

# Lower Manhattan & the Financial District

WALL STREET | THE FINANCIAL DISTRICT | NEW YORK HARBOR | BATTERY PARK CITY | EAST RIVER WATERFRONT | CITY HALL & CIVIC CENTER | TRIBECA

## Neighborhood Top Five

- 1 Scaling the iconic **Statue of Liberty** (p62), peering out from her crown and seeing the world's greatest city spread out before you. Prepare to pinch yourself.
- 2 Reflecting on loss and hope at the **National September 11 Memorial & Museum** (p66).
- 3 Taking in sunset-blazing skyscrapers from the free-and-fantastic **Staten Island Ferry** (p81).
- 4 Conjuring up the ghosts of the past at evocative **Ellis Island** (p64).
- 5 Hunting down major bargains at cheap 'n' chic **Century 21** (p80).



For more detail of this area, see Map p408 →

## Explore Lower Manhattan & the Financial District

A little planning will save you a lot of time in Lower Manhattan. Book tickets online to the unmissable Ellis Island and Statue of Liberty. Alternatively, catch the first ferry and avoid weekends. You'll need a good four or five hours to explore the two sights properly, and bring a picnic lunch – the food on-site is awful. By the time this guidebook is out, you should no longer need to reserve a time slot online to visit the World Trade Center site, though it's worth double-checking online for any changes. To experience the Financial District's power-broking intensity, go during business hours, but to calmly contemplate the area's Federal homes, Greek Revival temples and early modern skyscrapers, go after hours. To avoid the hordes at shopping mecca Century 21, raid the racks by 8am on weekdays. If the weather is on your side, soak up some rays and river views on Pier 15 at South Street Seaport, or walk across the Brooklyn Bridge for jaw-dropping views of Lower Manhattan. For an evening buzz on any night, head to Tribeca's string of renowned cocktail bars and restaurants.

### Local Life

- ➔ **Coffee** Ditch the chains for in-the-know Kaffe 1668 (p78) and La Colombe (p78).
- ➔ **Wine** Swill free vino on Sunday afternoons at Pasanella & Son (p80).
- ➔ **Cocktails** Sip meticulously researched libations at Dead Rabbit (p78).
- ➔ **Culture** Catch encore-provoking drama at the Flea Theater (p79).
- ➔ **Escape** Cycle, relax and eye-up art on revamped summer oasis Governors Island.

### Getting There & Away

- ➔ **Subway** The Financial District is well serviced by subway lines, connecting the area to the rest of Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens and the Bronx. Fulton St is the main interchange station, servicing the A/C, J/Z, 2/3 and 4/5 lines. The 1 train terminates at South Ferry, from where the Staten Island Ferry departs.
- ➔ **Bus** From the Staten Island Ferry terminal, useful routes include the M15 (to East Village, Midtown East, Upper East Side and East Harlem) and the M20 (to Tribeca, West Village, Chelsea and Midtown West).
- ➔ **Boat** The Staten Island Ferry terminal is at the southern end of Whitehall St. Ferries to Governors Island leave from the adjacent Battery Maritime Building. Services to Liberty and Ellis Islands depart from nearby Battery Park.

### Lonely Planet's Top Tip

After cheap tickets to Broadway shows? Ditch the TKTS Booth in Times Square for the TKTS Booth at South Street Seaport. Queues usually move a little faster and you can purchase tickets for next-day matinees (something you can't do at the Times Square outlet). The TKTS Smartphone app offers real-time listings of what's on sale.



### Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Locanda Verde (p76)
- ➔ North End Grill (p76)
- ➔ Les Halles (p76)

For reviews, see p76 ➔



### Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Dead Rabbit (p78)
- ➔ Weather Up (p78)
- ➔ Brandy Library (p78)

For reviews, see p78 ➔



### Best Places to Conjure the Past

- ➔ Ellis Island (p64)
- ➔ Historic Richmond Town (p72)
- ➔ Fraunces Tavern Museum (p68)
- ➔ South Street Seaport (p73)

For reviews, see p68 ➔