

A MENSAN'S GUIDE TO NEW YORK



A GUIDE FOR TRAVELERS
VISITORS, FIRST-TIMERS AND
INTELLECTUALLY CURIOUS
MANHATTANITES

GNYM 2021

Foreword to A Mensan's Guide to New York

Travelers, visitors, first-timers and intellectually curious Manhattanites - this booklet is for you.

In the following pages you will find handpicked recommendations from members of Great New York Mensa that are certain to take you from the beaten path to obscure curiosities and stimulating sights and activities that only a discerning eye would know to find.

We hope you have as much fun enjoying the spots we've picked out for you as we had putting the list together.

And finally, welcome to New York – may you rediscover our city each day!

15 July 2021
Alexander Puutio,
SIGHT Coordinator, GNYM

Message from the President

Welcome to Greater New York Mensa, 2021!

You can find Rockefeller Center and Central Park all on your own, and of course a member or two at both, but we're betting you'll run into a lot more of us a bit further off the beaten track.

I'm hoping your contributions will make this Mensan's Guide to New York a continuously-evolving reference for visitors, newcomers, and newly-met Mensans looking for something a little unusual to enjoy together in our great City. I can't thank Alex and the team that put together this Mensan's Guide to New York together enough.

Welcome to New York! Make the most of your time with your fellow Mensans here in New York!

Christopher Hall
President
Greater New York Mensa

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FIRST THINGS FIRST



Grab a slice of NYC pizza

<http://www.nycrockyspizza.com/>

Anything thin crust will do. Don't miss the USD 2.50 combos for a slice and a coke! If in doubt (or adventurous), visit Rocky's and try the Chicken Caesar slice

Walk the Brooklyn Bridge (in good weather, of course)

<https://freetoursbyfoot.com/walking-the-brooklyn-bridge/>

Never mind you won't beat the speed a cat once took to cross the bridge in the Postal Service's old pneumatic tube system. At \$17,000 a mile per year the rent proved too high to keep the system in operation, but you can still cross the river for free on foot, so make a little time to enjoy a sunny day's walk across the Brooklyn Bridge to the most populous borough of the city.

Visit the Vessel at Hudson Yards

<https://www.hudsonyardsnewyork.com/discover/vessel>

For a walk through the likes of an M.C. Escher sketch, stop by the Vessel at Hudson Yards between 10th and 11th Aves and W.30th and 34th. Remember to book your tickets in advance!

See the 9/11 World Trade Center Memorial and Museum

<https://www.wtc.com/memorial>

It's a sombering experience to recollect the events of September 11, 2001, but a visit to the World Trade Center Memorial and Museum is a must.

Visit Grand Central and the City Hall Subway Stations

<https://www.grandcentralterminal.com/> and <https://freetoursbyfoot.com/city-hall-subway-station/>



Instead of making a beeline from their hotel to make their way across the Brooklyn Bridge as any normal New York tourist would do, true Mensans would first spend time discovering some of downtown Manhattan's Art Deco history. Visit the subway stations on a beautiful sunny day and allow their ambience to captivate your imagination's experience of life in early-1900s New York City.

Visit your friendly neighborhood New York Public Library
<https://www.nypl.org/>

Check out Strand Book Store
<https://www.strandbooks.com/hours-and-locations/>
"18 Miles of Books" - at the family-owned "undisputed king of the city's independent bookstores." Need we say more?

Pay a visit to Lady Liberty
Ellis Island National Museum of Immigration and Statue of Liberty National Monument
<https://www.statueoflibertytickets.com> and <https://www.nps.gov/elis/index.htm>

If you want to land up close and personal, get your tickets early.
If you're fine with just a pass and a wave, then jump on the Staten Island Ferry, it's free!



MIND THE MUSEUMS



New York is a city where you could spend your entire visit museum-hopping without ever seeing the same exhibit twice. When it comes to museums New Yorkers are certainly not kidding around, just take a look at what the city has to offer!

Don't forget that many museums have a Free Fridays in Manhattan admission policy (free 1st Saturdays at the Brooklyn Museum)! And check your credit cards' benefits; some offer free museum admission the first weekend of the month.

The Museum Mile (5th Avenue)

Spend a day (or two) walking along the Museum Mile on 5th Avenue, home to the following world-renowned museums:

El Museo del Barrio

104th Street

<https://www.elmuseo.org/>

Museum of the City of New York

103rd Street

<https://www.mcny.org/>

Jewish Museum

92nd Street

<https://thejewishmuseum.org/>

Cooper-Hewitt National Museum of Design

91st Street

<https://www.cooperhewitt.org/>

National Academy Museum and School of Fine Arts

89th Street

<https://www.nationalacademy.org/>

Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum

88th Street

<https://www.guggenheim.org/>

Metropolitan Museum of Art

82nd to 86th Streets

<https://www.metmuseum.org/>

Goethe House German Cultural Center

82nd Street

https://www.goethe.de/ins/us/en/sta/ney.html?wt_sc=new+york

And just when you thought your Museum spree was done, here are a few of our most-referred favorites for you to plan your day around!

