

CELEBRATE HALLOWEEN AND THE FALL SEASON THROUGHOUT NEW YORK CITY WITH A SPOOKTACULAR OVERNIGHT STAYCATION

—From pumpkin patches to haunted virtual reality escape rooms, there are plenty of events and ways to celebrate the season safely across the five boroughs—

New York City (October 15, 2020) — NYC & Company, the official destination marketing organization and convention and visitors bureau for the five boroughs of New York City, is encouraging local and regional visitors to take an "NYC-cation" with spooktacular events and fall-themed activities throughout the City.

While planning an NYC-cation, visitors are encouraged to take advantage of the <u>All In NYC: Neighborhood Getaways</u> promotion, NYC & Company's most diverse, flexible and expansive lineup of offers ever, with nearly 250 ways to save across the five boroughs.

"New York City is a perfect backdrop for a staycation or getaway this fall. Add to that the lineup of spooktacular Halloween offerings in October and November, including pumpkin patches, ghost tours, Halloween-themed movies at drive-ins and festivities at zoos, and you have the recipe for an ideal NYC-cation," said NYC & Company President and CEO Fred Dixon.

Visitors exploring the five boroughs are encouraged to wear masks, practice social distancing and frequently wash/sanitize hands, as indicated in NYC & Company's Stay Well NYC Pledge.

Below is a brief selection of Halloween and fall-themed staycation ideas:

The Bronx

- The annual Bronx Zoo Boo at the Zoo is back and ready for visitors to show off their spookiest costumes. Boo at the Zoo has Halloween-themed activities for the entire family to enjoy, including mind reading, a costume MASKerade, candy trail, scavenger hunt and more. The event runs Thursdays through Sundays through November 1.
- Explore a variety of pumpkins and scarecrows in the <u>Great Pumpkin Path at the New York Botanical Garden</u>, including some of the world's largest pumpkins, arriving on October 24. For a fun weekend activity for family, stop by <u>Hello Harvest!</u> in the Edible Academy where children can learn all about fall harvesting, participate in a scavenger hunt and even take home seeds to plant. Visitors can also enjoy vibrant autumn foliage in the Thain Family Forest.
 - Guests can <u>save 20% on Garden Pass tickets</u> through the All In NYC: Neighborhood Getaways promotion.

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Brooklyn

- National Historic Landmark Green-Wood Cemetery celebrates El <u>Dia de Los Muertos</u>, or The Day of the Dead, the holiday honoring the departed through offerings arranged on altars, with a large-scale altar designed by Dominican painter Scherezade Garcia. From October 23 through November 1, visitors can bring personal offerings to place at a community altar inspired by this centuries-old celebration.
- Spread out and pull up a seat to enjoy screenings of cult classics and new films at Experiences in Vale Park outside The William Vale hotel. Movies include *Pan's Labyrinth* on October 22, *Kindred* on October 28 and *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* on October 29. Vale Park will also be home to a family Pumpkin Patch on October 18 and 25.
 - Stay Overnight:
 - Make it a staycation at <u>The William Vale</u> with a <u>40%</u> discount on rooms through the All In NYC: Neighborhood Getaways promotion.
- Beat the Bomb, an immersive video game experience in Downtown Brooklyn featuring the World's Largest Paint Bomb, will host a special Halloween Edition experience with extra spooky surprises from October 22 through November 1.

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Manhattan

- Take an NYC Ghosts tour of Greenwich Village where visitors can explore some of the most haunted spots in the City, including the "House of Death," where Mark Twain resided and is rumored to still roam, a residence where Edgar Allan Poe wrote some of his creepy tales and a restaurant said to be haunted by the ghost of Aaron Burr.
- The <u>Museum of Ice Cream</u> is celebrating Halloween with its Trick or Sweet experience, where for an additional \$10, visitors can come in costume and receive candies, prizes and merchandise. Trick or Sweet runs October 29–31 and reservations must be booked online in advance.
 - Stay Overnight:
 - Located near Pier 25 at Hudson River Park, Arlo SoHo provides hotel guests with a boutique open-air experience in The Courtyard, offering a unique oasis and cedar cabins that are heated for colder days and ideal for enjoying an autumn dinner with family and friends.
 - Take advantage of an All In NYC: Neighborhood Getaways offer at the Walker Hotel Greenwich Village, where guests receive a complimentary bottle of wine with an overnight stay.



