

# The best MARCO POLO Insider Tips

## Our top 15 Insider Tips



### INSIDER TIP ➔ Humble beginnings

The life of newly arrived New Yorkers in the 19th century was anything but easy, as the faithfully reproduced *Tenement Museum* impressively shows (photo right) → p. 40

### INSIDER TIP ➔ Film-making up close

Take a look behind the scenes at the *Museum of the Moving Image*. Not only learn how films are cut and sound recorded, but also create your own flip-book movie → p. 57

### INSIDER TIP ➔ Club par excellence

Live concerts, dancing, karaoke, comedy and ping-pong are all on offer at *The Bell House*, one of the trendiest clubs in Brooklyn → p. 88

### INSIDER TIP ➔ World affairs lunch

Yes, there's a *canteen* at the United Nations, too! You can rub shoulders with politicians while you have lunch at the UN Building in Midtown with a view of the East River → p. 68

### INSIDER TIP ➔ Asian delight

Not a vegetarian menu: the hip *Momofuku Ssäm Bar* in East Village serves imaginative meat dishes → p. 66

### INSIDER TIP ➔ A street vendor worth hunting down

Before you go out to eat you need to check Facebook, Twitter or the *Schnitzel & Things* website: to hunt down where this food truck will be parked – its location changes daily → p. 70

### INSIDER TIP ➔ Vintage wonderland

Rummage through masses of dresses, trousers, jackets and shoes, classic and hip vintage wear, in one of the *Beacon's Closet* stores → p. 77

### INSIDER TIP ➔ An unusual music workout

Ever heard of the shuffleboard? Give it a try to the sounds of DJ music and drinks at the bar at *Royal Palm Shuffle* → p. 87

### INSIDER TIP ➔ The pharmacist is "in"

Green absinth is served by waiters dressed in white lab coats at *Apothéke* – the name fits, and this place in Chinatown seems more like a stage than a bar → p. 84

### INSIDER TIP ➔ Party beneath chandeliers

Welcome to the home of the Polish community where rock and indie bands play the music of today in a 1950s ballroom – the *Warsaw Club* is a timeless gem → p. 91

### INSIDER TIP ➔ Off to the island

A ferry runs from Manhattan to *Governors Island*, an adventure playground with lots of atmosphere, green meadows, festivals and events – almost all free of charge → p. 57

### INSIDER TIP ➔ Sea sensation

The rooms in the historical *Jane Hotel* are called cabins and are decorated like berths on a ship. It has a marvellous view of the Hudson River → p. 100

### INSIDER TIP ➔ Flying high

Learn to "fly" fearlessly with a safety net and no fear of landing. The *Trapeze School* in Hudson River Park is an opportunity to become a circus performer for the day as a juggler, trampolinist or trapeze artist → p. 123

### INSIDER TIP ➔ Ode to joy

Not to be missed are the many *open air concerts* of the world renowned Metropolitan Opera held in various parks including a picnic. They are among the most impressive New York experiences to be had in the summer (for free) → p. 93

### INSIDER TIP ➔ Much more than just a park

The *Brooklyn Bridge Park* is chock-full of fun: kayaks, beach volleyball, grills, live music, open-air movies, playgrounds, a beach, a historic carousel and much, much more (photo left) → p. 57



# BEST OF...

## GREAT PLACES FOR FREE

Discover new places and save money

FOR FREE

### ● Visit a museum of superlatives

A shrine to 20th- and 21st-century art – and all for free? On Friday afternoons there is no admission charge for the extraordinary collections of *MoMA*. Don't miss it! (photo) → p. 43

### ● The ferry not to be missed

When the *Staten Island Ferry* pulls away from the shore you get to see the full sweep of the Manhattan skyline from the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island across to New Jersey on the one side and Brooklyn on the other. This free trip is full of magic! → p. 33

### ● Native Americans in the heart of the big city

What the Wild West was really like: the *National Museum of the American Indian* shows how much Hollywood has shaped our view of the Indians. Admission to the world of the Native Americans in an imposing building in the south of Manhattan is free → p. 32

### ● City tour with local guides

*Big Apple Greeters* are a group of engaged New Yorkers who take pleasure in showing visitors around their hometown. A good way to make new friends – and all you have to pay is a smile → p. 36