The National Museum of Mathematics

11 East 26th Street

<https://momath.org/>

Mount Vernon Hotel, Museum and Garden

421 E. 61st St btwn York & First Ave

<https://mvhm.org/>

Eldridge Street Museum & Synagogue

12 Eldridge Street

<https://www.eldridgestreet.org/>

The Lower East Side Tenement Museum

103 Orchard Street

<https://www.tenement.org/>

Paley Center for Media

25 West 52nd Street

<https://www.paleycenter.org/>

If Museums aren't your thing, try:

Herman Melville's Manhattan: A walking tour around Manhattan

Herman Melville spent the last two decades of his life as a Customs Inspector in lower Manhattan and drew his inspiration from the bustling city. Follow his footsteps here:

<https://untappedcities.com/2014/07/03/take-a-walk-around-herman-melvilles-manhattan-10-spots-in-lower-manhattan-which-inspired-the-author>

CURIOSITIES AND OTHER PLACES WITH A CURIOUS HISTORY



Typhoid Mary's Quarantine

North Brother Island, btwn. The Bronx and Rikers Island, East River 10454

https://opacity.us/site100_riverside_hospital_north_brother_island.htm

Admittedly, a vile place to be and all the worse imagining that the asymptomatic, Mary Mallon, the cook believed the cause of the bacterial epidemic that infected so many lives at the turn of the century, was involuntarily quarantined here on North Brother Island for much of her adult life.



The Ruins of Renwick Smallpox Hospital

E Rd, Roosevelt Island, East River, New York, NY 10044

https://opacity.us/site14_renwick_smallpox_hospital.htm

A Mensan might be found exploring the magnificent relic of this mid-19th century Gothic Revival Smallpox Hospital set on the southern tip of Roosevelt Island just adjacent to the Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms State Park.



Obscura Antiques & Oddities

207 Ave A, New York, NY 10009

<https://shopobscuraantiques.com/>

New York City would be incomplete without a visit to see this collection of some of the oddest antiques gathered together here from around the world. Delve into the depths of Obscura Antiques and find yourself a real essence of New York City souvenir!



George Glazer Gallery

308 E 94th St, New York, NY 10128

<https://www.georgeglazer.com/wpmain/>

This gallery should have been called the Museum of Fascinating and Unexpected Things. The George Glazer Gallery is a fancy walk-in for any curious-minded person looking to find the unusual. Who better than an intrigued Mensan?



Museum of Interesting Things

Georgetown Plaza, 60 E 8th St., New York, NY 10003

<http://www.museumofinterestingthings.org>



Have a look at a mélange of random objects on display in this quirky corner. Don't be surprised if you don't know quite what everything is at first; you'll find no end of items of interest to ogle and a few that are just what you've been looking for!

The Mysterious Bookshop

58 Warren St., New York, NY 10007

<https://www.mysteriousbookshop.com>

Known for its collection of rare first editions and other unique books, The Mysterious Bookshop can be a fascinating place to spend some time discovering rarities only a true Mensa mystery aficionado might know to recognize.



Tim Burton's Beetle House
308 E 6th St., New York, NY 10003
<https://beetlehousenyc.com>

Take a chance and step inside this tiny little spot to meet some of the characters sprung from the mind of one of the world's most eccentric film-makers, Tim Burton. Beetle House is a great spot to grab a snack and a cool drink and come face to face with Edward Scissorhands or even Mr Beetle himself!



New York Transit Museum Gallery and Annex
89 E. 42nd St., Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10007
<https://www.nytransitmuseum.org/>

Have a look at the Annex of the NYT Museum to learn a bit about the history of one of the world's most sophisticated transit systems.



C.O. Bigelow Apothecaries
414 6th Ave., New York, NY 10011
<https://www.bigelowchemists.com>

Feeling you like you need something to freshen up with after a long hot day in the city. Why go to a chain drug store when you can stop in at Bigelow's in Greenwich Village, the oldest apothecary in America.



The Grolier Club
47 E 60th St., New York, NY 10022
<https://www.grolierclub.org>

The club for antique book lovers, those with an interest in calligraphy, prints, and manuscripts, and book collectors and bibliophiles of all types; Grolier's Club is a fascinating visit for a Mensan wishing to enjoy the work of truly committed bibliophiles.



Tannen's Magic Shop

45 W. 34th, #608, New York, NY 10001

<https://www.tannens.com>

A stone's throw from the Empire State Building, the wit and trickery of magicians is a time-old blend of art, science and illusion. One of the oldest and one of the few remaining magic shops in the city is located right in the heart of Manhattan; Tannen's Magic Shop virtually never disappoints the curious Mensan. Stop in to have look at some of the tools and secrets of the world of magicians and remember to shut the door behind you as enter or you'll be chasing that rabbit in your hat all over midtown.



Octagon Tower

888 Main St., Roosevelt Island, East River, NY 10044

<https://rioc.ny.gov/180/The-Octagon>

Amongst the sea of skyscrapers and bridges New York City offers its tourists, don't miss out on an architectural gem, the Octagon Tower on Roosevelt Island. Originally built as an insane asylum in the early 19th century, the stone structure fell into disrepair but has since been restored and named a National Historic Landmark.





