

36 Hours in Brooklyn

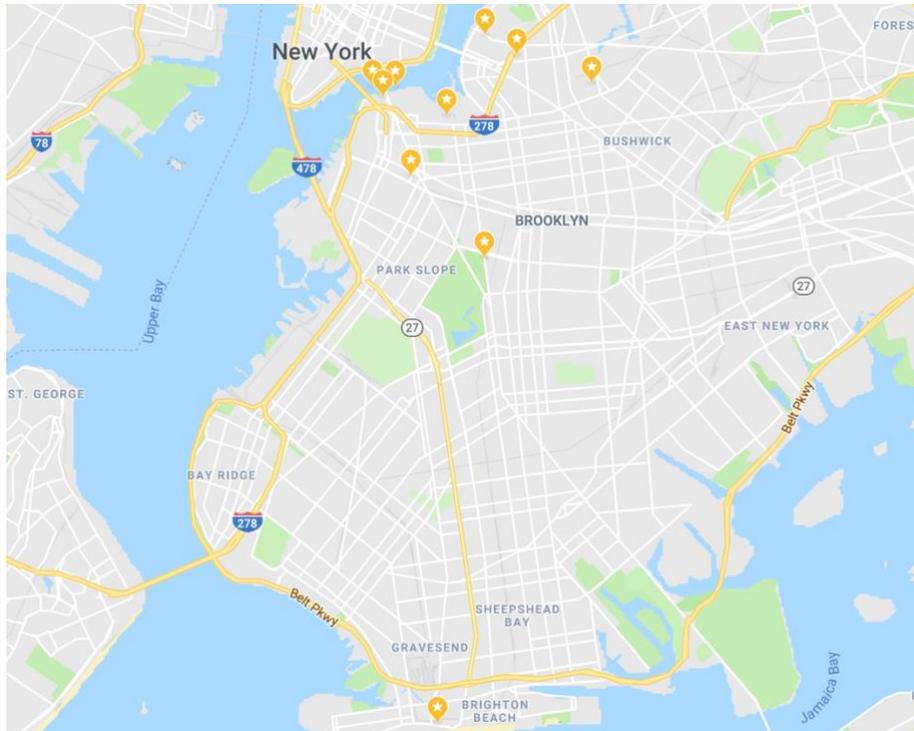


View from Brooklyn Bridge Park (Photo by Lin Lin)

By Lin Lin

December 7, 2018.

People usually come to New York City to experience the flashing lights of advertisement signs in Times Square, holiday decorated windows of department stores on Fifth Avenue, and various museums that are all over Manhattan. But about ten miles from the city, Brooklyn gives you a totally different experience than Manhattan offers. Indie and thrift stores are visible everywhere, a spacious park by the East River that gives an amazing view of Manhattan, distinctive culinary from restaurants that plant their own veggies, and so much more. Brooklyn has shown us its unique beauty in a way we cannot resist.



Friday

1) 3 p.m. Brooklyn Roasting Company

Grab a cup of coffee from [Brooklyn Roasting Company](#) to get ready for your tour in Brooklyn. Brooklyn Roasting Company, located at 25 Jay Street, is a company that is well-known for their good coffee and reputation. Get a hot latte for \$4.75, while you are waiting, take a look at their coffee beans selection (starting at \$75 for a five-pound bag) and the huge coffee-roasting machines in the room that's hard to ignore. All the coffee they sell is packaged in the most easily sorted and recycled packaging material, recyclable and multiple-use plastic bins to ship out their products, even their tables are made of reclaimed steel doors and glass. Fair trade is also a main idea in their company philosophy, they work closely with nature conservation organizations to protect and ensure preservation of natural resources.

2) 3:30 p.m. A Relaxing Afternoon in the Park

Keep walking along Jay Street for two blocks, you will see a spacious ground of green and lights from the Jane's Carousel. [Brooklyn Bridge Park](#) is a waterfront park along the East River, from John Street to Pier 1, if you like sunbathing and picnicking on grass while enjoying the breath-taking view of Manhattan, sitting on a beach or get your feet wet in the East River, or playing volleyball on sand and soccer on a nice lawn and more—— basically every kind of outdoor activities, this is the right park for you. All the park bollards and fence posts are made by locally and sustainably harvested and

manufactured rot-resistant black locust wood; granite seating at Pier 1 and portions of the Empire Fulton Ferry landscape are constructed with granite salvaged from the demolished Willis Avenue Bridge; of course, fill materials used on Pier 1 are salvaged from the Long Island Railroad drilling operations. If you decide to visit the park at night, make sure you get a charming picture of the Jane's Carousel with Manhattan's skyline in the background before you leave.



Panorama of Brooklyn Bridge Park at the Main Street section (Photo by Lin Lin)

3) 5 p.m. The Iconic Angle of Manhattan Bridge

Add a photo of Manhattan Bridge at its most iconic angle features DUMBO's cobblestone streets to your Instagram, the intersection of Front Street and Water Street is a prime place to do so. Many well-known movies feature this distinctive angle of Manhattan Bridge including *Scent of a Woman* and *John Wick 2*. If you stand at the perfect spot, you will get a picture of the Empire State Building right between Manhattan Bridge's arch. It might not fit into the ecotourism category much, but I think this is the one place you can't miss!



