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where

NEW YORK

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JUN
2022

SUMMER FUN IN NEW YORK

FIVE FANTASTIC FAMILY-FRIENDLY SPOTS
IN AND AROUND NEW YORK CITY

WHERE TO EAT, PLAY & STAY
THE BEST RESTAURANTS,
ATTRACTIONS & HOTELS TO
VISIT THIS SUMMER

PARKS OF NEW YORK CITY

A GUIDE TO SOME OF THE BEST GREEN SPACE IN NYC



PARKS OF NYC

WITH 1,700 PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS, NEW YORK CITY COULD BE CONSIDERED AS GREEN AS IT IS GRANITE. HERE WE'VE PICKED THE BEST VISITS TO AN OUTSTANDING PARK IN EACH OF THE FIVE BOROUGHS.

By Walecia Konrad, Alexis Mucci, Meryl Pearlstein, Mandy Stripling

Start your tour in **Central Park** at the Central Park West entrance, and head north to the Pool and make your way along the twisted path to the waterfall, one of the most serene spots around. Back on the road, head east to the Vanderbilt Gate and Conservatory Garden, the only formal gardens in the park. Stop midpark at the whimsical Belvedere Castle—a great place to view the Great Lawn and the Ramble. It is also home to a National Weather Service station.

From there, stroll through the Shakespeare Garden. This terraced four-acre oasis devoted to the Bard features flowers and plants mentioned in his poems and plays.

Next, a tribute to a more modern-day poet can be found between 71st St. and 74th St. on the park's west side at Strawberry Fields. The memorial to John Lennon, dedicated in 1985, is a designated quiet zone. Despite the rules, devotees of every age bring their guitars and other instruments to (quietly) play "Imagine" and other famous Lennon tunes.

Hunger hitting? Check out the Loeb Boathouse Lakeside Restaurant. True to its name, you can also rent a rowboat there. Explore the lake and observe the 26 species of butterflies known to inhabit the area.

At some point, you'll also want to stop by the Central Park Zoo, where two playful snow leopard cubs born at the zoo just a few short years ago.

Wherever your stroll through Central Park takes you, keep an eye out for the green Audio Tour signs giving a number that you can call for a short history of an iconic spot told by a famous New Yorker.

If you're looking for an all-year-round destination, **Bryant Park** is for you. Whether it's the Christmas shopping village and ice skating in the winter or outdoor movies and concerts in the summer, there's always something fantastic happening. Grab lunch at one of the food kiosks and take a seat at a table in the shade to and people watch. There's a public bocce ball court at the western end of the park for you to take on your friends or, if you're bold, one of the local ringers.

Beginning in June, various New York City performance companies will showcase their talent at Manhattan's Bryant Park. Dubbed "Picnic Performances," the shows take advantage of the city's burgeoning outdoor culture and, hopefully, good weather. Grab a lawn spot or chair, spread out your picnic with chilled rosé and enjoy an evening of some of the best talent around.



FORT GREENE PARK



PROSPECT PARK



BRYANT PARK



WAVE HILL

Fort Greene Park is one of the oldest parks in the city, and it continues to be a great place to go for a walk. This Brooklyn park offers plenty of long, winding trails that can take you throughout the grounds. You can explore everything at your own pace, be it a slow stroll or an active walk. Fort Greene Park is all about making sure you're getting active, so you can find plenty of activities to take part in alongside your walk, like basketball courts and fitness equipment.

If you like what you see throughout your walk and want to help preserve it, you can join one of their programs like "Leaf No Trace" to make sure Fort Greene Park stays healthy and vibrant for years to come.

The 585-acre park known as **Prospect Park** is one of the most wooded areas of New York City. Start your exploration at the Grand Army Plaza entrance, where the Soldiers' and Sailors' Arch in front of sprawling Eastern Parkway brings a bit of Paris to New York's most populous borough. Head south on the East Drive or through the Long Meadow to the Donald and Barbara Zucker Natural Exploration Area, an artistic, almost otherworldly play space for children and adults made from the remains of trees damaged during Hurricane Sandy and other major New York City storms.

Keep heading south on East Drive to the Children's Corner and stop in at the Prospect Park Zoo, where dozens of different wild and farm animals reside. There's a barn filled with sheep and goats and, elsewhere, adorable red panda cubs romp. The lively troupe of Hamadryas baboons will entertain you for hours.

Located amid the mansions and tree-lined streets of the residential Riverdale neighborhood (you won't believe you're still in New York City), **Wave Hill** offers stunning views of the Hudson River and the Palisades.

When you arrive, head straight to the Great Lawn and the Pergola Overlook for the views. Then stroll through the Perennial Flower Garden, Marco Polo Stufano Conservatory, Wild Garden and Aquatic Garden, which are all in their July glory. After a short hike on the Woodland Trail, you'll be ready for lunch at the Café in the recently renovated Wave Hill House, a former Hudson River mansion.

After lunch, make your way across the Great Lawn to the Glyndor Gallery. Among other exhibits currently on display, you'll see fireflies like you've never seen them before in Gregory Crewdson's photographs.