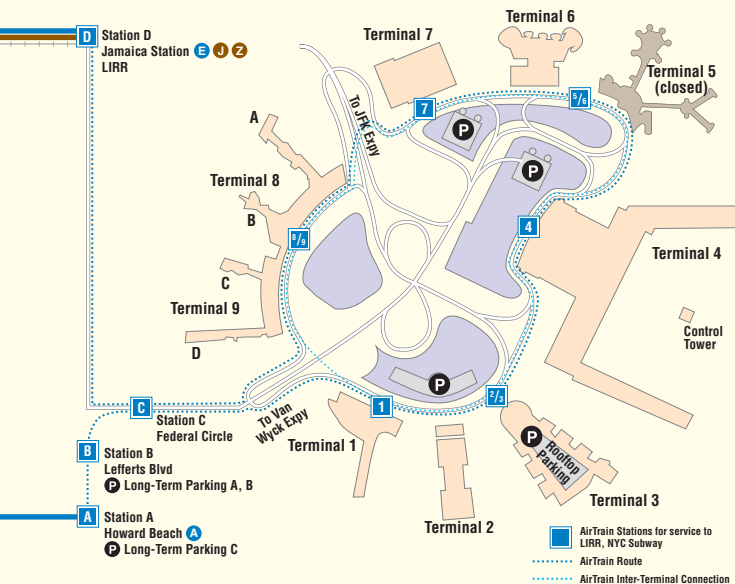


Airline	Phone	JFK	EWB	LGA
Aer Lingus	800-474-7424	■		
Aeroflot	800-340-6400	■		
Aerolineas Argentinas	800-333-0276	■		
Aeromexico	800-237-6639	■		
Aerosvit Ukrainian	212-661-1620	■		
Air Canada	888-247-2262	■	■	■
Air China	800-982-8802	■		
Air France	800-237-2747	■	■	
Air India	212-751-6200	■	■	
Air Jamaica	800-523-5585	■	■	
Air Plus Comet	877-999-7587	■	■	
Air Tahiti Nui	866-835-9286	■		
Air Tran	800-247-8726	■	■	■
Alaska Airlines	800-426-0333	■		■
Alitalia	800-223-5730	■	■	
ANA (All Nippon)	800-235-9262	■	■	■
Allegro	800-903-2779	■		
American (domestic)	800-433-7300	■	■	■
American (international)	800-433-7300	■	■	■
American Eagle	800-433-7300	■	■	■
Asiana	800-227-4262	■		
ATA	800-435-9282	■	■	■
Austrian Airlines	800-843-0002	■		
Avianca	800-284-2622	■		
Azteca	212-289-6400	■	■	■
Biman Bangladesh	212-808-4477	■		
British Airways	800-247-9297	■	■	

Airline	Phone	JFK	EWB	LGA
BWIA	800-538-2942	■		
Cathay Pacific	800-233-2742	■	■	
Chautauqua	800-428-4322	■	■	■
China Airlines	800-227-5118	■		
China Eastern	866-588-0825	■		
Colgan	800-428-4322			■
Comair	800-354-9822	■	■	■
Constellation	866-484-2299	■		
Continental (domestic)	800-523-3273	■	■	■
Continental (international)	800-231-0856	■		■
Copa Airlines	800-359-2672	■		
Corsair (seasonal)	800-677-0720	■		
Czech Airlines	800-223-2365	■	■	
Delta (domestic)	800-221-1212	■	■	■
Delta (international)	800-241-4141	■	■	■
Delta Connection	800-325-5205	■		
Delta Express	800-235-9359	■	■	■
Egyptair	800-334-6787	■		
El Al	800-223-6700	■	■	
Emirates	800-777-3999	■		
EOS	888-357-3677	■		
Ethihad	888-8ETIHAD	■		
Eurofly	800-459-0581	■		
Eva Airways	800-695-1188	■		■
Finnair	800-950-5000	■		
Frontier Airlines	800-432-1359	■	■	■
Iberia	800-772-4642	■		

Airline	Phone	JFK	EWB	LGA
Icelandair	800-223-5500	■		
Israir	877-477-2471	■		
Japan Airlines	800-525-3663	■		
Jet Blue	800-538-2583	■	■	■
KLM	800-374-7747	■	■	■
Korean Air	800-438-5000	■		
Kuwait Airways	800-458-9248	■		
Lacsa	800-225-2272	■		
Lan Chile	800-735-5526	■		
Lan Ecuador	866-526-3279	■		
Lan Peru	800-735-5590	■		
LOT Polish	212-852-0240	■	■	
LTU	866-266-5588	■		
Lufthansa	800-645-3880	■	■	■
Malaysia	800-582-9264	■		■
Malev Hungarian	800-223-6884	■		
MaxJet	888-435-9626	■		
Mexicana	800-531-7921	■		
Miami Air (charter)	305-871-3300	■	■	
Midwest Express	800-452-2022	■	■	■
North American	800-371-6297	■		
Northwest (domestic)	800-225-2525	■	■	■
Northwest (international)	800-447-4747	■	■	■
Olympic	800-223-1226	■		
Qantas	800-227-4500	■	■	
Royal Air Maroc	800-344-6726	■		
Royal Jordanian	212-949-0050	■		

Airline	Phone	JFK	EWB	LGA
SAS	800-221-2350	■		■
Saudi Arabian Airlines	800-472-8342	■		
Silverjet	877-359-7458	■		■
SN Brussels	516-622-2248	■		
South African Airways	800-722-9675	■	■	■
Spirit	800-772-7117	■		■
Sun Country	800-359-6786	■		
Swiss Airlines	877-359-7947	■	■	■
TACA	800-535-8780	■		
TAM	888-235-9826	■		
Tap Air Portugal	800-221-7370	■		■
Thai Airways	800-426-5204	■		
Travel Spain	800-817-6177	■		
Turkish	800-874-8875	■		
United Airlines (domestic)	800-241-6522	■	■	■
United Airlines (intl)	800-241-6522	■	■	■
United Express	800-241-6522	■		■
US Airways	800-428-4322	■	■	■
USA3000	877-872-3000	■		■
Uzbekistan	212-245-1005	■		
Varig	800-468-2744	■		
Virgin Atlantic	800-862-8621	■	■	



Airline	Terminal	Airline	Terminal	Airline	Terminal	Airline	Terminal
Aer Lingus	4	BWIA	4	Pakistan	4		
Aeroflot	1	Cathay Pacific	7	Qantas	7		
Aerolineas Argentinas	4	Cayman Airways	1	Royal Air Maroc	1		
Aero Mexico	1	China Airlines	1	Royal Jordanian	4		
Aerosvit Ukrainian	4	China Eastern	1	Saudi Arabian	1		
Air Canada	7	Comair	3	Airlines	4		
Air China	1	Constellation	4	Singapore	4		
Air France	1	Continental	4	South African	4		
Air India	4	Continental Express	4	SN Brussels Airlines	8		
Air Jamaica	4	Corsair (seasonal)	4	Sun Country	4		
AirPlus Comet	1	Copa Airlines	4	Swiss International	1		
Air Tahiti Nui	4	Czech Airlines	4	TACA International	4		
Alitalia	1	Delta	3	TAM	4		
Allegro (seasonal)	4	Egypt Air	4	Thai Airways	4		
American	8	El Al	4	Travel Span	4		
American Eagle	8	Emirates	4	Turkish	1		
ANA	7	EOS	4	United Airlines	7		
Asiana	4	Ethiad	4	US Airways/	4		
Austrian Airlines	1	Eurofly	4	America West	7		
Avianca	4	Finnair	8	USA 3000	4		
Azteca	4	Flyglobespan	4	USA Helicopter	3		
Biman Bangladesh	4	Harmony	4	Uzbekistan	4		
British Airways	7			Varig	4		
				Virgin American	4		
				Virgin Atlantic	4		
				Zoom Airlines	4		

## General Information

Address: JFK Expy  
Jamaica, NY 11430  
Phone: 718-244-4444  
Lost & Found: 718-244-4225  
Website: www.kennedyairport.com  
AirTrain: www.airtrainjfk.com  
AirTrain Phone: 718-570-1048  
Long Island Rail Road: www.mta.info/lirr

## Overview

Ah, JFK. It's long been a nemesis to Manhattanites due to the fact that it's the farthest of the three airports from the city. Nonetheless, more than 32 million people go through JFK every year. A \$9.5 billion expansion and modernization program will transform the airport, with JetBlue taking about \$900 million of that for its gigantic, 26-gate, new HQ to address the ten million of you who, in spite of JFK's distance, wake up an hour earlier to save a buck.

JetBlue's new terminal rises just behind the landmark TWA building, which you should check out if you have time to kill after getting up an hour earlier. Its bubblicious curves make this 1950s gem a glam spaceship aptly prepared to handle any swanky NY soiree. Top that, Newark.

## Rental Cars (On-Airport)

The rental car offices are all located along the Van Wyck Expressway near the entrance to the airport. Just follow the signs.

- 1 • **Avis** • 718-244-5406 or 800-230-4898
- 2 • **Budget** • 718-656-6010 or 800-527-0700
- 3 • **Dollar** • 718-656-2400 or 800-800-4000
- 5 • **Enterprise** • 718-659-1200 or 800-RENT-A-CAR
- 4 • **Hertz** • 718-656-7600 or 800-654-3131
- 6 • **National** • 718-632-8300 or 800-CAR-RENTAL

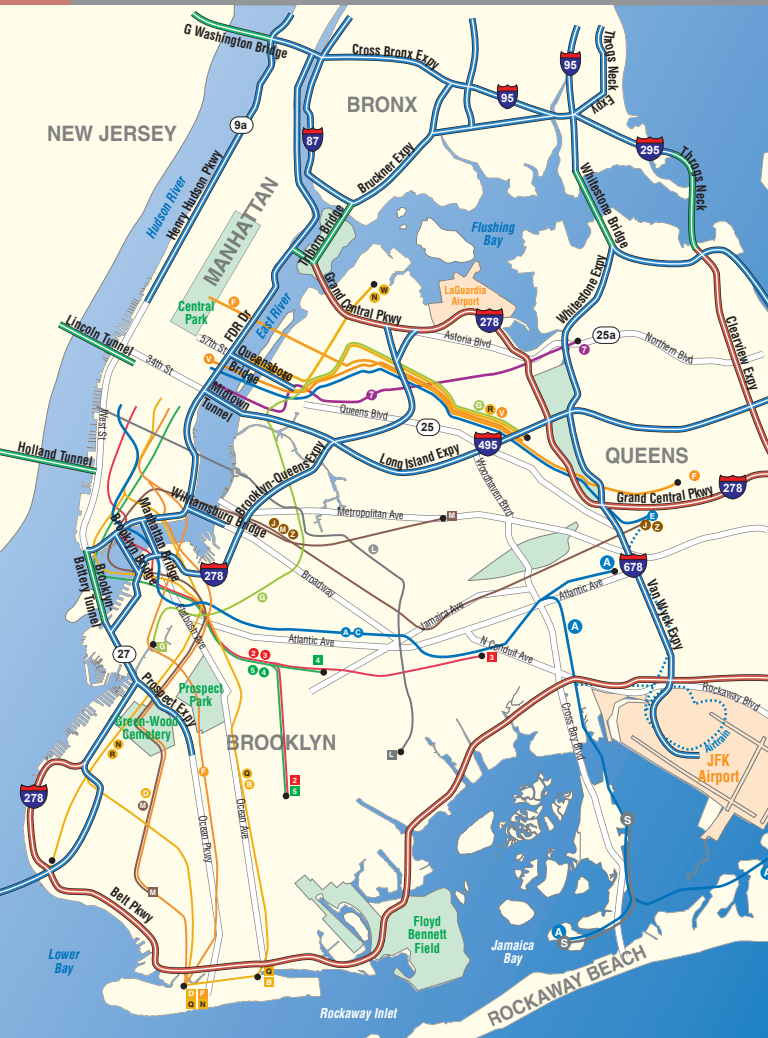
## Hotels

**Crown Plaza JFK** • 151-20 Baisley Blvd • 718-489-1000  
**Comfort Inn JFK** • 144-36 153rd Ln • 718-977-0001  
**Double Tree Club Hotel** • 135-40 140th St • 718-276-2188  
**Holiday Inn JFK Airport** • 144-02 135th Ave • 718-659-0200  
**Ramada Plaza Hotel** • Van Wyck Expy • 718-995-9000

## Car Services & Taxis

**All County Express** • 914-381-4223 or 800-914-4223  
**Classic Limousine** • 631-567-5100 or 800-666-4949  
**Dial 7 Car & Limo Service** • 212-777-7777 or 800-777-8888  
**Super Saver by Carmel** • 800-922-7635 or 212-666-6666  
**Tel Aviv Limo Service** • 800-222-9888 or 212-777-7777

Taxis from the airport to anywhere in Manhattan cost a flat \$45 + tolls and tip, while fares to the airport are metered + tolls and tip. The SuperShuttle (800-258-3826) will drop you anywhere between Battery Park and 227th, including all hotels, for \$13-\$22, but be warned it could end up taking a while, depending on where your fellow passengers are going. Nevertheless, it's a good option if you want door-to-door service and have a lot of time to kill, but not a lot of cash.



### How to Get There—Driving

You can take the lovely and scenic Belt Parkway straight to JFK, as long as it's not rush hour. The Belt Parkway route is about 30 miles long, even though JFK is only 15 or so miles from Manhattan. You can access the Belt by taking the Brooklyn-Battery Tunnel to the Gowanus (the best route) or by taking the Brooklyn, Manhattan, or Williamsburg Bridges to the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway to the Gowanus. If you're sick of stop-and-go highway traffic and prefer using local roads, take Atlantic Avenue in Brooklyn and drive east until you hit Conduit Avenue. Follow this straight to JFK—it's direct and fairly simple. You can get to Atlantic Avenue from any of the three downtown bridges (look at one of our maps first!). From midtown, you can take the Queens Midtown Tunnel to the Long Island Expressway to the Van Wyck Expressway S (there's never much traffic on the LIE, of course...). From uptown, you can take the Triboro Bridge to the Grand Central Parkway to the Van Wyck Expressway S. JFK also has two new AM frequencies solely devoted to keeping you abreast of all of the airport's endeavors that may affect traffic. Tune into 1630AM for general airport information and 1700AM for construction updates en route to your next flight. It might save you a sizeable headache.

### How to Get There—Mass Transit

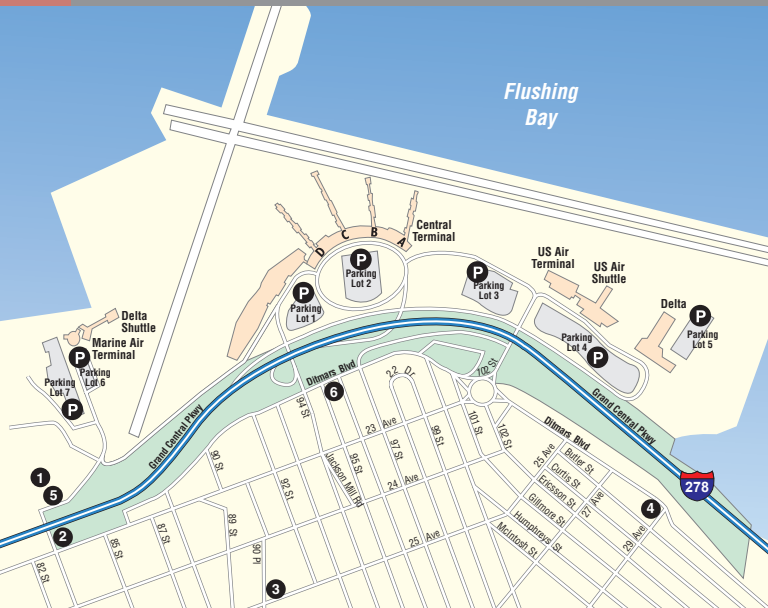
This is your chance to finish *War and Peace*. Replacing the free shuttle from the subway is the AirTrain, which will make your journey marginally smoother, but also make your wallet a little lighter. Running 24/7, you can board the AirTrain from the subway on the **A** line at either the Howard Beach stop or the **E**, **J**, and **Z** lines at the Sutphin/Archer Ave-Jamaica Station stop. The ride takes around 15–25 minutes, depending on which airport terminal you need.