View of Manhattan Bridge from Washington Street (Photo by Lin Lin)

4) 6 p.m. Dinner at Atrium DUMBO

[Atrium DUMBO](#) is a restaurant focusing on supporting local business and the community, it is “where the Brooklyn green market meets French Technique”, they offer local, fresh and seasonal fare, boutique selection of wines, local draft beers and cocktails. Try their four-course tasting menu (\$48 per person) pair with the Indian Pale Ale draft beer from the local Bell’s Brewery.

Saturday

5) 10 a.m. Get the Freshest Air

Be an early bird and be the first group of people to get in the garden, get your morning exercise done in the park with the freshest air. [Brooklyn Botanic Garden](#) is located at 990 Washington Avenue, it is a garden that has 52-acre land area and 12,000 species, admission for adults is \$15. There are Cherry Esplanade, Cranford Rose Garden, Fragrance Garden, Herb Garden, et cetera, signs of telling people how to preserve water and prevent water pollutions are visible everywhere. They offers workshops for both adults and kids to educate people on how to better protect the Earth, classes on [Making Glycerin Soap with Dried Herbs and Flowers](#) and [Community Greening program](#) are available to register online.



Signs along the Walkway in Brooklyn Botanic Garden (Photo by Lin Lin)

6) 12 p.m. Have Oysters to Help the Planet

Grab lunch at [Lighthouse](#) in Williamsburg, the owner Naama Tamir is passionate about holistic sustainability. All the straws they use in the restaurant are reusable metal straws, used bottles are sent to a friend of the owner who owns a candle company to reuse. They use ingredients from local farms to support the community and reduce carbon footprint from transporting ingredients, every detail of reducing their negative impact on the earth has been thought of. Have some oysters (\$3 each) while you are there, all the oyster shells will be sent to the [Billion Oyster Project](#).



Lighthouse (Photo by Lin Lin)

7) 2 p.m. World's Largest Rooftop Soil Farm

Although there's no chance to have dinner at the farm at this time of the year, going to a workshop gives you the chance to feel the vibe at the world's largest rooftop soil farm and learn more about ways to protect the planet, too! [Brooklyn Grange](#) grows over 50,000 pounds of organically-cultivated produce per year on two roofs in New York City, they host educational events and workshops, and work with non-profit organizations to promote healthy and strong local communities. The roofs reduce combined sewage overflow (combined two million gallons of storm water per year!) and it reduces urban

heat island effect. You can get their produce in farmers markets that they have posted on the website, restaurants like Aska and Augustine also uses produce by Brooklyn Grange; or get into one of their workshops to earn some knowledge on [Urban Composting](#).

8) 5 p.m. Shop at a Package Free Store

This shop is literally called [Package Free](#), but it does so much more than just not having package for their products. Package free is located at 137 Grand Street, it is the world's first package free shop offering package free products and package free shipping, only 100% recyclable or compostable packaging products will be sold in store. In the store, you will find reusable metal straws, organic cotton facial rounds, compostable brushes for dishes and vegetables, basically everything you need to transition to a low-waste lifestyle. The sources of all their products are brands with mission to reduce negative environmental impact. In store, you will find bins for costumers to put in items that are non-recyclable; they have kept an estimated 1,419,260 non-recyclable bottles and cups out of land fill since opening.



Bamboo/ Cotton Blend Towels sold in Package Free (Photo by Lin Lin)

9) 7 p.m. Comfort Food

Everyone likes pizza, not to mention pizzas with ingredients grown in the restaurant's backyard. [Roberta's](#) is very good at what they do, they are well-known for their delicious pizzas—— even the Clintons loves going there. Decors in store are made by reclaimed materials, the kitchen grows their own everything as much as possible, it is straight farm-to-table! Not only does they grow their own veggies to use on pizzas, they offer workshops on how to grow your own food. Try their Famous Original pizza for only \$18.

Sunday

10)10 a.m. The Last and the Most Exciting Day

It requires a little travel, but I promise, it is totally worth it. The [New York Aquarium](#) is the right place for you if you like the underwater world; sea lion shows at the Aquatheater, Glover's Reef in Conservation Hall, and the most exciting one—— sharks! There are chances for you to get up close with the animals such as dolphins and sea lions, feeding sea otters and touches epaulette sharks. Get your ticket at the door for \$12.95 or get them online for 10% off.



Tropical Fish and Devil Fish (Giant Devil Ray) in New York Aquarium (Photo by Lin Lin)

Lodging

[1 Hotel Brooklyn Bridge](#), located at 60 Furman Street, south of the Brooklyn Bridge and minutes away from the city, a pristine boutique hotel with fantastic décor and welcoming staffs. 1 Hotel have implemented a wide range of energy and environmental design strategies to keep their footprint small, every guest earns \$20 credit for their stay and what's left on the account will be donated to Natural Resources Defense Council. Dumbo King starts from \$328.

[NU Hotel](#), downtown Brooklyn's original boutique hotel, a nice hotel with local characteristics offers luxury amenities and exceptional service. Starting from \$120.

Reference

A. Wicker (2014), The 24 Best Sustainable and Eco-Friendly Restaurants in NYC,
Retrieved from <https://ecocult.com/the-24-best-sustainable-and-eco-friendly-restaurants-in-nyc/>

Y. Yoneda (2014), 5 Green Things You Might Not Know About Roberta's Pizza,
Retrieved from <https://inhabitat.com/nyc/5-green-facts-you-might-not-know-about-robotas-pizza/>

D. deLaski (2017), The 9 Greenest Restaurants In NYC, Retrieved from
<https://theculturetrip.com/north-america/usa/new-york/articles/the-9-greenest-restaurants-in-nyc/>