60 Cheap Eats Destinations You Should Know About in NYC

A Guide to NYC's Food Halls

The 38 Essential New York Restaurants Summer 2017

New York City’s 30 Most Iconic Dishes

The Best NYC Restaurants for Vegetarians

18 Restaurants Perfect for a Group Dinner

27 New York City Bars With Great Happy Hour Deals

Where to Drink and Dine Near the Upper East Side Museums

**Some Upper East Side museums include: The Metropolitan, The Met Breuer, The Guggenheim, The Frick Collection, The Jewish Museum, Neue Galerie, and Cooper Hewitt

Other great food maps from ny.eater.com can be found here: https://ny.eater.com/maps

Post Offices/Business Centers

Find USPS locations in Manhattan by using the link below: https://tools.usps.com/go/POLocatorAction.action

Find FedEx locations in Manhattan by using the link below: http://local.fedex.com/ny/new-york/

10 Best Printing Services near Midtown East Manhattan 2017 (close to the Hilton Hotel) https://www.yelp.com/search?cflt=copyshops&find_loc=Midtown+East%2C+Manhattan%2C+NY

*ARLIS/NA does not endorse commercial businesses. Proceed at your own discretion.