A one-way ride on the AirTrain sets you back \$5, so a ride on the subway and then hopping the AirTrain will be a total of \$7. If you're anywhere near Penn Station and your time is valuable, the LIRR to Jamaica will cost you \$5 off-peak, \$7 during peak times, and the journey takes roughly 20 minutes. The AirTrain portion of the trip will still cost you an additional \$5 and round out your travel time to less than an hour.

If you want to give your MetroCard a workout, you can take the **E** or the **F** to the Turnpike/Kew Gardens stop and transfer to the **J**. Another possibility is the **R** or **G** to New Lots Avenue, where you transfer to the **S** to JFK. The easiest and most direct option is to take a New York Airport Service Express bus (718-875-8200) from either Grand Central Station, Penn Station, or the Port Authority for \$15, or you can hop on the Trans-Bridge Bus Line (800-962-9135) at Port Authority for \$12. Since the buses travel on service roads, Friday afternoon is not an advisable time to try them out.

### Parking

Daily rates for the Central Terminal Area lots cost \$3 for the first half-hour, \$6 for up to one hour, \$3 for every hour after that, up to \$30 per day. Long-term parking costs \$15 for the first 24 hours and \$5 for each 8-hour period thereafter. Be warned, though—many of the ongoing construction projects at JFK affect both their short-term and long-term lots, so be sure to allow extra time for any unpleasant surprises. For updated parking availability, call 718-244-4080.



Airline	Terminal
Air Canada	A
Air Tran Airways	B
American	D
American Eagle	C
ATA	B
Colgan	US Airways
Comair	Delta
Continental	A
Continental Express	A
Delta	Delta
Delta Connection	Delta
Delta Shuttle	Marine
Frontier Airlines	B
jetBlue Airways	B
Midwest	B
Northwest	Delta
Spirit	B
United	C
United Express	C
US Airways	US Airways
US Airways Express	US Airways
US Airways Shuttle	US Airways Shuttle

### General Information

Address: LaGuardia Airport  
Flushing, NY 11371

Recorded Information: 718-533-3400

Lost & Found: 718-533-3988

Police: 718-533-3900

Website: www.laguardiaairport.com

### Overview

The reason to fly from LaGuardia (affectionately known as LGA on your baggage tags) is that it is geographically the closest airport to Manhattan and thus a cheap(er) cab ride when your delayed flight touches down at 1 in the morning. The reason not to fly to and from here is that there is no subway line (HELLO, city officials!) and the check-in areas are just too darn small to accommodate the many passengers and their many bags that crowd the terminals at just about every hour of the day.

Food is not a great option, so eat before you leave home. If you must dine, there are 5 Au Bon Pains throughout the terminals—find them as they are the most palatable choice available.

### How to Get There—Driving (or directing your cabbie)

LaGuardia is mere inches away from Grand Central Parkway, which can be reached from both the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway (BQE) or from the Triboro Bridge. From Lower Manhattan, take the Brooklyn, Manhattan, or Williamsburg Bridges to the BQE to Grand Central Parkway E. From Midtown Manhattan, take FDR Drive to the Triboro to Grand Central. A potential alternate route (and money-saver) would be to take the 59th Street Bridge to 21st Street in Queens. Once you're heading north on 21st Street, you can make a right on Astoria Boulevard and follow it all the way to 94th Street, where you can make a left and drive straight into LaGuardia. This alternate route is good if the FDR and/or the BQE is jammed, although that probably means that the 59th Street Bridge won't be much better.

### How to Get There—Mass Transit

Alas, no subway line goes to LaGuardia (although there SHOULD be one running across 96th Street in Manhattan, through Astoria, and ending at LaGuardia—but that's another story). The closest the subway comes is the 7, E, F, G, R Jackson Heights/Roosevelt Avenue/74th Street stop in Queens, where you can transfer to the M or N bus to LaGuardia. Sound exciting? Well, it's not. A better bus to take is the M, which runs across 125th Street to the airport. An even better bet would be to pay the extra few bucks and take the New York Airport Service Express Bus (\$12 one-way, 718-875-8200) from Grand Central Station. It departs every 20–30 minutes and takes approximately 45 minutes; also catch it on Park Avenue between 41st and 42nd Streets, Penn Station, and the Port Authority Bus Terminal. The probably named SuperShuttle Manhattan is a shared mini-bus that picks you up anywhere within the city limits (\$13–\$22 one-way, 212-258-3826). If you want a taxi, search for the "hidden" cab line tucked around Terminal D as the line is almost always shorter than the others.

### How to Get There—Really

Plan ahead and call a car service to guarantee that you won't spend the morning of your flight fighting for a taxi. Nothing beats door to door service. Allstate Car and Limousine: 212-333-3333 (\$30 in the am & \$38 in the pm + tolls from Union Square); LimoRes: 212-777-7171 (\$30 + tolls from Union Square; best to call in the morning); Dial 7: 212-777-7777 (\$30 in the am & \$40 in the pm + tolls from Union Square); Carmel: 212-666-6666 (\$31 + tolls to LGA, \$28–\$35 + tolls from LGA).

### Parking

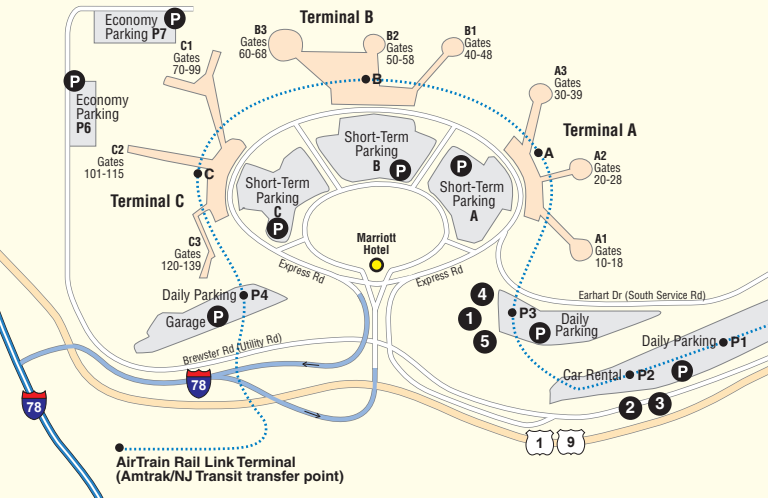
Daily parking rates at LaGuardia cost \$3 for the first half-hour, \$6 for up to one hour, \$3 for every hour thereafter, and up to \$30 per day. Long-term parking is \$30 for each of the first two days, then \$5 for each 8-hour period thereafter (though only in Lot 3). You can use cash, credit card, or E-Z Pass to pay. Another option is independent parking lots, such as The Crowne Plaza (104-04 Ditmars Blvd, 718-457-6300 x295), Clarion Airport Parking (Ditmars Blvd & 94th St, 718-335-6713) and AviStar (23rd Ave & 90th St, 800-621-PARK). They run their own shuttle buses from their lots, and they usually charge \$14–\$17 per day. If all the parking garages onsite are full, follow the "P" signs to the airport exit and park in one of the off-airport locations.

### Rental Cars

- 1 **Avis** • LGA 800-230-4898
- 2 **Budget** • 83-34 23rd Ave 800-527-0700
- 3 **Dollar** • 90-05 25th Ave 800-800-4000
- 4 **Enterprise** • 104-04 Ditmars Blvd 718-457-2900
- 5 **Hertz** • LGA 800-654-3131
- 6 **National** • Ditmars Blvd & 95th St 800-227-7368

### Hotels

- Clarion** • 94-00 Ditmars Blvd • 718-335-1200
- Courtyard** • 90-10 Grand Central Pkwy • 718-446-4800
- Crowne Plaza** • 104-04 Ditmars Blvd • 718-457-6300
- Eden Park Hotel** • 113-10 Corona Ave • 718-699-4500
- LaGuardia Marriott** • 102-05 Ditmars Blvd • 718-565-8900
- Paris Suites** • 109-17 Horace Harding Expy • 718-760-2820
- Sheraton** • 135-20 39th Ave • 718-460-6666
- Wyndham Garden** • 100-15 Ditmars Blvd • 718-426-1500



Airline	Terminal	Airline	Terminal
Air Canada	A	Flybe British European	C
Air France	B	Jet Airways	B
Air India	B	Jet Blue	A
Air Jamaica	B	KLm Royal Dutch Airlines	B
Air Plus Comet (seasonal)	B	L'Avion	B
Air Tran	A	LoT Polish	B
Alaska Airlines	A	Lufthansa	A
Alitalia	B	Malaysia	B
America West	A	Mexicana	B
American (domestic)	A	Miami Air (Charter)**	B
American (international)	A/B*	Midwest	A
American Eagle	A	Northwest	B
British Airways	B	Qantas	A
Casino Express (charter)	A	SAS	B
Chautauqua	A	Silverjet	B
Comair	B	Singapore Airlines	B
Continental	C	Swiss International Air Lines	B
Continental (Atlanta/Chicago/ Dallas/Washington DC)	A	TAP Portugal	B
Continental (Baton Rouge)	A	United (domestic)	B
Continental (Boston)	A	United (international)	A/B*
Czech Airlines	B	United Express	A
Delta	B	USA3000	B
Delta Express	B	US Airways	A
El Al	B	US Airways Express	B
Eva Airways	C	Virgin Atlantic	B
Express Jet - Continental	C		

\* Departs Terminal A, arrives Terminal B.

\*\* Charter Airlines: For departure/arrival information, contact the airline or travel agent.

## General Information

Address: 10 Toler Pl, Newark, NJ 07114  
 Phone: 888-EWR-INFO  
 Police/Lost & Found: 973-961-6230  
 Airport Information: 973-961-6000  
 Transportation Info: 800-AIR-RIDE (247-7533)  
 Radio Station: 530 AM  
 Website: www.newarkairport.com

## Overview

Newark Airport is easily the nicest of the three major metropolitan airports. The monorail that connects the terminals and the parking lots, the AirTrain link from Penn Station, and the diverse food court (in Terminal C), make it the city's preferred point of departure and arrival. There are also plenty of international departures, making it a great second option to the miserable experience of doing JFK.

If your flight gets delayed or you find yourself with time on your hands, check out the d-parture spa in Terminals B or C to unwind, or, if you're feeling carnivorous after your screaming match with airline personnel, Gallagher's Steakhouse (Terminal C).

## How to Get There—Driving

The route to Newark Airport is easy—just take the Holland Tunnel or the Lincoln Tunnel to the New Jersey Turnpike South. You can use either Exit 14 or Exit 13A. If you want a cheaper and slightly more scenic (from an industrial standpoint) drive, follow signs for the Pulaski Skyway once you exit the Holland Tunnel. It's free, it's one of the coolest bridges in America, and it leads you to the airport just fine. If possible, check a traffic report before leaving Manhattan—sometimes there are viciously long tie-ups, especially at the Holland Tunnel. It's always worth it to see which outbound tunnel has the shortest wait.

## How to Get There—Mass Transit

If you're allergic to traffic, try taking the AirTrain service from Penn Station. It's run by Amtrak (\$20-\$44 one-way) and NJ Transit (\$14 one-way). If you use NJ Transit, choose a train that runs on the Northeast Corridor or North Jersey Coast Line with a scheduled stop for Newark Airport. If you use Amtrak, choose a train that runs on the Northeast Corridor Line with a scheduled stop for Newark Airport. The cheapest option is to take the PATH train (\$1.50) to Newark Penn Station then switch to NJ Transit bus #62 (\$1.25), which hits all the terminals. Just be alert at night since the area around Newark Penn Station

can be a bit shady. You can also catch direct buses departing from Port Authority Bus Terminal (with the advantage of a bus-only lane running right out of the station and into the Lincoln Tunnel), Grand Central Terminal, and Penn Station (the New York version) on Olympia for \$14. The SuperShuttle will set you back \$13-\$22, and a taxi from Manhattan will cost you around \$50.

## How to Get There—Car Services

Car services are always the simplest option, although they're a bit more expensive for Newark Airport than they are for LaGuardia. Allstate Car and Limousine: 212-333-3333 (\$44 in the am & \$52 in the pm + tolls from Union Square); Tri-State: 212-777-7171 (\$43 + tolls from Union Square; best to call in the morning); Dial 7: 212-777-7777 (\$44 in the am & \$49 in the pm + tolls from Union Square).

## Parking

Regular parking rates are \$3 for the first half-hour, \$6 for up to one hour, \$3 for every hour after that, and now an excessive \$24 per day for the P1, P3, and P4 monorail-served lots. The P6 and P7 parking lots are much farther away, are only serviced by a shuttle bus, and cost \$15 per day. There are some off-airport lots that you can sometimes score for \$10, especially if you have a business card. Most of them are on the local southbound drag of Route 1 & 9. Valet parking costs \$36 per day.

## Rental Cars

1 • Avis	800-230-4898
2 • Budget	800-527-0700
3 • Dollar	866-434-2226
4 • Hertz	800-654-3131
5 • National	800-227-7368
6 • Enterprise (Off-Airport)	800-325-8007

## Hotels

**Marriott** (On-Airport) • 973-623-0006  
**Courtyard Marriott** • 600 Rte 1 & 9 S • 973-643-8500  
**Hilton** • 1170 Spring St • 908-351-3900  
**Howard Johnson** • 20 Frontage Rd • 973-344-1500  
**Sheraton** • 128 Frontage Rd • 973-690-5500  
**Hampton Inn** • 1128-38 Spring St • 908-355-0500  
**Best Western** • 101 International Wy • 973-621-6200  
**Holiday Inn North** • 160 Frontage Rd • 973-589-1000  
**Days Inn** • 450 Rte 1 South • 973-242-0900  
**Ramada Inn** • 550 Rte 1 S • 973-824-4000  
**Four Points Sheraton** • 901 Spring St • 908-527-1600



## General Information

Port Authority of NY and NJ: [www.panynj.gov](http://www.panynj.gov)  
 DOT: [www.ci.nyc.ny.us/html/dot/home.html](http://www.ci.nyc.ny.us/html/dot/home.html) • 212-NEW-YORK  
 MTA: [www.mta.info](http://www.mta.info)  
 EZPass: [www.e-zpassny.com](http://www.e-zpassny.com) • 800-333-TOLL  
 Transportation Alternatives: [www.transalt.org](http://www.transalt.org)  
 Best overall site: [www.nyrcroads.com](http://www.nyrcroads.com)

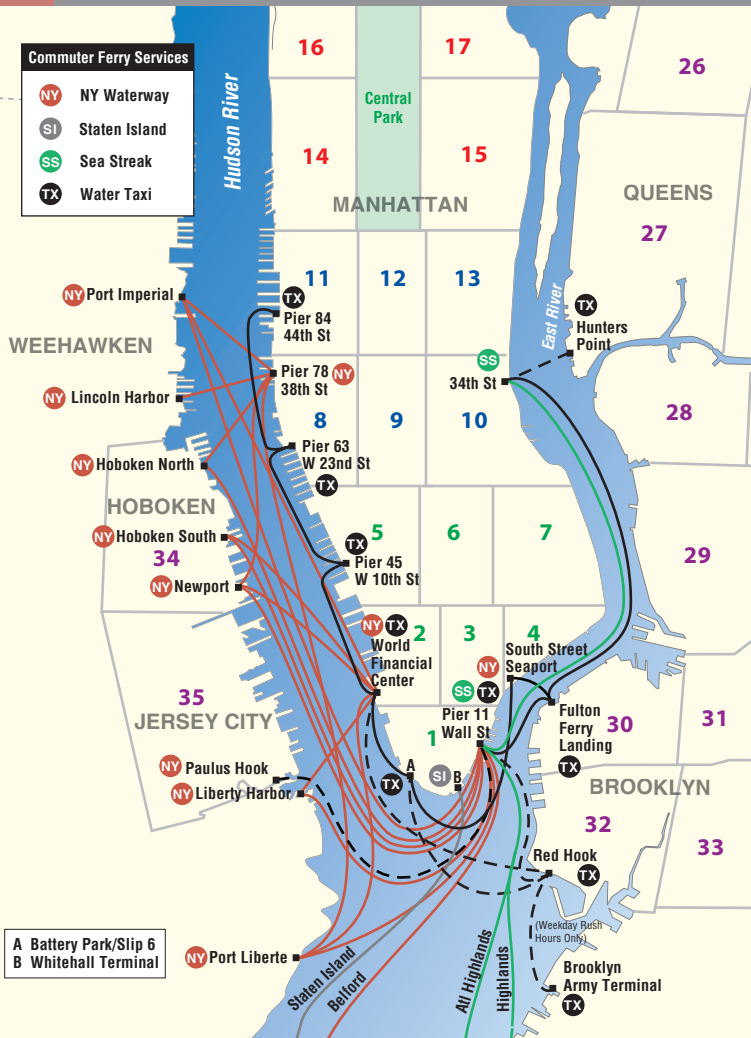
## Overview

Since NYC is an archipelago, it's no wonder there are so many bridges and four major tunnels. Most of the bridges listed in the chart below are considered landmarks, either for their sheer beauty or because they were the first of their kind at one time. The traffic-jammed Holland Tunnel, finished in 1927, was the first vehicular tunnel connecting New Jersey and New York. King's Bridge, built between Manhattan and the Bronx in 1693, was sadly demolished in 1917. Highbridge, the oldest existing bridge in NYC (built in 1843), is no longer open to vehicles or pedestrians. Brooklyn Bridge, built in 1883, is the city's oldest functioning bridge, still open to vehicles and pedestrians alike, and is considered one of the most beautiful bridges ever built.

