ETHNICALLY DIVERSE, FLUSHING IS HOME TO A CHINESE POPULATION large enough to rival Manhattan’s famed Chinatown as well as other ethnic communities, including Italians, Greeks, Hispanics, Koreans, Japanese and other Asian groups. It is also a renowned sports venue, acting as home to Citi Field, the stadium of the New York Mets baseball team, and to the U.S. Open Tennis Tournament.
Where is Flushing?
Located in north central Queens, Flushing is bordered on the north by Willets Point Boulevard, on the west by Flushing Meadows-Corona Park, on the south by Union Turnpike and on the east by Francis Lewis Boulevard.

About Flushing
Founded in 1645 and named for the Dutch town of Vlissingen, Flushing soon became a safe haven for Quakers who found refuge from the ban on their religious practices by then-Governor Peter Stuyvesant. The signing of the Flushing Remonstrance in 1657 protesting religious persecution gives Flushing the claim to being the birthplace of religious freedom in the New World. In the 20th century, Flushing was home to both the 1939-1940 and 1964-1965 World’s Fairs and was host to the first papal visit to the United States when Pope Paul VI attended the World’s Fair on October 4, 1965. Today’s Flushing is a rich ethnic neighborhood that reflects the ever-changing nature of the city.

It’s Easy to Get to Flushing

**BY SUBWAY:** 7 train to Main Street. **BY BUS:** Bus lines that service Flushing include the Q12, Q13, Q14, Q15, Q16, Q17, Q20A, Q20B, Q25, Q26, Q27, Q28, Q34, Q44, Q48, Q58, Q65, Q66, QBx1, N20 and N21.

Things to See and Do in Flushing

1. **THE QUAKER MEETING HOUSE** at 137-16 Northern Boulevard near Linden Place has been in continuous use for religious services by the Society of Friends since 1694 with the exception of the period of the American Revolution when it was used as a hospital, garrison and stable. Behind the house is a small graveyard which is the final resting place of John Bowne who played a major role in the history of Long Island. Religious services are held twice a month and all are welcome to attend. Tours are held on Sundays or by appointment only. To learn more, see their website at [http://www.nyym.org/flushing](http://www.nyym.org/flushing).

2. **THE BOWNE HOUSE** at 37-01 Bowne Street at 37th Avenue dates from 1661 and is thought to be the oldest existing house in Queens. John Bowne openly opposed the outlawing of the Quaker sect by Peter Stuyvesant and was instrumental in the adoption of the Flushing Remonstrance, believed to be the precursor of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. Visits to the grounds and gardens must be arranged in advance. For further information, see their website at [http://www.bownehouse.org](http://www.bownehouse.org).

**GREETER’S SECRET:** The rock group Kiss is said to have derived its name from Kissena Boulevard, one of the area’s major thoroughfares.
3 **THE QUEENS HISTORICAL SOCIETY** at 143-35 37th Avenue between Bowne Street and Parsons Boulevard housed in the historic **KINGSLAND MANOR** has a collection encompassing over 300 years of local history. The historical society is located in **WEEPING BEECH PARK**, named for the park’s tree grown from a shoot imported from Belgium in 1847. The historical society also sponsors walking tours, lectures, concerts and other events throughout the year. To learn more, see their website at [http://www.queenshistoricalsociety.org/collections.html](http://www.queenshistoricalsociety.org/collections.html).

4 **ST. GEORGE’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH** on Main Street between 38th and 39th Avenues has served a congregation since 1702. The first church on the site was erected in 1746 and the current church building dates from 1854. Francis Lewis, a Founding Father and a signer of the Declaration of Independence, was warden of the church from 1765 to 1790. To learn more, see their website at [http://www.sg1702.org](http://www.sg1702.org).

5 **THE QUEENS BOTANICAL GARDEN** at 4350 Main Street near Dahlia Avenue was originally an exhibit at the 1939-1940 World’s Fair and has developed into a living museum committed to initiatives and programs that celebrate the relationship between people and plants. Offering a rose garden and fragrance garden, among others, the botanical garden was one of the ten locations named a Great Public Space by the Great Places in America program. To learn more about hours and formal tours, see their website at [http://www.queensbotanical.org/home](http://www.queensbotanical.org/home).

6 **FLUSHING MEADOW-CORONA PARK** bounded by the Van Wyck Expressway to the east, the Grand Central Parkway to the west, Flushing Bay to the north and Union Turnpike to the south at 1,255 acres, is the second-largest public park in the city. Among its many features, the park is home to the **UNISPHERE, QUEENS MUSEUM OF ART, THE NEW YORK HALL OF SCIENCE, THE BILLIE JEAN KING NATIONAL TENNIS CENTER, ARTHUR ASHE STADIUM AND CITI FIELD BASEBALL STADIUM**. The park is also home to the annual **HONG KONG DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL**. To learn more, see their website at [http://www.nycgovparks.org/sub_your_park/vt_flushing_meadows/vt_flushing_meadows_park.html](http://www.nycgovparks.org/sub_your_park/vt_flushing_meadows/vt_flushing_meadows_park.html).
7 **THE QUEENS MUSEUM OF ART** located in Flushing Meadow-Corona Park presents artistic and educational programs and exhibitions related to contemporary urban life. It also contains the **PANORAMA OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK** commissioned by Robert Moses for the 1964-1965 World’s Fair. Built by over 100 skilled artisans, the Panorama has been updated over time to reflect changes to the urban landscape. To learn more, see their website at [http://www.queensmuseum.org](http://www.queensmuseum.org).

