

Big Apple Greeter welcomes you to New York City!



Big Apple Greeter
New York City

www.bigapplegreeter.org



The Big Apple Greeter Guide to

Arthur Avenue & Belmont

NAMED FOR THE MANSION OF A COLONIAL-AMERICAN TOBACCO MAGNATE, Belmont today is a residential neighborhood with a rich ethnic mix of Italians, Hispanics, Afro-Americans and Albanians. The main artery of Belmont is Arthur Avenue, the self-styled “Little Italy in the Bronx.” Named in honor of President Chester A. Arthur, Arthur Avenue has meant all things Italian for dining and shopping for over 100 years.

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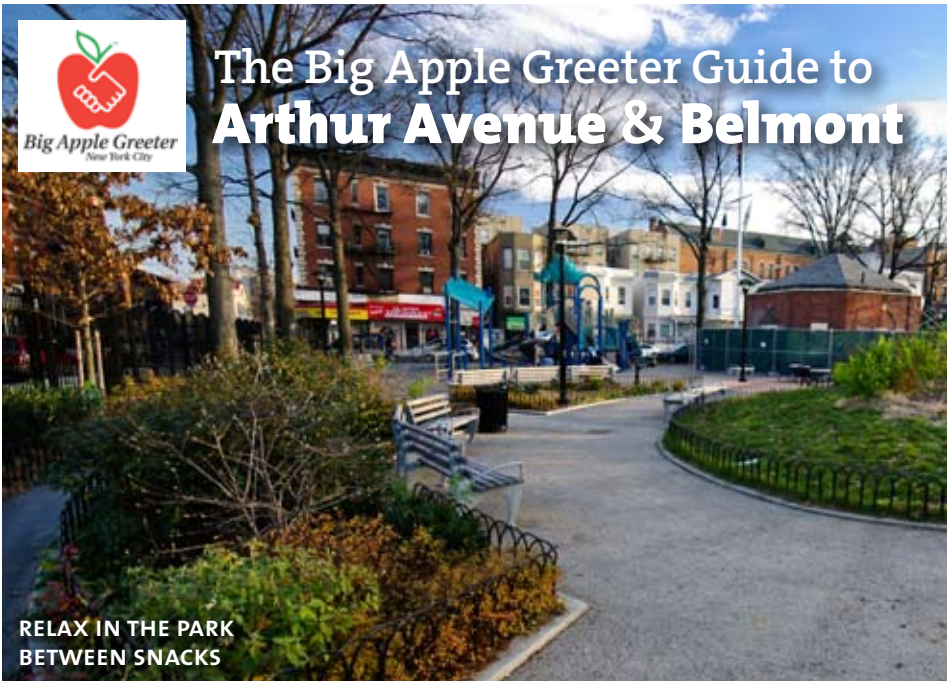
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RELAX IN THE PARK BETWEEN SNACKS



AUTHENTIC DELI DELIGHTS

Where is Arthur Avenue & Belmont?

Located in the Western Bronx, Belmont is bordered by Southern Boulevard to the east, Fordham Road to the north, 3rd Avenue to the West and East 183rd Street to the South. Arthur Avenue runs through the heart of the Belmont neighborhood.

About Arthur Avenue & Belmont

The Belmont area of the Bronx was once part of the vast estate held by the Lorillard family who built the first tobacco company in New York in 1760. Feeling the Bronx was better suited for a large manufacturing plant, the family purchased a large tract of land in 1792 near the Bronx River where they built a mansion and a highly



THE FRESHEST PASTA

successful snuff mill, powered by water from the river. Arthur Avenue at E. 187th Street is the center of the Italian-American community in the Bronx and offers the casual stroller access to authentic delis, bakeries, cafes and merchants of Italian goods and wares.

GREETER'S SECRET:

The movie **A Bronx Tale**, Robert De Niro's directorial debut, is set in Belmont.

It's Easy to Get to Arthur Avenue & Belmont

M BY SUBWAY: 4, B or D trains to Fordham Road

and transfer on the street level to the eastbound **Bx12** bus for a short ride to Arthur Avenue. **2** or **5** trains to Pelham Parkway and transfer on street level to the westbound **Bx12** bus for a short ride to Arthur Avenue.

BY BUS: Bus lines that service Arthur Avenue include the **Bx9, Bx12, Bx17, Bx19** and **Bx22**.



BY TRAIN: the **METRO NORTH HARLEM AND NEW HAVEN LINES** stop at Fordham Road and the

HUDSON LINE stops at University Heights. Transfer on the street level to the eastbound **Bx12** bus for a short ride to Arthur Avenue.

Things to See and Do in Arthur Avenue & Belmont

1 OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL

CHURCH at 627 E. 187th Street between Hughes and Belmont Avenues has stunning stained glass windows and a beautiful façade. Founded in 1906 to serve Belmont's burgeoning Italian community, the church was completed in 1917. Each year on July 15th, the church holds its annual celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. To learn more, see their website at <http://www.ourladymtcarmelbx.org>.





