

Big Apple Greeter welcomes you to New York City!



Big Apple Greeter
New York City

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The Big Apple Greeter Guide to

Park Slope

LONG CONSIDERED ONE OF NEW YORK CITY'S BEST RESIDENTIAL neighborhoods, Park Slope is home to gracious brownstones, charming shops and restaurants, and all within easy reach of Manhattan. A walk through Park Slope is like a trip back to a more elegant age but with all the conveniences.

TEXT BY MARIANNE GENNARI.
GRAPHIC DESIGN BY JOY MAKON.
PHOTOGRAPHS BY PAUL KATCHER
AND JOY MAKON.

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Big Apple Greeter
1 Centre Street
New York, NY 10007
Phone: 212-669-8159
Web: bigapplegreeter.org

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PROSPECT PARK PICNIC HOUSE



SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' ARCH

Where is Park Slope?

Located in Western Brooklyn, Park Slope is bordered on the south by 15th Street, on the west by 4th Avenue, on the north by Flatbush Avenue, and on the east by Prospect Park.

About Park Slope

During the 1850s, Edwin Litchfield bought most of the land that is today Prospect Park and Park Slope for the site of his estate. Through the Civil War era, Litchfield sold off part of the land to developers. With horse-drawn streetcars installed in the late 1870s and the opening of the Brooklyn Bridge in 1883, Park Slope was ready for a land boom. During the 1880s and 1890s, numerous mansions were built and the population soared. The 1890 census identified Park Slope as the wealthiest neighborhood in the United States. Following a decline during the 1950s through 1970s, Park Slope became a center of gentrification and is now lauded for its architectural and historical features as well as its diverse mix of residents.

It's Easy to Get to Park Slope

M BY SUBWAY: 2 or 3 trains to Bergen Street or Grand Army Plaza. **B** or **Q** trains to 7th Avenue. **R** train to Union Street or 4th Avenue/ 9th Street. **F** train to 4th Avenue/9th Street, 7th Avenue or 15th Street.

BY BUS: Bus lines that service Park Slope include the **B41, B68, B69** and **B71**.

Things to See and Do in Park Slope

1 LITCHFIELD VILLA at Prospect Park West at 5th Street is an 1857 Italianate mansion which is on the National Registry of Historic Places. Originally designed as the home of Edwin Litchfield, a railroad magnate and real estate developer, the villa is now home to the Brooklyn headquarters to the NYC Department of Parks & Recreation. Its entrance vestibule opens into an octagonal rotunda topped by a skylight and it contains fine examples of pre-Civil War American-made stained glass. The building is open to the public during normal business hours. To learn more, see the website at prospectpark.org/villa.

GREETER'S SECRET
Standing just within Prospect Park and looking out through the Soldiers' and Sailors' Arch, one can see the Empire State Building in Manhattan perfectly framed by the Arch, itself.

2 GRAND ARMY PLAZA at the juncture of Flatbush Avenue and Prospect Park West was designed by Olmsted and Vaux to be the grand entryway into their beloved Prospect Park. Its magnificent Soldiers' and Sailors' Arch was designed by the famed architectural firm of McKim, Mead and White as part of the City Beautiful movement. To learn more, see the website at prospectpark.org/visit/places/gap.

3 BAILEY FOUNTAIN within Grand Army Plaza was built in 1932. It features an elaborate grouping of allegorical and mythical figures that includes Neptune, the god of water, and a pair of nudes, one male, one female, representing Wisdom and Felicity. A frequently used site for wedding photos, the fountain is elaborately lit for the Christmas season.



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BROWNSTONE BROOKLYN



LOVELY ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS

4 MONTAUK CLUB at 25 8th Avenue at Lincoln Place has been a private social club since 1890 but its Venetian Gothic architecture is available for viewing to everyone. Inspired by the Ca d’Oro on Venice’s Grand Canal, terra cotta friezes were employed to depict the life of the Montauk Indian tribe from Long Island. To learn more about this unique building, see their website at montaukclub.com.

5 THE OLD STONE HOUSE at 3rd Street at 5th Avenue is a replica of the Dutch farmhouse that played a major role in the Battle of Brooklyn in 1776. The site is now a NYC Historic House Trust. The house offers events throughout the year and contains an interpretive center that focuses on the American Revolution. To learn more, see their website at theoldstonehouse.org.