IF ART IS YOUR THING

There is always an art gallery opening somewhere

(Thursday nights in Chelsea are magical!)

https://www.nyartbeat.com/list/event_opening

<http://www.artnet.com/events/new-york/gallery-openings/>

Armory Art Week (March)

<https://www.thearmoryshow.com/>

Hint: MoMA throws a celebrity-studded opening night party for Armory Week.

Frieze Art Week (May)

<https://frieze.com/fairs/frieze-new-york>

And an endless number of private galleries such as...

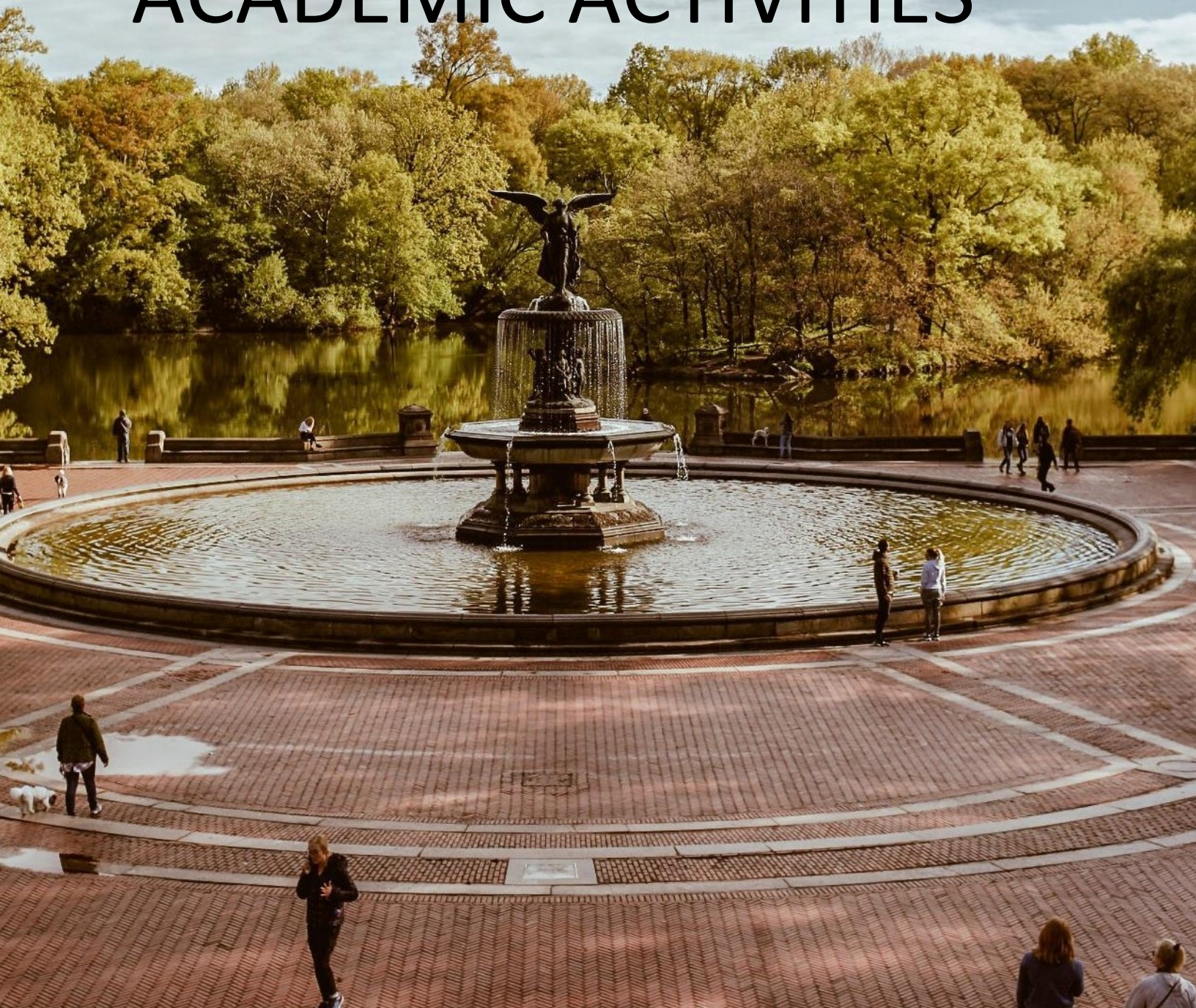
- Hauser & Wirth New York
542 W. 22nd St. and 32 E. 69th St.
<https://www.hauserwirth.com/>
- Gagosian Gallery
980 and 976 Madison Ave., 821 Park Ave., 555 and 541 W. 24th St. and 522 W. 21st St.
<https://gagosian.com/>
- David Zwirner
525 W. 19th St., 537 W. 20th St., and 34 E. 69th St.
<https://www.davidzwirner.com/>
- Gladstone Gallery
515 W. 24th St., 530 W. 21st St., and 130 E. 64th St.
<https://www.gladstonegallery.com/>

Don't miss this if you've already seen all the art you ever wanted to see in Manhattan: Mana Contemporary art complex in Jersey City hosts fantastic mega-events throughout the year. It's a quick commute via PATH to Journal Square (also a festive stop on Friday evenings in the summer).

