

Renowned art museums, spunky neighborhoods, and acclaimed eateries will surely put you in a New York state of mind. Whether you're after the high energy of Manhattan or prefer to explore Long Island's charm, you're in for one thrilling spin.

BY AMANDA GLEASON

BEGIN YOUR
ADVENTURE HERE

When it's time to unwind, what do you reach for first?







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96 SPIRIT MARCH 2014





THEN YOUR MOST IDEAL HOTEL IS...



The Greenwich Hotel
Surrounded
by glowing
lanterns, this
Tribeca hot
spot's indoor
heated pool
provides a
tranquil
getaway in the
middle of the
bustling city.



**Library Hotel** More than 6,000 books are yours for the reading at this Midtown East escape. whose floors are organized according to the Dewey decimal system. Can't get enough? You're just steps from The New York Public Library.



The Standard, High Line
Rising over the High Line—a 1-mile aerial park in Manhattan's West Side—this boutique spread offers guests free bikes for wheeled exploring.



### Get Some Air

EAGER TO TAKE A SPIN? THEN WHY DON'T YOU..

St. Patrick's Day or not, there's always a reason to go green when you're in the Big Apple. We're talking about the High Line, a 30-foot-high public park built on a historic freight rail line above Manhattan's West Side. Dating back to the 1930s, this 1-mile stretch opened as an aerial greenway in 2009 and now runs through three personality-packed neighborhoods: the Meatpacking District, West Chelsea, and Hell's Kitchen. Stroll—or cycle—your way to the 23rd Street Lawn, an ideal locale for people-watching, while marveling at the variety of plant life,

including winter aconite and sunburst witch hazel, along the way. As you meander, you'll notice the plethora of artwork installed throughout, such as sculptures created from cardboard boxes, part of the *Busted* exhibit on display through April. It looks like we just found our pot of gold. the highline.org Your adventure continues...

#### **GETTING THERE**

Choose from three airports: Long Island MacArthur (ISP), LaGuardia (LGA), or Newark Liberty International (EWR). macarthurairport.com, panynj.gov

# Which side of NYC piques your interest?







If the first thing you want to explore is...







THEN YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS...

**GETTING AROUND** No trip to NYC is complete without a ride on the subway. Log on to the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's website to track your departure and arrival stations and to check for service advisories. *mta.info* 

YOUR TICKET TO STARDOM AWAITS WHEN YOU...

### **Show and Tell**

Lights, camera, action—and you. Dozens of TV shows are filmed in this star-studded city, and you can sneak an insider's peek as a member of the studio audience. Currently, the biggest buzz surrounds Jimmy Fallon, who took over *The Tonight Show* last month. Though free tickets are usually snagged more than a month in advance, die-hard fans can risk same-day standby the morning of the taping when tickets are handed out under the iconic

NBC Studios marquee. But this funnyman is just one of the city's many big names. Stephen Colbert, Jon Stewart, and Rachael Ray are among the many who have also set up shop here. No tickets? Just trek to the corner of West 49th Street and Rockefeller Plaza, where fans gather to watch The Today Show—armed with catchy signs and camera-ready grins. latenightwithjimmyfallon.com, comedy central.com, rachaelrayshow.com, today.com



# 9/11 Memorial This sacred site pays homage to the victims of the 1993 and 2001 terrorist attacks; reflecting pools provide peaceful settings for quiet contemplation.



Chelsea Art
Gallery
District
Peruse the
world's largest
concentration
of art galleries,
then check out
other big-name
venues around
town like the
Museum of
Modern Art and
Guggenheim.

Which stirs your curiosity more?









#### **GETTING OUT**

Nine of the city's top French restaurants add dishes like bluecheese ice cream to their menu during the Winter Stinky Cheese Festival, March 7–16. tourde francenyc.com

## Which dish tickles your taste buds?





THEN SETTLE IN FOR A MEAL AT...



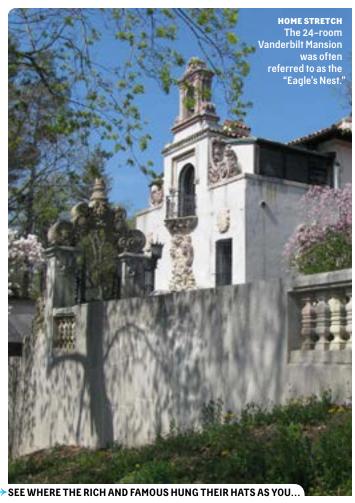
Carbone
Dishes like
the spicy
rigatoni vodka
and lobster fra
diavolo await
at this fancy
Italian-American restaurant
in Greenwich
Village.



Sushi Nakazawa Dia into sushi the traditional wav-sans chopsticks-at this touted eatery in the West Village. Here quests are all treated to omakase which means the menu is left up to the resident master chef.



Grimaldi's
It's worth the
wait for a pizza
from this local
institution,
whose coalfired brick
oven gives pies
that crispy,
smoky crust
that earned
this adored
establishment
its fame.



### Live Large

Flash back to the extravagance of the Roaring Twenties with a visit to Long Island's Gold Coast mansions, which served as inspiration for F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*. Situated on the island's north shore, a string of former estates, such as Old Westbury Gardens, still stands tall. Here you're free to roam through the former dwelling of financier John S. Phipps, complete with the family's original furniture. For an outta-this-world experience, saunter over to the Vanderbilt Mansion, a Spanish Revival spread that added a domed planetarium in 1971, or stop and smell

the orchids and ferns at Planting Fields Arboretum, on the site of the former Tudor Revival sprawl where heiress Mai Rogers Coe once lounged about. Now that's an ending we can live with. *goldcoastmansionsoflongisland.com* 

Your adventure continues...

# What's the perfect end to your evening?







THEN CHECK OUT...



week.



Mulberry
Project
At this Little
Italy hideout,
patrons are
invited to
choose their
favorite fruits
and a preferred
spirit before a
seasoned bartender whips
up a surprise
concoction.



Oheka Castle
Still craving
the high life?
Then schedule
a tour—or
book a room—
at this Gold
Coast chateau,
which made its
1941 film debut
in Citizen Kane.

CONTINUE TO TASTE YOUR WAY THROUGH THE CITY AS YOU...

### **Chew on This**

Let's say you have a craving for green apple sorbetti. And Australian meat pies. And bite-size donuts. Oh, and let's make sure they can all be found in one location. That's where Chelsea Market comes in. Located in the Meatpacking District, this block-long, indoor food hall is home to more than 35 shops providing fare suitable for even the most discerning of eaters—not to mention the Food Network headquarters, located upstairs.

As you amble along the cobblestoned food court, you'll notice your appetite is suddenly stirred as you spot shops enticing you with edibles like savory, creamy yogurt topped with olive oil and cucumbers, semolina bread with raisins and fennel, gooey grilled-cheese sandwiches, and bourbon-coffee-bacon caramel corn. This is one instance where biting off more than you can chew is highly encouraged. chelseamarket.com



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