



Welcome to New York City!



Big Apple Greeter
New York City

www.bigapplegreeter.org



The Big Apple Greeter Guide to Woodside

WOODSIDE IS A NEIGHBORHOOD OF WIDE ETHNIC DIVERSITY providing visitors with a profusion of tastes, sights and smells—a true melting pot experience. Visitors to the area will encounter a treasure trove of ethnic eateries, examples of street and subway art and historic cemeteries and the final resting places of New York politicians and reputed members of organized crime. Long known as the largest Irish-American community in Queens, the neighborhood is now home to large Thai, Filipino, South Asian, Colombian and Ecuadorean populations.

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SKYLINE VIEW FROM THE 7 TRAIN



WOODSIDE CONTINUUM BY DIMITRI GERAKARIS

Where is Woodside?

Located in Northwestern Queens, Woodside is bordered on the south by Maspeth and New Calvary Cemetery, on the west by Sunnyside, on the north by Astoria and St. Michael's Cemetery and on the east by Elmhurst and Jackson Heights.

About Woodside

Bordered by cemeteries, Woodside offers a view of a working class neighborhood with deep roots.

First settled in 1656 as farmland, Woodside was named in the 19th century

for the family estate of John Andrew Kelly, a newspaperman who wrote a column entitled "Letters from Woodside" which romanticized his view of the area. When developer Benjamin Hitchcock purchased the Kelly estate in 1867 to develop a village, the name Woodside stuck.

It's Easy to Get to Woodside:

M BY SUBWAY: 7 train to stations at 52nd, 61st or 69th Streets on Roosevelt Avenue. **E, G, R** or **V** trains to stations at Northern Boulevard or 65th Street along Broadway.

BY BUS: The **Q60** and **Q32** run from Manhattan to Woodside. Other bus lines within Queens that service Woodside include the **Q18, Q39, Q45** and **Q53**.

Things to See and Do in Woodside

1 Getting to Woodside is half the fun! For a real New York experience, **take the 7 train from Grand Central Station or Times Square to Woodside.**



GREETER'S SECRET: The 7 train was named a National Millennium Trail in 2000 by then First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton.

The 7 train has been a corridor of New York immigration since it opened in 1913, and because it is an elevated line, you can also see some great views of Manhattan as you travel.

2 Subway art is part of the experience of mass transit. At the **61st Street subway station on the 7 train**, make sure to see the **STEEL ARTWORK Woodside Continuum** (1999) by artist Dimitri Gerakaris that tells the history of mass transit in Woodside. At the same station, make sure to see a pair of **PHOTO COLLAGES TITLED Commuting/Community** by John Cavanaugh depicting neighborhood scenes. Also look out for the murals that decorate the walls of the bridges that carry the trains over the streets.

3 Much of Woodside's historic housing is gone, but you can still find some examples. A typical example of an attached wooden house with an open porch can be found at **6901 and 6903 69th Street a block north of the 69th Street 7 train station.**

4 WOODSIDE COURT, the area's oldest apartment building, was built in 1916 and can be found next to the overhead train lines on 62nd Street.

5 DOUGHBOY PARK, located between Woodside and Skillman Avenues and 54th and 56th Streets, is home to the statue of **The Returned Soldier** created by Burt W. Johnson to honor the veterans of World War I. The statue was dedicated in 1923, and, in 1928, the American Federation of Arts in Washington, DC declared it "to be the best war memorial of its kind in the United States." The sculptor, who lived in Flushing, NY, was the student and brother-in-law of renowned sculptor Augustus St. Gaudens. In failing health, Johnson supervised the final work from his wheelchair.



TYPICAL ATTACHED HOUSE



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CEMETERIES OFFER STROLLING ROOM



LOOKING FOR BARGAINS FROM A STREET VENDOR

Final Resting Places

6 Woodside's cemeteries are the only large, green spaces in the area. Locals walk and jog in these cities of the dead, home to some New York notables. Established in 1848, **CALVARY CEMETERY** at 49-02 Laurel Hill Boulevard is one of the oldest and largest cemeteries in the United States. Home to both the famous and infamous, some of its perpetual residents include reputed members of organized crime, well-known entertainers, sports figures and New York politicians including Mayor Robert F. Wagner, Jr. and Alfred E. Smith, governor of New York and U.S. presidential candidate. To verify visiting hours, call 718-786-8000.

