

DESCRIPTION OF EXCURSIONS

New York

Across Lower Manhattan

On this full-day excursion, students will visit Greenwich Village, SoHo, Chinatown and Little Italy, and the Brooklyn Bridge, some of the most notable places in New York's history:

- **Greenwich Village** is a neighborhood in lower Manhattan. It was the East Coast birthplace of the Beat and the '60s counterculture movements and is known for its American bohemian culture. Students will have a chance to see Washington Square Park as well.
- **SoHo**, which refers to the area South of Houston Street, is known for its cast iron buildings, art galleries, and shops (trendy boutiques as well as international chain stores). Students will have some free time to go shopping.
- **Chinatown and Little Italy** are ethnic enclaves that border each other. Chinatown is home to the largest group of Chinese people in the Western Hemisphere. Little Italy was once known for its large population of Italian Americans. Both neighborhoods are popular tourist stops.
- **The Brooklyn Bridge** is a famous bridge that connects Manhattan and Brooklyn across the East River. Students will be able to capture iconic photos and walk along part of the bridge.

The Chelsea District

On this full-day excursion, students will visit some of the must-sees of New York's trendy neighborhood, the Chelsea District. On a guided walking tour, students will visit Chelsea Market, the High Line, and Hudson Yards:

- **Chelsea Market** is an all-in-one food hall, shopping mall, office building, and television production facility.
- **The Highline** is a park built on a part of the New York Central Railroad that is no longer in use. It's elevated, so students will be able to take in the greenery while seeing fantastic views of New York City.
- **Hudson Yards** is one of the newest neighborhoods in New York City. It is home to a one-million-square-foot retail center with shops, amazing restaurants, cultural performances, and the famous Vessel sculpture, which has forever changed New York City's skyline. Some even call the Vessel New York's version of the Eiffel Tower!

Midtown Highlights

On this full-day excursion, students will visit some of the places that make New York City the most famous city in the world: The Metropolitan Museum, Central Park (including Strawberry Fields), Fifth Ave., and Rockefeller Center.

- **Central Park**, the most-visited urban park in the entire United States, is the next stop on the tour. Students will visit Strawberry Fields and stroll through the park.
- **The Metropolitan Museum of Art** is one of the world's most visited museums and is famous for its massive collection. The museum houses pieces spanning the centuries and the continents.
- **Fifth Avenue** is considered one of the most expensive streets in the world, and it is home to many popular shops. On Fifth Ave., students will have time to explore and shop
- **Rockefeller Center** is home to NBCUniversal where famous shows such as Saturday Night Live are filmed. In December, this is where the famous Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree is located and lit.

Iconic NYC

On this full-day excursion, students will continue to explore some of the places that make New York City so famous: Herald Square, Bryant Park, and Times Square.

- **Herald Square** is a shopping area that is home to the largest Macy's department store. While at Herald Square, students will be able to see Penn Station, the main intercity railroad station in New York City, and Madison Square Garden, an arena where concerts as well as sporting events are held.
- **Bryant Park** is a famous public park next to the main branch of the New York Public Library and is the location of many gatherings and festivals throughout the year.
- **Times Square** is the heart of all of New York's tourist attractions. This hustling and bustling area is packed with shops and restaurants! Students will have free time to explore and take in all that Times Square has to offer.

A City of History

On this full-day excursion, students will see New York City's history up close. Students will visit famous historic locations such as the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, Wall Street, the World Trade Center Oculus, and the 9/11 Memorial:

- **The Statue of Liberty** (ticket included), which is a symbol of freedom and the United States, is accessible by ferry. The statue was a gift from France to commemorate the United States' one hundred years of independence.

- **Ellis Island** (ticket included), which students will also ferry to, is where the Ellis Island Immigration Museum is located. Over 12 million immigrants passed through Ellis Island, which was the United States' busiest immigration inspection checkpoint, from 1892 to 1954. After visiting both the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island, students will ferry back to New York City, where they will see some of the most famous places in lower Manhattan.
- **Wall Street** is where two of the world's biggest stock exchanges are located. Wall Street essentially represents the American financial sector.
- **The World Trade Center Oculus** was completed in 2016 and is home to many shops and restaurants. It serves as the centerpiece of the World Trade Center Transportation Hub.
- **The 9/11 Memorial** commemorates the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001 that killed nearly 3,000 people.

Experience Program Only: Overnight Trip to Washington, D.C.

On this two-day, one-night trip, students will see some of the most famous places in the United States: Washington, D.C., with stops in Princeton and Philadelphia as well:

Day 1:

- **Princeton**, the quaint town where Princeton University is located, is the first stop on the overnight trip. Students can also visit Princeton University, the 4th oldest college in the United States and considered by many to be the top university in the country. Students can grab lunch before continuing on to Washington, D.C.
- **Washington, D.C.** is the capital of the United States. It has been the governmental center of the U.S. since 1790. Students will have photo opportunities of the outside of the following buildings on their first day in D.C.:
 - **The White House**, which has been home to every U.S. President since 1800. Students will see the outside of the building.
 - **The U.S. Capitol**, where the legislative branch of the U.S. government is located. Students will see the outside of the building.
 - **The U.S. Supreme Court**, where the judicial branch of the U.S. government is located. Students will see the outside of the building.
 - **The Library of Congress**, which is the national library of the United States. It is the research library that serves the U.S. Congress and it is the oldest federal cultural institution in the U.S. Students will see the outside of the building.

