

Big Apple Greeter welcomes you to New York City!



Big Apple Greeter
New York City

www.bigapplegreeter.org



The Big Apple Greeter Guide to **Yorkville**

HOME TO THE OFFICIAL NEW YORK CITY MAYOR'S RESIDENCE as well as one of the best places to find fine German pastry and dining, Yorkville has a long history as a comfortable residential neighborhood. It is also home to "Mile 18" of the New York City Marathon and to the city's own Oktoberfest.

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HOME-GROWN PATRIOTISM

Where is Yorkville?

Located in the Upper East Side of Manhattan, Yorkville is bordered on the north by E. 96th Street, on the west by 3rd Avenue, on the south by E. 72nd Street and on the east by the East River.

About Yorkville

Historically, Yorkville is linked to the 1904 devastating fire and sinking of the passenger ship “General Slocum” in the East River just off the shore of Yorkville. It was the city’s largest loss-of-life disaster until the events of September 11, 2001. For much of the 19th and early 20th centuries, Yorkville was a middle-class neighborhood inhabited by residents of Albanian, Czech, German, Hungarian, Irish, Jewish, Lebanese, Polish and Slovak descent. To New Yorkers, Yorkville is indelibly linked to Eastern European immigration, particularly from Germany. German immigrants have lived in Yorkville since the late 18th century, when German immigrants settled near what is now 86th Street. In the early 19th century, wealthy New York families, including several of German descent, established country estates in the area.

GREETER’S SECRET
In the late 19th and early 20th centuries when Eastern European immigration was at its peak, **72nd Street** was known as “Bohemian Boulevard,” **79th Street** was known as “Hungarian Boulevard” and **86th Street** was known as “German Boulevard.”

During the peak years of European immigration, Yorkville became the destination for waves of immigrants, including central Europeans and Irish as well as the Germans.

It’s Easy to Get to Yorkville:

M BY SUBWAY: **4** or **5** trains to 86th Street. **6** train to 77th, 86th or 96th Streets. **BY BUS:** Bus lines that service Yorkville include the **M15** and **M31**.

Things to See and Do in Yorkville

1 CARL SCHURZ PARK which runs from East End Avenue to the East River and from E. 84th Street to E. 90th Street offers wonderful promenades and is one of the city’s most dog-friendly parks. Beautiful views of the Roosevelt Island Lighthouse, the Robert F. Kennedy Bridge and Randall’s and Wards Islands await the park visitor. Perfect for reading or picnicking, Carl Schurz Park is a great escape from the hustle and bustle of the city. To learn more, see the website at <http://www.nycgovparks.org/parks/carlschurz>.

2 GRACIE MANSION found within Carl Schurz Park at East End Avenue and E. 88th Street is the official residence of the Mayor of New York. Built in 1799 as a country home for Archibald Gracie, the house has been the host to numerous illustrious guests over the years, including Alexander Hamilton, James Fenimore Cooper, Washington Irving, and more recently, former First Lady Rosalynn Carter and South Africa’s President Nelson Mandela. To learn more, see their website at <http://www.nyc.gov/html/om/html/gracie.html>.

GREETER’S SECRET:
The world famous annual **New York City Marathon** held on the first Sunday in November runs right through Yorkville. On 1st Avenue near E. 86th Street, you can see the runners just before they hit Mile 18 of the run. Access is easier from the west side of the street!



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LOVELY RESIDENTIAL STREETS



THE YORKVILLE CLOCK

3 THE HENDERSON PLACE HISTORIC DISTRICT between York and East End Avenues and E. 86th and E. 87th Streets is a charming cul-de-sac that contains 24 surviving small Queen Anne style dwellings built between 1881 and 1882. Repetitive decorative details make this area visually unified. To learn more, see the website at <http://www.friends-ues.org/historic-districts-and-landmarks/henderson-place>.

4 THE YORKVILLE CLOCK at 1501 3rd Avenue near E. 85th Street dates to 1898 when Adolph Stern set it up in front of his jewelry store at 1508 3rd Avenue. The 17-foot tall cast-iron post clock, which is designed to look like a giant two faced pocket watch, was manufactured by the E. Howard Clock Co. In 1923, Stern moved his store with its clock across the street to the current location. The Yorkville Clock was designated a landmark by the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission in 1981.

5 ZION-ST MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH at 339 E. 84th Street between 1st and 2nd Avenues still offers religious services in both English and German and sponsors an annual Oktoberfest complete with "oompah" band and lederhosen. Built in 1892, the church is both on the State Register

of Historic Places and the National Register of Historic Places. Zion-St. Mark's is permanently linked to the General Slocum disaster as it was their Ladies' Aid Society which had chartered the boat for an outing on the day it sank. Almost all of the women and children parishioners were aboard. To learn more, see their website at <http://www.zionstmarks.org>.