### ● Gospel songs that strike a chord

The devotion of the congregation at a *gospel church service* in Harlem – clad in their Sunday best with flamboyant hats – is guaranteed to give you goose pimples! → p. 52

### ● Mini stage with maxi music

The small, but first-rate club *Barbes* brings excellent music to the stage, free of charge, with a mix of jazz, world beats and East European tunes → p. 88

### ● Reveal the mysteries of brewing

What actually happens in the copper vats in which beer ferments? It doesn't even cost a cent to discover the secrets of making beer on the *Brooklyn Brewery Tour* → p. 70

● ● ● Dots in guidebook refer to "Best of..." tips

## ONLY IN NEW YORK

Unique experiences

### ● Reflections on the 9/11 site

The poignant *9/11 Memorial* is a place for contemplation. Three waterfalls tumble into two huge pools that mark the exact spots where the twin towers used to be → p. 29

### ● Pedestrian zone in a sea of lights

With parts of *Times Square* on 42nd Street having been declared a pedestrian precinct, visitors can now take in the world-famous neon lights from the comfort of a chair or seated on one of the steps → p. 26

### ● Department store of superlatives

*Macy's* is the biggest department store and a New York institution. Its parade on July 4th is an extravagant spectacle with gigantic balloons and dancing cheerleaders → p. 76

### ● A bird's-eye view of the Big Apple

Gaze over the length of Central Park and the Manhattan skyline from the *Roof Garden* of the Metropolitan Museum. While the people below run around like busy bees, you can sit back and enjoy the view with a cocktail in hand → p. 54

### ● Tempting delicacies

SoHo is known for its large lofts belonging to stars like Madonna, its superb galleries and boutiques and its gourmet grocery stores. The most famous is *Dean & DeLuca* which has been importing delicacies from around the world for more than 30 years – delicious but pricey! → p. 75

### ● A breath of fresh air

Rambling *Central Park* with its trees, boulders and waterfalls was established more than a century ago. Today this green belt is a rollerbladers', joggers', nannies' and dog-lovers' paradise. Laze on the lawns, row on the lakes or listen to a concert – there is plenty to do here (photo) → p. 50

### ● Donut delight

The *Doughnut Plant* steps it up a notch when it comes to the stereotypical donut. Their decadent donuts come in a selection of unusual flavours (like pistachio, peanut butter or blueberry) and shapes → p. 62



ONLY IN





# DISCOVERY TOURS

1

## NEW YORK AT A GLANCE



**START:** ① Eisenberg's  
**END:** ⑮ Rockwood Music Hall

**1 day**  
 Driving/walking time  
 (without stops)  
 3.5 hours

**Distance:**  
 → 30 km/18.6 miles

**COSTS:** entrance fees \$57, speedboat *The Beast* \$29, food and drinks \$50, taxi approx. \$12

**IMPORTANT TIPS:** avoid the long lines at the Empire State Building by purchasing tickets online (more expensive). Buy a weekly ticket for the subway (\$31). Eisenberg's doesn't open until 9am on Sat/Sun. *The Beast* only late Apr to end Sept



New York at its best – from an authentic diner breakfast to the different boroughs and the tallest skyscrapers to the most authentic club.

Would you like to explore the places that are unique to this city? Then the Discovery Tours are just the thing for you – they include terrific tips for stops worth making, breathtaking places to visit, selected restaurants and fun activities. It's even easier with the Touring App: download the tour with map and route to your smartphone using the QR Code on pages 2/3 or from the website address in the footer below – and you'll never get lost again even when you're offline. → p. 2/3

TOURING  
APP

**08:00am** Thanks to the time change, you will probably be starving when you wake up on your first morning in New York. At ① **Eisenberg's** → p. 62 – a traditional diner in Chelsea (subway N, R 23 Street) – eggs and different kinds of toast are made to order. If you sit at the counter, you can watch how fast the cooks and waitstaff work. Once you've cleaned your plate, **walk north on Fifth Avenue, past one of New York's real landmarks the Flatiron Building (on the right near 23rd Street)**, which looks like an upright clothes iron. Shortly thereafter, you will come

① Eisenberg's