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- For an interactive, theatrical experience, <u>Tour Noir</u> takes visitors through landmarks in Lower Manhattan to solve a mystery of a man's disappearance. Tours begin daily at 1pm.
 - Guests can enjoy a 20% discount on a Tour Noir experience through the All In NYC: Neighborhood Getaways promotion.
- Escape Virtuality is offering a VR Halloween-themed escape room called the Ghost Collector, where guests can save Manhattan from being overtaken by ghosts. The venue is also offering virtual haunted walk-throughs this season, similar to walking down a haunted path, but with VR goggles.
- On October 30–31, the famed <u>Madame Tussauds</u> in Midtown is offering free admission with purchase of a full price ticket to kids 14 and under. From noon to 3pm, employees will award prizes for the best costumes and distribute candy in particularly frightful areas of the attraction.
- Also in Midtown, ExperienceFirst is offering <u>Haunted Broadway: A Halloween Pop-Up Event</u>, led by theater professionals showcasing the ghosts that haunt the theaters and including some of the strange superstitions within the theater community. The event will run on Halloween with a family-friendly version during the day and adult version at night.
 - Stay Overnight:
 - Experience fall foliage views of Central Park with accommodations at <u>Le Méridien New York, Central</u> <u>Park</u> this autumn.
- Uptown, in Washington Heights, hunt ghosts in Manhattan's oldest residential building, the <u>Morris-Jumel Mansion</u>, rumored to be home to the spirit of Eliza Jumel, second wife of former Vice President Aaron Burr. The <u>Paranormal Historical Investigations</u> at the mansion is open to the public, ages 18 and older, on October 23, November 7 and 14.

Queens

- The <u>Queens County Farm Museum</u> has a full lineup of autumn activities through the end of October, including pumpkin picking, Maze by Moonlight at the only corn maze in NYC, weekend hayrides during Harvest Weekends and a Halloween on the Farm celebration on October 31.
- The Queens Botanical Garden will host its annual <u>Halloween at the Garden</u> on October 31 where kids can show off their Halloween costumes as they walk along the trick-or-treat trail and enjoy multiple performances, including a magician. The pumpkin patch at the



Garden also will be open the weekend of October 24–25 and on Halloween.

• The Queens Drive-In will host a series of scary movies the week leading up to Halloween that include Alfred Hitchcock's *Psycho* and *The Birds* on October 24; *Nosferatu* (with live music) and *Young Frankenstein* on October 25; *Get Out* and *The Babadook* on October 29; *Halloween* and *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre* on October 30; and *Little Shop of Horrors* and *Beetlejuice* on October 31. Tickets start at \$45 for the double features and organizers encourage prepurchasing.

o Stay Overnight:

Enjoy an overnight staycation in Queens at the <u>Boro Hotel New York</u> and savor the autumn weather on the rooftop with stunning views of Manhattan. The hotel is offering a <u>Cheers to NYC Package</u> through the <u>All In NYC Neighborhood Getaways</u> promotion, where each guest receives a complimentary cocktail and 2pm late checkout.

Staten Island

- <u>Spooktacular</u> is back at the **Staten Island Zoo**. While exploring the decorated campus, guests will meet princesses and villains and enjoy various performances. The outdoor-only event encourages families of all ages to dress up in costume for the festivities, taking place October 23–25 from 6 to 9:30pm.
- Historic Richmond Town will celebrate its annual <u>Old Home Day</u> on Sunday October 18 from 11am to 5pm with a variety of family-friendly activities, including historic trades demonstrations, music, food and crafts. The 100-acre historic village is also home to NYC's oldest working family farm, <u>Decker Farm</u>, which offers pumpkin picking through October 31.
 - Stay Overnight:
 - Spend the day and night with accommodations at the <u>Hilton Garden Inn New York/Staten Island</u>, nestled within 415 acres of protected woodland, providing plenty of opportunity for leaf peeping in NYC this fall.

Due to capacity restrictions and social distancing guidelines, it is recommended that guests purchase tickets for activities in advance.

Through a partnership with Mastercard, registered cardholders will be offered a statement credit up to \$100 for qualifying purchases at hotels, attractions, local businesses and more. Both **All In NYC: Neighborhood Getaways** and **All In NYC: Staycation Guides** are part of NYC & Company's **All In NYC** local revitalization effort.

About NYC & Company:

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NYC & Company is the official destination marketing organization and convention and visitors bureau for the City of New York, dedicated to maximizing travel and tourism opportunities throughout the five boroughs, building economic prosperity and spreading the positive image of New York City worldwide. For all there is to do and see in New York City, visit nycgo.com.

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