888 Newark Ave., Jersey City, NJ

<https://www.manacontemporary.com/>

SPRING, SUMMER & FALL SPECIALS & ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES



Lincoln Center and Bryant Park

9th Ave. & Broadway btwn W.63rd and W.66th; and btwn 5th and 6th Aves. and W. 40th and W. 42nd Sts.

Both venues have great outdoor events in the summer and early fall. Lincoln Center's Atrium, near Columbus Circle is another gem for more "alternative" musical events.

<https://bryantpark.org/>

<http://www.lincolncenter.org/atrium/>

Central Park SummerStage

Enter the park on 5th Ave. from E.72nd St.

<https://cityparksfoundation.org/summerstage-2/>

River to River Festival

<https://lmcc.net/river-to-river-festival/>

DUMBO Arts Festival

<http://dumboartsfestival.com/>

Summer Streets

<https://www1.nyc.gov/html/dot/summerstreets/html/home/home.shtml>

Hint: Heineken and Red Bull host musical events and parties throughout the year!

Also: Check out Freeform radio station WFMU's Monty Hall - a very low cost music venue with alternative shows on the roster!

If you're here for NY Fashion Week

Free tickets to many shows can be requested if you set up an account on Fashion GPS Radar:

<https://www.gpsradar.com/blog/fashion/> Be sure to check in with other attendees and ushers to find out where the after-parties are.

For last-minute inspiration, turn to technology...

If you don't have a plan, don't worry – neither do most of New Yorkers! Instead, they open up

Pulsd, **Eventbrite**, and **Plugged** and see where all the free drink & snack parties are at!

<https://pulsd.com/new-york>

<https://www.eventbrite.com/d/ny--new-york/events/>

<https://nycplugged.com/>

Hint: If you don't mind crowds and lines, Bloomingdales and Macys both have many celebrity pop-up events in their midtown stores that usually have drinks, snacks, and giveaways.

Also, Samsung, Apple, & Sony host many in-house free concerts and events that frequently also have free food and drink.

...or just turn to Big Apple Greeters!

Big Apple Greeters are volunteers who take visitors around NYC as a friend to show them neighborhoods and how New Yorkers live. We are not tour guides. We are volunteers. No tipping allowed. We are part of the Global Greeter network throughout the world.

www.nyc.go.com/venues/big-apple-greeter/

Open House New York Weekend

Digital sneak peeks, hyperlocal itineraries, and zero crowded elevator rides. We are reimagining the festival as a hybrid of virtual experiences and outdoor self-guided explorations.

<https://ohny.org/>

Academic Activities

New York City Open Data Week

Open Data Week is a week-long festival of community-driven events organized and produced by the NYC Mayor's Office of Data Analytics and BetaNYC. Every year, New Yorkers come together all across the boroughs to celebrate New York City's Open Data Law, which was signed into law on March 7, 2012. Coincidentally, the first weekend of March is also International Open Data Day.

<https://www.open-data.nyc/>

Columbia University self-guided tour

Morningside Heights from W. 114th St. stretching north to about W. 120th St., btwn Manhattan Ave. and Amsterdam Ave.

Take a stroll across Columbia University and bask in the culturally significant premises some of which date back to 1754 when the institution was known as King's College, established under royal charter of King George II of England as the fifth university in the country.

<http://www.columbia.edu/files/columbia/content/walking-tour-and-map-3.pdf>

New York University Summer Programs

By Washington Square Park btwn University Place and Broadway and W.3rd St. and Washington Square North/Waverly Place

NYU Summer Programs offer a variety of course options, including three-, six-, and twelve-week sessions. You'll have the flexibility to create your own schedule and select courses from any of nine colleges at NYU

<http://www.nyu.edu/admissions/visiting-students/academics/summer.html>

CUNY Graduate Center

365 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10016

The center hosts many interesting panel discussions along with the occasional film and performance.

<https://www.gc.cuny.edu/Home>

Cooper Union and The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture

30 Cooper Sq., New York, NY 10003 and 515 Malcolm X Blvd. at 135th St., New York, NY 10037
Cooper Union offers a plethora of academic, political, and cultural talks and presentations throughout the year, as does Harlem's Schomburg Center.

<https://cooper.edu/welcome>

<https://www.nypl.org/locations/schomburg>

Visit Cornell Tech

South of North Loop Road btwn East and West Loop Roads, Roosevelt Island

Located on Roosevelt Island, Cornell Tech's stunning campus is a prime day-trip destination. A thriving and inclusive community, a humming center of creative thinking, and a crossroads of research, education, and innovation: the Big Apple's tech sector finally has a proper home.

