

# Lower Manhattan & the Financial District

WALL STREET | FINANCIAL DISTRICT | NEW YORK HARBOR | BATTERY PARK CITY | SOUTH STREET SEAPORT | CITY HALL | CIVIC CENTER | TRIBECA

## Neighborhood Top Five

- 1 Walking or biking across the glorious **Brooklyn Bridge** (p71). From the Gothic piers to the city view, this is one river crossing you won't forget.
- 2 Reflecting on loss and hope at the reborn **World Trade Center site** (p62).
- 3 Taking in skyscraper and Lady Liberty views from the free-and-fantastic **Staten Island Ferry** (p78).
- 4 Conjuring up the ghosts of the past at evocative **Ellis Island** (p60).
- 5 Hunting down a bargain at cheap 'n' chic **Century 21** (p77).



For more detail of this area, see Map p416 ➔

## 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, or catch the first ferry and avoid weekends, especially in summer. You'll need a good four hours to explore the two sights properly, and bring a picnic lunch – the food on-site is awful. You'll also need to book online to visit the 9/11 Memorial at the World Trade Center site. To experience the Financial District's power-broking intensity, head in 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. A good time for foodies is Sunday afternoon, with fantastic local produce at the seasonal New Amsterdam Market and free wine tastings at Pasanella & Son. If the weather is on your side, stock the hamper here and walk across the Brooklyn Bridge for a panoramic picnic. For an evening buzz, head to Tribeca's booty of fashionable bars and restaurants, the latter best booked ahead.

## Local Life

- ➔ **Markets** Graze and shop with locavores at the gut-rumbling New Amsterdam Market (p73).
- ➔ **Coffee** Ditch the chains for in-the-know Kaffe 1668 (p75) and La Colombe (p75).
- ➔ **Wine** Swill free vino on Sunday afternoons at Pasanella & Son (p78).
- ➔ **Culture** Catch encore-inducing drama at the Flea Theater (p77).

## 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/M/Z, 2/3 and 4/5 lines. Line 1 terminates at South Ferry, from where the Staten Island Ferry departs.
- ➔ **Bus** From the Staten Island Ferry terminal, useful routes include the 15 (to East Village, Midtown East and Upper East Side) and the 20 (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

If you're after cut-price tickets to Broadway shows, ditch the main TKTS Booth in Times Sq for the TKTS branch at South Street Seaport (p392). Queues usually move a little faster and you can also purchase tickets for next-day matinees (something you can't do at the Times Sq outlet). Smartphone users can download the free TKTS app, which offers real-time listings of what's on sale.

## Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Locanda Verde (p73)
- ➔ Les Halles (p73)
- ➔ Kutsher's Tribeca (p73)
- ➔ New Amsterdam Market (p73)
- ➔ Shake Shack (p74)

For reviews, see p71 ➔

## Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Macao (p75)
- ➔ Brandy Library (p75)
- ➔ Ward III (p75)
- ➔ Weather Up (p75)

For reviews, see 75 ➔

## Best Places to Relive the Past

- ➔ Ellis Island (p60)
- ➔ Historic Richmond Town (p67)
- ➔ Fraunces Tavern Museum (p63)
- ➔ South Street Seaport Museum (p70)
- ➔ Federal Hall (p64)

For reviews, see p63 ➔