7 Adjacent to Calvary Cemetery is **MOUNT ZION CEMETERY** at 59-63 54th Avenue. This is the final resting place of Lorenz Hart, the lyricist of *Blue Moon* and *My Funny Valentine*, and Nathaniel West, author of *The Day of the Locust*. It's also home to the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire Memorial. The disastrous fire led to numerous changes in the state labor laws. Mount Zion also contains the 18th century graveyard of the Betts family, one of the prominent founding families of the area. Captain Richard Betts was a settler from England who with other settlers obtained a governor's license to purchase the area that is now Woodside from the local

GREETER'S SECRET: Calvary Cemetery was used by Academy Award-winning director Francis Ford Coppola for the funeral scene in *The Godfather*.



Indians in 1656. Captain Betts was not only a farmer, but also became the sheriff. To verify visiting hours, call 718-335-2500.

8 Established in 1852, **ST. MICHAEL'S CEMETERY** at 77-02 Astoria Boulevard is one of the oldest nonsectarian cemeteries in the metropolitan area and contains examples of 19th and early 20th century burial sites for various immigrant groups. Ragtime composer Scott Joplin and reputed mob boss Frank Costello are both laid to rest here. To verify visiting hours, call 718-278-3240.



Shopping

9 Woodside offers a wealth of ethnic shopping! Make sure to visit "**LITTLE MANILA,**" the stretch of Roosevelt Avenue between 63rd and 71st Streets, for an assortment of shops that serve Woodside's large Filipino-American community. Check out **PHIL-AM FOODS** at 70-02 Roosevelt Avenue which offers Filipino groceries and prepared foods.

10 **THE 61ST STREET DELI** at 39-67 61st Street offers a variety of foodstuffs from the "old sod" including a wide assortment of snack foods.

11 **H-MART** at 59-18 Woodside Avenue is one of the largest purveyors of Korean groceries in the U.S., and their first location was in Woodside, NY. Consider trying their homemade tofu.





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SEAN OG TAVERN



STREET FAIR UNDER THE L

When It's Time to Eat

12 LA FLOR BAKERY & RESTAURANT at 53-02 Roosevelt Avenue offers Mexican specialties and fusion dishes that are a cross between Italian, French and Mexican cuisine. La Flor is also famous for its breakfasts.

13 SRIPRAPHAI THAI RESTAURANT at 64-13 39th Avenue offers authentic Thai food of the highest quality, including a vegetarian menu. In fine weather, there is outdoor dining in the garden off the dining room.

14 SAPORI D'ISCHIA at 55-15 37th Avenue is an Italian foods retail store by day and a restaurant by night. Find here fine Italian dining and a tasting menu. Known for its food and its extensive wine bar, the restaurant often offers live music in the evenings.

15 STOP INN at 60-22 Roosevelt Avenue is the place to go for a traditional Irish breakfast (as well as lunch and dinner). Make sure to try the hash browns.

Nightlife

16 What could be better than a pub crawl in a true Irish-American neighborhood? Woodside has some of the better known pubs in the city, some of which have entertainment on the weekends. **DONOVAN'S** at 57-24

Roosevelt Avenue is a quintessential Irish pub hailed for its famous hamburgers and Irish fare. Look for the dark wood booths, stained glass windows, fireplaces and waitresses with a brogue.

17 SEAN OG TAVERN at 60-02 Woodside Avenue shows televised soccer games, holds dart tournaments and offers wintertime Karaoke and indoor beach parties. In addition to traditional Irish pub food, the menu also offers vegetarian dishes. There is usually dancing on weekends.

18 SAINTS AND SINNERS at 59-21 Roosevelt Avenue holds a pop quiz on alternate Wednesdays and hosts Ladies Nights on Thursdays. Traditional Irish meals are served and there is often acoustic music on weekends.

Culture

17 Situated in the heart of multicultural Queens, Woodside is often the home to various events and festivals. To find out what is happening in the area, check the website for **WOODSIDE ON THE MOVE** at <http://www.woodsideonthemove.org/>. Woodside on the Move, headquartered at 39-42 59th Street, sponsors musical events throughout the summer and also commissioned the murals that decorate the walls of the bridges carrying the trains above the neighborhood's streets.

18 TOPAZ ARTS at 55-03 39th Avenue is a multimedia arts space committed to fostering artistic creativity. Check their website at <http://www.topazarts.org> for a list of cultural events and art shows.

