

BROADWAY 101

A Comprehensive Study Guide covering everything that is Broadway.

Famous Spots to Visit in and around Broadway

There are a variety of fascinating places to visit in and around Broadway. The Theatre District, located in Midtown Manhattan, is an extension of Times Square, and is where most Broadway theaters are located, as well as many other entertainment spots. The Theater District extends from 40th Street to 54th Street, and from west of 6th Avenue to east of 8th Avenue, which includes Times Square.

Below are some places in and around Broadway and the Theater District to know about:

Times Square is a major commercial intersection of Manhattan, located at Broadway and 7th Avenue, which stretches from West 42nd to West 47th Streets. It's former name was Longacre Square, and in 1904, it was renamed Times Square after the *New York Times* moved to the newly built Times Building, which is now called One Times Square and is the site of the annual ball drop on New Years Eve. Times Square, often referred to as "The Great White Way," because of the bright lights from the many marquees, has become an iconic world landmark.

Discovery Times Square Exposition (Discover TSX) is NYC's first large-scale exhibition center that showcases extraordinary exhibits in an exciting vibrant space for entertainment, learning and adventure. For example, Discover TSX has included world-class exhibits such as the Titanic, the Origins of Humans, Da Vinci, and King Tut.

Theater Row, an area on 42nd Street from 9th Avenue to 11th Avenue, which contains many Off- and Off-Off-Broadway theaters, is often considered to be an extension of the Theatre District, although it is not officially a part of it.

TKTS ticket booths in both New York City and London sell Broadway and Off-Broadway shows/events at discount prices (e.g., 25-50% off the regular price). TKTS first opened in 1973 and is operated by the Theatre Development Fund. There are three locations: one in Duffy Square (at 47th Street and Broadway, the north end of Times Square); another at South Street Seaport in Lower Manhattan); and a third in Downtown Brooklyn (Jay St. and Myrtle St. Promenade).

Note: The Times Square booth sells day-of-performance tickets only, while the South Street Seaport booth sells tickets to evening performances on the day of the performance and matinee tickets the day before.

Note: On Tuesdays, Broadway shows start at 7pm. All other days, go to the theater for an 8pm curtain.

The Broadway League (226 West 47th Street, 6th Floor between Broadway and 8th Ave.) is the national trade association for the Broadway industry. The 600-plus members include theatre owners and operators, producers, presenters, and general managers in North American cities, as well as suppliers of goods and services to the commercial theatre industry. Each year, League members bring Broadway to more than 30 million people in New York and more than 240 cities across the U.S. and Canada.

The League was born in 1930 when Broadway theatre operators came together to promote their common interests and negotiate collective bargaining agreements with theatrical unions and guilds. In subsequent years, the organization's mission has expanded to include serving the various needs of theatrical producers in New York and of national touring shows, as well as presenters of touring productions in cities throughout North America.

Today the League is a full-service trade association dedicated to fostering increased interest in Broadway theatre and supporting the creation of profitable theatrical productions.

HUNGRY? Try...

Sardi's is an iconic restaurant with an old-school vibe with some notable Broadway history. The soundtrack in the bi-level bar and dining room is strictly show tunes, and the decor features caricatures of entertainment legends like Lucille Ball and Jackie Gleason. (234 W 44th St. between Broadway and 8th Ave.)

Café Edison in the Hotel Edison is a popular, old-world diner that offers delicious Jewish food and great diner-type dishes. The café is located at 228 West 47th St., just off of Broadway.

Other notable places in the area to eat include:

Carnegie Deli (854 7th Ave. at 55th St.)

Junior's - Most Fabulous Cheesecake & Desserts (1515 Broadway)

John's Pizza (260 West 44th St.)

Ess-A-Bagel (831 3rd Ave. between 51st and 52nd Sts.)

Magnolia Bakery (of *Sex and the City* fame at 49th St., northeast corner)

Toloache Restaurant (251 West 50th between Broadway and 8th Sts.)

Cascina Ristorante (647 9th Avenue between 45th and 46th Sts.)

Joe Allen Restaurant (326 West 46th Street between 8th and 9th Aves.)

Note: For a real NYC experience, buy a pretzel, hot dog and/or chestnuts from one of the many street vendors.

Other notable places in the area to go see and/or shop at include:

The Actors Studio (432 West 44th St.)

The Actors' Temple (339 West 47th St)

Drama Bookstore (250 West 40th St.)

Colony Music Center (1619 Broadway)

Grand Central Terminal (42nd Street and Park Avenue)
Park Avenue

Waldorf-Astoria Hotel (301 Park Ave.)

St. Bartholomew's Church (325 Park Ave.)

Chrysler Building (42nd St. and Lexington Ave.)

Saks Fifth Avenue (611 5th Ave. between 49th and 50th Streets)

Fifth Avenue

St. Patrick's Cathedral (460 Madison Ave.)

Takashimaya (Japanese department store at 693 5th Ave.)

Trump Tower (721 5th Ave. at the corner of East 56th St.)

FAO Schwarz (767 5th Ave.)

Central Park (59th / Central Park South and 110th St. / Central Park North; 5th Ave. and Central Park West)

The Plaza Hotel (59 5th Ave. at Central Park South)

Bergdorf Goodman (5th Ave. between 57th and 58th Sts.)

Henri Bendel (712 5th Ave. between 55th and 56th Streets)

Museum of Modern Art (MOMA) at 11 West 53rd St.

Rockefeller Center (5th Ave. between 49th and 50th Streets)

Radio City Music Hall (6th Ave. - Avenue of the Americas - between 50th and 51st Sts.)

Diamond Jewelry Way (is a stretch of diamond jewelry stores at 6th Ave. and 47th St.)

New York Public Library (5th Ave. between 40th and 42nd Sts.)

Bryant Park (behind the Public Library)

Empire State Building (350 5th Ave. between 33rd and 34th Sts.)