

BRIGHT LIGHTS OF THE BIG CITY TOUR

Flatiron Building

Originally named the Fuller Building, the Flatiron is a triangular steel-framed landmark building. Considered to be a groundbreaking skyscraper, upon completion in 1902, it was one of the tallest buildings in the city. The name Flatiron derives from its resemblance to a cast-iron clothes iron. It has become one of the most iconic and quintessential symbols of New York city so that the neighborhood around it is called Flatiron District, after its signature building.

Empire State Building

The Art Deco skyscraper owes its name to the nickname of New York, Empire State. Its original design was for a 50-story office building but, after many revisions, the final design ensured it would be the world's tallest building.

It was opened in 1931 and, since then, it has been a popular tourist attraction. It stood as the world's tallest building for nearly 40 years until completion of the WTC North Tower in late 1970.

Designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1986, it has one of the most popular outdoor observatories in the world, having been visited by over 110 million people, offering an impressive 360-degree views of the city.



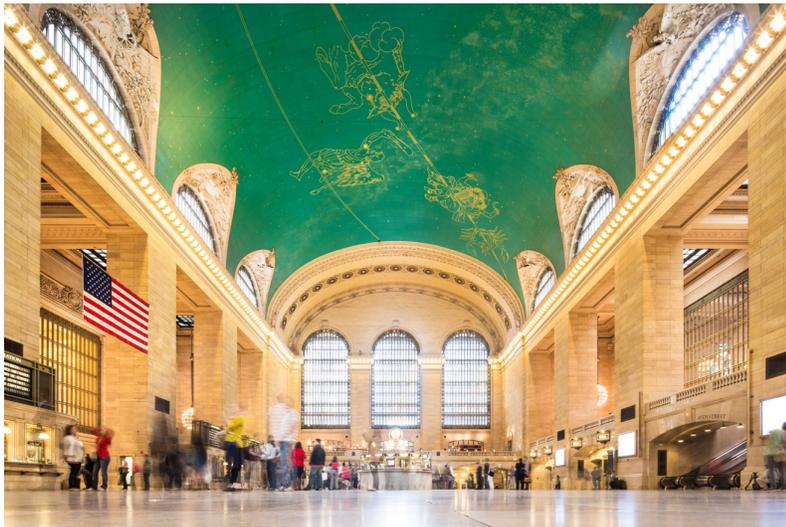
NYC Public Library

The library opened in 1911 and became a National historic landmark in 1965. The Library's famous Rose Main Reading Room is its most famous room. The room is lined with thousands of references works on open shelves along the floor level and along the balcony, lit by massive windows and grand chandeliers, and furnished with sturdy wood tables, comfortable chairs, and brass lamps.

Bryant Park

Bryant Park is a privately managed public park, full of historical monuments and urban amenities.

One of the most impressive features is a large lawn, that is the longest expanse of grass in Manhattan south of Central Park. In winter you can find the Winter Village Ice Rink.



Grand Central

The station was built by and named for the New York Central Railroad in 1913 and epitomized an era of more sophisticated travel. It has 44 platforms, more than any other railway station in the world, and its distinctive architecture and interior design have earned it several landmark designations.

The 4-meter clock in the Grand Central façade contains the world's largest example of Tiffany glass and it's surrounded by a statue representing Mercury, Hercules and Minerva, all considered apt gods to represent the railroads with their attributes of speed, strength and intellect.

The four-faced brass clock on top of the information booth, is perhaps the most recognizable icon of Grand Central, each of the four clock faces is made from opalescent glass, now often called opal glass or milk glass, with an estimated value between \$10 and \$20 million.

Chrysler Building

This building, built in 1930-31, was for 11 months the tallest building in the world until the Empire State building was built. Its famous for its art deco style both inside and out, and its eagles that jut out from each corner.

St Patrick's Cathedral

The Cathedral of St. Patrick (commonly called St. Patrick's Cathedral) is a decorated Neo-Gothic-style Roman Catholic cathedral church in the United States and a prominent landmark of New York City. It is considered one of the most visible symbols of Roman Catholicism in New York City and the United States. The cathedral was completed in 1878.

Rockefeller Center

Located in Midtown Manhattan, Rockefeller Center is a large complex of commercial buildings commissioned by the Rockefeller family. In 1928, the site's then-owner, Columbia University, leased the land to John D. Rockefeller Jr., who was the main person behind the complex's construction.

He was one of the great American industrialists of the 19th and 20th centuries, making his money in Oil originally, alongside Andrew Carnegie (Steel), The Astor family (fur trade, real estate). These people all wanted to leave their legacy, and one way they did this was by funding some of NY's most famous buildings (Carnegie Hall, NY public library (the Astors), the Rockefeller Center).

The centerpiece is the 70-floor building, whose flat roof has been home of the Center's observation deck, the Top of the Rock, since 1933.

Described as one of the greatest projects of the Great Depression era, it is also noted for the large quantity of art on almost all of its Art Deco buildings (the Atlas, the Prometheus), as well as the Radio City section, the ice skating rink and for its annual lighting of the Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree.



Sources: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flatiron_Building, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Empire_State_Building, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_York_Public_Library, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bryant_Park, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grand_Central_Terminal, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chrysler_Building, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St._Patrick%27s_Cathedral_\(Manhattan\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St._Patrick%27s_Cathedral_(Manhattan)), https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rockefeller_Center