The '70s was a decade of neglect for city bridges. Inspections in the '80s and maintenance and refurbishment plans in the '90s/'00s have made the bridges stronger and safer than ever before. On certain holidays when the weather permits, the world's largest free-flying American flag flies from the upper arch of the New Jersey tower on the George Washington Bridge.

						Toll/EZPass peak/EZPass off-peak	# of lanes	# of vehicles/day (in thousands)	Original cost (in millions)	Engineer	Main span	Operated by	Opened to traffic
1	Geo. Washington Bridge	6.00/5.00/4.00 (inbound only)	14	yes	300	59	Othmar H. Ammann	4,760'	PANYNJ	10/25/31			
2	Lincoln Tunnel	6.00/5.00/4.00 (inbound only)	6	no	120	75	Othmar H. Ammann Ole Singstad	8,216'	PANYNJ	12/22/37			
3	Holland Tunnel	6.00/5.00/4.00 (inbound only)	4	no	100	54	Clifford Holland/ Ole Singstad	8,558'	PANYNJ	11/13/27			
4	Verrazano-Narrows Bridge	* 4.50/4.00	12	no	190	320	Othmar H. Ammann	4,260'	MTA	11/21/64			
5	Brooklyn-Battery Tunnel	4.50/4.00	4	no	60	90	Ole Singstad	9,117'	MTA	5/25/50			
6	Brooklyn Bridge	free	6	yes	140	15	John Roebling/ Washington Roebling	1,595.5'	DOT	5/24/1883			
7	Manhattan Bridge	free	4	yes	150	31	Leon Moisseiff	1,470'	DOT	12/31/09			
8	Williamsburg Bridge	free	8	yes	140	24.2	Leffert L. Buck	1,600'	MTA	12/19/03			
9	Queens-Midtown Tunnel	4.50/4.00	4	no	80	52	Ole Singstad	6,414'	MTA	11/15/40			
10	Queensboro Bridge	free	10	yes	200	20	Gustav Lindenthal	1,182'	DOT	3/30/09			
11	Triborough Bridge	4.50/4.00/8/8	8/yes	200	60.3		Othmar H. Ammann	1,380'	MTA	7/11/36			
12	Henry Hudson Bridge	2.25/1.75	7	no	75	5	David Steinman	840'	MTA	12/12/36			
13	Whitestone Bridge	4.50/4.00	6	no	110	20	Othmar H. Ammann	2,300'	MTA	4/29/39			
14	Throgs Neck Bridge	4.50/4.00	6	no	100	92	Othmar H. Ammann	1,800'	MTA	1/11/61			
15	Cross Bay Veterans Memorial Bridge	2.25/1.50	6	yes	20	29	n/a	3000'	MTA	5/28/70			
16	Marine Parkway Gil Hodges Memorial Bridge	2.25/1.50	4	yes	25	12	Madigan and Hyland	540'	MTA	7/3/37			
17	Bayonne Bridge	6.00/5.00/4.00	4	yes	20	13	Othmar H. Ammann	5,780'	PANY/NJ	11/13/31			
18	Goethals Bridge	6.00/5.00/4.00	4	no	75	7.2	Othmar H. Ammann	8,600'	PANY/NJ	6/29/28			
19	Outerbridge Crossing	6.00/5.00/4.00	4	no	80	9.6	Othmar H. Ammann	750'	PANY/NJ	6/29/28			

\* \$9.00/\$8.00 with EZPass to Staten Island (\$6.40/4.80 for registered Staten Island residents with EZPass), \$2.25 with three or more occupants—cash only. Free to Brooklyn.



- Commuter Ferry Services**
- NY NY Waterway
  - SI Staten Island
  - SS Sea Streak
  - TX Water Taxi

WEEHAWKEN

HOBOKEN

JERSEY CITY

**A Battery Park/Slip 6**  
**B Whitehall Terminal**

## Ferries/Boat Tours, Rentals & Charters

Name	Contact Info
<b>Staten Island Ferry</b>	311 • <a href="http://www.nyc.gov/html/dot/html/ferrybus/staferry.shtml">www.nyc.gov/html/dot/html/ferrybus/staferry.shtml</a> This free ferry travels between Battery Park and Staten Island. On weekdays it leaves every 15–30 minutes 12 am–11:30 pm. On weekends, it leaves every hour 1:30 am–11:30 am and every half-hour at all other times.
<b>NY Waterway</b>	800-53-FERRY • <a href="http://www.nywaterway.com">www.nywaterway.com</a> The largest ferry service in NY, NY Waterway offers many commuter routes (mostly from New Jersey), sightseeing tours. However, recent financial troubles have them closing many commuter lines.
<b>NY Water Taxi</b>	212-742-1969 • <a href="http://www.nywatertaxi.com">www.nywatertaxi.com</a> Available for commuting, sightseeing, charter, and shuttles to Yankees and Mets games. Commuter tickets range between \$4.50 and \$6 and tours cost \$20 to \$25. For chartered trips or tours, call for a quote.
<b>Sea Streak</b>	800-BOAT-RIDE • <a href="http://www.seastreakusa.com">www.seastreakusa.com</a> Catamarans that go pretty fast from the Highlands in NJ to Wall Street and E 34th Street.
<b>Circle Line</b>	212-269-5755 • <a href="http://www.circleline.com">www.circleline.com</a> Circle Line offers many sightseeing tours, including a visit to Ellis Island (departs from Pier 16 at South Street Seaport—\$11 for adults, \$4.50 for kids)
<b>Spirit of New York</b>	212-727-7735 • <a href="http://www.spiritcruises.com">www.spiritcruises.com</a> Offers lunch and dinner cruises. Prices start at \$43. Leaves from Pier 62 at Chelsea Piers. Make a reservation at least one week in advance, but the earlier the better.
<b>Loeb Boathouse</b>	212-517-2233 • <a href="http://www.centralparknyc.org">www.centralparknyc.org</a> You can rent rowboats from March through October at the Lake in Central Park, open seven days a week, weather permitting. Boat rentals cost \$12 for the first hour and \$3 for every additional 15 minutes (rentals also require a \$30 cash deposit). The boathouse is open 10 am–5 pm, but the last boat goes out at 4:30 pm. Up to four people per boat. No reservations needed.
<b>World Yacht Cruises</b>	212-630-8100 or 800-498-4271 • <a href="http://www.worldyacht.com">www.worldyacht.com</a> These fancy, three-hour dinner cruises start at \$89.88 per person. The cruises depart from Pier 81 (41st Street) and require reservations. The cruise boards at 6 pm, sails at 7 pm, and returns at 10 pm. There's also a Sunday brunch cruise April–December that costs \$61.85 per person.

## Marinas/Passenger Ship Terminal

Name	Contact Info	Map
<b>MarineMax Manhattan</b>	212-336-7873 • <a href="http://www.marinemax.com">www.marinemax.com</a> Dockage at Chelsea Piers. They offer daily, weekly, and seasonal per-foot rates (there's always a waiting list).	8
<b>NY Skyports Inc</b>	212-686-4546 Located on the East River at E 23rd Street. Transient dockage costs \$3 per foot.	10
<b>79th St Marina</b>	212-496-2105 This city-operated dock is filled with long-term houseboat residents. It's located at W 79th Street and the Hudson River. Open from May to October.	14
<b>Dyckman Marina</b>	212-496-2105 Transient dockage on the Hudson River at 348 Dyckman Street	25
<b>Manhattan Cruise Terminal</b>	212-246-5450 • <a href="http://www.nycruise.com">www.nycruise.com</a> If Love Boat re-runs aren't enough and you decide to go on a cruise yourself, you'll leave from the Manhattan Cruise Terminal. W 55th Street at 12th Avenue. Take the West Side Highway to Piers 88–92.	11
<b>North Cove Yacht Harbor</b>	212-786-1200 • <a href="http://www.thenorthcove.com">www.thenorthcove.com</a> A very, very fancy place to park your yacht in Battery Park City.	p234

## Helicopter Services

Name	Contact Info	Map
<b>Helicopter Flight Services</b>	212-355-0801 • <a href="http://www.heliny.com">www.heliny.com</a> For a minimum of \$129, you can hop on a helicopter at the Downtown Manhattan Heliport at Pier 6 on the East River on weekdays, or at the W 30th Street Heliport on weekends and spend 15 minutes gazing down on Manhattan. Reservations are recommended, and there's a minimum of two passengers per flight.	3, 8
<b>Liberty Helicopter Tours</b>	212-967-6464 • <a href="http://www.libertyhelicopters.com">www.libertyhelicopters.com</a> Leaves from the heliport at W 30th Street and E 12th Avenue (9 am–9 pm) or the Downtown Manhattan Heliport at Pier 6 on the East River (9 am–6:30 pm). Prices start at \$69, and reservations are needed only when boarding at the Seaport. Flights depart every 5–10 minutes. Minimum of four passengers per flight.	3, 8
<b>Wall Street Helicopter</b>	212-943-5959 • <a href="http://www.wallstreetheli.opg.com">www.wallstreetheli.opg.com</a> Leaves from any heliport in Manhattan. Executive/corporate helicopter and twin engine aircraft charters. No sightseeing.	3

## General Information

E-ZPass Information: 800-333-TOLL  
 Radio Station and Traffic Updates: 1010 WINS on the 1s for a 5 boroughs focus and 880 on the 8s for a suburbs focus  
 DOT Website: www.ci.mtc.ny.us/html/dot/html/motorist/motorist.html  
 Real-Time Web Traffic Info: www.metroconmuter.com

## Driving in Manhattan

Avoid it. Why drive when you can see the city so well on foot or by bus? (We don't count the subway as seeing the city, but rather as a cultural experience in and of itself.) We know that sometimes you just have to drive in the city, so we've made you a list of essentials.

- Great auto insurance that doesn't care if the guy who hit you doesn't have insurance and doesn't speak any English.
- Thick skin on driver, passengers, and car. Needed for the fender benders and screamed profanity from the cabbies that are ticked anyone but cabbies are on the road.
- Meditation CD to counteract cardiac arrest—inducing “almost” accidents.
- NFT. But we know you would never leave home without it.
- E-ZPass. Saves time and lives. Maybe not lives, but definitely time and some money.
- New York State license plates. Even pedestrians will curse you out if you represent anywhere other than the Empire State, especially NJ or CT or Texas.
- A tiny car that can fit into a spot slightly larger than a postage stamp or tons of cash for parking garages.
- Patience with pedestrians—they own the streets of New York. Well, co-own them with the cabbies, sanitation trucks, cops, and fire engines.

The following are some tips that we've picked up over the years:

## Hudson River Crossings

In the Bridge or Tunnel battle, the Bridge almost always wins. The George Washington Bridge is by far the best Hudson River crossing. It's got more lanes and better access than either tunnel with a fantastic view to boot. If you're going anywhere in the country that's north of central New Jersey, take it. However, inbound traffic on the George can back up for hours in the morning because they don't have enough toll booth operators to handle all those nuts who don't have E-ZPass. The Lincoln Tunnel is decent inbound, but check 1010 AM (WINS) if you have the chance—even though they can be horribly inaccurate and frustrating. Avoid the Lincoln like the plague during evening rush hour (starts at about 3:30 pm). If you have to take the Holland Tunnel outbound, try the Broome Street approach, but don't even bother between 5 and 7 pm on weekdays.

## East River Crossings

### Brooklyn

Pearl Street to the Brooklyn Bridge is the least-known approach. Only the Williamsburg Bridge has direct access (i.e. no traffic lights) to the northbound BQE in Brooklyn, and only the Brooklyn Bridge has direct access to the FDR Drive in Manhattan. Again, listen to the radio if you can, but all three bridges can be disastrous as they seem to be constantly under construction (or, in a fabulous new twist, having one lane closed by the NYPD to for some unknown (terrorism?) reason). The Williamsburg is by far the best free route into North Brooklyn, but make sure to take the outer roadway to keep your options open in case the BQE is jammed. Your best option to go anywhere else in Brooklyn is usually the Brooklyn-Battery Tunnel, which can be reached from the FDR as well as the West Side Highway. Fun fact: The water you pass was so dirty in the '50s that it used to catch fire. The tunnel is not free (\$4.50), but if you followed our instructions you've

got E-ZPass anyway (\$4). The bridges from south to north can be remembered as B-M-W, but they are not as cool as the cars that share the initials.

### Queens

There are three options for crossing into Queens by car. The Queens Midtown Tunnel is usually miserable, since it feeds directly onto the parking lot known as the Long Island Expressway. The 59th Street Bridge (known as the Queensboro to mapmakers) is the only free crossing to Queens. The best approach to it is First Avenue to 57th Street (after that, follow the signs) or to 59th Street if you want to jump on the outer roadway that saves a ton of time and only precludes easy access to Northern Boulevard. If you're in Queens and want to go downtown in Manhattan, you can take the lower level of the 59th Street Bridge since it will feed directly onto Second Avenue, which of course goes downtown. The Triborough Bridge is usually the best option (especially if you're going to LaGuardia, Shea, Astoria for Greek food, or Flushing for dum sum). The FDR to the Triborough is good except for rush hour—then try Third Avenue to 124th Street.

## Harlem River Crossings

The Triborough (\$4.50) will get you to the Bronx in pretty good shape, especially if you are heading east on the Bruckner towards 95 or the Hutchinson (which will take you to eastern Westchester and Connecticut). To get to Yankee Stadium, take the Willis or the Macomb's Dam (which are both free). When you feel comfortable maneuvering the tight turns approaching the Willis, use it for all travel to Westchester and Connecticut in order to save toll money. The Henry Hudson Bridge (\$2.25) will take you up to western Westchester along the Hudson, and, except for the antiquated and completely unnecessary toll plaza, is pretty good. It wins the fast and pretty prize for its beautiful surroundings. The Cross-Bronx Expressway will take years off your life. Avoid it at all costs.

## Manhattan's “Highways”

There are two so-called highways in Manhattan—the Harlem River Drive/FDR Drive/East River Drive (which prohibits commercial vehicles) and the Henry Hudson Parkway/West Side Highway/Joe Dimaggio Highway. The main advantage of the FDR is that it has no traffic lights, while the West Side Highway has lights from Battery Park up through 57th Street. The main disadvantages of the FDR are (1) the potholes and (2) the narrow lanes. If there's been a lot of rain, both highways will flood, so you're out of luck (but the FDR floods first). Although the West Side Highway can fly, we would rather look at Brooklyn and Queens than Jersey, so the FDR wins.

