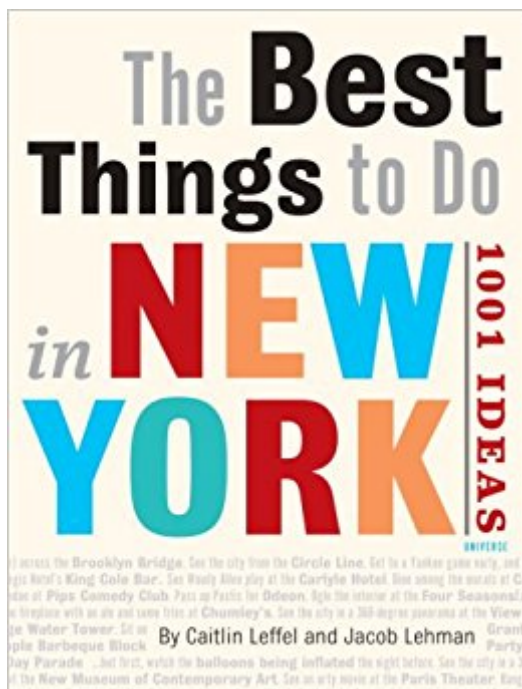


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The Best Things To Do In New York City: 1001 Ideas



Synopsis

What are 1001 things you should treat yourself and your guests to in New York City? Be serenaded by Cole Porter's piano at the Waldorf, or hear Woody Allen play clarinet at the Carlyle. Drink champagne on the roof of the Metropolitan Museum, or discover the abandoned subway station at City Hall. Eat at America's very first pizzeria, or enjoy the most expensive cocktail in the country at the World Bar. Ride the Staten Island Ferry, or ride a bike through Central Park. Go surfing out at Rockaway Beach, or relax in a Russian bath in the East Village Organized by theme—including Eating and Drinking, 24-hour New York, Shopping and Spending, Arts and Culture, Views and Sites, the Great Outdoors, and Classic New York—and packed with detailed, helpful indexes organized by neighborhood and by category, this is simply the most fun and comprehensive guidebook to New York City ever. The Best Things to Do in New York crosses genres and boroughs to explore every aspect of the most diverse and exciting city in the world. Written from experience by two people who love the city, and featuring priceless tips from expert contributors—from authors on their favorite bookstores to architects on the city's best buildings—the Best Things to do in New York is much more than just a guide.

Book Information

Series: Best Things to Do in New York

Paperback: 384 pages

Publisher: Universe; First Edition; First Printing edition (October 17, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0789313987

ISBN-13: 978-0789313980

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1.1 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 28 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,673,009 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #43 in [Books > Travel > United States > New York > New York City](#) #496 in [Books > Travel > United States > New York > General](#) #1499 in [Books > Travel > United States > Northeast > Mid Atlantic](#)

Customer Reviews

Caitlin Leffel, a native New Yorker, is a writer and editor who has contributed regularly to Daily Candy and Publishers Weekly. Jacob Lehman, a passionate newcomer to the Big Apple, works in the editorial division of a major New York publisher. This is their first book.

Do you marvel at how sometimes, a complete foreigner knows more about your city than you ever cared to know? I have lived on the outskirts of Manhattan for my entire life: Brooklyn, Queens, and mostly Long Island. However, I made many frequent forays into Manhattan on the weekends, and I considered myself not the complete tyro regarding the nooks, crannies, and interesting activities that 'The City' had to offer. This book was recommended to me by a Russian immigrant, who had come to New York 10 years prior. I often marveled at all the interesting places she went, and how she knew so many good places to eat. It turns out that this is the secret! Although some of the 1001 ideas are very touristy, the vast majority are applicable to even native New Yorkers. So far I've had free hot dogs with my pints of red beer, had the strongest shots I've ever had (watermelon-flavored too!), spent more on one meal than I usually spend in one month, and I plan on doing so much more. This book doesn't only give you interesting things to do and see, it also stokes your curiosity to discover things on your own. I'm not a great reviewer, but I want to get across the point that I did thoroughly enjoy this book, and I plan on checking off the vast majority of things listed!

Having lived in Manhattan for a few months now, I foolishly thought that I had seen all that deserves seeing. Bored, I picked up this book and found so many new places to explore that I hadn't heard of before. Every time I open this book, I seem to fall on a page I haven't read before - The Best Things to Do in New York doesn't focus on the main touristy attractions, like going to the Statue of Liberty or Empire State Building - it's much more specific, and brings out tidbits of New York Culture, which I find refreshing and delightful. For instance, since buying this book, I've made sure to visit City Bakery in February to experience its different flavor of hot chocolate every day of the month, to compare pizza slices from the 'Eating and Drinking' section's "Slices of New York" list, visited a number of movie sites (there's a list), "engaged in a legendary NY food war" (I compared pastrami sandwiches from Katz and Carnegie Deli), saw the narrowest house in the city, found the Bela Bartok plaque in midtown, and finally learned what the number counter in Union Square is (it's called Metronome and tells the time to the second). Still, I've barely touched upon the other ideas in the book - though there are no pictures, each idea is dressed with a story or explanation, often funny, but always helpful, with appropriate website and contact information, and subway directions. The authors also really cover the gamut of New Yorkers - every chapter is helpfully sub-categorized -- in particular, the food chapter names some of the city's most authentic international restaurants by cuisine, (of all price ranges), by New York tradition (donuts, pizza, hot dogs, sandwiches, etc.), and by price range. A great resource - only wish I'd bought it when I first moved here!

This is a pretty good book, even for long time New Yorkers. The one issue I have with it is that it is very heavy on the restaurants. If that is what you like, then definitely enjoy. If you're interested in filling in the space in between, there are lots of good ideas, but not nearly as many as the title would imply. Still, it's not a bad purchase, and if you're getting it as a gift or for something to stir the pot of ideas, it would be one to consider. There are potentially a few others that are better if you are into more active adventures, or if you are willing to travel around the greater NYC area.

I gave this book as a gift - Christmas of 2009 - to my friend's daughter. She could not stop reading it!!! She is in her mid-twenties - a professional - and very active socially. She has been in the City for three years. After an hour went by - it seemed she had been to about 25% of the book's suggestions --- which I found quite amazing. I kept pressing her for recommendations she disagreed with and she could never come up with one. All I heard was "I have to try this". There is little more than I can pass on to others beyond the fact that this book has passed the purview of a young, hard core, socially active New Yorker. PS - my thanks to the other reviewers who helped me make this selection

I spent a week and a half in NYC last Thanksgiving visiting my sister. Since a lot of my exploring was on my own while she worked, this was a great way to plan out my days. I went through prior to my trip and flagged all of the things I wanted to see and do while I was there and by the end of my trip I had almost all of them checked off my tourist list. The only thing that would have been nice would be to make the book a pocket/tote size for carrying around more easily. I carried it with me the entire trip. The best part, was seeing that my sister (a New Yorker for over a year now) has a copy as well!

I am definitely taking this book with me on my trip to New York City. It explains all the areas and places so well and I know my husband and I will use it to guide us to get to the best points of interest while staying a short time.

I purchased this book for a friend who has a daughter going to school in NYC. She and her husband were visiting their daughter quite often and I thought this book would help them discover fun things to do in the city. Their reviews have been great and this book has been a real resource. I would purchase again for travelers to NYC.

A perfect book for a new New Yorker. I just moved here and I am amazed by how well this guide takes you through neighborhoods and all the best fun things to do.

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