6 ST. ELIZABETH'S OF HUNGARY ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH at 211 E. 83rd Street between 2nd and 3rd Avenues is a Neo-Gothic structure with a beautiful vaulted ceiling and an interior that gives a feeling of intimacy and warmth. A relic of Yorkville's ethnic past, in 1980, then-Cardinal Terence Cooke designated St.

Elizabeth's the official church for the deaf Catholics of the city. To learn more, see their website at <http://www.stelizabethofhungarynyc.org>.



7 JOHN JAY PARK AND POOL between E. 76th and E. 78th Streets and the FDR Drive and Cherokee Place is a beautiful 3.3 acre facility that offers a popular swimming complex, basketball courts, handball courts, a playground and fitness equipment. To learn more, see their website at <http://www.nycgovparks.org/parks/johnjaypark>.



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Shopping

8 **GLASER'S BAKE SHOP** at 1670 1st Avenue at 87th Street has been in business since 1902 making German pastries and cakes in the old world manner. It remains one of the neighborhood's strongest ties to Yorkville's Germanic history. Sample the black and white cookies or the apple turnovers. Please note John Glaser's name spelled in tile on the floor. To learn more, see their website at <http://glasersbakeshop.com>.

GREETER'S SECRET: In the 1945 motion picture, *The Lost Weekend*, an inebriated Ray Milland clings to the **Yorkville Clock** as the 3rd Avenue elevated train rumbles overhead. There are no longer any elevated trains in Manhattan since the 3rd Avenue line was torn down in 1955.

9 **SCHALLER & WEBER** at 1654 2nd Avenue at 86th Street is at the epicenter of bygone Yorkville. Known for its medal winning sausages, the shop offers a wide array of meats, both fresh and smoked, as well as the accoutrements for fine dining. They are also known for their outstanding

selection of imported German candies, including marzipan. This family-owned establishment has been in business since 1937. To learn more, see their website at <http://www.schallerweber.com>.

10 **M. ROHR'S HOUSE OF FINE TEAS AND COFFEES** at 310 E. 86th Street between 1st and 2nd Avenues is a



century-old shop that stocks over 80 varieties of coffee and 90 varieties of tea. Coffeemakers, teapots and beautiful and unique gift baskets are also available. To learn more, see their website at <http://www.rohrs.com>.

11 **LOGOS BOOKSTORE** at 1575 York Avenue near E. 84th Street offers a wide selection of cards, gift items and children's books. They also pride themselves for offering the largest selection of Judeo-Christian literature in the entire city. To learn more, see their website at <http://logosbookstorenyc.com>.

12 **BLUE DANUBE GIFTS** at 217 E. 83rd Street between 2nd and 3rd Avenues is the only Hungarian bookstore in the United States. This is the place for books ranging in topics from children's literature to religion.

GREETER'S SECRET: Despite its name, **Asphalt Green** at E. 90th Street and the East River is one of the city's pre-eminent sports facilities dedicated to assisting individuals of all ages and backgrounds achieve health through a lifetime of sports and fitness.

Be sure to check out the selection of newspapers, magazines and videotapes.

13 **BENEATH** at 265 E. 78th Street near 2nd Avenue is a tiny boutique that carries a large selection of fashionable lingerie and high quality accessories. The shop specializes in Southern California designer labels at reasonable prices.



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FUN NIGHTLIFE

UNIQUE DINING EXPERIENCES

When It's Time to Eat



HEIDELBERG RESTAURANT at 1648 2nd Avenue between E. 85th and E. 86th Streets has been in business since 1936 and is the last remaining German restaurant in Yorkville. Offering authentic German food and a popular Sunday brunch, make sure to try the imported beers and the homemade strudel. To learn more, see their website at <http://www.heidelbergrestaurant.com>.



ANDRE'S CAFÉ AND EUROPEAN BAKERY at 1631 2nd Avenue between E. 84th and E. 85th Streets offers Hungarian fare at reasonable prices. Be sure to try the cabbage strudel and linzer tarts.



THE ETHIOPIAN RESTAURANT at 1582 York Avenue between E. 83rd and E. 84th Streets offers warm service and a unique dining experience. The signature lamb dish is a must-try and vegetarian dishes are also available. Outdoor dining is available in season. To learn more, see their website at <http://www.theethiopianrestaurant.com>.

Nightlife



COMIC STRIP LIVE at 1568 2nd Avenue near 81st Street offers stand-up comedy. Known for helping to launch the careers of the likes of Eddie Murphy, Sarah Silverman and Adam Sandler, make sure to book in advance to ensure a table. To learn more, see their website at <http://www.comicstriplive.com>.



MAKE at 1566 2nd Avenue near 81st Street is a make-your-own pottery ceramics studio that offers adult nights on selected Fridays and Saturdays. The classes include a ceramics project and red wine for participants. To learn more, see their website at <http://www.makemeaning.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 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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E 86 St M
E 77 St M

Madison Avenue
Lexington Avenue
3rd Avenue
2nd Avenue
1st Avenue
York Avenue

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FDR DRIVE

East End Avenue
FDR DRIVE

EAST RIVER



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FDR DRIVE

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