## Driving Uptown

The 96th Street transverse across Central Park is usually the best one, although if there's been a lot of rain, it will flood. If you're driving on the west side, Riverside Drive is the best route, followed next by West End Avenue. People drive like morons on Broadway, and Columbus jams up in the mid 60s before Lincoln Center and the mid 40s before the Lincoln Tunnel but it's still the best way to get all the way downtown without changing avenues. Amsterdam is a good uptown route if you can get to it. For the east side, you can take Fifth Avenue downtown to about 65th Street, whereupon you should bail out and cut over to Park Avenue for the rest of the trip. Do NOT drive on Fifth Avenue below 65th Street within a month of Christmas, and check the parade schedules before attempting it on weekends throughout the year. The 96th Street entrance to the FDR screws up First and Third Avenues going north and the 59th Street Bridge screws up Lexington and Second Avenues going downtown. Getting stuck in 59th Street Bridge traffic is one of the most frustrating things in the universe because there is absolutely no way out of it.

## Driving in Midtown

Good luck! Sometimes Broadway is best because everyone's trying to get out of Manhattan, jamming up the west side (via the Lincoln Tunnel) and the east side (via the 59th Street Bridge and the Queens Midtown Tunnel). Friday nights at 9:30 pm can be a breeze, but from 10 pm to midnight, you're screwed as shows let out. The “interior” of the city is the last place to get jammed up—it's surprisingly quiet at 8 am. At 10 am, however, it's a parking lot. Those who plan to drive in Midtown on weekends from about March–October should check parade schedules for Fifth and 42nd Sixth avenues.

The demarcation of several “THRU Streets” running east-west in Midtown has been with the city for a couple of years and folks are finally getting the hang of it. Still, it may screw you up. See the next page for more information.

## Driving in the Village

People get confused walking in the village, so you can imagine how challenging driving can be in the maze of one ways and short streets. Beware. If you're coming into the Village from the northwest, 14th Street is the safest crossroad route heading east. However, going west, take 13th Street. Houston Street is under construction at a number of points along its length but it has the great benefit of direct access to FDR Drive, both getting into it and coming off of it. If you

want to get to Houston Street from the Holland Tunnel, take Hudson Street to King Street to the Avenue of the Americas to Houston Street (this is the only efficient way to get to the Village from the Holland Tunnel). First Avenue is good going north and Fifth Avenue is good going south. Washington Street is the only way to make any headway southbound and Hudson Street is the only way to make any headway northbound in the West Village.

## Driving Downtown

Don't do it unless you have to. Western TriBeCa is okay and so is the Lower East Side—try not to “turn in” to SoHo, Chinatown, or the Civic Center. Canal Street is a complete mess during the day (avoid it), since on its western end, everyone is trying to get to the Holland Tunnel, and on its eastern end, everyone is mistakenly driving over the Manhattan Bridge (your only other option when heading east on Canal is to turn **right** on Boverly). Watch the potholes!

## DMV Locations in Manhattan

If you're going to the DMV to get your first NY license (including drivers with other states' licenses), you'll need extensive documentation of your identity. The offices have a long list of accepted documents, but your best bet is a US passport and a Social Security card. If you don't have these things, birth certificates from the US, foreign passports, and various INS documents will be okay under certain conditions. Do not be surprised if you are turned away the first time. This trip requires great amounts of patience. Plan on spending three to six hours here. We're not kidding. This is not a lunch-hour errand.

### Greenwich Street Office

11 Greenwich St  
 New York, NY 10004  
 (Cross Streets Battery Park Pl & Morris St)  
 M–F 8:30 am–4 pm  
 212-645-5550 or 718-966-6155

### Harlem Office

159 E 125th St, 3rd Fl  
 New York, NY 10035  
 (Lexington and Third)  
 M, T, W & F 8:30 am–4 pm, Thursday 10 am–6 pm  
 212-645-5550 or 718-966-6155

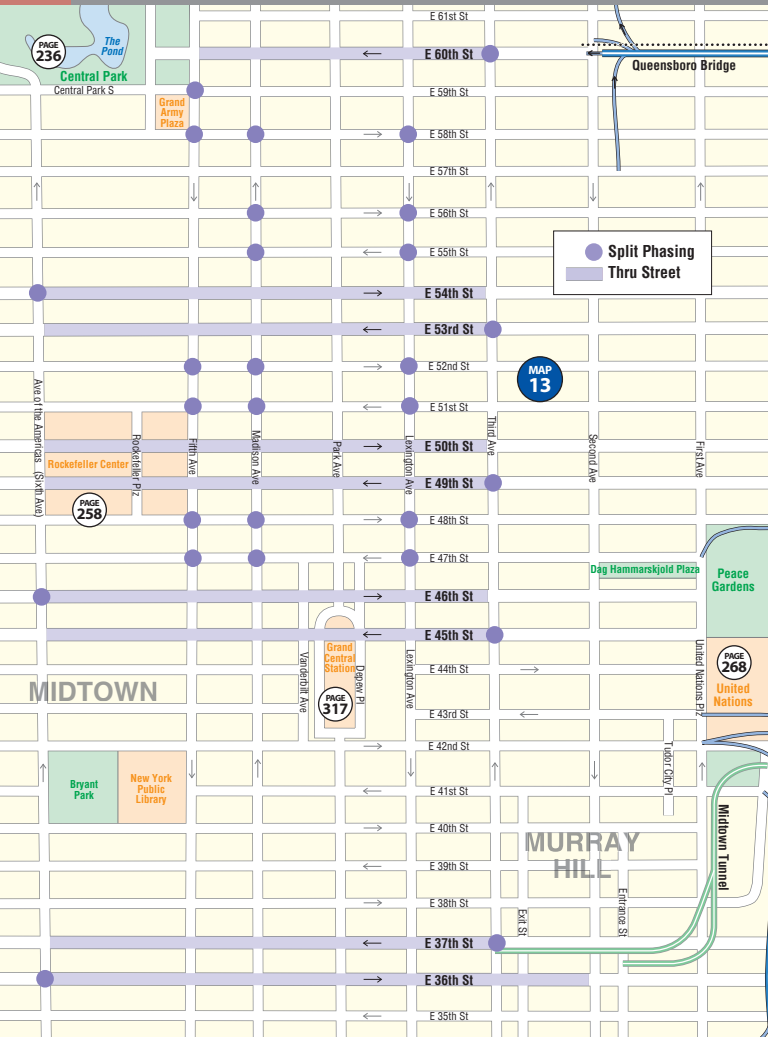
### Harold Square Office

1293-1311 Broadway, 8th Fl  
 New York, NY 10001  
 (Between W 33 & W 34th Sts)  
 \*To exchange an out-of-state license for a New York license, you must go to License X-Press.  
 M–F 8:30 am–4 pm  
 212-645-5550 or 718-966-6155

### Manhattan

License X-Press Office\*  
 300 W 34th St  
 New York, NY 10001  
 (Between Eighth & Ninth axes)  
 \*Service limited to license and registration renewals and out-of-state exchange. You can't get your snowmobile or boat license here, but you can surrender your license plate. Oh, and no permit renewals.  
 M–F 8:30 am–4 pm  
 212-645-5550 or 718-966-6155





### General Information

DOT Website: [www.nyc.gov/html/dot/html/motorist/streetprog.html](http://www.nyc.gov/html/dot/html/motorist/streetprog.html)  
 DOT Phone: 311

### Overview

In the tradition of “don’t block the box” and other traffic solutions (such as randomly arresting political protesters), the city introduced “THRU Streets,” a program initially tested in 2002, as a permanent fixture in Midtown in 2004. The plan was implemented on some crosstown streets in Midtown in order to reduce travel times, relieve congestion, and provide a safer environment for pedestrians and cyclists. They are still working on cleaning up the exhaust fume issue, for those concerned about said environment.

On certain streets, cars are not allowed to make turns between Sixth and Third Avenues (with the exception of Park Avenue). The regulations are in effect between 10 am and 6 pm on weekdays. The affected streets are:

- 36th & 37th Streets
- 45th & 46th Streets
- 49th & 50th Streets
- 53rd & 54th Streets
- 60th Street (between Third and Fifth Avenues)

The good news is that turns from 59th Street are permitted. Oh joy.

The above streets are easily identifiable by big, purple “THRU Streets” signs. With everything that’s going on in midtown Manhattan though, you’d be forgiven for missing a sign (by us, not by the NYPD). If you happen to unwittingly find yourself on a THRU Street and can’t escape on Park Avenue, you’re going to have to suck it up until you get to Sixth Avenue or Third Avenue, depending on the direction you’re heading. If you attempt to turn before the designated avenue, you’ll find yourself with an insanely expensive ticket. Of course, if you’re trying to drive crosstown, it’s in your best interests to take one of these streets.

Both sides of almost every non-THRU Street in this grid have been stuck with “No Standing Except Trucks Loading and Unloading” regulations, supposedly creating up to 150 spaces for truck loading (if you were ever stuck behind a truck in morning rush hour on a THRU Street in 2004, you would rejoice at this news). Additionally, one side of each non-THRU street has been “daylighted” for 80–100 feet in advance of the intersection. We are not exactly sure how they came up with the term “daylighted,” but the DOT tells us it allows space for turning vehicles.

According to the DOT, THRU Streets are working—since the program began, travel times have fallen by 25% (as people have decided to emigrate to New Zealand) and vehicle speeds have increased by an average of 33% (from 4 mph to 5.3 mph). The THRU Streets combined now carry 4,854 vehicles per hour (up from 4,187), which means that each of the THRU Streets accommodates an average of 74 additional vehicles per hour.

### Split Signal Phasing

Another traffic innovation in Midtown is “split signal phasing,” which allows pedestrians to cross the street without having to worry about vehicles turning in their path at about 40 non-THRU Street intersections in this same grid. Of course, this system assumes that both pedestrians and drivers follow the rules of the road. In spite of the disregard that most New Yorkers display for crossing signals, the number of pedestrian accidents in the eight-month trial period (compared to the eight months prior to implementation) fell from 81 to 74. The number of cycling accidents fell from 30 to 17. Accidents not related to pedestrians or bikes fell from 168 to 102. We don’t know if this accounts for accidents caused by drivers who became confused by the pretty purple signs. We have to admit that something must be working—though there would be no accidents if no one ever left their house...

Now if the DOT and NYPD could get traffic to flow smoothly onto bridges and into tunnels, they might actually be onto something. They can save you 1.5 minutes getting crosstown, just don’t try leaving the city. Ever.

## Information

Department of Transportation (DOT): 311 (24 hours) or 212-NEW-YORK (Out-of-state)  
 TTY Hearing-Impaired: 212-504-4115  
 Website: www.ci.nyc.ny.us/html/dot/  
 Parking Violations Help Line: 311  
 TTY Automated Information for the Hearing Impaired: 718-802-8555  
 Website: www.ci.nyc.ny.us/finance (parking ticket info)

## Standing, Stopping and Parking Rules

In "No Stopping" areas, you **can't** wait in your car, drop off passengers, or load/unload.

In "No Standing" areas, you **can't** wait in your car or load/unload, but you **can** drop off passengers.

In "No Parking" areas, you **can't** wait in your car or drop off passengers, but you **can** load/unload.

## Parking Meter Zones

On holidays when street cleaning rules are suspended (see calendar), the "no parking" cleaning regulations for metered parking are also suspended. You can park in these spots but have to pay the meters. Also, metered spots are still subject to rules not suspended on holidays (see below). On MLH (major legal holidays), meter rules are suspended (so no need to feed the meter).

## Meters

At a broken meter, parking is allowed only up to one hour. Where a meter is missing, parking is still allowed for the maximum time on the posted sign (an hour for a one-hour meter, two hours for a two-hour meter, etc.).

Instead of old-fashioned individual meters, Midtown has "muni-meters." The machines let you purchase time-stamped slips which you stick in your windshield to show you paid. These machines accept coins, parking cards, and some (we wish it was all!) accept credit cards (for example, the machines in the theater district). In the case of a non-functional muni-meter, the one-hour time limit applies.

The DOT sells parking cards that come in \$20, \$50, and 100 denominations and can be used in muni-meters, municipal parking lots, and some single-space meters (look for a yellow decal). The cards can be purchased through the DOT website ([www.nyc.gov/html/dot/home.html](http://www.nyc.gov/html/dot/home.html)), by calling 311 (or 212-NEW-YORK if you're calling from outside the city), or by going to the Staten Island Ferry Terminal or one of the two City Stores.

As of spring 2006, you don't have to pay meters on Sunday, even if the signs say you do (unless the law changes again with the political winds).

## Signs

New York City Traffic Rules state that one parking sign per block is sufficient notification. Check the entire block and read all signs carefully before you park. Then read them again.

If there is more than one sign posted for the same area, the more restrictive sign takes effect (of course). If a sign is missing on a block, the remaining posted regulations are the ones in effect.

## The Blue Zone

The Blue Zone is a "No Parking" (Mon–Fri, 7 am–7 pm) area in Lower Manhattan. Its perimeter has been designated with blue paint; however, there are no individual "Blue Zone" signs posted. Any other signs posted in that area supersede Blue Zone regulations. Confused yet?

## General

- All of NYC was designated a Tow Away Zone under the State's Vehicle & Traffic Law and the NYC Traffic Rules. This means that any vehicle parked or operated illegally, or with missing or expired registration or inspection stickers, may, and probably will, be towed.

- On major legal holidays, stopping, standing, and parking are permitted except in areas where stopping, standing, and parking rules are in effect seven days a week (for example, "No Standing Anytime").

- It is illegal to park in a spot where SCR are in effect, even if the street cleaner has already passed. If you sit in your car, the metermaid will usually let you stay

- Double-parking of passenger vehicles is illegal at all times, including street-cleaning days, regardless of location, purpose, or duration. Everyone, of course, does this anyway. If everyone is double-parked on a certain block during street cleaning, the NYPD probably is not ticketing. However, leave your phone number in the window in case the person you blocked in feels vindictive and demand that a cop write you a ticket.

- It is illegal to park within 15 feet of either side of a fire hydrant. The painted curbs at hydrant locations do not indicate where you can park. Isn't New York great? Metermaids will tell you that each cement block on the sidewalk is five feet, so make sure you are three cement blocks from the hydrant (2.5 will not do).

- If you think you're parked legally in Manhattan, you're probably not, so go and read the signs again.

- Cops will now just write you parking tickets and mail them to you if you are parked in a bus stop; so you won't even know it's happening unless you're very alert.

- There is now clearly an all-out effort to harass everyone who is insane enough to drive and/or park during the day in downtown Manhattan. Beware.