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2 D'AURIA MURPHY TRIANGLE

between Arthur Avenue and Adams Place and E. 183rd Street and Crescent Avenue was named for two local Belmont residents killed in combat in World War I. The park contains one of the five sculptures of Christopher Columbus found in city parks. The bust was created by Bronx-based sculptor Attilio Piccirilli, whose renowned studio produced the statue of Abraham Lincoln in the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.

GREETER'S SECRET:
Actors **Dominic Chianese** and **Chazz Palminteri** and author **Don DeLillo** were all born and raised in Belmont.

sandwiches and pizza, barrels of olives, specialized butchers, fresh produce, freshly made pasta and breads as well as Italian gifts and kitchenware. Make sure to take the time to watch cigars being hand rolled as you enter.

3 THE VINCENT CICCARONE PLAYGROUND

between Arthur and Hughes Avenues and E. 187th and E. 188th Streets is a centerpiece of the neighborhood and offers a bocce court, game tables for adults and play equipment for toddlers and pre-teens. Named for a World War I veteran who died as a result of wounds received in combat, Vincent Ciccarone had no connection to Belmont or Arthur Avenue.

5 MIKE'S DELI in the Arthur Avenue Retail Market is famous for its specialty sandwiches with names like "The Politician" and the "Sophia Loren." Mike's also makes up gift baskets and is a source for imported white truffles in season.

6 RANDAZZO'S SEAFOOD at 2327 Arthur Avenue near E. 184th Street is run by the third generation of the same family and offers the finest fresh fish imported from Italy. Make sure to try the raw bar, where you can order freshly shucked shellfish. To learn more, see their website at <http://www.randazzoseafood.com/index.html>

Shopping

4 Arthur Avenue is all about the food! **THE ARTHUR AVENUE RETAIL MARKET** at 2344 Arthur Avenue at E. 187th Street was created in 1940 by then-mayor of New York Fiorello LaGuardia in an effort to get pushcart vendors off the streets and out of the cold. The covered market offers wonderful



7 MADONIA BROTHERS BAKERY at 2348 Arthur Avenue near E. 186th Street has been in business since 1918 and is justly known for its wonderful breads, including olive, onion and the tomato focaccia. Be sure to try their wonderful pastries and cookies, especially the cannolis which are made fresh to order.



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THE FRESHEST PRODUCE



ITALIAN SPECIALTIES

8 TEITEL BROTHERS WHOLESALE AND RETAIL GROCERY

located at 2372 Arthur Avenue near E. 186th Street is an authentic Italian market that has been run by the same family since 1915. Known for high quality, Teitel Brothers carries gourmet cheeses, the finest Italian olive oil, pastas, dried herbs, and a wide variety of all types of Italian foodstuffs. To learn more, see their website at <http://teitelbros.com>.

9 GINO'S PASTRY SHOP at 580 E. 187th Street between Arthur Avenue and Hoffman Street offers tried and true Italian pastry and cookies. Gino's is known for its helpful and friendly staff.

10 CASA DELLA MOZZARELLA at 604 E. 187th Street between Arthur and Hughes Avenues makes their owned softball-sized balls of mozzarella which are a must! Also stocking other types of cheeses and a variety of Italian groceries, watch the mozzarella being made and order a sandwich to go. Service is friendly and helpful.



11 DELILLO BAKERY at 606 E. 187th Street between Arthur and Hughes Avenues offers a

GREETER'S SECRET:

1950s doo-wop group **Dion and the Belmonts** took their name from Belmont Avenue. Lead singer **Dion DiMucci** was born and raised in Belmont.

taste of Calabria in the Bronx. There is also a small seating area. Order a cappuccino and try some pastry. To learn more, see

their website at <http://delillopastryshop.com>.

12 BORGATTI'S RAVIOLI & EGG NOODLES at 632 E. 187th Street between Hughes and Belmont Avenues has been making pasta for over 70 years, including their signature ravioli. Carrying a wide line of fresh, dried and frozen pastas, as well as Italian groceries, Borgatti's is customer-friendly and has some of the best prices for fresh pasta in the city. To learn more, see their website at <http://borgattis.com/ravioli/index.php>.

13 ARTUSO'S PASTRY SHOP at 670 E. 187th Street near Crescent Avenue has been a neighborhood institution for over 60 years. This family business offers freshly made cannolis and wonderful seasonal specialties for the holidays. Be sure to try the pignoli nut cookies. To learn more, see their website at <http://www.artusopastry.com>.

