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YOUR 4/5/6 NIGHT ITINERARY



CELEBRATE THE SEASON!

You've seen it in the movies, now it's time to see it for yourself! And with a huge range of winter breaks to New York, we make it even easier to experience the Big Apple at its most magical.

Times Square lights, Broadway shows and sky-scraping views from the Empire State – that's all just for starters. New York's seasonal celebrations add even more sparkle to its rollcall of exciting attractions. Check out our holiday highlights below, alongside our first-timer's itinerary inside, so you can make the most of every New York minute...

THANKSGIVING

Celebrate this all-American holiday at the famous Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, complete with floats, colourful costumes and bags of atmosphere. Tuck into turkey and pumpkin pie, then get ready for bargains at the Black Friday sales.

CHRISTMAS

Visit the Union Square Holiday Market and skate past the huge Christmas Tree towering over Rockefeller Center's enchanting ice rink. Don't miss the festive window displays on Fifth Avenue and make sure you watch the Nutcracker at the NYC ballet.

NEW YEAR

Watch the Times Square Ball Drop at midnight on NYE while you sing along to some fab live music on stage. The next day, take it easy with a lazy brunch of pancakes and syrup at a classic NY diner.



DAY 1 WHEN YOU ARRIVE

Start in the centre of it all: Times Square! Take a yellow cab to the famous 'Crossroads of the World' and throw yourself into the city that never sleeps as you soak up the bright lights, sights and sounds all around. Why not buy discounted tickets for a popular Broadway (or more avant-garde Off-Broadway) show at the bright red TKTS booth, or take the NBC Studio Tour while you're here?

TOP SIGHTS TO SNAP

- Brilliantly bright billboards
- Neon-lit New York Police Department
- The infamous Naked Cowboy!

WHERE TO EAT

Take your pick from an international range of eateries on Restaurant Row (West 46th Street between Eighth and Ninth Avenues). From sushi to steak, there's every cuisine you could wish for.

TOP TIP

If you haven't pre-booked a transfer, head to one of the official taxi ranks outside the airport terminal for a metred cab (roughly \$75 for a Manhattan drop-off). You could also hop on a shuttle bus that leaves every 30 minutes or so, or catch the AirTrain to Penn Station in Midtown for less than \$15.

NY MOVIE MOMENTS

Times Square is instantly recognisable as the backdrop to many a movie. It's where the cast of *Fame* break into song and dance on the street, where Robert De Niro's melancholy *Taxi Driver* hangs out, and where Dustin Hoffman shouts 'Hey, I'm walking here!' at a cab driver in *Midnight Cowboy*. Watch out for that traffic!



DAY 2 SEE THE SIGHTS

Today, tick off the city's best-loved landmarks. Get up early to beat the queues to the top of the Empire State Building, before getting your bearings with a hop-on, hop-off bus tour (24 to 96-hour tickets available), complete with expert guides who have the insider scoop on everywhere and everything.

Discover Downtown as you ride through neighbourhoods like Chinatown, Little Italy and the Financial District, before catching the free ferry to Staten Island for fab views of the Statue of Liberty and Manhattan skyline. Jump on the bus back up to Midtown for a night-time view of the city at Rockefeller's Top of the Rock, and finish things off with a proper New York night on the tiles.

TOP SIGHTS

- Empire State Building
- Flatiron Building
- One World Trade Center
- Wall Street and New York Stock Exchange
- Trinity Church
- Red Cube
- Statue of Liberty
- Chrysler Building
- Grand Central Terminal
- Radio City Music Hall
- Rockefeller Center
- Carnegie Hall

WHERE TO EAT

- Grab a street-cart hot dog for lunch in Battery Park on your way to the Staten Island Ferry at Whitehall Terminal.
- For dinner, head to Grand Central's famous Oyster Bar & Restaurant for a snazzy New York spread (top tip: visit the terminal's Whispering Gallery while you're here).
- Sip after-dinner cocktails at the 21 Club speakeasy-style bar nearby.

TOP TIP

Did you know that you can climb to the crown of Lady Liberty? If you fancy a visit, tickets need to be booked in advance, but be super quick as they're soon snapped up.

NY MOVIE MOMENTS

Channel Cary Grant and Deborah Kerr in *An Affair to Remember* (or Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan in *Sleepless in Seattle*) with a romantic embrace at the top of the Empire State Building.



DAY 3 DAY AT THE MUSEUMS

When it comes to culture, New York's museums are some of the finest in the world. Start at MoMa (Museum of Modern Art) on West 53rd Street to see six floors of famous works, from Monet's Water Lillies to Van Gogh's The Starry Night. After, head to 'Museum Mile' to visit the vast galleries of the Met (Metropolitan Museum of Art) and the monumental Guggenheim – a work of art both inside and out.