## Alternate Side Parking Suspension Calendar 2008–2009 (Estimated\*)

2008 Holiday	Date	Day	Rules
<b>Labor Day</b>	Sep 1	Mon	MLH
Rosh Hashanah	Sep 30–Oct 1	Tues–Wed	ASP
Idul-Fitr	Oct 1–3	Wed–Fri	ASP
Yom Kippur	Oct 9	Thurs	ASP
Columbus Day (Observed)	Oct 13	Mon	ASP
Succoth, 1st/2nd Day	Oct 14–15	Tues–Wed	ASP
Shemini Atzereth	Oct 21	Tues	ASP
Simchas Torah	Oct 22	Wed	ASP
Diwali	Oct 28	Thurs	ASP
All Saints Day	Nov 1	Sat	ASP
Election Day	Nov 4	Tues	ASP
Veterans Day	Nov 11	Tues	ASP
<b>Thanksgiving Day</b>	Nov 27	Thurs	MLH
Immaculate Conception	Dec 8	Mon	ASP
Idul-Adha	Dec 8–10	Mon–Wed	ASP
<b>Christmas Day</b>	Dec 25	Thurs	MLH
2009 Holiday	Date	Day	Rules
<b>New Year's Day</b>	Jan 1	Thurs	MLH
Martin Luther King Jr's Birthday	Jan 19	Mon	ASP
Asian Lunar New Year	Jan 26	Mon	ASP
Lincoln's Birthday	Feb 12	Thurs	ASP
Presidents' Day	Feb 16	Mon	ASP
Ash Wednesday	Feb 25	Wed	ASP
Purim	Mar 10	Tues	ASP
Holy Thursday	Apr 9	Thurs	ASP
Good Friday	Apr 10	Fri	ASP
Passover (1st/2nd Day)	Apr 9–10	Thurs–Fri	ASP
Holy Thursday (Orthodox)	Apr 17	Thurs	ASP
Good Friday (Orthodox)	Apr 18	Fri	ASP
Passover (7th/8th Day)	Apr 16–17	Thurs–Fri	ASP
Solemnity of Ascension	May 21	Wed	ASP
<b>Memorial Day</b>	May 25	Mon	MLH
Shavuot (1st/2nd Day)	May 29–30	Fri–Sat	ASP
<b>Independence Day</b>	Jul 4	Sat	MLH
Fest of Assumption	Aug 15	Sat	ASP
<b>Labor Day</b>	Sep 7	Mon	MLH
Rosh Hashanah	Sep 19	Sat	ASP
Idul-Fitr	Sep 19–21	Sat–Mon	ASP
Yom Kippur	Sep 28	Mon	ASP
Columbus Day	Oct 12	Mon	ASP
Succoth (1st/2nd Day)	Oct 3–4	Sat–Sun	ASP
Shemini Atzereth	Oct 10	Sat	ASP
Simchas Torah	Oct 11	Sun	ASP
Diwali	Oct 17	Sat	ASP
All Saints Day	Nov 1	Sun	ASP
Election Day	Nov 3	Tues	ASP
Veterans Day	Nov 11	Wed	ASP
<b>Thanksgiving Day</b>	Nov 26	Thurs	MLH
Idul-Adha	Nov 27	Fri	ASP
Immaculate Conception	Dec 8	Tues	ASP
<b>Christmas Day</b>	Dec 25	Fri	MLH

\* Note: We go to press before the DOT issues its official calendar. However, using various techniques, among them a Ouija Board, a chainsaw, and repeated phone calls to said DOT, we think it's pretty accurate. Nonetheless, caveat parkor.

• **Street Cleaning Rules (SCR)**

Most SCR signs are clearly marked by the "P" symbol with the broom through it. Some SCR signs are the traditional 3-hour ones ("8 am–11 am" etc.) but many others vary considerably. Check the times before you park. Then check them again.

### • Alternate Side Parking Suspended (ASP)

"No Parking" signs in effect one day a week or on alternate days are suspended on days designated ASP; however, all "No Stopping" and "No Standing" signs remain in effect.

### • Major Legal Holiday Rules in Effect (MLH)

"No Parking" and "No Standing" signs that are in effect fewer than seven days a week are suspended on days designated MLH in the above calendar.

• If the city finds that a neighborhood keeps its streets clean enough, it may lessen the number of street cleaning days, or even eliminate them all together. So listen to your mother and don't litter.

## Tow Pounds

### Manhattan

Pier 76 at W 38th St & Twelfth Ave  
 Monday: 7 am–11 pm,  
 open 24 hours; Tuesday: 7 am–Sunday 6 am  
 212-971-0771 or 212-971-0772

### Bronx

745 E 141st St b/w Bruckner Expy & East River  
 Monday–Friday: 8 am–6 pm, Saturday: 8 am–3 pm,  
 Sunday: Closed; 718-585-1385 or 718-585-1391

### Brooklyn

Brooklyn Navy Yard; corner of Sands St & Navy St  
 Monday–Friday: 8 am–9 pm, Saturday: 8 am–4 pm,  
 Sunday: 12 pm–8 pm; 718-694-0696

### Queens

Under the Kosciusko Bridge at 56th Rd & Laurel Hill Blvd  
 Monday–Friday: 8 am–6 pm, Saturday: 7 am–3 pm,  
 Sunday: 12 pm–8 pm; 718-786-7122, 718-786-7123, or  
 718-786-7136

Find out if your car was towed (and not stolen or disintegrated):  
 718-422-7800 or 718-802-3555 (TTY)

<http://nycserv.nyc.gov/NYCServInquiry/NYCSERVMain>

Once you've discovered that your car has indeed been towed, your next challenge is to find out which borough it's been towed to. This depends on who exactly towed your car—the DOT, the Marshal, etc. Don't assume that since your car was parked in Manhattan that they will tow it to Manhattan—always call first.

So you've located your car, now come the particulars: If you own said towed car, you're required to present your license, registration, insurance, and payment of your fine before you can collect the impounded vehicle. If you are not the owner of the car, you can usually get it back with all of the above, if your last name matches the registration (i.e. the car belongs to a relative or spouse); otherwise, you'll need a notarized letter with the owner's signature authorizing you to take the car. The tow fee is \$185, plus a \$70 execution fee, plus \$10–\$15 for each day it's in the pound. If they've put a boot on instead, it's still \$185. You can pay with cash or debit card; if you own the car, you can also pay by credit card or certified check. We recommend bringing a wad of cash and a long Russian novel for this experience.

### General Information

New York City: 718-217-LIRR  
 Nassau County: 516-822-LIRR  
 Suffolk County: 631-231-LIRR  
 TTY Information (Hearing Impaired): 718-558-3022  
 Group Travel and Tours: 718-558-7498 (M-F 8 pm-4 pm)

Mail & Ride: 800-649-NYNY  
 MTA Police Eastern Region: 718-558-3300 or 516-733-3900

Lost & Found (M-F 7:20 am-7:20 pm): 212-643-5228  
 Ticket Refunds (M-F 8 am-4 pm): 718-558-3488  
 Ticket Machine Assistance: 877-LIRR-TSM  
 Hamptons Reserve Service: 718-558-8070  
 Website: www.mta.info/lirr

### Overview

The Long Island Railroad is the busiest railroad in North America. It has eleven lines with 124 stations stretching from Penn Station in midtown Manhattan, to the eastern tip of Long Island, Montauk Point. An estimated 81 million people ride the LIRR every year. If you enjoy traveling on overcrowded trains with intermittent air-conditioning, then the LIRR is for you. If you are going anywhere on Long Island and you don't have a car, the LIRR is your best bet. Don't be surprised if the feeling of being in a seedy bar creeps over you during evening rush—those middle-aged business men like their beer en route. Despite a recent movement to ban the sale of alcohol on LIRR station platforms and trains, for now, it's still legal to get your buzz on.

If you're not a regular LIRR user, you might find yourself taking the train to Shea Stadium for a Mets game (Port Washington Branch), Long Beach for some summer surfing (Long Beach Branch), or to Jamaica to transfer to the AirTrain to JFK (tip—the subway is cheaper). For the truly adventurous, take the LIRR all the way out to the Hamptons Reserve beach house you are visiting for the weekend (Hamptons Reserve seating is available during the summer for passengers taking 6 or more trips). Bring a book as it is a long ride.

### Fares and Schedules

Fares and schedules can be obtained by calling one of the general information lines, depending on your area. They can also be found on the LIRR website. Make sure to buy your ticket before you get on the train at a ticket window or at one of the ticket vending machines in the station.

Otherwise it'll cost you an extra \$4.75 to \$5.50 depending on your destination. As it is a commuter railroad, the LIRR offers weekly and monthly passes, as well as ten-trip packages for on- or off-peak hours.

### Pets on the LIRR

Trained service animals accompanying passengers with disabilities are permitted on LIRR trains. Other small pets are allowed on trains, but they must be confined to closed, ventilated containers.

### Bikes on the LIRR

You need a permit (\$5) to take your bicycle onto the Long Island Railroad. Pick one up at a ticket window or online at the LIRR website.





**Key**

- Rail Station
- Wheelchair or ADA Accessible station
- Major transit hub
- Connecting rail service

© 2004 Metropolitan Transportation Authority  
Design: Michael Hertz Associates, NYC

## General Information

NYC Phone: 212-532-4900  
 All other areas: 800-METRO-INFO  
 Website: www.mta.info/mnr  
 Lost and Found (Grand Central): 212-340-2555  
 MTA Inspector General: 800-MTA-IG4U

## Overview

Metro-North is an extremely accessible and efficient railroad with three of its main lines (Hudson, Harlem, and New Haven) originating in Grand Central Station in Manhattan (42nd St & Park Ave). Those three lines east of the Hudson River, along with two lines west of the Hudson River that operate out of Hoboken, NJ (not shown on map), form the second-largest commuter railroad system in the US. Approximately 250,000 commuters use the tri-state Metro-North service each day for travel between New Jersey, New York, and Connecticut. Metro-North rail lines cover roughly 2,700 square miles of territory. The best thing about Metro-North is that it lands you at Grand Central Station, one of the city's finest pieces of architecture. On weekdays, sneak into the land of platforms via the North Passage, accessible at 47th & 48th Streets. At least for now, it's still legal to have an after work drink on Metro-North. During happy hour (starting somewhere around 3 pm), hit the bar car or buy your booze in advance on the platform at Grand Central. It might make you feel better about being a wage slave. But beware of having too happy of an hour as the bathrooms can be stinky and not all cars have them.

## Fares and Schedules

Fare information is available on Metro-North's extraordinarily detailed website (along with in-depth information on each station, full timetables, and excellent maps) or at Grand Central Station. The cost of a ticket to ride varies depending on your destination so you should probably check the website before setting out. Buy advance tickets on MTA's WebTicket site for the cheapest fares. If you wait until you're on the train to pay, it'll cost you an extra \$4.75-\$5.50. Monthly and weekly rail passes are also available for commuters. Daily commuters save 50% on fares when they purchase a monthly travel pass.

## Hours

Train frequency depends on your destination and the time of day that you're traveling. On weekdays, peak-period trains east of the Hudson River run every 20-30 minutes; off-peak trains run every 30-60 minutes; and weekend trains run hourly. Hours of operation

are approximately 5 am to 3 am. Don't miss the last train out as they leave on time and wait for no one.

## Bikes on Board

If you're planning on taking your two-wheeler onboard, you'll need to apply for a bicycle permit first. An application form can be found on the Metro-North website at <http://mta.info/mnr/html/mnrbikepermit.htm>. The \$5 permit fee and application can either be mailed into the MTA, or processed right away at window 27 at Grand Central Terminal.

Common sense rules for taking bikes on board include: no bikes on escalators, no riding on the platform, and board the train after other passengers have boarded. Unfortunately there are restrictions on bicycles during peak travel times. Bicycles are not allowed on trains departing from Grand Central Terminal 7 am-9 am and 3:01 pm-8:15 pm. Bikes are not permitted on trains arriving at Grand Central 5 am-10 am and 4 pm-8 pm. Don't even think about taking your bike with you on New Year's Eve, New Year's Day, St. Patrick's Day, Mother's Day, eve of Rosh Hashanah, eve of Yom Kippur, eve of Thanksgiving, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, or Christmas Day—they're not allowed. The Friday before any long weekend is also a no-no. There's a limit of two bikes per carriage, and four bikes per train at all times. Unfortunately, the same restrictions are not imposed on passengers with 4 Vera Bradley overnight bags heading off to the country house, but that is another story.

Riders of folding bikes do not require a permit and do not have to comply with the above rules, provided that the bike is folded at all times at stations and on trains.

## Pets

Only seeing-eye dogs and small pets, if restrained or confined, are allowed aboard the trains.

## One-Day Getaways

Metro-North offers "One-Day Getaway" packages on its website. Packages include reduced rail fare and discounted entry to destinations along MNR lines including Bruce Museum (\$20.50), Dia:Beacon (\$27), Hudson River Museum/Andrus Planetarium (\$14.50), Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk (\$28.25), Mohegan Sun Casino (\$38.25), New York Botanical Garden (\$19.75), and Nyack (\$14.50). WebTicket saves passengers 5% of the fare. The website also suggests one-day hiking and biking excursions.



## PATH Train

### General Information

Website: [www.panynj.gov/path](http://www.panynj.gov/path)  
 Phone: 800-234-7284  
 Police/Lost & Found: 201-216-6078

## Overview

The PATH (Port Authority Trans-Hudson Corp.) is an excellent small rail system that services Newark, Jersey City, Hoboken, and Manhattan. There are a few basic lines that run directly between 33rd Street (Herald Square) in Manhattan & Hoboken, 33rd Street & Jersey City, and Newark & the WTC. Transfers between the lines are available at most stations. The PATH can be quite useful for commuters on the west side of Manhattan when the subway isn't running, say, due to a sick passenger or mysterious police investigation. Additionally, you can catch the PATH to Newark and then either jump in a cheap cab or take New Jersey Transit one stop to Newark Airport. It's a more economical option than taking a car all the way in from Manhattan, and you can take it back to the Village late at night when you've finished seeing a show at Maxwell's in Hoboken.

Check the front or the sides of incoming trains to determine their destination. Don't be fooled by the TV screens installed at stations; they occasionally announce the time of the next arrival, but as their main purpose is low-quality advertising, they are often incorrect. Also, don't assume that if a Journal Square train just passed through, the next train is going to Hoboken. Often there will be two Journal Square trains in a row, followed by two Hoboken trains. During the weekend, PATH service can be excruciatingly slow and confusing, and is best only endeavored with a seasoned rider.

## Fares

The PATH costs a buck fifty one-way. Regular riders can purchase 11-trip, 20-trip, and 40-trip QuickCards, which reduce the fare per journey to \$1.20–\$1.36. The fare for seniors (65+) is \$1 per ride. You can also use pay-per-ride MTA MetroCards for easy transition between the PATH and subway.

## Hours

The PATH runs 24/7 (although a modified service operates between 11pm–6am, M–F, and 7:30pm–9 am, S, S, & H). Daytime service is pretty consistent, but the night schedule for the PATH is a bit confusing, so make sure to look at the map. You may be waiting

underground for up to a half an hour. During off hours the train runs on the same track through the tunnel. This allows for maintenance to be completed on the unused track.

## Hudson-Bergen Light Rail

### General Information

Website: <http://www.mylightrail.com/>  
 Phone: 800-772-2222

## Overview

Even though it's called the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail system (HBLR, operated by NJ Transit), it actually only serves Hudson county, Bergen County residents are still waiting for their long promised connection. The HBLR has brought about some exciting changes (a.k.a. "gentrification") in Jersey City, though Bayonne remains (for the moment) totally, well... Bayonne. Currently there are 23 stops (with at least one more stop planned in Bayonne) in the system, including service to Jersey City, Hoboken, Weehawken, and Union City. Transfer at the Hoboken stop for the PATH into Manhattan.

## Fares

The Light Rail is \$1.90 per trip; reduced fare is 95 cents. Ten-trip tickets are \$16.25, monthly passes cost \$58, and monthly passes with parking are \$93. Unless you have a monthly pass, you need to validate your ticket before boarding at a Ticket Validating Machine (TVM). Once validated, tickets are only valid for 90 minutes, so don't buy too far in advance. The trains and stations have random fare inspection and the fine for fare evasion is \$100.

## Hours

Light rail service operates between 5 am and 1:30 am. Times are approximate, check the website for exact schedules on each line.

## Bikes on Board

Bikes are allowed (no permit or fee required) on board during off-peak times—weekdays from 9:30 am to 4 pm and 7 pm to 6 am, and all day Saturday, Sunday, and NJ state holidays. Bicycles have to be accompanied on the low-floor vestibule section of each rail car.

## Pets

Small pets are allowed, as long as they're confined to a carry container. Service animals are permitted at all times.



### General Information

Address: 1 Penn Plz E  
Newark, NJ 07105  
973-491-7000 or  
800-772-2222

Phone: 866-QUIK-TIK

Website: www.njtransit.com

Quik-Tik (monthly passes): 866-QUIK-TIK

Emergency Hotline: 973-378-6565

Newark Lost and Found: 973-491-8792

Hoboken Lost and Found: 201-714-2739

Newark Lost and Found: 212-630-7389

AirTrain: 973-961-6230

Atlantic City Terminal: 609-343-7174

### Overview

NJ Transit carries hundreds of thousands of New Jersey commuters to New York every morning and returns them to their suburban enclaves at the end of the day. The trains are usually clean (and immune to the weirdness that plagues the LIRR), but some lines (like the Pascack Valley Line) seem to just creep along, which can be problematic when you're trying to make a transfer before reaching the Big Apple. But with many new stations, including the renovated transfer station at Secaucus, and an expanded Light Rail system (see PATH page), NJ Transit is staying competitive with all other modes of transportation into and out of the city. NJ Transit also runs an AirTrain to Newark Airport. As the rails have been prone to power loss and broken switches lately, NJ Transit won't be competing with Japanese rail systems any time soon, but riding their rails generally beats waiting in traffic at the three measly Hudson River automobile crossings. NJ Transit also offers bus lines to Hoboken and Newark for areas not served by train lines.