When It's Time to Eat

14 MARIO'S RESTAURANT at 2342 Arthur Avenue near E. 186th Street has been run by the Migliucci family since 1919. Offering authentic Neopolitan cuisine, the staff treats everyone like family. Enjoy the hot, fresh bread while your meal is cooked to order. To learn more, see their website at <http://www.mariosrestarthurave.com/home>.



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15 **DOMINICK'S RESTAURANT** at 2335 Arthur Avenue between Crescent Avenue and E. 186th Street is a neighborhood legend. With a policy of no menus, no reservations and no credit cards, depend on your waiter to advise you on what to order. Tables are shared with other diners who are usually local residents.

16 **ENZO'S** at 2339 Arthur Avenue between Crescent Avenue and E. 186th Street offers authentic Italian food in generous portions at reasonable prices. Be sure to try the Enzo Salad.

17 **ROBERTO'S RESTAURANT** at 603 Crescent Avenue near Hughes Avenue offers country-style Italian dishes and handmade pastas in a charming setting of farmhouse tables and velvet curtains. The orecchiette with cauliflower and the fusilli are highly recommended.

Culture

18 The Belmont Branch Library at 610 E. 186th Street at Hughes Avenue is home to the **ENRICO FERMI CULTURAL CENTER** which offers lectures, concerts and exhibitions. The Center has a large Italian heritage collection of newspapers, books, videos, and audiocassettes as well as information about the Italian-American experience. To learn more, see the website at <http://www.nypl.org/branch/local/bx/ber.cfm>.

JOSEPH DESCIOSE/
THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN



GREETER'S SECRET: Both the **Bronx Zoo** and the **New York Botanical Garden** border Belmont to the north and east, are within easy walking distance and are readily accessible by public transportation. From April to October, the free **Bronx Tour Trolley** shuttles visitors between Arthur Avenue and the Zoo and Gardens. For schedule information, call 718-590-3518.

About Big Apple Greeter

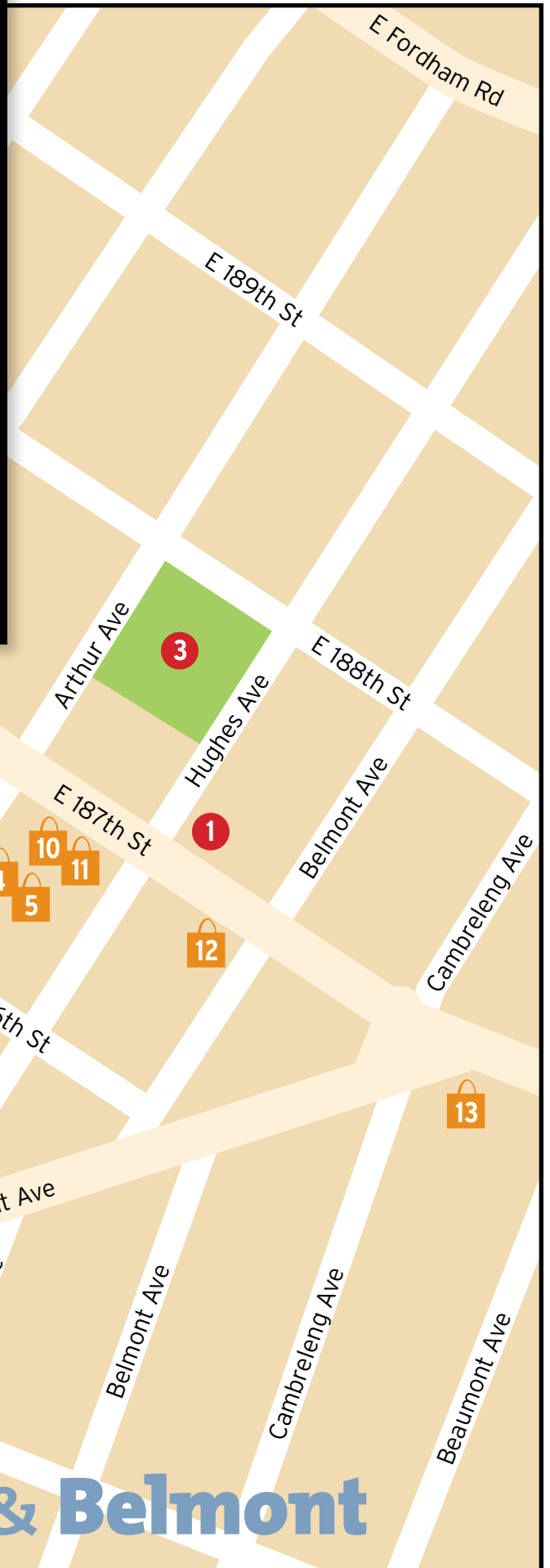
Founded in 1992, Big Apple Greeter's mission is to enhance New York City's worldwide image while enriching the city experience for its visitors. Connecting with business and leisure travelers from all over the US and the world, Greeters take visitors on informal, unscripted walks through one or more 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 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



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