

Lower Manhattan & the Financial District

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

Neighborhood Top Five

1 Scaling the **Statue of Liberty** (p64), peering out from her crown and seeing the world's greatest city spread out before you. Prepare to pinch yourself.

2 Reflecting on loss, hope and resilience at the **National September 11 Memorial & Museum**

(p72) and **One World Observatory** (p70).

3 Climbing the **One World Trade Center** (p72) for a knockout panorama of Manhattan and beyond.

4 Taking in sunset-blazing skyscrapers from New York City's free-and-fantastic **Staten Island Ferry** (p82).

5 Exploring the making of modern America at the country's most poignant, historically significant point of entry, **Ellis Island** (p66).



For more detail of this area see Map p410 →

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, especially in summer. You'll need a good four or five hours to explore the two sights properly, and bring a picnic lunch – the food onsite is awful. Online ticket purchasing is also highly recommended for both the National September 11 Museum and the neighboring One World Observatory. 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 eateries and drinking dens, the former best reserved in advance.

Local Life

- ➔ **Coffee** Ditch the chains for in-the-know Bluestone Lane (p77) and La Colombe (p79).
- ➔ **Wine** Swill free vino on Sunday afternoons at Pasanella & Son (p81).
- ➔ **Cocktails** Sip meticulous libations at top-of-the-class Dead Rabbit (p79).
- ➔ **Culture** Catch encore-provoking drama at the Flea Theater (p80).
- ➔ **Escape** Cycle, relax and eye-up art on the summer oasis that is Governors Island (p75).

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 Sq 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 Sq outlet). The TKTS Smartphone app offers real-time listings of what's on sale.

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Locanda Verde (p77)
- ➔ Bâtard (p77)
- ➔ North End Grill (p77)
- ➔ Brookfield Place (p77)
- ➔ Da Mikele (p76)

For reviews, see p76 ➔

Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Dead Rabbit (p79)
- ➔ Ward III (p79)
- ➔ Brandy Library (p79)
- ➔ Smith & Mills (p80)
- ➔ Bluestone Lane (p77)

For reviews, see p77 ➔

Best Places to Conjure the Past

- ➔ Ellis Island (p66)
- ➔ Trinity Church cemetery (p72)
- ➔ Fraunces Tavern Museum (p72)
- ➔ South Street Seaport (p75)

For reviews, see p72 ➔