

The five boroughs of New York City



Manhattan is the most popular borough. For many people, it represents NYC at its best: Times Square, Central Park, Broadway, the Empire State Building – you name it, it's there!



Visiting Staten Island involves a ride on an orange ferry. The borough has a particularly rich history. For example, it played an important role in the Revolutionary War (1775-1783) and in the 19th century movement to abolish slavery.



The largest borough is Queens. Tourists and locals alike love visiting its art museums. And nobody wants to miss international sporting events like the US Open Tennis Championships, in Flushing Meadows.



The Bronx offers a wide variety of neighbourhoods such as its own Little Italy and Woodlawn, full of Irish heritage. The borough is also home to the New York Yankees baseball team, which has won 27 World Series championships.



Brooklyn is the most populous borough with its gorgeous houses and tranquil streets. You can also enjoy the thrills on Cyclone, a 1923 roller coaster on the peninsula of Coney Island.

Bank of America



- **LOCATION:** Midtown, Manhattan, 6th Avenue, between 42nd and 43rd Street.
- **ARCHITECTS:** Cook and Fox
- **DATE OF COMPLETION:** 2008
- **STYLE:** Late Modern (International)
- **HEIGHT:** 366 meters (1,200 feet) with antenna
- **NUMBER OF STOREYS:** 54
- **NUMBER OF ELEVATORS:** 53
- **COST:** \$ 1 billion

HISTORY AND FACTS

After the 9/11 events, it is described as representing "the city's optimism of its future". Several buildings were demolished to make way for the tower. Popular science gave the building the title of the Best Engineering of What's New in 2005 for its being "The Most Ambitious Eco-Friendly Skyscraper". It is, for example, largely built of recycled and recyclable building materials. New York City Governor George Pataki said "The new tower is a shining example of how you can create jobs while also protecting the environment".

Chrysler building



- **LOCATION:** Midtown, Manhattan, at the intersection of Lexington Avenue and 42nd Street.
- **ARCHITECT:** William Van Alen
- **DATE OF COMPLETION:** 1930
- **STYLE:** Art Deco
- **HEIGHT:** 319.5 meters (1,048 feet) with antenna
- **NUMBER OF STOREYS:** 77
- **NUMBER OF ELEVATORS:** 34
- **COST:** \$ 20,000,000

HISTORY AND FACTS

In the 1920s and 1930s, famous car manufacturer Walter Chrysler wanted a skyscraper to be built to symbolize his powerful automobile company. So he had the building decorated with a lot of ornaments just like his cars. He also wanted it to be the tallest building in the world. This record only lasted four months before the Empire State Building won the world's tallest championship title. Still the Chrysler building remains a symbol of New York and the New Yorkers' favourite skyscraper.

FLATIRON BUILDING

The Flatiron Building was constructed between 1901 and 1903 at the intersection of Broadway and Fifth Avenue. It was one of the most prominent and most famous landmarks in New York City. Built around a skeleton of steel, the Flatiron Building is fronted with limestone and terracotta and designed in the Beaux-Arts style, featuring French and Italian Renaissance influences. The Flatiron Building is 21 stories and 307 ft (93 meters). Shaped like a perfect right triangle, it measures only six feet (1m80) across the narrow end.



It is a popular tourist attraction, and one of the most photographed places in New York. Today, the Flatiron Building mainly houses publishing businesses, in addition to a few shops on the ground floor.

THE STATUE OF LIBERTY

The statue

It is in copper and its internal iron support was designed by Gustave Eiffel.

The torch

Miss Liberty's arm is 13 metres long and holds the torch of liberty which lights the world. It used to serve as a lighthouse.

The statue's feet

You can see broken shackles (chains) by Miss Liberty's feet. They symbolise the escape from tyranny and oppression.

The pedestal

It is in the shape of a star.



The crown

The seven points on the crown symbolise liberty on the seven continents.

The windows

You can climb to the top of the statue to admire the view from its 25 windows which represent the earth's 25 gemstones.

The tablet

It reads July 4th 1776. That was the day the Americans declared their independence from England.

The statue's dress

It looks like the costume of an ancient Greek woman. Ancient Greece was the birthplace of democracy, so her dress symbolises democracy.

Liberty Enlightening* the World

The Statue of Liberty is the most emblematic landmark of New York City. A cruise to Liberty Island is a top tourist attraction. But there is more to it than that! The Statue was a gift of friendship from the people of France to the people of the United States in 1886 to celebrate the hundredth anniversary of American Independence. From the end of the 19th century to the 1930s, millions of immigrants coming from all over Europe arrived in New York by boat. The first thing they saw was the Statue of Liberty: the universally recognised symbol of freedom and democracy.

* enlighten: éclairer

THE EMPIRE STATE BUILDING

Read these facts and prepare to test your friends' memories.

- Until 1973, it was the tallest building in the world.
- With the radio mast, it is 1,454 feet (443m) high.
- There are 73 elevators and not one that goes to the top. You have to change twice to reach the 102nd floor.

RUN-UP RACE

- An annual run-up race is held in February from the lobby to the 86th floor: 1,575 steps!
- In 2014 there were 157 participants.
- The male winner was a Norwegian who went up in 10'06".
- The female winner was an Australian who won the race for the fifth time in 11'57".

- The EMB has appeared more than 95 times in movies. The most famous are:
King Kong
An Affair to Remember
Sleepless in Seattle



102nd floor deck. On a clear day you can see up to 128 km away.

There is an open terrace on the 86th floor.

FUNNY FIGURES

- 1,860 steps.
- 8 high-speed escalators.
- 73 elevators.
- 50 miles of radiator pipe.
- 70 miles of water pipe.
- 6,500 windows to clean.
- 30,000 visitors a day.
- The foundations go 55 feet (16.7m) below ground.
- The building weighs 350,000 tons.
- Since 1931, 110 million people have been up to the top deck.