

3 or 4 DAYS

Program fee includes:

New York City is the most populous city in the United States and ranks among the largest urban areas in the world.

Smithsonian STUDENT TRAVEL

- Round-trip transportation and MetroCard
- 2 nights hotel accommodations in Manhattan (3 with extension)
- Air-conditioned motorcoach on tour
- Breakfast and dinner daily
- Full-time Smithsonian Student Travel Tour Director
- Sightseeing tour led by a licensed local guide
- Visits to special attractions as per itinerary
- Broadway show
- Overnight security
- Educational materials developed by the Smithsonian
- Medical and accident coverage
- Travel ID Badges and student backpacks
- Smithsonian Membership

Options

- Lunches
- Extended stay
- MET guided tour
- Gratuities
- Opportunity to earn credit for group leaders and students

METROPOLITAN MANHATTAN

DAY 1: NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Welcome to New York City • Travel to New York City, which British explorer Henry Hudson “discovered” in 1609 while searching for a passage to China. Today, the Big Apple is the largest metropolis in the United States. Upon arrival, meet your Smithsonian Student Travel Tour Director, who will accompany you throughout your stay. A private bus will transfer you to your downtown hotel. For the remainder of your tour, your included MetroCard will be your access to the subway and your key to the city.

Walking tour of Midtown • Stroll down glamorous Fifth Avenue in the heart of midtown Manhattan. Pass Rockefeller Center, home to NBC Studios and Radio City Music Hall, an Art Deco triumph. Marvel at the grandeur of St. Patrick’s Cathedral, with its 26-foot-wide rose window and soaring Gothic spires. These peaks were added in the 1880s, nearly 30 years after the cathedral’s construction. Continue past the extravagant Trump Tower and the famous F.A.O. Schwarz toy store, finishing at the entrance to Central Park, New York’s 843-acre pastoral retreat.

Empire State Building and Observatory • This evening, view the city from the Empire State Building’s observation deck. Once the world’s tallest building, the Empire State Building remains one of Manhattan’s most elegant symbols. Built in just over a year during the depths of the Depression, this limestone beauty’s iconic status was sealed in 1933, when the building starred in *King Kong*. Since the 1976 bicentennial celebration, the building’s top stories have glowed at night with seasonal colors.

DAY 2: STATUE OF LIBERTY ★ LOWER MANHATTAN

CBS’ *The Early Show* • Become part of the audience at CBS’ *The Early Show*—your family may even see you on TV during this popular live news program! Depending upon availability, you may have the chance to go behind the scenes to discover how the show is run.

Guided sightseeing of Manhattan • An expert local guide leads your sightseeing tour of New York City. Begin among the bright lights of Times Square, home to the Broadway theater scene, MTV’s studios and popular theme restaurants. Make a stop in the 843-acre Central Park, a rectangular oasis in the midst of a concrete jungle. Here, you will see Strawberry Fields, a tribute to John Lennon that includes 161 plant species, representing 161 nations of the world. (If you look overhead, you can also see the Dakota apartment building where John Lennon and Yoko Ono lived.) Travel south toward the mosaic of Manhattan neighborhoods that make the city so unique. Drive through Greenwich Village, New York’s eclectic province of bohemians,

immigrants and students and pass the cast-iron architecture of impossibly trendy SoHo (from “SOuth of HOuston Street”). Finish your tour at the World Trade Center site and pay tribute to the victims of September 11 at Ground Zero. The area will be home to the Freedom Tower, designed to reach a height of 1,776 feet.

Metropolitan Museum of Art (closed Mondays) • With more than 3 million objects in its collection, the Metropolitan Museum of Art is home to one of the most extensive art collections in the world. The galleries include works from the Paleolithic era to the contemporary avant-garde. Among the museum’s most popular exhibits are Egyptian artifacts, Oriental sculpture, ancient glasswork, African art, early European musical instruments and American decorative art.