### Secaucus Transfer Station

The three-level train hub at Secaucus is celebrating its fifth birthday! The station cost around \$450 million and took 14 years to complete. The building is dedicated to Democratic New Jersey Senator Frank R. Lautenberg, who was responsible for securing the

federal funds necessary for construction. The former Secaucus Transfer Station is now officially known as the Frank R. Lautenberg Station at Secaucus Junction (which, if you want to get technical, is not actually a junction). We're certain that most commuters will adopt this name whenever referring to the station, or maybe they'll just call it "Secaucus."

For riders, the biggest advantage of the new station is that they no longer have to travel out to Hoboken to get to Penn Station. (Secaucus is just an 8-minute ride from Penn Station.) The Secaucus hub connects ten of NJ Transit's 11 rail lines, and also offers service to Newark Airport, downtown Newark, Trenton, and the Jersey Shore.

### Fares and Schedules

Fares and schedules can be obtained at Hoboken, Newark, Penn Station, on NJ Transit's website, or by calling NJ Transit. If you want to pay until you're on the train, you'll pay an extra five bucks for the privilege. NJ Transit also offers discounted monthly, weekly, weekend, and ten-trip tickets for regular commuters.

### Pets

Only seeing-eye dogs and small pets in carry-on containers are allowed aboard the trains and buses.

### Bikes

You can take your bicycle onboard a NJ Transit train only during off-peak hours (weekdays from 9:30 am-4 pm, and from 7 pm-5 am) and during all hours on the weekends. Bikes are not allowed on board most holidays, or the Fridays prior to any holiday weekend; however, a folding frame bicycle can be taken onboard at any time. Most NJ Transit buses participate in the "Rack'n'Roll" program, which allows you to load your bike right on to the front of the bus.

## Overview

Phone: 800-USA-RAIL  
Website: www.amtrak.com

## General Information

Amtrak is our national train system, and while it's not particularly punctual or affordable, it *will* take you to many major northeastern cities in half a day or less. Spending a few hours on Amtrak also makes you want to move to Europe where France is now running trains at 357 mph (as opposed to 35 mph in the US). But if you plan a trip at the last minute and miss the requisite advance on buying airline tickets or want to bring liquids with you with checking baggage, you might want to shop Amtrak's fares. Bonus: Amtrak allows you to talk on cell phones in most cars and has plugs for laptop computers at your seat.

Amtrak was created by the federal government in 1971. Today, Amtrak services 500+ stations in 46 states (Alaska, Hawaii, South Dakota, and Wyoming sadly do not have the pleasure of being serviced by Amtrak). While not being as advanced as the Eurail system, Amtrak serves over 24 million passengers a year, employs 19,000 people, still has the same décor it did in the early 1970s, and provides "contract-computer services" for several state and regional rail lines.

Red Caps (station agents) are very helpful, especially for passengers traveling with children and strollers. The only problem is finding an available one!

## Amtrak in New York

In New York City, Amtrak runs out of Pennsylvania Station, an eyecore currently located underneath Madison Square Garden. We treat the station like our annoying little brother, calling it Penn for short and avoiding it when we can. But don't despair—chances are the city you'll wind up in will have a very nice station, and, if all goes well, so will we, once the front half of the Farley Post Office is converted to a "new" Penn Station. Warning: If you hop in a cab to get to Amtrak, specify that you want to be dropped off at Eighth Avenue and 33rd Street in order to avoid LIRR and Madison Square Garden foot traffic. Don't let the cabbie argue with you, especially if you have luggage. He is just trying to make his life easier.

## Popular Destinations

Many New Yorkers use Amtrak to get to Boston, Philadelphia, or Washington DC. Of course, these are the New Yorkers who are traveling on an expense account or fear the Chinatown bus service. Amtrak also runs a line up to Montreal and through western New York state (making stops in Buffalo, Rochester, Albany, etc.) Check Amtrak's website for a complete listing of all Amtrak stations.

## Going to Boston

Amtrak usually runs 18 trains daily to Boston. One-way fares cost \$59–\$101, and the trip, which ends at South Station in downtown Boston, takes about four-and-a-half hours door-to-door. For \$117 one-way, you can ride the high speed Acela ("acceleration" and "excellence" combined into one word, though perhaps "expensive" would have been more appropriate) and complete the journey in three to three-and-a-half hours—if there are not track problems.

## Going to Philadelphia

About 40 Amtrak trains pass through Philadelphia every day. One-way tickets cost about \$45–\$60 on a regular Amtrak train; if you're really in a hurry, you can take the special "Metroliner" service for \$87, which will get you there in an hour and fifteen minutes, or the Acela for \$81, which takes about one hour from station to station. The cheapest rail option to Philly is actually to take NJ Transit to Trenton and then hook up with Eastern Pennsylvania's excellent SEPTA service—which this will take longer, but will cost you under \$25. Some commuters take this EVERY day. Thank your lucky stars you're probably not one of them.

## Going to Washington DC

(Subtitle: *How Much is Your Time Worth?*) Amtrak runs over 40 trains daily to DC and the prices vary dramatically. The cheapest trains cost \$69 one-way and take just under four hours. The Acela service costs more than double at \$125–\$146 one-way, and delivers you to our nation's capital in less than three hours (sometimes). Worth it? Only you can say. Depending on what time of day you travel, you may be better off taking the cheaper train when the Acela will only save you 30 minutes.

## A Note About Fares

While the prices quoted above for Boston, Philly, and DC destinations tend to remain fairly consistent, fare rates to other destinations, such as Cleveland, Chicago, etc., can vary depending on how far in advance you book your seat. For "rail sales" and other discounts, check www.amtrak.com. Military IDs will save you a bundle, so use them if you have them. Occasionally (or rarely), Amtrak offers discounts that can be found on their website under "Hot Deals."

## Baggage Check (Amtrak Passengers)

A maximum of three items may be checked up to thirty minutes before departure. Up to three additional bags may be checked for a fee of \$10 (two carry-on items allowed). No electronic equipment, plastic bags, or paper bags may be checked. See the "Amtrak Policies" section of their website for details.

## General Information

NFT Map: 9  
Address: 7th Ave & 33rd St  
800-872-7245  
General information (Amtrak):  
MTA Subway Stops: **4 2 3 4 C E**  
MTA Bus Lines: **4 10 16 34**  
Train Lines:  
LaGuardia Airport Bus Service:  
JFK Airport Bus Service:  
Passengers per day: NY Airport Service, 212-875-8200, 112 NY Airport Service, 212-875-8200, 115 600,000

## Overview

Penn Station, designed by McKim, Mead & White (New York's greatest architects), is a Beaux Arts treasure, filled with light and... oh wait, that's the one that was torn down. Penn Station is essentially a basement, complete with well-weathered leather chairs, unidentified dust particles, and high-cholesterol snack food. Its claim to fame is that it is the busiest Amtrak station in the country. If the government gods are with us, the plan to convert the eastern half of the Farley Post Office (also designed by McKim, Mead & White) next door to an above-ground, light-filled station will come to fruition. With bureaucracy at hand, we aren't holding our collective breath. Until then, Penn Station will go on servicing 600,000 people per day in the rat's maze under Madison Square Garden.

Penn Station services Amtrak, the LIRR, and NJ Transit trains. Amtrak, which is surely the worst national train system of any first-world country, administers the station. How is it that the Europeans have bullet trains and it still takes 3 or more hours to get to the MTA (or you have an abundance of baggage), have your cab driver drop you off anywhere surrounding the station except for 7th Avenue—it is constantly jammed with tour buses and cabs trying to drop off desperately late passengers.

Dieters traveling through Penn Station should pre-pack snacks. The fast food joints are just too tempting. Donuts and ice cream and KFC, oh my! Leave yourself time to pick up some magazines and a bottle of water for your train trip. It may turn out to be longer than you think.

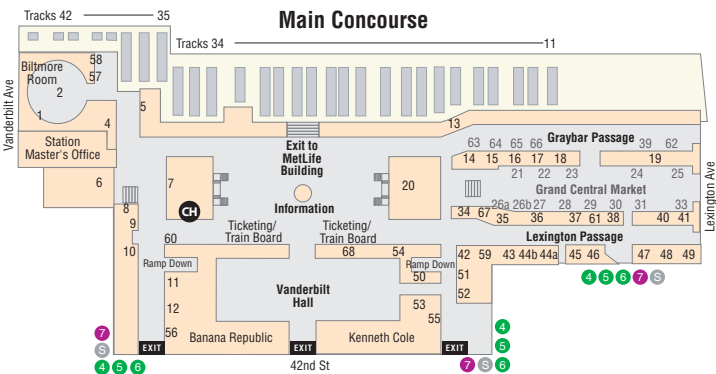
The plus side to Penn is that it's easy to get to from just about anywhere in the city via subway or bus. If you are just too ritzy to take the MTA (or you have an abundance of baggage), have your cab driver drop you off anywhere surrounding the station except for 7th Avenue—it is constantly jammed with tour buses and cabs trying to drop off desperately late passengers.

## Terminal Shops

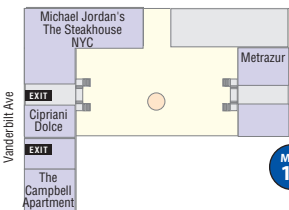
On the LIRR Level	Seattle Coffee Roasters	On the Amtrak Level	Gifts & Electronics
<i>Food &amp; Drink</i>	Soup King	<i>Food &amp; Drink</i>	GNIC
Auntie Anne's Soft Pretzels	Soup Man/Smoothie King (2)	Auntie Anne's Soft Pretzels (2)	Hudson News (3)
Blimpie	Starbucks	Baskin Robbins	Joseph Lawrence Jewelers
Caruso's Pizza	Subway	Deli	New York New York
Carvel	TGI Friday's	Dunkin' Donuts	Shoetrician—Shoe repair and shine
Cinnabon	Tracks Raw Bar & Grill	Don Pepi Pizza	Houlihan's Restaurant & Bar
Colombo Frozen Yogurt		Houlihan's Restaurant & Bar	Tiecoon
Dunkin' Donuts	<i>Other</i>	Nathan's/Carvel	The Petal Pusher
European Café	Carlton Cards	Kabooz's Bar and Grille	Staples
Haagen Dazs	Dreyfus Financial Center	Krispy Kreme Doughnuts	Tourist Information Center
Hot & Crusty	Duane Reade	Penn Sushi	Verizon Wireless
Hot Dog Stand	GNIC	Pizza Hut	
KFC	Hudson News (4)	Primo! Cappuccino (3)	There is a Wachovia 24-hour ATM and a PNC Bank ATM located on the Amtrak level. There is a Bank of America 24-hour ATM and a 24-hour HSBC ATM located on the LIRR level, in addition to the generic (money-thieving) ATMs located in several stores throughout the station.
Knot Just Pretzels	K-Mart	Roy Rogers	
Le Bon Café	Petal Pusher	Soup Man/Smoothie King/	
McDonald's	Penn Books	Sodutto Ice Cream	
Nedick's	Perfumania	Zaro's Bread Basket (2)	
Pizza Hut	Soleman—Shoe repair, locksmith		
Primo! Cappuccino	locksmith	<i>Other</i>	
Rose Pizza and Pasta	Verizon Wireless	Book Corner	
Salad Chef/Burger Chef		Duane Reade	
		Elegance	

## Temporary Parcel/Baggage Check

The only facility for storing parcels and baggage in Penn Station is at the Baggage Check on the Amtrak level (to the left of the ticket counter). There are no locker facilities at Penn Station. The Baggage Check is open from 5:15 am until 10 pm and costs \$4.50 per item for each 24-hour period.



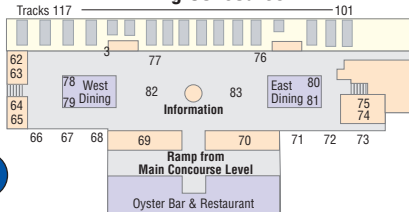
## Balcony



## Stores

- |                                   |                                |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Eddie's Shoe Repair            | 24. Ceriello Fine Foods        | 46. Pink Slip                     |
| 2. Eastern News                   | 25. Greenwich Produce          | 47. TOTO                          |
| 3. Dahlia                         | 26a. Pescatore Seafood Company | 48. LaCrasia Gloves & Accessories |
| 4. Junior's                       | 26b. Dishes at Home            | 49. Godiva Chocolatier            |
| 5. Starbucks                      | 27. Li-Lac Chocolates          | 50. Super Runners Shop            |
| 6. New York Transit Museum        | 28. Oren's Daily Roast         | 51. Papyrus                       |
| 7. Zaro's Bread Basket            | 29. Penzeys Spices             | 52. Oren's Daily Roast            |
| 8. Discovery Channel Store        | 30. Zaro's Bread Basket        | 53. Douglas Cosmetics             |
| 9. Posman Books                   | 31. Wild Edibles               | 54. Joon Stationary               |
| 10. Rite Aid                      | 33. Corrado Bread & Pastry     | 55. Super Runners Shop            |
| 11. Central Market                | 34. Forever Silver             | 56. Neuhaus Boutique              |
| 12. Hot & Crusty                  | 35. Grand Central Optical      | 57. Grand Central Raquet          |
| 13. Zaro's Bread Basket           | 36. Tumi                       | 58. Central Watch Band Stand      |
| 14. Oliviers & Co                 | 37. L'Occitane                 | 59. Flowers on Lexington          |
| 15. Grande Harvest Wines          | 38. Bose                       | 60. Hudson News                   |
| 16. Cobbler & Shine               | 39. Our Name is Mud            | 61. Access Artisans               |
| 17. Stop'N Go Wireless            | 40. Aveda                      | 62. Rosetta Stone                 |
| 18. Metropolitan Museum Art Store | 41. Starbucks                  | 63. Carolyn Forsman               |
| 19. GNC                           | 42. Swatch                     | 64. Laila Rowe                    |
| 20. Hudson News                   | 43. Origins                    | 65. Canine Styles                 |
| 21. Greenwich Produce             | 44a. Children's General Store  | 66. Posman Books                  |
| 22. Kogin German Hams             | 44b. Leeper Kids               | 67. Flowers on Lexington          |
| 23. Murray's Cheese               | 45. AllTimes                   | 68. Choice Foreign Currency       |

## Dining Concourse



## Dining Concourse

- |                            |
|----------------------------|
| 62. Paninoteca Italiana    |
| 63. Chirping Chicken       |
| 64. Eata Pita              |
| 65. Feng Shui              |
| 66. Mendy's Kosher Deli    |
| 67. Mendy's Kosher Dairy   |
| 68. Masa Sushi             |
| 69. Juniors                |
| 70. Zócalo                 |
| 71. Central Market Grill   |
| 72. Jacques-Imo's To Goaux |
| 73. Brother Jimmy's BBQ    |
| 74. Two Boots Pizza        |
| 75. Café Spice             |
| 76. Golden Krust Patties   |
| 77. New York Pretzel       |
| 78. Ciao Bella Gelateria   |
| 79. Hale and Hearty Soups  |
| 80. Zaro's Bread Basket    |
| 81. Little Pie Company     |
| 82. Dishes                 |
| 83. Café Peppe Rosso       |

## General Information

NFT Map: 13  
 Address: 42nd St & Park Ave  
 General Information: 212-340-2210  
 Lost and Found: 212-340-2555  
 Website: www.grandcentralterminal.com  
 MTA Subway Stops: 4 5 6 7 S  
 MTA Bus Lines: 1 2 3 4 42 68 69 70 74 75  
 Other Rail Lines: Metro North  
 Newark Airport Bus Service: Olympia, 877-8-NEWARK, \$14  
 LaGuardia Airport Bus Service: NY Airport Express, 718-875-8200, \$12  
 JFK Airport Bus Service: NY Airport Express, 718-875-8200, \$15

## Overview

Grand Central Terminal, designed in the Beaux Arts style by Warren & Wetmore, is by far the most beautiful of Manhattan's major terminals, and it is considered one of the most stunning terminals in the world. Its convenient location in the heart of Midtown and its refurbishments only add to its intrinsic appeal. The only downside is that the station will only get you on a train as far north as Dutchess County or as far east as New Haven via Metro North—in order to head to the Island or Jersey, you'll have to hoof it over to GCT's architecturally ugly stepsteeper Penn Station.

