

36 Hours on the Brooklyn Water Front

By GUOXIONG LIN DEC. 1, 2015

Brooklyn is filled with new trends of NYC, and for visitors that means the best spot for the ultimate skyline view, historic Brooklyn Bridge, Prospect Park by Central Park designers, and American food culture for your eyes, ears and tongue.



Photo Credit: Guoxiong Lin

You probably have seen a lot of Brooklyn on TV, but it is better to experience it in person; Brooklyn has all the charms of a unique city that people would fall in love with. It is a heaven to the younger generation and tourists who are ready to get surprised: a beautiful city surrounded by people who have unlimited energies, new ideas, great life attitudes and good senses of art. Brooklyn has also played a major role in various aspects of American culture including literature, cinema, theater, music, sports as well as the restaurants, foods and beverages.

Friday

1: CITY, SUSTAINABLE AND ECOTOURISM, 3 P.M

Brooklyn Grange is a rooftop farming operation and intensive green roofing business in the Navy Yard, Brooklyn. According to the Brooklyn official website (2015) “When we set out to grow food on the rooftops and unused spaces of New York City, our mission was to create a fiscally sustainable model for urban agriculture and to produce healthy, delicious vegetables for our local community while doing the ecosystem a few favors as well.” Brooklyn Grange now, they not only support their fresh and sustainable food in the farmer’s market, but also supply the food for local restaurants.



Photo Credit: Guoxiong Lin

2: SKY, BRIDGE AND HISTORY, 4:30 P.M.

The Brooklyn Bridge is a hybrid cable-stayed/suspension bridge in New York City and is one of the oldest bridges of either type in the United States. Completed in 1883, it connects the boroughs of Manhattan and Brooklyn by spanning the East River. There are many ways to tour the Brooklyn Bridge, however you won’t be able to ride over the bridge on a bus tour, as all buses and coaches are banned from the bridge. The best ways to experience this beautiful bridge are walking and bike

tours. Both of these ways are environment friendly and they provide you a great of chance to enjoy the magnificent views of this part of downtown Brooklyn and Manhattan.



Photo Credit: Guoxiong Lin

3: GET GREEN, 6 P.M.

The Brooklyn Bridge Park is right under the Brooklyn Bridge. The Brooklyn Historical Society has partnered to reveal the history of the borough's waterfront. Brooklyn Bridge Park is a world-class waterfront park with man-made hills and gardens. You can lay down on the green grass, take a walk or just sit on stones in the theater area. The waterfront park offers a classic view of the Manhattan skyline, and it's a great spot for anybody looking for a bit of nature while still feeling a part of the city.

4: GET HUNGRY, 7 P.M.

"New Yorkers love to argue about the best pizza, with DiFara's, Grimaldi's and Lombardi's being among the primary contenders. We won't settle that score here, but if you have only 24 hours you can't go wrong with Grimaldi's" (Angio 2008). *Time Magazine* highly recommended Grimaldi's, it is under the Brooklyn Bridge. There's always a line of 30 people or more for Grimaldi's.

Grimaldi's is one of those pizzerias where you feel like you just walked into your grandparent's house. Dough smell in the air, it is cozy and very welcoming. People are urgently waiting to get a slice of pizza.



Photo Credit: Google

5: GET HAPPY, 9 P.M.

The beer-garden trend is still in full effect, with new entrants popping up all over the city, especially in Brooklyn. Berg'n in Crown Heights, a 9,000-sq.-ft. Crown Heights beer hall features four permanent booths for longtime market vendors Asia Dog, Mighty Quinn's BBQ, Pizza Moto and Ramen Burger. You can order a popular German Reissdorf Kolsch beer (\$7), but it will be more significant to ask for a Brooklyn made beer called "Greenpoint Milk & Honey (\$8)". As a tourist, your money will support the local brewery and community.



Photo via The Inflationation

Saturday

6: URBAN FARMERS MARKET, 10 A.M.

There is no better way to participate in the local market than to explore the local people's lives. Greenmarket's flagship Brooklyn market is a program that brings the farm product to the local communities. Grand Army Plaza Farmer Market is the second largest market in New York City, behind Union Square (2015). The market is the sustainability resources for New Yorkers in order to improve our environment and local farming businesses.



Photo Credit: Google

7: GET RELAXED, 11:30 A.M.

Many people know about Central Park in New York, but for Prospect Park it is not as famous as Central Park. One hundred years ago, the Brooklyn government also wanted to build an extraordinary public park like Central Park for their residents. Prospect Park was designed by Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux after their completion of Manhattan's Central Park (2015). Today, Prospect Park offers various activities and landscapes for its visitors.



Photo Credit: Guoxiong Lin

8: GET BRUNCH LIKE A LOCAL, 1 P, M

Traditional American BBQ and breakfast & brunch style mix with the new style grilled make the farm fresh ingredients and quaint little brunch places tempt anyone. *New York Magazine* thought The Smoke Joint is the one of the best restaurants that provides “the real New York barbecue” (2008). The beef ribs (market price, usually \$20) and The Joint Dog (\$3.5) are must get. The rib is thick and juicy, you must would not forget about the tasty when you first bite it.



Photo Credit: Guoxiong Lin

9: GET ARTSY 3 P.M.

Life is an art, so good art can improve a good life. Founded in 1895, The Brooklyn Museum was planned as the largest museum in the world. Today it is New York City's third largest in physical size (2015). In the museum, there are thousands of unique collections; from the Egyptian antiquities to the Japanese notable ancient artifacts. Every year, there are many different art exhibitions open to the public, such as classic painting, modern art and art from eastern culture art.

10: GET EXCITED, 5 P.M.

If you are a basketball fan, I bet you would not want to miss the Barclays Center. The Barclays Center is a multi-purpose indoor arena in Brooklyn. The arena is currently home to the Brooklyn Nets of the National Basketball Association and the New York Islanders of the National Hockey League. The center now is a landmark of Brooklyn and is becoming more and more popular than Yankee Stadium.



Photo Credit: Kristen Luce

LODGING

Downtown Brooklyn, Aloft New York Brooklyn (216 Duffield Street, Brooklyn, NY; <http://www.aloftnewyorkbrooklyn.com/>) is a stylish boutique hotel. It takes 5 minutes from the Barclays Center, Atlantic Terminal or MetroTech Center. After a day of sightseeing or meetings, return to mix and mingle the hotel bar or take in the city skyline at Kimoto Rooftop Beer Garden. It is a most enjoyable thing in an unfamiliar city. Rates for a standard room range from \$180-\$350.



Photo Credit: HotelPlanner

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