THE TIP OF MANHATTAN AND NEW AMSTERDAM ARE SYNONYMOUS. One cannot think of this area without remembering the city’s earliest roots. Filled with historical places and wonderful photo opportunities, The Tip of Manhattan is also the gateway to revered national treasures.
The Big Apple Greeter Guide to The Tip of Manhattan

Where is The Tip of Manhattan?
Located at the extreme lower end of Manhattan Island, the tip of Manhattan is bordered by Gouveneur Lane, Beaver Street, the East River and New York Harbor.

About The Tip of Manhattan
Settled by the Dutch in the 17th century as New Amsterdam, the tip of Manhattan has always been controversial. Birthplace of freedom of the press, outspoken New York finds its roots here. Home to some of the most historic sites in U.S. history, the tip of Manhattan is also very 21st century in its view of the world. A mix of old and new, there is something for everyone in the tip of Manhattan.

It’s Easy to Get to The Tip of Manhattan:

**BY SUBWAY:** 1, N or R trains to South Ferry. 4 or 5 trains to Bowling Green.

**BY BUS:** Bus lines that service the tip of Manhattan include the M5 and M20.

Things to See and Do in The Tip of Manhattan

1. **STONE STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT** bounded by Stone, Pearl and South William Streets and Mill Lane is a cluster of historic buildings that evoke early New York. Once the epicenter of the early city’s maritime business, the area was destroyed in the Great Fire of 1835 which took with it all of the remaining architecture of New Amsterdam. When the area was rebuilt, Neo-Greco architecture was the rage, but some of the new buildings were given Neo-Dutch fronts to honor the past. This pedestrian-only area offers a view of an era long gone. To learn more, see the website at lowermanhattan.info/news/stone_street_centuries_old_34205.aspx.

2. **NEW YORK CITY POLICE MUSEUM** at 100 Old Slip at Front Street is dedicated to preserving the history of the world’s largest police service. Housed in the former 1st Precinct building completed in 1911, this Neo-Italian Renaissance building houses a rich collection of artifacts dating back to the 18th century, including Al Capone’s Tommy gun and Willie Sutton’s lock-picking kit. To learn more, see their website at nycpolicemuseum.org.

3. **NEW YORK VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL** at 55 Water Street near Coenties Alley was dedicated in 1985 and pays homage to those who served their country. The grid-like plaza of marble, granite and silver uses simple narrative to tell their story. To learn more, see the website at vietnamveteransplaza.com.

4. **FRAUNCES TAVERN MUSEUM** at 54 Pearl Street at Broad Street was originally built in 1719 as a home for the family of Stephen Delancey, a wealthy merchant. It was purchased in 1762 by Samuel Fraunces who converted it into one of the most popular taverns in the city. The tavern became inextricably linked to the American Revolution when General George Washington gave his farewell address to his troops in its Long Room. Prior to the adoption of the U.S. Constitution, the tavern housed offices of the Continental Congress. To learn more, see the website at frauncestavernmuseum.org.
5 **SHRINE OF ST. ELIZABETH ANN BAYLEY SETON** at 7 State Street at Water Street is housed in her former home, a stately Federal-style brick building. The shrine honors the first American-born saint and the founder of the American parochial school system. The shrine adjoins the Church of Our Lady of the Rosary. To learn more, see the website at [setonshrine.com](http://setonshrine.com).

6 **BATTERY PARK** on State Street between South Street and Battery Place is 25 acres of lovely green space in busy Lower Manhattan that plays host to over 4,000,000 visitors each year. One of the oldest open public spaces in the city, filled with flower gardens and running along the harbor, the park is the perfect place for a stroll. It is also considered the cradle of New York history—and what views! To learn more, see the website at [thebattery.org/index.php](http://thebattery.org/index.php).

7 **CASTLE CLINTON NATIONAL MONUMENT** within Battery Park was built in anticipation of the War of 1812. It later became a theatre and hosted Jenny Lind, the Swedish Nightingale, when she performed in the city. By 1855, it had become the largest immigrant receiving center in the U.S. and went on to become the New York Aquarium in 1896. Today, the castle has been restored to its fortification appearance and serves as the ticket office for trips to the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. To learn more, see the website at [thebattery.org/castle](http://thebattery.org/castle).