If you ever find yourself underestimating the importance of the Grand Central renovations (began in 1996 with continued work and maintenance today), just take a peek at the ceiling toward the Vanderbilt Avenue side—the small patch of black shows how dirty the ceiling was previously. And it was really dirty...

Diners have any number of choices from Michael Jordan's The Steak House NYC or Metrazur (for those seeking fine dining) to the food court on the lower level (perfect for commuters or those intent on saving a few bucks). After hitting the raw stuff at Oyster Bar, go right outside its entrance to hear a strange audio anomaly: If you and a friend stand in opposite corners and whisper, you'll be able to hear each other clearly. You can even do some grocery shopping in the Grand Central Market on the east side of the main concourse. Alternatively, folks looking to hit the sauce may do so in 1920s grandeur in The Campbell Apartment near the Vanderbilt Avenue entrance.

Grand Central Station offers three tours: the hour-long LaSalle Tour (212-340-2345, \$50 for small groups, \$5/ person for groups over 10, payment required in advance), the Municipal Arts Society Tour (212-935-3960, \$10 suggested donation), and the Grand Central Partnership Tour (212-883-2420, free). Grand Central's website also offers a printer-friendly walking tour guide for visitors who want to wander on their own.

## ATMs

Chase  
 Numerous generic (money-thieving) ATMs at stores throughout the station.

## East Dining

Brother Jimmy's BBQ  
 Café Spice  
 Central Market Grill  
 Golden Krust Patties  
 Jacques-Imo's To Goaux  
 Little Pie Company  
 Caffé Pepe Rosso  
 Two Boots  
 Zaro's Bread Basket  
 Zócalo Bar and Restaurant

## West Dining

Dishes  
 Ciao Bella Gelateria  
 Chirping Chicken  
 Eata Pita  
 Feng Shui  
 Hale and Hearty Soups  
 Junior's  
 Masa Sushi  
 Mendy's Kosher Dairy  
 Mendy's Kosher Delicatessen  
 New York Pretzel  
 Paninoteca Italiana



## General Information

NFT Map: 11  
 Address: 41st St & 8th Ave  
 General Information: 212-564-8484  
 Kinney Garage: 212-502-2341  
 Website: [www.panynj.gov/CommutingTravel/bus/html/pa.html](http://www.panynj.gov/CommutingTravel/bus/html/pa.html)  
 Subway: Times Square

MTA Bus Lines:  
 Newark Airport Bus Service: Olympia, 212-964-6233, \$13  
 LaGuardia Airport Bus Service: NY Airport Express, 718-875-8200, \$12  
 JFK Airport Bus Service: NY Airport Express, 718-875-8200, \$15

## Overview

Devised as a solution to New York City's horrendous bus congestion, the Port Authority Bus Terminal was completed in 1950. The colossal structure consolidated midtown Manhattan's eight, separate, interstate bus stations into one convenient drop-off and pick-up point. Back in the day the Port Authority held the title of "largest bus terminal in the world," but for now we'll have to be content with merely the biggest depot in the United States. The Port Authority is located on the north and south sides of W 41st Street (b/w Eighth Ave & Ninth Ave) in a neighborhood that real-estate agents haven't yet graced with an official name. How about Greyhound Gardens?

There are plenty of things to do should you find that you've got some time to kill here. Send a postcard from the post office, donate blood at the blood bank on the main floor, use the refurbished bathrooms, bowl a few frames and have a cocktail at Leisure Time Bowl, or eat fancy French food at the ambitious sit-down restaurant, Metromarche, located in the south wing (they're really trying to class up the joint). There are also many souvenir carts, newsstands, and on-the-go restaurants, as well as a statue of beloved bus driver

Ralph Krampen located outside of the south wing. The grungiest area of the terminal is the lower bus level, which is dirty and exhaust-filled, best visited just a few minutes before you need to board your bus. The chart on the right shows which bus companies run out of the Port Authority and provides a basic description of their destinations.

If you can, avoid interstate bus rides from the Port Authority on the busiest travel days of the year. The lines are long, the people are cranky, and some of the larger bus companies hire anyone who shows up with a valid bus operator's license and their very own bus (apparently, easier to obtain than you might think). The odds of having a disastrous trip skyrocket when the driver is unfamiliar with the usual itinerary.

On Easter Sunday, Christmas Eve, or Thanksgiving, one can see all the angst-hidden sons and daughters of suburban New Jersey parents joyfully waiting in cramped, disgusting corridors for that nauseating bus ride back to Lenia or Morristown or Plainfield or wherever. A fascinating sight.

## Terminal Shops

<i>South Wing— Lower Bus Level</i>	Jamba Juice Hudson News Hudson News Book Corner Marrella Men's Hair Stylist NY Blood Center	Leisure Time Bowling Center McAnn's Pub Mrs Fields Bakery Café Munchy's Gourmet Sak's Florist Sweet Factory	<i>North Wing—Main Concourse</i> Continental Airlines Hudson News Mrs Fields Cookies
<i>South Wing— Subway Mezzanine</i>	Radio Shack Ruthie's Hallmark Stop'n Go Wireless Strawberry US Postal Service Villa Pizza	<i>South Wing—Fourth Floor</i> First Stop—Last Stop Café Hudson News	<i>North Wing—on 42nd Street</i> Big Apple Café
<i>Au Bon Pain</i>	World's Fare Restaurant Bar Zaro's Bakery	<i>North Wing—Second Floor</i> Bank of America (ATM) Hudson News Jay's Hallmark Bookstore Tropical Juice Bar USO	<i>North Wing—Third Floor</i> Hudson News Tropical Juice Bar
<i>Hudson News</i>			
<i>Music Explosion</i>			
<i>South Wing— Main Concourse</i>			
<i>Metromarche</i>			
<i>Au Bon Pain</i>			
<i>Auntie Anne's</i>			
<i>Casa Java</i>			
<i>Deli Plus</i>			
<i>Hudson Reade</i>			
<i>GNC</i>			

<i>Bus Company</i>	<i>Phone</i>	<i>Area Served</i>
Academy Bus Transportation	800-442-7272	Serves New York City, including Staten Island, Wall Street, Port Authority, and New Jersey, including Hoboken <a href="http://www.academybus.com">www.academybus.com</a>
Adirondak New York & Pine Hill Trailways	800-776-7548	Serves all of New York State with coach connections throughout the US. <a href="http://www.trailwaysny.com">www.trailwaysny.com</a>
Capitol Trailways	800-333-8444	Service between Pennsylvania, Virginia, New York State, and New York City. <a href="http://www.capitoltrailways.com">www.capitoltrailways.com</a>
Carl Bieber Bus	800-243-2374	Service to and from Port Authority and Wall Street in New York and Reading, Kutztown, Wescosville, Hellertown, and Easton, Pennsylvania. <a href="http://www.biebertourways.com">www.biebertourways.com</a>
Coach USA	800-522-4514	Service between New York City and W Orange, Livingston, Morristown, E Hanover, Whippany, and Floram Park, New Jersey. <a href="http://www.coachusa.com">www.coachusa.com</a>
DeCamp Bus	800-631-1281	Service between New York City and New Jersey, including the Meadowlands. <a href="http://www.decamp.com">www.decamp.com</a>
Greyhound Bus	800-231-2222	Serves most of the US and Canada. <a href="http://www.greyhound.com">www.greyhound.com</a>
Gray Line Bus	212-397-2620	Service offered throughout the US and Canada. <a href="http://www.grayline.com">www.grayline.com</a>
Lakeland Bus	973-366-0600	Service between New York and New Jersey. <a href="http://www.lakelandbus.com">www.lakelandbus.com</a>
Martz Group	800-233-8604	Service between New York and Pennsylvania. <a href="http://www.martzgroup.com">www.martzgroup.com</a>
New Jersey Transit	800-772-2222	Serves New York, New Jersey, and Philadelphia. <a href="http://www.njtransit.com">www.njtransit.com</a>
NY Airport Service	212-875-8200	Service between Port Authority and Kennedy and LaGuardia airports. <a href="http://www.nyairportservice.com">www.nyairportservice.com</a>
Olympia Trails	212-964-6233	Provides express bus service between Manhattan and Newark Airport. Makes stops all over New York City, including Penn Station, Grand Central, and many connections with hotel shuttles. <a href="http://www.olympiabus.com">www.olympiabus.com</a>
Peter Pan Lines	800-343-9999	Serves the East, including Boston, New Hampshire, Maine, Philly, DC. Also goes to Canada. <a href="http://www.peterpanbus.com">www.peterpanbus.com</a>
Rockland Coaches (NY)	845-356-0877	Serves New York's Port Authority, GW bridge, 44th Street, and 8th Street to and from most of Bergen County and upstate New York. <a href="http://www.coachusa.com/rockland">www.coachusa.com/rockland</a>
ShortLine Bus	800-631-8405	Serves the New York City airports, Atlantic City, and the Hudson Valley. <a href="http://www.shortlinebus.com">www.shortlinebus.com</a>
Suburban	732-249-1100	Offers commuter service from Central New Jersey to and from Port Authority and Wall Street. Also services between the Route 9 Corridor and New York City. <a href="http://www.coachusa.com/suburban">www.coachusa.com/suburban</a>
Susquehanna Trailways	800-692-6314	Service to and from New York City and Newark (Greyhound Terminal) and Summerville, New Jersey, and many stops in Central Pennsylvania, ending in Williamsport and Lock Haven. <a href="http://www.susquehannabus.com">www.susquehannabus.com</a>
Trans-Bridge Lines	610-868-6001 800-962-9135	Offers service between New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey, including Newark and Kennedy airports.
Red & Tan Hudson County (NJ)	908-354-3330	Serves New York City and Hudson County, New Jersey. <a href="http://www.coachusa.com/redandtann">www.coachusa.com/redandtann</a>

## General Information

**NFT Map:** 23  
**Address:** 4211 Broadway & 178th St  
**Phone:** 800-221-9903 or 212-564-8484  
**Website:** <http://www.panynj.gov/CommutingTravel/bus/html/gwb.html>  
**Subway:** **A** (175th St), **A** **1** (181st St)  
**Buses:**

## Overview

Change is coming slowly to the George Washington Bridge Bus Terminal, though we can hope it will never lose its "lived-in" charm. The Port Authority has cleaned the station up a bit, added some needed signage, and improved the lighting, but any place with pigeons routinely wandering through the indoors can never be too chic. Hit some downtime before your bus arrives and your entertainment options are limited to people-watching, opening a new bank account, or placing bets at OTB. If you luck out and the weather's nice, though, the view of the bridge upstairs is pretty sweet.

## Stores

**Lower Level:**  
 Bridge Stop Newsstand  
 HealthPlus Healthcare  
 Subway Pedestrian Walkway  
 NJTT Ticket Vending Machines  
 Port of Calls/Retail Pushcarts

**Concourse:**  
 ATM  
 Bridge Stop Newsstand  
 Dentists—Howard Bloom, DDS; Steve Kaufman DDS  
 E-Z Visions Travel  
 Food Plus Café  
 GW Books and Electronics  
 HealthPlus Healthcare  
 Neighborhood Trust Federal Credit Union  
 New York National Bank  
 Off-Track Betting  
 Pizza Palace  
 Terminal Barber Shop  
 Washington Heights Optical

**Street Level:**  
 Blockbuster Video  
 Rite-Aid Pharmacy  
 Urban Pathways—Homeless Outreach Office  
 Port Authority Business Outreach Center  
 (179th St underpass)

## Bus Companies

**Air Brook** • 800-800-1990 • [airbrook.com](http://airbrook.com)  
 To Atlantic City (Tropicana)

**Astro-Eastern Bus Company** •  
 201-865-2230 • [easternbuses.com](http://easternbuses.com)  
 Trips to Florida (purchase tickets on the upper level).

**Express Bus Service** •  
 973-881-9122 • [expressbusservice.com](http://expressbusservice.com)  
 To Elmwood Park, Englewood, Fort Lee, Hackensack, Paramus, Paterson, River Edge, and Teaneck (all stops on Route 4).

**New Jersey Transit** •  
 800-772-2222 • [njtransit.com/sf\\_bs.html](http://njtransit.com/sf_bs.html)  
 To 60th St, Bergenfield, Bogota, Cliffside Park, Coytesville, Dumont, Edgewater (including Edgewater Commons Mall), Englewood, Englewood Cliffs, West Englewood, Fair Lawn (including the Radburn section), Fairview, Fort Lee, Glen Rock, Guttenberg, Hackensack (including NJ Bus Transfer), Hoboken, North Hackensack (Riverside Square), Irvington, Jersey City, Kearney, Leonia, Maywood, Newark, North Bergen, Paramus (including the Bergen Mall and Garden State Plaza), Paterson (including Broadway Terminal), Ridgewood, Rochelle Park, Teaneck (including Glenspointe and Holy Name Hospital), Union City, Weehawken, and West New York.

**Red & Tan/Coach USA** •  
 201-876-9000 • [coachusa.com/redandtann](http://coachusa.com/redandtann)  
 To Alpine, Bergenfield, Blauevelt, Bradlees Shopping Center, Closter, Congers, Creskill, Demarest, Dumont, Emerson, Englewood, Englewood Cliffs, Grandview, Harrington Park, Haverstraw, Haworth, Hillsdale, Linwood Park, Montvale, Nanuet, (including Nanuet Shopping Mall), Naurausahm, New City, New Milford, Northvale (including Northvale Industrial Park), Norwood, Nyack, Oradell, Orangeburg, Palisades, Park Ridge, Pearl River, Piermont, Riverdale, Rockland Lake, Rockland Psych Center, Rockledge (including Rockledge Industrial Park), South Nyack, Sparkill, Spring Valley, Stony Point, Tappan, Tenafly, Upper Nyack, Valley Cottage, West Haverstraw, Westwood, and Woodcliff Lake.

**Saddle River Tours** •  
 888-778-8622 • [saddlerrivertours.com](http://saddlerrivertours.com)  
 To Atlantic City

**Vanessa Express** • 201-453-1970.  
 To Cliffside Park, Jersey City, North Bergen, Union City, and West New York.

## General Information

**NFT Map:** 3  
**Websites:** [www.chinatown-bus.com](http://www.chinatown-bus.com)  
[www.chinatown-bus.org](http://www.chinatown-bus.org)

## Overview

There are several inexpensive bus lines running from Chinatown in New York City to the respective Chinatowns in Boston, Philadelphia, Washington DC, Richmond, and Atlanta. If you're lucky, you'll catch a kung-fu movie on board, but be prepared for an '80s "classic" like *Turner & Hoach*. Tickets usually cost \$15-20 and can be purchased online or in person at pick-up locations.

Chaper than planes and trains, the Chinatown buses have become extraordinarily popular. They are in such demand that Greyhound and Trailways have lowered their online fares to compete. That said, Chinatown buses are an infinitely more adventurous mode of transportation. The odds are high that you'll experience at least one problem during the course of your trip including, but not limited to, poor customer service, unmarked bus stops, late departures, less than ideal bus conditions, and hocking or spitting from other passengers. More pertinent problems include cancelled or delayed trips without warning, breakdowns, fires, broken bathrooms (or none at all), stolen luggage, and drop-offs on the side of the road near the highway because bus companies don't have permission to deliver passengers to central transportation hubs. Conversely, service has improved greatly in the past few years, and many people have enjoyed dirt-cheap, hassle-free experiences on the Chinatown buses. It's probably not the best choice for families, but anyone else should give it a try.

