

## BSL CLASSROOM LOCATION GUIDE MADISON SQUARE PARK

### *A BIT OF HISTORY FIRST!*

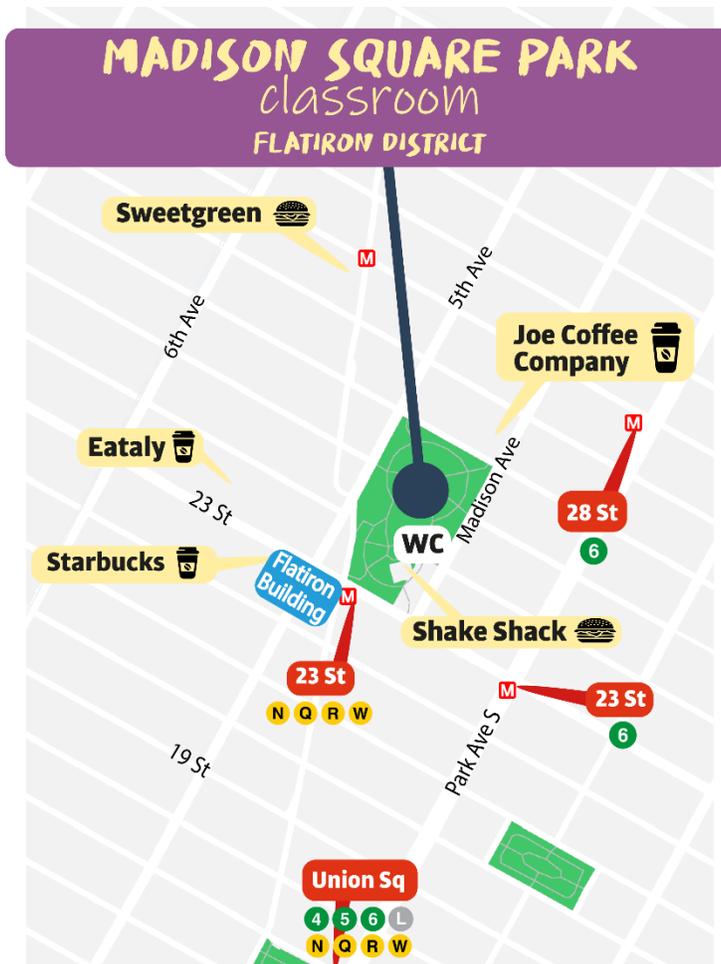
Madison Square Park has been important to New Yorkers for more than 300 years. Now the park is beloved for its glorious gardens, mighty trees, and world-class public art amidst the city's concrete jungle.

The area where Madison Square is now, had been a swampy hunting ground crossed by Cedar Creek – which was later renamed Madison Creek – from east to west, and first came into use as a public space in 1686. It was a Potter's Field in the 1700s. Named for President James Madison in 1814, Madison Square was formally opened as a public park in 1847. The Park has a rich history—it's the birthplace of baseball and home to the first community holiday tree in America.

Now Madison Square is probably best known around the world for providing the name of Madison Square Garden, a sports arena and its successor which were located just northeast of the park for 47 years, until 1925.

On the south end of Madison Square, southwest of the park, is the Flatiron Building, one of the oldest of the original New York skyscrapers, and just to the east at 1 Madison Avenue is the Met Life Tower, built in 1909 and the tallest building in the world until 1913.

One amenity, added to the park in July 2004, is the Shake Shack, a popular permanent stand that serves hamburgers, hot dogs, shakes and other similar food, as well as wine.



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### ***THE BARE ESSENTIALS***

*\*\*Find these on the map on page 1*

#### **Morning coffee**

- Joe's Coffee\*\*
- Starbucks 23rd bet 5th & 6th\*\*
- Gregory's coffee
- Pret a Manger
- Pressed Juicery
- Eataly\*\*

#### **Lunch options**

- Shake Shack (on-site)\*\*
- Eataly\*\*
- Sweetgreen\*\*
- The Smith (on Broadway)
- La Pecoria Bianca
- Tappo thin crust pizza

#### **Something sweet!**

- Eataly of course!  
A great Italian market with plenty of Italian-themed eating spots and small shops inside. Great for coffee, lunch, and just about anything else!

#### **Grocery stores & pharmacies**

- CVS pharmacy (10 min walk)
- Walgreens on 23rd and park (5 mins walk)
- Duane Reade on 23 and Broadway (2 min walk)

#### **Nearest subway stations and lines**

- 23rd Street (R, W) 2 min walk
- 23rd Street (6) 2 min walk
- 28th Street (6) 2 min walk
- Union Square (4, 5, 6, L, N, Q, R, W) 10 min walk

**Nearest public restrooms** On-site

### ***PLACES TO VISIT NEARBY***

#### **Less than a mile (0-10 mins walk)**

- Flat Iron Building
- Empire State Building
- Union Square

#### **A little bit further (via subway – up to 25 mins)**

- Washington Square Park
- Chelsea
- Times Square
- The Highline
- NY Public Library

### ***7 COOL THINGS TO DO AFTER YOUR ENGLISH CLASS***

1. Take a stroll up 5th Avenue passing some of the city's most iconic buildings on your way (the Flat-Iron, the Empire State, the NY Public Library, a short detour to the Chrysler building and Grand Central Train terminal and finally the Rockefeller center). These buildings, all built in a 33-year period have helped to shape the city. End your day taking in views across the city at the Top of the Rock.
2. Walk West to Chelsea Market for lunch. And then visit the Whitney museum of American Art. Later in the afternoon, walk the Highline park to 34th Street. At the end of the walk, you will catch good views of the Hudson River, New Jersey, the new Hudson Yards development and hopefully a good sunset!
3. Grab an Italian-style take out lunch at Eataly and walk South for about 15 minutes until you reach Washington Square Park. Have lunch in the park, enjoying the fountain, the music (hopefully!) and people watching... later in the afternoon, head further South to Soho for some shopping. Have an early dinner in fashionable Nolita (next to Soho).
4. Take the R train South to City Hall, and then walk across the Brooklyn Bridge. Explore trendy Dumbo, get a sweet fix with an ice-cream from Ample Hills Creamery, and then walk up to Brooklyn Heights for views of the city from the world-famous Heights promenade.
5. Walk a few minutes South to Union Square. And then take the L train to Williamsburg (Brooklyn). Get off at the Bedford Ave stop, have lunch at the popular meatball shop, and then take the afternoon to stroll through this "happening" neighborhood. Stay in Williamsburg for early eve cocktails at one of many different cool spots!
6. Stay at Madison Square Park for an early lunch at Shake Shack (great burgers!). And then explore Midtown-East. Visit Gramercy Park (it's the city's only private park but still worth a walk around the outside). Then walk South to explore some of the lovely streets of the Irving Place historical district.
7. Take the 6 train North to Grand Central. Explore this world-famous train station and have lunch at the Grand Central market and don't forget to experience the 'Whispering gallery' while you are there! Then walk east for an afternoon guided tour of the United Nations HQ by the East river.

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