<https://tech.cornell.edu/campus/>

School of American Ballet Summer Course

North side of Lincoln Center Plaza off W. 66th St. btwn. Amsterdam and Columbus Aves.

If you are serious about ballet, perhaps consider taking part in SAB's summer courses that provide a highly acclaimed introduction to the School's curriculum, faculty, and residential program has been a core offering since 1938. The Summer Course is a critical access point for those interested in future year-round training at SAB as all summer students are evaluated as candidates for the SAB's Winter Term.

<https://sab.org/summer-course/>

Hackathons!

NYC is host to dozens of hackathons each year, most of which are open for the public in one form or another. Find your fit from the links below.

<http://cs4all.nyc/student-events/hackathons/>

<https://www.hackathon.com/city/united-states/new-york>

The Tiny Scientist Summer Program

Multiple locations in Brooklyn: 1624 8th Ave. & Windsor Place in South Slope; 179 N.7th at Bedford & Driggs in Williamsburg; and 69 Underhill at Bergen & St. Marks Pl. in Prospect Heights

Looking for fun, educational ways for your child to spend their summer? The Tiny Scientist program has got you covered! Check out their upcoming summer programs and register your scientist for some hands-on science and fun.

<http://www.thetinyscientist.com/summer>

COFFEE



Ok, I am sure you don't necessarily need help with this. However, this wouldn't be a guide worth the paper it was printed on unless we shared some of our favorite snack and coffee spots with you. Enjoy!

Partners Coffee (Multiple locations)

Best Flat White/Latte in NYC

<https://www.partnerscoffee.com/>

Birch Coffee (Multiple locations)

Competing for Best Flat White/Latte in NYC

<https://birchcoffee.com/>

Ground Central Coffee (Multiple locations)

More than just a pun – they have superb coffee as well!

<https://www.ground-central.com/>

Blue Bottle Coffee (Multiple locations)

Fantastic Espresso and Great Single Origin and Blend coffees.

<https://bluebottlecoffee.com>

Think Coffee (Multiple locations)

Great Coffees and Espressos and a very solid choice for reading/working as well.

<https://thinkcoffee.com>



WHEN YOU GET HUNGRY

-КРЕПКИЙ АЛКОГОЛЬ	
АРМА	
40 мл 290	Samalens Vodka
40 мл 150	Armenian Vodka
40 мл 190	
40 мл 190	
40 мл 190	
40 мл 220	
40 мл 160	Baileys
40 мл 220	Malibu
40 мл 230	Mezcal
40 мл 240	Sambuca
40 мл 250	Cañonero
40 мл 275	Limonecello
	Becherovka
	Frangelico
	Jagermeister
	Ezergeter
	Cointreau
	Kahlua
	Galliano
	Drambuie
	Frangelico
	Campani
	Aperol
	Lillet Blanc
	Xenta
	Bellini
ВИСКИ	
40 мл 290	Ballantine's
40 мл 330	Jameson
40 мл 320	Maker's Mark
40 мл 870	Macallan 12
40 мл 1600	Macallan 18
40 мл 620	Macallan 18
40 мл 600	Glenlivet 12
40 мл 690	Glenlivet 12
40 мл 500	Singleton 12
40 мл 800	
НАСТОЙКА	
СОБСТВЕННО	
ПРОИЗВОДСТВО	

Dumplings in Chinatown

Chinatown is the place to shop for fresh vegetables and fruits, including "exotic" ones not found at Whole Foods and at a fraction of what you would pay anywhere else. Pick some up after dim sum, dessert, and bubble tea.

Have lunch at Katz's Delicatessen

205 E. Houston St. at Ludlow

Over 130 years old with HUGE sandwiches (Pastrami; Corned Beef; Roast Beef; Turkey) that are ABSOLUTELY on the pricey side BUT WELL worth the money. Don't forget the well-marked famous "Orgasm Table" from the movie, "When Harry Met Sally." Definitely a unique can't miss destination where the food does NOT disappoint.

<https://www.katzsdelicatessen.com/our-story>

Cheeky Sandwiches

35 Orchard St. btwn. Hester and Canal Sts.

Great Po'Boys and other New Orleans delicacies

<https://www.cheekysandwiches.com>

Blue Ribbon Fried Chicken

28 E. First St., in the East Village, or 749 9th Ave., in Hell's Kitchen

Very Tasty Fried Chicken, if you want something special look for "Chef's Choice" and try the "Liver and Onions"

<https://blueribbonfriedchicken.com>

Veselka

144 Second Ave. at E. 9th St.

Don't miss the pierogies - yummy little potato-filled pockets with sour cream and sweet grilled onions.

<https://www.veselka.com>

Coppelia

207 W. 14th St. at 7th Ave.

Cuban Diner - great food, great place to hang out at 4AM

<https://ilovecoppelia.com>

Wo Hop

17 Mott St. a block east of the south end of Columbus Park

VERY famous late-nite NO frills Chinese, nearly a century old. Be aware there are TWO Wo Hops RIGHT THERE. The one everyone talks about is DOWN a mangy flight of stairs. The upper is the same people, but many find the food better below.