Take a break for afternoon tea at the Plaza Hotel before a horse-drawn carriage ride through the leafy canopies of Central Park. Hop off at Central Park West and go say hello to the dinosaurs at the American Museum of Natural History. If you're a nature fan, you can visit Central Park's zoo too.

TOP SIGHTS

- Plaza Hotel
- Central Park:
Wollman Rink, Gapstow Bridge, Umpire Rock, Bethesda Terrace and John Lennon's memorial at Strawberry Fields
- Guggenheim Museum

WHERE TO EAT

- Uptown, there's only one way to do lunch: with the ritziest afternoon tea in town at the Plaza's Palm Court, of course.
- In the evening, stroll down atmospheric Mulberry Street, and take your pick of pizza and pasta joints in this 'Little Italy'.

TOP TIP

Visit the Museum of Modern Art on a Friday afternoon between 4pm and 8pm to get in for free! Buy a New York Pass and you can save a few dollars if you plan on visiting several museums and attractions.

NY MOVIE MOMENTS

Kevin McCallister had a comic Christmas caper at the The Plaza in *Home Alone 2: Lost in New York*. Located on Central Park South, this New York institution also starred alongside Robert Redford and Barbara Streisand's love story in *The Way We Were*.

DAY 4 SHOPPING SPREE

First things first: you've got to make time for the Brooklyn Bridge. Catch the Subway to Brooklyn Heights and walk back across the iconic steel structure, taking pics of Lower Manhattan's skyscrapers as you go. Do some Downtown shopping at the discount store Century 21, then head to the designer boutiques, cast-iron buildings and loft galleries of SoHo.

After lunch, make a must-stop on 34th Street for Macy's. Then, walk past the beautiful New York Public Library on your way to Fifth Avenue, where you'll find high-end stores Saks, Bergdorf Goodman and Tiffany & Co. End your day with an all-American night out watching the New York Knicks play basketball at Madison Square Garden.

TOP SIGHTS

- New York City Subway signs
- New York Harbour
- Brooklyn Bridge
- Macy's Department Store
- New York Public Library
- Fifth Avenue stores

WHERE TO EAT

Head to the Visitor Services counter at Macy's and Bloomingdale's to pick up a 10% Visitors Saving Pass, and bag a bargain on your souvenirs!

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NY MOVIE MOMENTS

Katz's Deli is a Lower East Side institution, and the film location for that scene in *Where Harry Met Sally*. Meanwhile, the New York Public Library saw the *Ghostbusters* searching for ghouls in 1984. And no trip to NYC would be complete without a little window shopping, *Breakfast at Tiffany's* style!

IF YOU'RE STAYING 5 NIGHTS GET TO KNOW THE NEIGHBOURHOODS

Today's the day to spend your time like a real New Yorker – hanging out in the city's unique neighbourhoods. North of Central Park, you'll find Harlem. Famed for its gospel music, jazz joints and soul food, it's a place brimming with history and character. Then there's Brooklyn's industrial-chic Williamsburg – one of the coolest places to play. Flea markets, craft beer breweries and vintage bowling alleys are all part of the fun in this trendy part of town.

Over on the tree-lined streets of boho Greenwich Village (the setting for TV's *Friends*), take the time to wander through the brownstones, browsing second-hand book stores and record shops as you go. In the evening, check out the cool coffee bars and look out for open-mic, stand-up and poetry nights.

TOP SIGHTS

- Apollo Theater
- The Cotton Club
- Riverside Church
- Brooklyn Brewery
- Williamsburg Bridge
- Washington Square Park and Arch
- *Friends* apartment block
- Carrie's stoop from *Sex and the City*

WHERE TO EAT

- Listen to the Harlem Gospel Choir while you tuck into home fries and eggs sunny side up at the BB King's Blues Club brunch show.
- For that classic American experience, go all out with burgers, fries, the works at Diner – an old-school dining car serving no-frills food that's big on flavour.
- Grab a giant slice of Joe's pizza and pick up an after-dinner cupcake from the Magnolia Bakery before drinks, ribs and toe-tapping tunes at The Blue Note.

TOP TIP

Whichever neighbourhood you choose to explore, it's worth checking out the guided walking tours on offer. Your guide will be an expert New Yorker who knows the city inside out, so you'll get little nuggets of info you might not find out on your own.

