

Free Things To Do in New York City

Spending your vacation in New York City can be expensive. The main attraction in New York City like the Empire State Building, One World Observatory, museums like the Guggenheim, or just a simple boat trip on the Hudson charges a lot of money for their tickets.

There are sightseeing passes that will save you money, but did you know that there are a lot of best free things to do in New York City? What are the actual free activities in NYC? Here are some of those for you to consider.

Enjoy the view from Roosevelt Island Tramway

Technically the Roosevelt Island Tramway isn't free. They charge you \$2.75 to ride it. But most tourists are taking advantage of the unlimited metro card, while they are visiting New York, so you don't have to pay extra for it in that case. The views are pretty nice and you get the chance to take some really nice photos from up there.

Walk across the Brooklyn Bridge

Join the crowd's rain or shine and walk the **Brooklyn Bridge**. It's not only one of the most beautiful things to do in NYC but also one of the New York things to do that are free. We always recommend walking from **Brooklyn** to **Manhattan** (not the other way around) in order to enjoy the stunning views of the New York City skyline.

Window shopping on Fifth Avenue

Shopping on 5th Avenue isn't for everyone. If you want to keep your budget for your New York trip in place and enjoy one of my favorite things to do in New York for free simply enjoy a free walk on New York Cities' most famous avenue. Window-shopping can be just as exciting as real shopping. Most of the stuff we see, we don't need anyway.

Stay on your budget and enjoy New York for less by just looking at the shopping windows without actually going inside.

Take a break at the Public Library

Free New York City activities? Yes, that works. If you feel like you need a break from all of the sightseeing, city noises and crowds, go check out the New York Public Library. It's not only where all Sex and the City fans will remember

Carrie's almost wedding, but also a great place to take a quick break from the city.

Visiting the Public Library is free and should be on your list if you want to explore the best free things to do in NYC.

Walk along the High Line

When it's nice out, make sure to check out the High Line in New York City. It's one of the best free things to do in New York and a place where you can watch the most beautiful sunset as well. The abandoned aboveground railroad track turned into an urban park and is now even connected to the Hudson Yards neighborhood. If you want to avoid the crowds make your way there early in the AM.

Hop on the Staten Island Ferry

One of my favorite free New York City activities is the Staten Island Ferry. Enjoy the fresh breeze on board of the Staten Island Ferry which takes you in 25 minutes from Manhattan to Staten Island free of charge. It's one of the best free attractions in NYC and also worth doing if you want to get a glimpse of the Statue of Liberty. Our favorite time to ride the Staten Island Ferry is during sunset. There's probably no better ambiance on the ferry than during that time of the day.

Visit the Vessel at Hudson Yards

Just recently opened but already one of the best free New York things to do is the Vessel at Hudson Yards. The oddly shaped piece of art invites its visitors to climb up the stairs free of charge to enjoy the views of the Hudson Yards territory and the High Line. Tickets should be reserved online in advance for free. [More information about the Vessel and how to get the tickets](#) can be found here.

Get to explore Central Park

Another main attraction for free in NYC is [Central Park](#). I go there to run others come to Central Park for picnics, walks or weddings. Central Park is beautiful and magical wherever you go which is why it's on our list for the best free things to do in NYC.