<https://wohopnyc.com>

Wu Liang Ye

36 W. 48th St. btwn. 5th and 6th Aves.

Try the Dan Dan mian (noodles); Ma po tofu; Cashew chicken; Baby shrimp with szechuan chili sauce and Young chow fried rice.

<http://wuliangyeny.com>

Haandi

113 Lexington Ave. at E. 28th St.

So much loved by ex-pat Desi taxi-drivers that the parking along this stretch of Lexington is, in fact, reserved ONLY for taxi-drivers.

<http://haandiny.com>

Ravagh Persian Grill

173 Madison Ave. at E. 34th St., 1135 First Ave. btwn. 62nd and 63rd Sts., along with locations in Suffolk and Nassau Counties out on Long Island

Fabulous Persian food, specializing in kebobs with yummy rice along with delicious soups and stews. Good for vegetarians and Vegans and not spendy at all.

<https://ravaghrestaurants.com>

Cafe Mogador

101 St. Marks Place by Tompkins Square Park

Fabulous Moroccan - Lamb and merguez and chicken and tagines and stews with delicious basmati rice or over fabulous couscous.

<http://www.cafemogador.com>

Chez Napoléon

365 W 50th St., btwn. 8th and 9th Aves.

If you want to dream you're dining in a bistro along the River Seine in Paris or tucked away on a side street near the Avenue des Champs-Élysées, this is where you want to be.

<http://www.cheznapoleon.com>

Zabar's

2245 Broadway at W. 80th St.

If you're looking to put together a first class meal, or a special picnic or a wonderful brunch, want great cheese or lox or prepared foods or breads or soups, THIS is where you want to go.

Truly world famous.

<https://www.zabars.com>

Schmackary's

362 W. 45th St. just off 9th Ave.

Truly Gourmet Cookies even gluten free. Anything with dark cocoa or peanut butter is especially fine and oh, oh, that maple bacon!

<https://schmackarys.com>

The Campbell Bar

Grand Central Terminal at 15 Vanderbilt Ave and E. 42nd St.

Once the palatial office of financier William Campbell designed to resemble a 13th-century Florentine palace, it's now an elite bar in the heart of Manhattan. Restored to its former glory near the turn of the millennium The Campbell Bar remains a stunning exemplar of the lavish and extravagant lengths to which some of New York's late-19th century elite went in creating opulent homes and offices.

<https://www.thecampbellnyc.com>



BROOKLY

BOWL

THE LING PROMENADE
MUSIC & 32 BOWLING LANES
FREE SHOW JUNE 1
2
3
5
DRINKS

CUPCAKES

ICE CREAM



Jimmy Kimmel's
COMEDY CLUB

HAPPY HOUR
AVAILABLE UNTIL 8PM

55 BEERS
65 DRINKS
57 APPETIZERS

LIVE COMEDY
THURSDAY - SUNDAY

BAR OPEN DAILY

THE LING
FROMENADE

KIMMELSCOMEDYCLUB.COM
@KIMMELSCOMEDY

Hometown Bar-B-Que

454 Van Brunt St. at Reed St. in Red Hook, and 87 35th St. in Industry City
<https://hometownbbq.com/>

Conrad Duberstein US Bankruptcy Courthouse

271-C Cadman Plaza just off Brooklyn Bridge Blvd. at Tillary St.

Set near the Brooklyn Bridge, this Romanesque Revival building has remained largely undisturbed since it was built in the late 19th century. Take a little time to enjoy a look at this National Register of Historic Places and New York City Landmark post office and courthouse after a walk across the Brooklyn Bridge.

<https://www.nyeb.uscourts.gov/>

Brooklyn Bridge Park

334 Furman St., on the East River

The 85 acres of Brooklyn Bridge Park stretch almost a mile and a half along the Brooklyn side of the East River. Theatrical performances, opera in the park, author readings and talks, or morning work-out groups; all with a view of the city and good food, drinks and company to be had just a block or two away.

<https://www.brooklynbridgepark.org/>

Jane's Carousel

Brooklyn Bridge Park, adjacent to the East River

Set between the Brooklyn and Manhattan Bridges this beautiful antique carousel is housed in a glass pavilion right on the bank of the East River. Fun for all ages, and last we checked an adult chaperone can ride for free so long as the \$2.00 ticket-holder is less than 42" high.

<https://www.brooklynbridgepark.org/attractions/janes-carousel>

The Brooklyn Heights Promenade

Montague St. and Pierrepont Pl.

Great views of the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, the World Trade Center, South Street Seaport, the old site of the Fulton Fish Market, the Brooklyn Bridge, lower Manhattan, Governors Island, and Staten Island, are all to be had on a riverside stroll along the Brooklyn Heights Promenade set directly above Brooklyn Bridge Park.