8 **ALEXANDER HAMILTON U.S. CUSTOM HOUSE** at 1 Bowling Green at Battery Place is a magnificent example of Beaux-Arts architecture. Designed by renowned architect Cass Gilbert, this remarkable building was completed in 1907. This building also houses The George Gustav Heye Center for the National Museum of the American Indian, a part of the Smithsonian Institute. To learn about exhibits and hours, see the website at [nmai.si.edu](http://nmai.si.edu).

9 **BOWLING GREEN** at Broadway near Battery Place is the oldest public park in the city and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is also home to the Charging Bull sculpture. Containing a fountain and pool, it is a popular lunchtime destination for local office workers. To learn more, see the website at [nycgovparks.org/parks/M007](http://nycgovparks.org/parks/M007).

**GREETER’S SECRET**
While visiting historic Castle Clinton, consider taking a short trip to visit either the Statue of Liberty or Ellis Island or both! To learn more about both excursions, see the website at [statuecruises.com](http://statuecruises.com).

**GREETER’S SECRET**
For something totally different, consider taking a side trip to Governors Island National Monument—only 800 yards from Lower Manhattan. Until recently a major U.S. Coast Guard installation, this is a wonderful place for viewing art installations, picnicking, sightseeing historical buildings or taking a walking tour. Free ferries leave from the Battery Maritime Building located at 10 South Street. To learn more and for a ferry schedule, see the website at [govisland.com/html/visit/visit.shtml](http://govisland.com/html/visit/visit.shtml).
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GREETER’S SECRET

The Great Fire of 1835 was a conflagration of such magnitude that its flames were reported seen in Philadelphia—over 90 miles away.

10 HANOVER SQUARE at Pearl and Stone Streets was named in 1714 for the House of Hanover to commemorate King George I’s ascent to the English throne. This triangular-shaped park was for many years the center of New York’s commodity market and a major location for the city’s printing businesses. It was here that the Great Fire of 1835 started.

11 INDIA HOUSE at 1 Hanover Square between Pearl and Stone Streets was built in 1870 and declared a National Historic Landmark in 1977. Once home to the New York Cotton Exchange, this is a fine example of Renaissance-style architecture.

Shopping

FINANCIER PATISSERIE at 62 Stone Street near Hanover Square has an excellent selection of pastries and cakes and also offers a breakfast and lunch menu featuring light fare and a good selection of coffees. There is also outdoor seating.

GREETER’S SECRET

On a hot summer’s day, what is more inviting than a boat ride? Especially a free boat ride. Like many New Yorkers, cool off on the Staten Island ferry which leaves from Whitehall Ferry Terminal. The 5 mile, 25 minute trip offers some great photo opportunities and a chance to see Manhattan from a whole new perspective. Along the way, you’ll pass the Statue of Liberty and you’ll have the option to explore Staten Island once on the other side. To learn more, see the website at siferry.com.

13 BARCLAY-REX PIPE SHOP at 75 Broad Street near Beaver Street is the place to find fine cigars, well-made pipes and unique smoking accessories. The store also sponsors cigar events and offers online shopping. To learn more, see the website at barclayrex.com.

When it’s Time to Eat

SMORGAS CHEF at 53 Stone Street between Coenties Alley and Hanover Square offers Scandinavian cuisine and outdoor dining in season. Don’t miss the Swedish meatballs with lingonberries. To learn more, see the website at smorgaschef.com/index_wallstreet.htm.

STONE STREET TAVERN at 52 Stone Street between Coenties Alley and Hanover Square is a popular spot for good bar food, brunch and outdoor dining in season. With its warm wood tones and candlelight, this is a serene spot for an evening drink. To learn more, see the website at stonestreettavernyc.com/events.html.

15 HARRY’S CAFÉ AND STEAK at 1 Hanover Square between Pearl and Stone Streets is housed in the historic India House and offers elegant surroundings and fine food to match. Its bar is considered a local institution and the restaurant, itself, was immortalized in Tom Wolfe’s Bonfire of the Vanities. To learn more, see the website at harrysny.com.
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

Nightlife

**ULYSSES FOLK HOUSE** at 95 Pearl Street near Hanover Square is the place to find a friendly bar, good food and events such as live music, oyster tastings and trivia nights. Brewery nights are particularly popular. To learn more, see the website at ulyssesfolkhouse.com.

**ADRIENNE’S PIZZA BAR** at 54 Stone Street near Hanover Square attracts a young crowd with its coal oven pizza, full service bar and outdoor dining in season. This is the place to meet friends, enjoy a cold beer and share what many consider the best pizza in the area. To learn more, see the website at adriennespizzabar.com/index.html.

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