



FOLLOW YOUR AMERICAN DREAM WITH YOUR GUIDE

New York City



New York City is the most famous city in the United State of America. It is located in the northeast of the United States, on the Atlantic coast.

“As for New York City, it is a place apart. There is not its match in any other country in the world” Pearl S Buck.

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New York City (NYC) *“the city which never sleeps”*, is a mixed of culture of style and dynamism. The visitors can admire a big exhibition of art in the morning, attend a play on Broadway in the afternoon and dance all night long in a fashionable nightclub. NYC has the reputation for being an international capital for shopping and it has lots of department stores, smart shops on main avenues, and so many stores at the top of the fashion ... Art lovers will have a few days to visit its museums (the most famous are the Metropolitan

Museum of art, the Solomon R Museum, the Guggenheim and the American museum of Natural history ...). NYC also makes the happiness of families with its parks, its boats, its toy shops, nice restaurants and skyscrapers. Finally, NYC is the ideal place for sport fans. They can attend matches of big teams such as the Yankees, the Dishes, the Knicks or the Giants ...

The famous Marathon of New York is an event to attend too. In NYC everything is possible : you can practise roller skating, bike, tennis or golf, even climbing in the heart of the metropolis ...



Time Square

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Now, our guide proposes you a little bit of history about New York City ...

New York City was the capital of the USA between 1785 and 1790.

It is located in one of the world's largest natural harbors (the Hudson River). NYC is made of 5 boroughs which are: the Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens and Staten Island.

8 million inhabitants live in NYC amongst whom there are over 170 nations represented. There are over 160 languages spoken there.

NYC was created in 1624. In the past it was called New Amsterdam because the Dutch colonized this place and founded New Amsterdam, NYC was called like this in honour of the Duke of York, the king of England's brother.

❖ The most interesting places for a first visit to NYC are :

- The Statue of Liberty situated on Liberty Island (the statue was a present from France to the USA in 1884).
- The Empire State Building, built in 1931(with 443meters it is the tallest skyscraper in New York).
- Central Park called “the lung of New York” by the New Yorkers themselves (Although it looks completely natural, the park is man made, created over 150 years ago. Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux designed the park at a time when the city was a very crowded, dirty and unhealthy place to live. They wanted to make a place where rich and poor people could find fresh air in the dirty city).
- Time Square is famous for its giant neon signs Broadway theaters, where you can see famous musicals.
- The Brooklyn Bridge which connects Manhattan and Brooklyn (every day, more than 12, 000 cars and 6,600 people cycle or walk across the bridge).



Statue of Liberty



Central Park



Empire State Building



Brooklyn Bridge

❖ The World Trade Center

The site of the new World Trade Center is located in Lower Manhattan, in NYC. The World Trade Center, and more specifically the Twin Towers, used to stand there. The memorials are situated at the exact place where the former Twin Towers used to stand before 9/11/2001. The two “footprints” of the Twin Towers have been kept with waterfalls in their center. The memorial commemorates the victims of the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center on September 11th, 2001. There will be a museum under the memorial. On the site there is also a transport hub, which is a place where different means of transport are connected. The tallest tower will be the same height as the Twin Towers, i.e. 1,368 feet (=427m) without the antenna and 1,776 feet (=541m) with the antenna. This high-rise building has been nicknamed the “Freedom Tower”. 1776 is symbolical because it is the year when the American Declaration of Independence from Great Britain was ratified. Since the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center this place has been called “Ground Zero”.



The World Trade Center before the terrorist attack of 9/11/2001



Now “Ground Zero” of the World Trade Center

❖ Citicorp Building

The Citicorp Building is situated in Lexington Avenue between 53rd and 54th Streets, in the neighborhood of midtown Manhattan, in New York City.

The Citicorp Building is 915 foot (279meters) high. It measures 1.3 million square feet (120000m²) it is just office space. There are 59 storeys in this building.

Its architecture belongs to the International Style which blossomed between the twenties and eighties. It is the result of the Bauhaus school ideas joined to the last American techniques of construction using steel and glass.

Its construction has cost \$195 million.

Members of the Evangelical Lutheran used to go to St Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church which was founded in 1862. In 1905, the church moved to the location of 54th Street and Lexington Avenue.

It was created by the American architect Hugh Stubbins Jr and the firm of Architects Edward Larrabee Barnes Associates with the cooperat of Emery Roth & Sons.

The construction started in 1974 and was completed in 1977.

The building was built according to the engineer William Le Messurier's ideas (from a central massive octagonal column).

In 1978, the architects understood that the changes in the construction for financial reasons resulted in its loss of stability and so Citicorp Building might not resist violent storms (more than 115km/hour). Le Messurier had to secretly find a solution because he did not want to lose his job. Consequently works had been done at night for 3 months. At no moment the public had been warned. Good luck had been with this engineer since a strong hurricane called "Ella" had been announced but it finally changed direction. This anecdote was kept secret for 20 years.

Nowadays, thanks to all these works, the Citicorp Building is one of the safest skyscrapers.



Citicorp Building

I find this part of its history very interesting to tell the tourists. Moreover among the other buildings in that area, it is the most beautiful and original skyscraper. The upperpart is not flat, it has a 45 degree angle. It appears like a blue and white square tower: the blue parts are the windows made of glass and the white parts are made of concrete, steel and aluminium. It is an important financial place.



Central massive octagonal



Citicorp building

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Practical information

How to come to NYC ... how to move in NYC

NYC ... Access by plane

- ✓ International airport John F. Kennedy (JFK) ... situated at around 24 kilometers of the center of Manhattan (www.kennedyairport.com)
- ✓ Airport Fiorello LaGuardia (LGA) ... situated on the North coast of Queens around 13 kilometers of NY (www.laguardiaairport.com)

NYC ... Access by train

- ✓ New York – Penn Station, NY 8th Avenue 31st Street (www.amtrak.com)

NYC ... Access by bus

- ✓ Bus stations Greyhound – Port(bearing) authority 625 – 8th Avenue – NY (www.greyhound.com)

NYC ... Access by subway and bus

- ✓ www.mta.info