<https://www.tripsavvy.com/brooklyn-heights-promenade-brooklyn-bridge-park-guide-4163634>

Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM)

30 Lafayette Ave., btwn Fulton St. and Flatbush Ave.

Just two blocks from the Barclays Arena in Fort Greene you'll find one of Brooklyn's oldest performing arts venues, and probably its most worthwhile, the Brooklyn Academy of Music. Any Mensan with a passion for the arts will find something to their taste here, whether its internationally renowned theatre, dance, music or just a night out at the movies. Check their calendar online, but much better, head on over and if something to your taste isn't on at BAM you may find you'll discover something at one of several other world-renowned venues in the neighborhood and be coming back again.

<https://www.bam.org>

Soldiers' & Sailors' Arch

20 Grand Army Plaza at Flatbush Ave., Eastern Parkway and Prospect Park West

Just a mile's walk east from BAM through the restaurants, bars and shops along the Prospect Park section of Flatbush Ave. you'll reach the massive Soldiers' and Sailors' Arch at Grand Army Plaza surrounded by the Brooklyn Botanic Garden in Prospect Park itself, the Brooklyn Zoo, the Brooklyn Museum and the main Brooklyn Library. And if it's a Saturday, you should find the Grand Army Plaza Greenmarket in full swing.

<https://www.nycgovparks.org/parks/B040/monuments/1463>

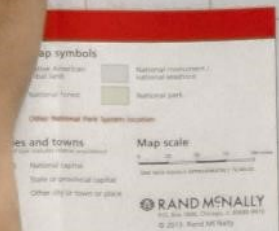
Grand Army Plaza Library

10 Grand Army Plaza at Flatbush Ave., Eastern Parkway and Prospect Park West

This New York City landmark was placed on the National Register of Historic Places; a Mensan will find summer concerts, lectures and a huge collection of historic Brooklyn memorabilia along with over a million books and other materials.

<https://www.bklynlibrary.org/locations/central>

ESCAPE THE URBAN JUNGLE



Four Freedoms Park

Roosevelt Island

Away from the hustle and bustle of the city, this pavilion, designed by the iconic architect, Louis I. Kahn, provides a surreally quiet and glorious view of the skyline of the Upper East Side of Manhattan skyline from the southern tip of the East River's Roosevelt Island.

<https://www.fdrfourfreedomspark.org/>

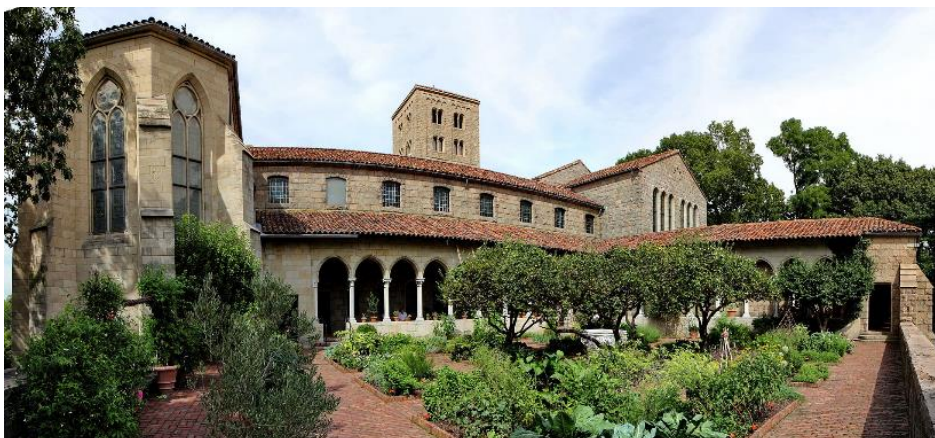


The Met's Cloisters

99 Margaret Corbin Drive, Fort Tryon Park

To take a stroll through the Met's Cloisters is to experience medieval monastic life. The Cloisters were disassembled in France and brought to rest on hillside heights above the Hudson just north of Washington Heights. The Met's Cloisters are a cool remove from the pace of modern city life offering an apropos collection drawn from medieval European life. Any Mensan with a bent for history or just wanting a break from the pace of city life will be glad they made the time to spend an afternoon enjoying wandering the collections and gardens of the Cloisters.

<https://www.metmuseum.org/visit/plan-your-visit/met-cloisters>



The SeaGlass Carousel

Water & State Streets in Battery Park

Finding yourself by Battery Park and missing out on the SeaGlass Carousel is a lost opportunity you'll come to regret. The marine life design of the carousel is a truly unique family-friendly experience to be enjoyed by Mensans of all ages throughout the year.

<https://www.seaglasscarousel.nyc/>



Ford Foundation's Indoor Tropical Forest

320 E.43rd St., btwn. 1st and 2nd Aves.

Though a modern office building filled with the essence of Manhattan corporate enterprise hard at work, this unusual gem provides a high IQ wanderer an anomaly of an experience: a year-round tropical forest and floral habitat set smack in the center of the world's greatest city.

<https://www.fordfoundation.org/about/the-ford-foundation-center-for-social-justice/visitor-information/>



Sisyphus Stones

Along the east bank of the Hudson River in Fort Washington Park off Riverside Drive at 171st St.