8 **QUEENS ZOO WILDLIFE CENTER** located in Flushing Meadow-Corona Park is dedicated to teaching visitors about wildlife and wildlife habitats. The only zoological park in Queens, this is a great place to relax. Make sure to see the bison and elks. To learn more, see their website at [http://www.queenszoo.com](http://www.queenszoo.com).

9 **CITI FIELD** at 123-01 Roosevelt Avenue within Flushing Meadow-Corona Park is home to the **NEW YORK METS**, one of the city’s major league baseball clubs. Citi Field is also a known concert venue. To learn more, see the website at [http://newyork.mets.mlb.com/index.jsp?c_id=nym](http://newyork.mets.mlb.com/index.jsp?c_id=nym).

10 **THE BILLIE JEAN KING NATIONAL TENNIS CENTER** located in Flushing Meadow-Corona Park on Meridian Road near the Grand Central Parkway is home to the U.S. Open and is available for public use when not being used for U.S. Tennis Association-sanctioned events. Try out your backhand or arrange for private lessons. To learn more, see their website at [http://www.usta.com/?sc_itemid={22BCF3F7-F162-4B75-B74D-45A6D6F2CD7E}](http://www.usta.com/?sc_itemid={22BCF3F7-F162-4B75-B74D-45A6D6F2CD7E}).

### Shopping

- **THE FLUSHING MALL** at 133-31 39th Avenue between Prince Street and College Point Boulevard contains numerous small shops with fair prices and a wide selection of fashion, jewelry, toys and electronics. There is even a kiosk with Mets memorabilia.

- **SHUN AN TONG HEALTH HERBAL CO.** at 135-24 Roosevelt Avenue near Main Street is a well-established herbal shop where you can watch the herbalists prepare remedies.

11 **WORLD JOURNAL BOOK STORE** at 136-19 38th Avenue between Main and 138th Streets offers a nice selection of books, including those written in Chinese.

### When It’s Time to Eat

- **KUM GANG SAN** at 138-28 Northern Boulevard near Union Street offers authentic Korean and Japanese cuisine, including Korean BBQ. Enjoy
live traditional music and Korean-style architecture while you dine. To learn more, see their website at http://kumgangsan.net/direction_main.htm.

**HAPPY BUDDHA VEGETARIAN RESTAURANT** at 135-37 Flushing Avenue between Main and Prince Streets offers dining inspired by traditional Buddhist culinary techniques. Try the cedar pancakes. To learn more, see their website at http://www.happybuddha.com/main_content.html.

**EAST BUFFET RESTAURANT** at 42-07 Main Street near Maple Avenue offers a spectacular buffet of Asian delights. To learn more, see their website at http://www.eastbuffet.us/mainSite/content/blogcategory/2/34/.

**SHANGHAI TIDE** at 135-20 40th Road near Main Street offers shabu shabu (hot pot), dim sum and a fun dining experience at reasonable prices.

**TEN REN TEA & GINSENG CO.** at 135-18 Roosevelt Avenue near Prince Street is the place to go for bubble tea. They also sell loose teas, tea utensils and snack items. To learn more, see their website at http://www.tenrenusa.com.

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**Culture**

**Flushing Town Hall** at 137-35 Northern Boulevard at Linden Place was built in 1862 and served as the central government office for the community. Today, the hall functions as a gallery and performance space which contains a permanent exhibit on the history of Jazz in Queens. To learn more about the wonderful variety of exhibits and performances offered, see their website at http://www.flushingtownhall.org.

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**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, promoting tourism throughout the city, and help visitors discover the ease of using public transportation. Over 300 volunters 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 over 90,000 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.

**About the Global Greeter Network**

Big Apple Greeter is proud to be part of the Global Greeter Network, a voluntary association of welcoming programs around the world, all based on the Big Apple Greeter model: free and open to all visitors; offer greeter services as an individual or very small group experience (no more than 6 visitors); and are characterized by enthusiastic local residents who love their home city, love to meet people from around the world, and volunteer to conduct these visits.

The Global Greeter Network currently spans seven countries on four continents and includes the following members: Cicerones de Buenos Aires in Argentina; Adelaide Greeters and Melbourne Greeter Service in Australia; Tap in TO! (Toronto) in Canada; VisitBrighton Greeters and Kent Greeters in England; Paris Greeter, Les Greeters de Nantes, Greeters62 (Pas-de-Calais), Lyon City Greeters and Marseille Provence Greeters in France; Den Haag Greeters in the Netherlands; Big Apple Greeter (New York City), Chicago Greeter, and Houston Greeters in the United States.

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