A few tips to make your trip easier: 1) MAKE SURE YOU GET ON THE RIGHT BUS. We cannot emphasize this enough. Do not be embarrassed to ask everyone on the bus which city they're going to. 2) Do not sit anywhere near the bathroom. You will smell the intense, probably illegal, cleaning products for the first half of the ride, and your fellow passengers' business for the second half. 3) If the bus isn't full, it's perfectly fine to take your luggage onboard with you if you're worried about theft. This is an especially good idea when leaving the New York stations.

Passengers should arrive at least 30 minutes prior to scheduled departure. Schedules and prices are subject to change at a moment's notice, so it's helpful to call or consult the company's website right before you leave. If you walk down East Broadway under the Manhattan Bridge, chances are people on the street will solicit you without even having to ask. Buses vary in quality from company to company and even from day to day. Fung Wah has been around the longest and is generally considered the best line, although Lucky Star is a close second. To read user reviews, visit [www.chinatown-bus.com](http://www.chinatown-bus.com).

## Bus Companies

**Fung Wah Transportation Inc.** •  
 212-925-8889 • [www.fungwahbus.com](http://www.fungwahbus.com)  
 • To Boston every hour on the hour between 7 am-10 pm.  
 From **139 Canal Street** to South Station: one-way \$15, round trip \$30.

**Lucky Star Bus Transportation** •  
 617-426-8801 • [www.luckystarbus.com](http://www.luckystarbus.com)  
 • To Boston every hour 7 am-10 pm. From **69 Chrystie St** to South Station: one-way \$15, round trip \$30.

**Boston Deluxe** •  
 917-662-7552 or 646-773-3816 • [www.bostondeluxe.com](http://www.bostondeluxe.com)  
 To Boston at 9 am, 12:30 pm, and 6 pm. From **1250 Broadway & 32nd St** or **88 E Broadway** to 175 Huntington Ave: one-way \$15, round trip \$30.  
 • To Hartford at 8:30 am, 12:30 pm, and 5:30 pm. From the same pick-up points to 365 Capital Ave: one-way \$15, round trip \$30.

**Washington Deluxe** • 866-BUS-NY-DC • [www.washny.com](http://www.washny.com)  
 • To Washington several times a day: From **34th St & 8th Ave**. Additional departures from **Delancey & Allen Sts**, and several locations in **Williamsburg** to various locations in DC. Schedule varies by day of the week, so it's recommended that you check the website for info. One-way \$20, round-trip \$35.

**Dragon Deluxe** •  
 800-475-1160 or 212-966-5130 • [www.dragondeluxe.com](http://www.dragondeluxe.com)  
 • To Washington DC six times a day between 7:30 am and 11:30 pm. From **153 Lafayette St** or **Broadway & W 32nd St-Herald Square** to 14th & 1 Sts: one-way \$20, round trip \$35.  
 • To Baltimore six times a day between 7:30 am and 11:30 pm. From the same pick-up points to 5600 O'Donnell St: one-way \$20, round trip \$35.  
 • To Albany at 7:30 am and 5:30 pm. From the same pick-up points to Madison Ave (between the New York State Museum and Empire State Plaza): one-way \$25, round trip \$45  
 • To Woodbury Commons at 7:30 am and 5:30 pm. From the same pick-up points to Woodbury Commons: one-way \$15, round trip \$30.

**Eastern Travel** • 212-244-6132 • [www.easternshuttle.com](http://www.easternshuttle.com)  
 • To Washington DC 6-12 times a day between 7:30 am and 7:30 pm. From **88 E Broadway, 430 7th Ave** at **W 34th St**, or **5 Times Square** (in front of the **Ernst & Young Building**) to 715 H Street in Washington DC: one-way \$20, round trip \$35.  
 • To Baltimore 6-12 times a day between 7:30 am and 7:30 pm. From same pickup-point to 5501 O'Donnell St Cut Off: one-way \$20, round trip \$35.

**New Century Travel** • 215-627-2666 • [www.2000coach.com](http://www.2000coach.com)  
 • To Philadelphia every hour between 7 am and 11 pm.  
 From **88 E Broadway** or **5994 8th Ave, Williamsburg** (7 am only) to 55 N 11th St: one-way \$12, round trip \$20.  
 • To DC eight times between 7 am and 11 pm; from **88 E Broadway** to 513 H St NW: one-way \$20, round trip \$35.  
 • To Richmond at 5 pm and 1 am. From **88 E Broadway** to 2808 W Broad St: one-way \$40, round-trip \$60.

**Today's Bus** • 212-964-6334 • [www.todaybus.com](http://www.todaybus.com)  
 • To Philadelphia every hour between 7:15 am and 11 pm.  
 From **88 E Broadway** to 1041 Race St: one-way \$12, round trip \$20.  
 • To DC 14 times a day between 7:15 am and 11 pm. From **88 E Broadway** to 6101 1st NW: one-way \$20, round trip \$35.  
 • To Norfolk, VA, at 6 pm. From **13 Allen St** to 649 Newton Rd: one-way \$25, round trip \$40.  
 • To Richmond, VA, at 5 pm. From **88 E Broadway** to 5215 W Broad St: one-way \$40, round trip \$60.  
 • To Atlanta, GA, at 8 pm. From **109 E Broadway** to 5150 Buford Hwy NE: one-way \$90, round trip \$170.



## General Information

### Bicycle Defense Fund:

New York, Five Borough Bike Tour:

Century Road Club Association (CRC):

Department of City Planning:

Department of Parks & Recreation:

Department of Transportation:

Empire Skate Club:

Fast & Fabulous Lesbian & Gay Bike Club:

Five Boro Bicycle Club:

League of American Bicyclists:

New York Bicycle Coalition:

New York Cycle Club:

NYC Streets Renaissance:

Time's Up! Bicycle Advocacy Group:

Transportation Alternatives:

[www.bicycledefensefund.org](http://www.bicycledefensefund.org)

[www.bikenyork.org](http://www.bikenyork.org)

[www.crcra.net](http://www.crcra.net)

[www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/html/bike/home.shtml](http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/html/bike/home.shtml)

[www.nycgovparks.org](http://www.nycgovparks.org)

[www.nyc.gov/html/dot/html/bicyclists/bikemain.shtml](http://www.nyc.gov/html/dot/html/bicyclists/bikemain.shtml)

[www.empirestate.org](http://www.empirestate.org)

[www.fastfab.org](http://www.fastfab.org)

[www.5bbc.org](http://www.5bbc.org)

[www.bikeleague.org](http://www.bikeleague.org)

[www.nybc.net](http://www.nybc.net)

[www.nycyc.org](http://www.nycyc.org)

[www.nycstreets.org](http://www.nycstreets.org)

[www.times-up.org](http://www.times-up.org)

[www.transalt.org](http://www.transalt.org)

## Overview

While not for the faint of heart, biking and skating around Manhattan can be one of the most efficient and exhilarating forms of transportation. Transportation Alternatives estimates that over 130,000 New Yorkers hop on a bike each day—an all-time high for the city. Manhattan is relatively flat, and the fitness and environmental advantages of using people power are incontrovertible. However, there are also some downsides, including—but not limited to: psychotic cab drivers, buses, traffic, pedestrians, pavement with potholes, glass, debris, and poor air quality. In 1994, the Bicycle Network Development Program was created to increase bicycle usage in the NYC area. Since then, many bike lanes have been created on streets and in parks (see map on previous page). These tend to be the safest places to ride, though they often get blocked by parked or standing cars. Central Park is a great place to ride, as are the newly developed paths from Battery Park that run along the Hudson River. East River Park is another nice destination for recreational riding and skating—just not after dark! In addition to bicycle rentals, Pedal Pusher Bike Shop (1306 Second Ave, 212-288-5592) offers recorded tours of Central Park, so you can learn about the park and exercise at the same time. There is also talk of creating a city wide bike rental program similar to the one that recently launched in Paris. Let's hope that New York jumps on board!

Recreational skating venues in Manhattan include Wollman and Lasker Rinks in Central Park, Chelsea Piers, Riverbank State Park (679 Riverside Drive at 145th St), and Rivergate Ice Rink (401 E 34th St). If you're looking for a place to get your skates sharpened to your own personal specifications before hitting the ice, contact Westside Skate & Stick (174 Fifth Ave, 212-228-8400), a custom pro shop for hockey and figure skaters that's by appointment only. For more information on skating venues throughout the boroughs, check out [www.skatecity.com](http://www.skatecity.com). For organized events, visit the Empire Skate Club at [www.empireskate.org](http://www.empireskate.org).

Bikes are sometimes less convenient than skates. Where skates can be tucked in a bag and carried onto subways, indoors, or on buses, bikes have to be locked up on the street and are always at risk of being stolen. Unfortunately, bike racks are hard to come by in NYC, so you may need to get creative on where to park. Always lock them to immovable objects and don't skimp on a cheap bike lock. With over 40,000 bikes a

year stolen in NYC, the extra cost for a top-of-the-line bike lock is worth it. On the upside, bikes provide a much faster, less demanding form of transportation around the city.

## Crossing the Bridges by Bike

Crossing the Brooklyn, Manhattan, or Williamsburg Bridges by bike is a great way for Brooklynites to commute to work (unless, of course, it's really windy and cold out). Riding across these bridges also makes for a great weekend outing for Manhattanites and Brooklynites alike. All bridges afford amazing views of the Manhattan and Brooklyn skylines. In the fall of 2003, the DOT estimated that nearly 4,000 cyclists crossed the East River bridges each day. It just isn't healthy to stay underground so much, so gear up and give it a go.

### Brooklyn Bridge

Separate bicycle and pedestrian lanes run down the center of the bridge, with the bicycle lane on the north side and the pedestrian lane on the south. Cyclists should beware of wayfaring tourists taking photographs. We do not recommend rollerblading across the bridge—the wooden planks make for quite a bumpy ride. The bridge is quite level and, aside from the tourists and planks, fairly easy to traverse. *Brooklyn Access:* Stairs to Cadman Plz E and Prospect St, ramp to Johnson & Adams Sts  
*Manhattan Access:* Park Row and Centre St, across from City Hall Park

### Manhattan Bridge

The last of the Brooklyn crossings to be outfitted with decent pedestrian and bike paths, the Manhattan Bridge bike and pedestrian paths are on separate sides of the bridge. The walking path is on the south side, and the bike path is on the north side of the bridge. The major drawback to walking across the Manhattan Bridge is that you have to climb a steep set of stairs on the Brooklyn side (not the best conditions for lugging around a stroller or suitcase). Fortunately, the bike path on the north side of the bridge is ramped on both approaches. However, be careful on Jay Street when accessing the bridge in Brooklyn due to the dangerous, fast-moving traffic.

*Brooklyn Access:* Jay St & Sands St

*Manhattan Access:* Bike Lane—Canal St & Forsyth St

*Pedestrian Lane:* Bowersy, just west of Canal St

### Williamsburg Bridge

The Williamsburg Bridge has the widest pedestrian/bike path of the three bridges to Brooklyn. The path on the north side, shared by cyclists and pedestrians, is 12 feet wide. The southern path, at eight feet wide, is also shared by bikers and walkers. Unfortunately, only one of the paths seems to be open at any give time for some illogical reason. However, during the 2005 transit strike both sides were open, and hopefully this will become the norm someday soon. As a bonus fitness feature, the steep gradient on both the Manhattan and Brooklyn sides of the bridge gives bikers and pedestrians a good workout.

*Brooklyn Access:* North Entrance—Driggs Ave, right by the Washington Plz  
*South Entrance:* Bedford Ave b/w S 5th & S 6th Sts  
*Manhattan Access:* Delancey St & Clinton St/Suffolk St

### George Washington Bridge

Bikers get marginalized by the pedestrians on this crossway to New Jersey. The north walkway is for pedestrians only, and the south side is shared by pedestrians and bikers. Cyclists had to fight to keep their right to even bike on this one walkway, as city officials wanted to institute a "walk your bike across" rule to avoid bicycle/pedestrian accidents during construction. The bikers won the battle but are warned to "exercise extra caution" when passing pedestrians.

*Manhattan Access:* W 178th St & Fort Washington Ave  
*New Jersey Access:* Hudson Ter in Fort Lee

### Triborough Bridge

Biking is officially prohibited on this two-mile span that connects the Bronx, Queens, and Manhattan. Unofficially, people ride between the boroughs and over to Wards Island all the time. The bike path is quite narrow, compared to the paths on other bridges, and the lighting at night is mediocre at best. The right path sees less pedestrian/cycling traffic than other bridges, which, paired with the insufficient lighting, gives the span a rather ominous feeling after dark. If you're worried about safety, or keen on obeying the laws, the 103rd Street footbridge provides an alternative way to reach Wards Island sans car. This pedestrian pass is open only during the warmer months, and then only during daylight hours. See page 297 for more information about the footbridge schedule.

*Bronx Access:* 133rd St & Cypress Ave

*Manhattan Access:* Ramps—124/126th Sts & First Ave Stairs—Second Ave and 124/126 Sts

*Queens Access:* 26th St & Hoyt Ave (beware of extremely steep stairs).

### Queensboro Bridge

The north outer roadway of the Queensboro Bridge is open exclusively to bikers, 24/7, except for the day of the New York Marathon. More than 2,500 cyclists and pedestrians per day traverse the bridge. Bikers complain about safety issues on the Manhattan side of the bridge: With no direct connection from Manhattan onto the bridge's West Side, bikers are forced into an awkward five-block detour to get to Second Avenue, where they can finally access the bridge.

*Manhattan Entrance:* 60th St, b/w First Ave & Second Ave

*Queens Entrance:* Queens Plz & Crescent St

## Bike Rentals (and Sales)

### Metro Bicycle Stores:

• 1311 Lexington Ave & 88th St • 212-427-4450 • Map 17

• 360 W 47th St & Ninth Ave • 212-581-4500 • Map 11

• 213 W 96th St & Broadway • 212-663-7531 • Map 16

• 332 E 14th St, b/w First & Second aves •

212-228-4344 • Map 6

• 546 Sixth Ave & W 15th St • 212-255-5100 • Map 9

• 417 Canal St & Sixth Ave • 212-334-8000 • Map 2

**Liberty Bicycles** • 846 Ninth Ave & 55th St •

212-757-2418 • Map 11

**Toxa Bike Shop** • 110 West End Ave & 64th St •

212-799-9625 • Map 14

**Gotham Bikes** • 112 W Broadway b/w Duane & Reade sts •

212-732-2453 • Map 2

**Bicycle Habitat** • 244 Lafayette St b/w Spring & Prince sts •

212-431-3315 • Map 6

**Bicycle Heaven** • 348 E 62 St b/w First & Second aves •

212-230-1919 • Map 15

**Bike Works** • 106 Ridge St b/w Stanton & Rivington sts •

212-388-1077 • Map 7

**City Bicycles** • 315 W 38th St b/w Eighth & Ninth aves •

212-563-3373 • Map 11

**Eddie's Bicycles Shop** • 490 Amsterdam Ave b/w 83rd &

84th sts • 212-580-2011 • Map 14

**Larry and Jeff's Bicycles Plus** • 1400 Third Ave b/w 79th &

80th sts • 212-794-2929 • Map 17

**Pedal Pusher Bike Shop** • 1306 Second Ave b/w 68th &

69th sts • 212-288-5592 • Map 15

**Manhattan Bicycles** • 791 Ninth Ave b/w 52nd & 53rd sts •

212-262-0111 • Map 11

**New York Cyclist** • 301 Cathedral Pkwy & Central Park West •

212-864-4449 • Map 16

## Bikes and Mass Transit

Surprisingly, you can take your bike on trains and some buses—just make sure it's not during rush hour and you are courteous to other passengers. The subway requires you to carry your bike down staircases, use the service gate instead of the turnstile, and board at the very front or back end of the train. To ride the commuter railroads with your bike, you may need to purchase a bike permit. For appropriate contact information, see transportation pages.

Amtrak: Train with baggage car required.

LIRR: \$5 permit required.

Metro-North: \$5 permit required.

New Jersey Transit: No permit required.

PATH: No permit required.

New York Water Taxi: No fee or permit required

NY Waterway: \$1 fee.

Staten Island Ferry: Enter at lower level.

Bus companies: Call individual companies.