6 THE PARK SLOPE HISTORIC DISTRICT runs the length of 7th Avenue to Prospect Park with its northernmost border running along Flatbush Avenue bounded by Berkeley Place and 5th Avenue. Established in 1973, the

district is home to some of the finest examples of brownstone architecture in the city and is dotted with some very fine examples of houses of worship. To learn more, see the website at parkslopeciviccouncil.org/index.php?section=historic-district.

Shopping

7 ASHA VEZA at 69 5th Avenue between Prospect Place and St. Mark’s Avenue offers unique garments, many made of silk with embroidery and beading, from emerging Bosnian and Indian designers. Proceeds from the collection are used to job train women who are victims of poverty. To learn more, see their website at ashaveza.com.

8 STERLING PLACE at 352 7th Avenue at 10th Street offers home décor, antiques and gift items that range in style from classic to contemporary. There is a nice selection of men’s gift and eco-friendly items, as well. To learn more, see their website at sterlingplace.com.

GREETER’S SECRET

Beautiful Prospect Park is a dominant feature of Park Slope’s landscape. Designed by famed duo Olmsted and Vaux, it is the great jewel of all Brooklyn parks. To learn more about the park and its many events and activities, see the website at prospectpark.org/home.



PROSPECT PARK LAKE

GREETER’S SECRET

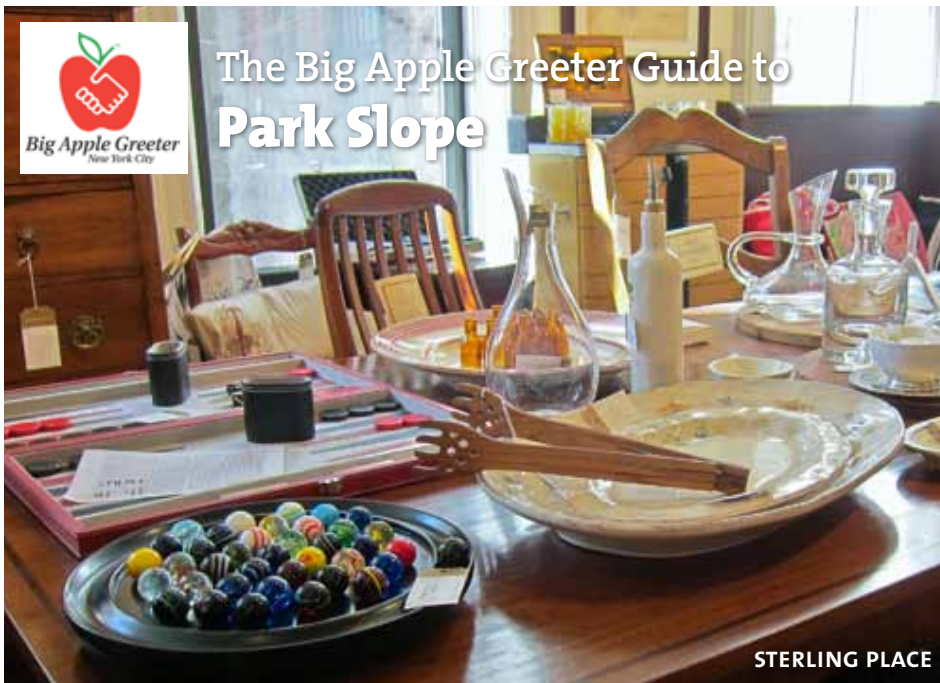
To view the wonderful architectural gems contained within the Park Slope Historic District, see the website at picasaweb.google.com/pssc.hd.01.



MONTAUK CLUB



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STERLING PLACE



BROOKLYN SUPERHERO
SUPPLY COMPANY

9 **BROOKLYN SUPERHERO SUPPLY COMPANY** at 372 5th Avenue near 6th Street is the place to go for all your crime fighting needs. From capes to creating your own secret identity, you will find all you need to protect the world. And don't forget your Halloween and costume party needs. To learn more, see the website at superherosupplies.com.



