



Getting Ready for Your Visit

Frequently Asked Questions About NYC

Members of the World Stamp Show-NY 2016 Organizing Committee were pleased to meet collectors from all over the United States and Canada during visits to recent stamp shows.

In Grand Rapids at APS StampShow 2015, we were fortunate to have Sara Rosoff Simkin, director of Destination Services of NYC & Company who staffed a “Welcome to NYC” table at the show entrance. Sara brought the excitement, and cookies, of the Big Apple to Michigan.

While many visitors were eager to get details on their planned trip to WSS-NY 2016, there have been a few who stopped by to say “I wish I could come to NYC, but I don’t think I will because ...” Here are some of the responses that Sara, Christine, Wade, Steven, Gail, Matt, Carol, and others provided as answers.

Their responses will help collectors see why their trip to WSS-NY 2016 is a piece of New York City cheesecake.

New York City is a great big small town. Just ask Lynn Brooks, who founded Big Apple Greeter in 1992 as the first “welcome visitor” program of its kind in the United States. On her extensive travels around the world, Lynn realized that almost everyone she met wanted to visit New York City, but some were a little intimidated. She wanted the world to know the city as she did: a great big small town with diverse neighborhoods, mom-and-pop stores, fun, inexpensive places to dine, and folks who go out of their way to help a visitor feel welcome. Contact Big Apple Greeter at 212-669-8159 or information@bigapplegreeter.org.



United States 32-cent Empire State Building stamp from the Celebrate the Century series.

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Getting around the entire city is a snap. Easy-to-read transit maps and digital directional signs are throughout the system. A seven-day Metrocard good for unlimited bus and subway fares is \$31. This means when you take a break from visiting the 300,000-plus square feet of stamp collecting at the Javits Center, you can visit sites in all five boroughs as often as you wish for just \$4.43 a day, no limits on any bus or subway.

Manhattan’s Street Grid is so easy to manage. NYC’s pattern of numbered avenues and streets — much of Manhattan is set up like a checkerboard — makes it easy enough for any visitor to navigate.

There are too many famous sites to see. Buy CityPASS online at www.citypass.com/NewYorkCity. CityPASS is a booklet of admission tickets to six must-see tourist attractions, including the Empire State Building Experience, Metropolitan Museum of Art, and Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. You save 42 percent compared to the individual admission prices. Visit ny2016.org for links to hundreds of suggestions for sites to see.

New York City is walkable. Manhattan is only about 34 square miles. You can walk or run around the whole island via the Manhattan Waterfront Greenway. One of the biggest outdoor hits is the Highline, a 1.5-mile strip of protected parkland made for walking in the heart of the city’s west side. The Highline entrance is across from the Javits Center. There also is Central Park, of course, just 12 blocks north of the show hotel.

What about New Yorkers themselves? New Yorkers, as a whole, are considerate and gracious and very helpful. Approach a New Yorker for directions or any kind of help and he or she will stop, do what needs to be done politely and efficiently; then proceed on his or her way. We are helpful; we just don’t make a big deal about it.

How safe is New York City? Crime in New York City has been dropping since 1990 and, as of 2015, is lower than the national average. According to a 2015 ranking of 50 cities by *The Economist*, New York is the 10th overall safest major city in the world, as well as the 28th safest in personal safety.

If we missed your question, write to us at info@ny2016.org.



May 28–June 4, 2016
New York City
www.ny2016.org

Show opens in
7
 months

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