Broadway show • This evening, join New York’s many avid theater enthusiasts at a Broadway performance (show depends on availability).

DAY 3: MIDTOWN

Subway to Battery Park

Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island • Ferry to Liberty Island to marvel at the Statue of Liberty. A gift from France in honor of the French-U.S. alliance, the 151-foot-tall statue’s iron skeleton was designed by Alexandre Gustave Eiffel (of Eiffel Tower fame), sculpted by F. A. Bartholdi, and modeled on the Colossus of Rhodes. *Liberty Enlightening the World*, the statue’s full title, was unveiled to much fanfare in 1888. Continue on to Ellis Island, which welcomed millions of immigrants to the New World around the turn of the century. Ellis Island is now the site of a museum chronicling the history of immigration.

Return home • Your tour director assists with your departure via flight or motor-coach.

★4-DAY TOUR★

DAY 3: MIDTOWN (CONTINUED)

Free time to walk across the Brooklyn Bridge • Begun by a father and finished by his son, the Brooklyn Bridge, for a time, was the longest steel suspension bridge in the world. It takes about 40 minutes to traverse this massive architectural achievement using the boardwalk shared by pedestrians, in-line skaters and cyclists. The astounding views make the trek worthwhile: You can see Midtown to the north, the port to the south and Governor’s Island and Lady Liberty out in the harbor.

Free time in Little Italy and Chinatown • Walk along Mulberry Street, the heart of Little Italy. On the east side of the street, view the neighborhood's trademark six-story railroad-apartment tenement buildings. They were called "railroad" apartments because all of the rooms were laid out in a straight line with no public hallway, resembling a railroad car. Enjoy the smells of the numerous pastry shops and Italian restaurants. Also, see St. Patrick's Old Cathedral, the oldest Roman Catholic church in the city. Cross Canal Street into Chinatown, home to a large population of Asian immigrants. Mott Street is the main thoroughfare in this busy neighborhood. Its pagodas have been featured in countless movies and television shows. Columbus Park—once the dangerous Five Points section depicted in Martin Scorsese's film *Gangs of New York*—is where locals now practice tai chi in the mornings and play mahjong in the afternoons. You may also see where turn-of-the-century Chinese gangs fought for control on Doyers Street. In Chatham Square, witness the pandemonium as 10 streets converge on one intersection where a memorial honoring Chinese casualties in American wars surveys the scene.

Dinner in Chinatown • Taste authentic cuisine in this lively section of town, inhabited by a population of over 300,000 Chinese-Americans.

DAY 4: SoHo ★ GREENWICH VILLAGE ★ DEPARTURE

Subway to Greenwich Village

Walking tour of SoHo and Greenwich Village • Join your tour director for a closer look at SoHo. Named for its geographical location (SOuth of HOuston Street), SoHo is considered a center of contemporary art. A model of felicitous urban renewal, the area transformed from the city's industrial center (the hallmark cast-iron architecture is a remnant of the post-Civil War era) to an artists' colony in the 1950s, when painters, sculptors and performers discovered the value of the cavernous abandoned factories and warehouses. Today, SoHo's beautiful buildings house New York's leading art galleries, clothing stores and boutiques. Continue just north of SoHo to the narrow, winding streets of Greenwich Village, a hotspot of the 1950s Beat movement. The focal point of the neighborhood is Washington Square Park, framed by the buildings of New York University. "The Village," as it's known to New Yorkers, was settled in colonial times by residents of New York City, which was then confined to the region south of Wall Street. In the 1880s, immigrants moved into the area in great numbers. By the turn of the 20th century, the neighborhood's diverse ethnic population, tolerant atmosphere and low rents began to attract artists and writers from all parts of the United States. The powerful mix gave birth to the country's first, and most celebrated, haven of Bohemianism.

Return home • Your tour director assists with your departure via flight or motor-coach.

Itinerary subject to change. For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions.



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