NY MOVIE MOMENTS

Toby Maguire's *Spiderman* spends much of his time around Harlem's Columbia University and Riverside Church in the first couple of movies, and the 2014 remake of *Annie* was also shot around here. Down in the Village, you can visit the *Friends* apartment block at 90 Bedford Street, and Carrie's *Sex and the City* apartment at 64 Perry Street.

IF YOU'RE STAYING 6 NIGHTS SSSH... UNCOVER THE CITY'S SECRETS

Start in Downtown at the city's oldest subway station – Old City Hall. Go for a guided tour and you'll be greeted by green-tiled ceilings, grand chandeliers and heaps of history. Then fly by the fibreglass fish at Battery Park's SeaGlass Carousel, and drop in to Fraunces Tavern to see where Washington once waved off his troops into battle.

Now for the weird: Mmuseumm 1. This tiny collection of random objects is housed in a freight elevator near Tribeca – does it get more New York? Further east, the Tenement Museum gives a great insight into the city's immigrant past. Back up in Midtown, tick off the glass waterfall tunnel and pop into the UN HQ for a spot of meditation!

WHERE TO EAT

- You've heard of a croissant, right? And a doughnut? But have you heard of a cronut? A perfect mix of two sweet treats, this is Dominique Ansel Bakery's signature pastry. Yum. Swing by the Soho shop to try one.
- Channel NY's literary elite from the Jazz Age days and pop into Midtown's Algonquin Hotel for dinner and cocktails at the roaring Round Table Restaurant.
- End the night in Marie's Crisis Bar, where a Frenchy, anything-goes vibe makes it one of the city's most fun nights out.

TOP TIP

The best way to get around on a day like today is the Subway. It's cheap, quick and oh-so New York. Single rides cost just a few dollars each.

NY MOVIE MOMENTS

The Old City Hall Subway Station is where Johnny Depp's Grindelwald is revealed at the end of *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*. On Midtown's Lexington Ave, look out for the subway grate where Marilyn Monroe's white dress famously blew up while filming *The Seven Year Itch*.

YOUR LAST DAY GIVE YOUR REGARDS TO BROADWAY!

Make the most of your last morning by squeezing in anything you've missed and stocking up on souvenirs. Or, head to artsy Chelsea and pop into the gourmet food market for a coffee, nibbles and bits to take home. Next, take a walk along the High Line – an elevated railway line turned urban sculpture park with stunning views of the Hudson River. Make your way down to the fashionable Meatpacking District after, have a spot of brunch and wander around the Whitney Museum of American Art to see works by Hopper and Warhol.

TOP SIGHTS

- The High Line
- Hudson River
- Whitney Museum of American Art

WHERE TO EAT

Have brunch in the Meatpacking District's hip Gansevoort Hotel. A tribute to American cuisine with a modern twist awaits at the hotel's hub – the Chester. It's the place to be seen, so keep your eyes peeled for celebs.

TOP TIP

There are over 200 little galleries in Chelsea, so it's worth visiting a few. The Museum at the FIT is a top choice if you're into fashion (and entry's free), while the Rubin Museum showcases some inspiring Indian art.

NY MOVIE MOMENTS

The dive bar in *Coyote Ugly* was actually Hogs & Heifers on Washington Street in the Meatpacking District. Glenn Close's *Fatal Attraction* character also had her trendy loft in this neighbourhood, as did *Sex and the City*'s Samantha.



SHARE YOUR NEW YORK MOMENTS!

Have you already been to the city that never sleeps? Got some stateside stories or need-to-know info you fancy sharing? We'd love to know all about your Big Apple experience, so send your pics and tips to **NewYork@Jet2holidays.com**. Take a look at the New York nuggets we've had in so far...



“On a sunny day, catch the subway over to Brooklyn Heights. Not only is it a top place to capture the perfect photo of the NYC skyline, but there's a fab ice cream parlour there too. Nothing beats a delicious, home-made ice cream from Brooklyn Ice Cream Factory, while wandering along Brooklyn Bridge Park taking in those famous views.”

Laura Balcombe

“The Statue of Liberty was top of our must-see sights but instead of a trip to Liberty Island, we caught a free return ferry to Staten Island which sails right past. We got some fab pictures – definitely a prime selfie moment! It was also a great way to get a bit of downtime and a chance to put our feet up while enjoying the sights of the city from afar!”

Chris Tomlinson



“On an evening, make sure you visit 'Upstairs' - a stunning penthouse bar and lounge at the Kimberly Hotel in Midtown Manhattan. Located 30 floors above street level, with breath taking views of the iconic Chrysler Building, this sophisticated and elegant bar offers a fabulous setting for evening cocktails.... the Chrysler cocktail is a must!”

Stacey Judson

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