After a day in the city center, head to the city's northern tip and enjoy a well-earned rest at sunset by the Sisyphus Stones. Free-standing columns of the same local Manhattan schist and granite upon which the city rests, the so-called Sisyphus Stones stretch north along the east bank of the Hudson River just south of the George Washington Bridge. Do take some time to try your hand at assembling a column of your own while you're there.

<https://www.uliksgryka.com/work>



La Plaza Cultural

E 9th St. at Ave. C

When you've finished enjoying Central Park and the New York Botanical Gardens, head on over to La Plaza Cultural. Once a rubble- and garbage-filled empty lot, the local residents successfully transformed it into a lasting community garden, open-air theatre and green space.

<https://www.laplazacultural.com/>

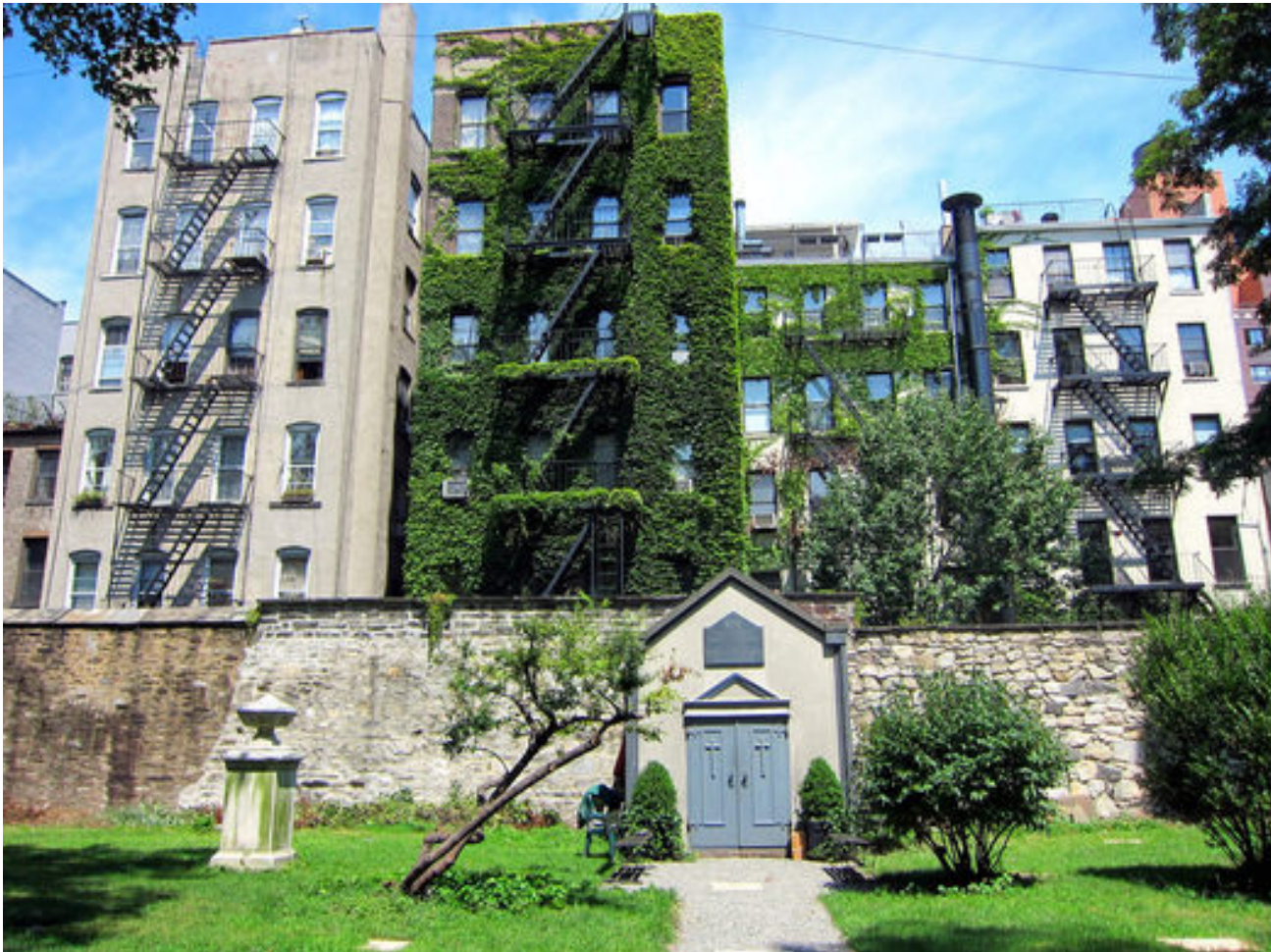


New York Marble Cemetery

41½ 2nd Ave. btwn. E. 2nd and E. 3rd Sts.

A fascinating and relaxing spot in the East Village for a Mensan to discover a bit of the history of the city. Here you'll find the burial spots of notable merchants and leaders of the city from a time when New York was plagued with yellow fever. Fearing the spread of the virus from traditional coffin burials, wealthier families banded together to buy a plot of land and created vaulted structures of stone within which to lay their dead to rest.

<https://marblecemetery.org/>



THANK YOU

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