CAFÉ STEINHOF

12 **CAFÉ STEINHOF** at 422 7th Avenue near 14th Street offers authentic Austrian cuisine, free movies and live music. Be sure to try the gulasch! The spaetzle and linzer tarts are must-tries, also. To learn more, see their website at cafesteinhof.com.

10 **THE COMMUNITY BOOKSTORE** at 143 7th Avenue between Carroll Street and Garfield Place calls itself the premier independent bookstore of the most literary neighborhood in New York City. This is the place to find that very special book. Literary events are also hosted here. To learn more, see their website at communitybookstore.net.

13 **TWO BOOTS** at 514 2nd Street near 7th Avenue is a Cajun/Italian restaurant and bar that is family-friendly and offers festive cocktails. Live music on weekends and patio dining in season, make this a local favorite. To learn more, see their website at twobootsbrooklyn.com/pages/home.html.

When It's Time to Eat

11 **BELLEVILLE BISTRO** at 330-332 5th Street near 5th Avenue offers contemporary French cuisine and is Michelin-rated. Outdoor seating in season and the use of the freshest local ingredients in the cooking add to the charming atmosphere. To learn more, see their website at bellevillebistro.com/splashpage/index.html.

14 **SHEEP STATION** at 149 4th Avenue near Butler Street is an Australian gastropub with the largest selection of beers and wines from Down Under in the city. The menu includes authentic Australian burgers, meat pies and game. To learn more, see their website at sheepstation.net.

Culture

15 **BROOKLYN LYCEUM** at 227 4th Avenue near President Street offers a rotating menu of music, theater, children's events, films, opera and jazz. There is also a café and art gallery. There is even a gymnasium and karaoke nights. To learn more and to see a schedule of events, see their website at brooklynlyceum.com.




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BELLEVILLE




SUNDAY FARMERS MARKET

Nightlife


16  **AJI BAR LOUNGE** at 287 9th Street between 4th and 5th Avenues offers a friendly atmosphere and outstanding Peruvian cuisine and specialty cocktails. An outdoor garden and upstairs patio add to the special ambience. To learn more, see their website at ajibarlounge.com/index.htm.

17  **BARBES** at 376 9th Street at 6th Avenue serves as both bar and performance space. Hosting wide-ranging styles of musical events, the bar offers an excellent collection of Single Malt Scotch as well as sophisticated cocktails. To learn more, see their website at barbesbrooklyn.com.

18  **BEER TABLE** at 427B 7th Avenue near 14th Street is known for its specialty drafts as well as traditional beers and its cozy atmosphere. Tastings and food pairings, as well as special events, are offered. Beer to go is also available. To learn more, see their website at beertable.com.

19  **CHERRY TREE BAR** at 65 4th Avenue near Bergen Street offers 23 microbrews on tap and a lovely garden. Happy hours, trivia nights and special events make this a neighborhood staple. And there is an outdoor tiki bar, weather permitting.



20  **UNION HALL** at 702 Union Street near 5th Avenue is a bar/restaurant/music venue with indoor bocce courts and garden seating. Its bookshelves, antique globe and fireplace provide an explorer's club atmosphere. To see a performance schedule, see their website at unionhallny.com/home.php.

About Big Apple Greeter

Founded in 1992, Big Apple Greeter's mission is to enhance New York City's worldwide image while enriching the city experience for its visitors. Connecting with business and leisure travelers from all over the US and the world, Greeters take visitors on informal, unscripted walks through one or more neighborhoods in any of the five boroughs, promote tourism throughout the city, and help visitors discover the ease of using public transportation. Over 300 volunteer Greeters speak collectively almost 25 languages and enjoy giving their time and energy back to their hometown. Since its founding, Big Apple Greeter—a free public service—has welcomed nearly 100,000 visitors and been featured in thousands of newspapers, magazines, and television and radio programs all over the world, reaching an audience of over one billion potential visitors to New York City. Big Apple Greeter is proud to partner with NYC & Company, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority and the Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Metro New York.



Big Apple Greeter is a proud member of the **Global Greeter Network**, operating on five continents, including North America, South America, Australia, Europe and Asia. Click on the link to find a Greeter program where you are traveling next: globalgreeternetwork.info/

You may learn more about Big Apple Greeter and its many services on our website: bigapplegreeter.org or by emailing us at information@bigapplegreeter.org



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