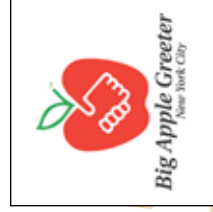
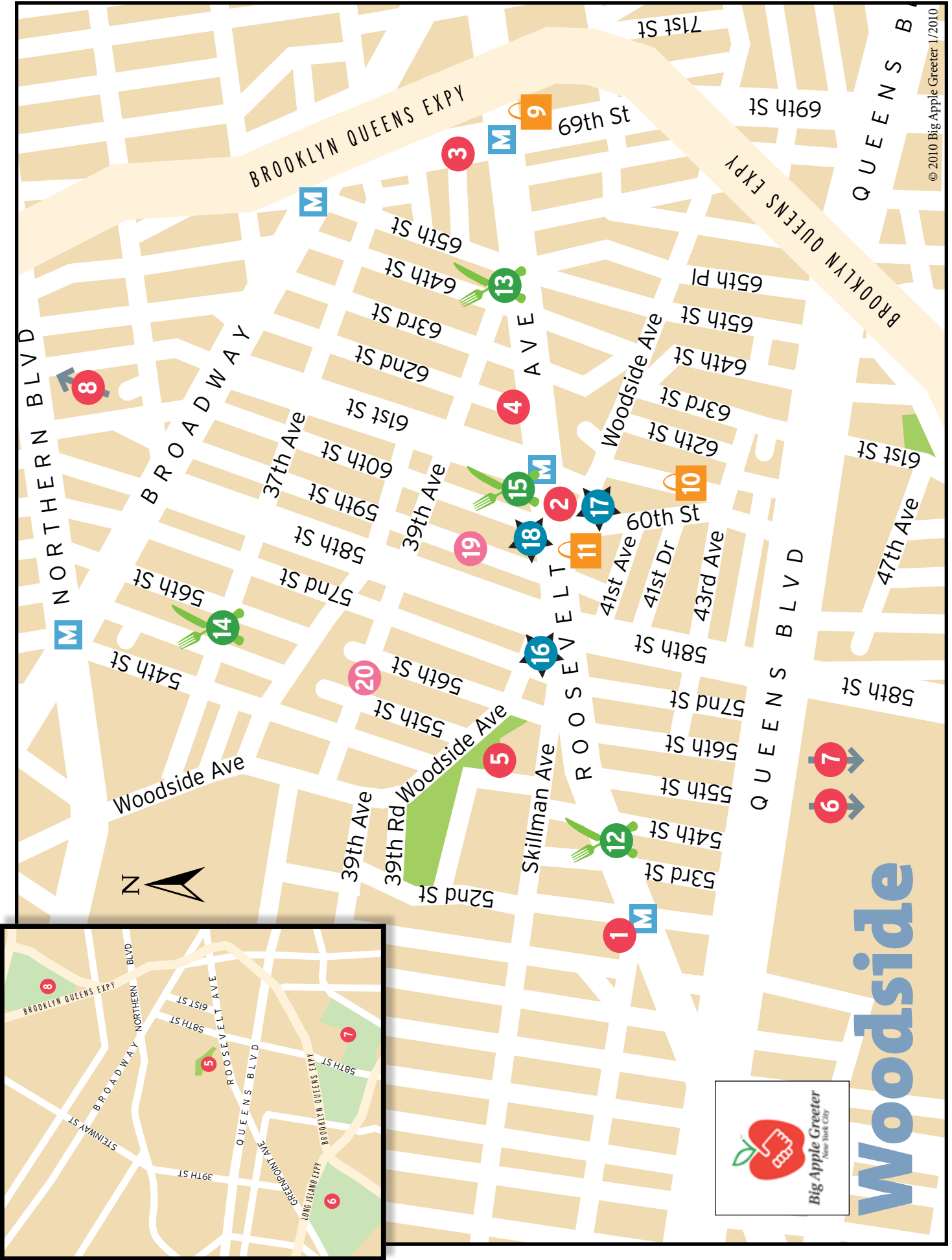
About Big Apple Greeter Founded in 1992, Big Apple Greeter's mission is to enhance New York City's worldwide image while enriching the city experience for its visitors. Connecting with business and leisure travelers from all over the US and the world, Greeters take visitors on informal, unscripted walks 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 continents on four continents and includes the following members: Cicero-nes 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



Woodside