Day 2:

- Students will tour the **National Mall**, often called "America's front lawn," and will visit the following memorials and monuments:

- **The Washington Monument** is the tallest structure in Washington, D.C. Shaped like an Egyptian obelisk, it was built to honor the first president of the United States, George Washington.
 - **The World War II Memorial** is dedicated to Americans who served in the armed forces and as civilians during World War II. The 56 pillars in the memorial represent the U.S. states and territories.
 - **The Vietnam Veterans Memorial** is the most-visited memorial on the National Mall. The memorial is a huge wall that lists the names of nearly 60,000 American servicemen and women who died during the Vietnam War.
 - **The Lincoln Memorial** honors the 16th president of the United States, Abraham Lincoln. It is one of the most iconic memorials in Washington, D.C. and has been the site of many famous speeches, including Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech.
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- A **Smithsonian Museum** (entry ticket included). Students have the option of choosing between the American History Museum and the Natural History Museum. The American History Museum contains more than 3 million artifacts to preserve a record of the American people, its culture, and past. The Natural History Museum is the world's most popular natural history museum and is home to the largest natural history collection in the world.
 - **Philadelphia** is where students will stop briefly for dinner on the way back to campus. Philadelphia is known as the birthplace of the United States. It's where the U.S. declared independence from England and it was the first capital of our nation. Today, it's the 5th largest city in the United States.

Experience Program Only: Overnight Trip to Niagara Falls, NY

On this two-day, one-night trip, students will see one of the natural wonders of the world: Niagara Falls.

Day 1:

After a lengthy bus ride, students will arrive in Niagara Falls, NY. They will get to wonder at the beauty of Niagara Falls, one of the most famous waterfalls in the world. Niagara Falls is actually a group of 3 waterfalls, which spans the border between Ontario (Canada) and New York (USA). Sometimes at night, the falls are lit up in beautiful colors as well.

Day 2:

In the morning, students will get to get up close to the Falls through the Maid of the Mist Boat Tour (entry ticket included), an unforgettable experience. Then, students will have the opportunity to go shopping at the Fashion Outlets of Niagara Falls, an outlet mall with many stores from famous retailers. After shopping, students will return to campus.

Experience Program Only: Overnight Trip to Boston, MA

On this two-day, one-night trip, students will explore one of the most historic cities in the United States – Boston, Massachusetts. Students will have the chance to do some outlet shopping as well as explore many sites in Boston and Cambridge.

Day 1:

After departing campus, students will first stop at Woodbury Common where they will have a chance to shop at the many outlet stores located there. Then the group will have dinner and settle into the hotel located in or around Hartford, CT.

Day 2:

Students will explore Boston on foot and see sights along the Freedom Trail including Boston Common, the Old State House, and Faneuil Hall. Students will also get to see Harvard University's campus and spend time in the North End, also known as Boston's "Little Italy."

Classic Program Only

Instead of joining the overnight trips, students will instead be able to partake in the following full-day excursions in New York City:

- **Brooklyn:** Students can explore one of Brooklyn's most famous and hippest neighborhoods, DUMBO. Not only can they get spectacular photos of the Brooklyn Bridge, but they can also explore DUMBO's cobblestone streets and its trendy boutiques and cafes.
- **Roosevelt Island and the Upper East Side:** Students can explore Roosevelt Island, a little island in New York City's East River. The tram on the way to Roosevelt Island boasts amazing views of the Upper East Side. After seeing Roosevelt Island, students can go shopping in the wealthy Upper East Side neighborhood and explore more of Central Park.
- **South Street Seaport,** a historic neighborhood that was the city's first 24-hour neighborhood. The seaport has been rebuilt after extensive damage from Hurricane Sandy and is full of shops, food, and art.
- **Union Square and the Flatiron Building** are two famous landmarks in New York City. Union Square Park is known for hosting community events such as farmers' markets, parades, and rallies, and it's also a popular shopping area. The Flatiron Building is a famous triangular skyscraper near Madison Square Park.

Three-Week Excursion Options

- **Upper East Side & Guggenheim Museum:** On this full-day excursion, students can go shopping in the famously wealthy Upper East Side neighborhood and visit the Guggenheim Museum (entry ticket included), which contains collections of impressionist, post-impressionist, early modern and contemporary art. This famous cylindrical building was designed by Frank Lloyd Wright.
- **Whitney Museum of American Art & Chelsea Shopping District:** On this full-day excursion, students will visit the Whitney art museum (entry ticket included), which is dedicated to showcasing 20th-century and contemporary American art. Students can also go shopping in the nearby Chelsea District, where most of the shops are unique boutiques.
- **Brooklyn: DUMBO & Williamsburg:** Students can explore one of Brooklyn's most famous and hippest neighborhoods, DUMBO. Not only can they get spectacular photos of the Brooklyn Bridge, but they can also explore DUMBO's cobblestone streets and its trendy boutiques and cafes. In addition, Williamsburg is a popular neighborhood in Brooklyn known for its hipster culture, amazing food, and art community.