

REDISCOVER NEW YORK CITY THROUGH TELEVISION AND FILM

—NYC’s Tourism Organization Highlights Classic, Contemporary and Current Pop-Culture Depictions of the Five Boroughs—

New York City (April 16, 2020)—NYC & Company, the official destination marketing organization for New York City, continues to spotlight ways armchair travelers can find an NYC-themed escape from the safety of home during the current global Covid-19 situation. On the heels of introducing [Virtual NYC](#), the organization invites past and future travelers to enjoy countless stories in television and film for which the City has served as a backdrop. Whether it be an unplanned holiday trip, drama at an iconic museum, heroic battle in the shadow of NYC landmarks, friends experiencing daily life throughout the five boroughs, or anything in between, fans of any genre can get lost in a story set in the City while practicing social distancing.

“In countless landmark films and television shows, New York City plays a starring role,” said NYC & Company President and CEO Fred Dixon. “As people all over the world stay home and stay safe, they can still engage with the City through this powerful medium and be thoroughly entertained until it’s time to visit again.”

Some examples include:

For the sitcom lover

Friends

While *Friends* was primarily filmed in a studio, the West Village apartment where Rachel, Monica, Joey, Phoebe, Ross and Chandler live and hang out is a real building on the corner of Bedford and Grove Streets. Today at street level is [The Little Owl](#), a Mediterranean restaurant in the same space as the Central Perk café where Rachel works and Phoebe famously performs “Smelly Cat.” Additionally, the neighborhood is home to a number of well-known [Off-Broadway](#) theaters including the [Lucille Lortel Theatre](#), where aspiring actor Joey performs in the show’s earlier seasons.

How I Met Your Mother

Ted’s nine-season search for his wife includes stops at countless iconic NYC destinations. At [‘21’ Club](#) Marshall finds what he declares to be the best burger in NYC; Ted (unwittingly) first meets his wife on the [Columbia University](#) campus; and the friends have a *legen...wait for it...dary* time at world-renowned locales, such as the [American Museum of Natural History](#) and [Empire State Building](#). Additionally, the gang’s go-to watering hole, MacLaren’s, was inspired by [McGee’s](#), a bar in Midtown Manhattan.

The Last O.G.

Starring Tracy Morgan and Tiffany Haddish, this comedy follows a Brooklynite’s reintroduction to the community where he grew up after serving 15 years in prison. Primarily filmed in Carroll Gardens, Brooklyn, the sitcom (which debuted a new season on April 7), features locations throughout the borough, including Prospect Park, Sheepshead Bay and Williamsburg.

The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel

The story of Miriam “Midge” Maisel’s foray into the male-dominated stand-up comedy industry gives viewers a peek into 1950s Manhattan. Mrs. Maisel lives on Manhattan’s Upper West Side while her pursuit of a career in comedy takes her to iconic clubs in the West Village, such as [the Gaslight](#) and [Village Vanguard](#), where she watches new friend and comedy icon Lenny Bruce perform. In the most recent season, viewers get a feel for another borough, as Midge’s in-laws move to Forest Hills, Queens.

30 Rock

The iconic address of the studio where Liz Lemon, Jack Donaghy, Jenna Maroney and Kenneth Parcell make the sketch comedy show *TGS with Tracy Jordan* is the actual home of NBC Studios. When New York City again welcomes visitors, [The Tour at NBC Studios](#) will offer a behind-the-scenes look at [30 Rockefeller Plaza](#), including [Saturday Night Live](#)—30 Rock creator Tina Fey’s inspiration for the beloved comedy.

Seinfeld

Contrary to Jerry and friends’ experiences on the show, nobody yells, “No soup for you!” at [The Original Soupman](#) on West 55th Street in Midtown. Meanwhile, at Morningside Heights’ [Tom’s Restaurant](#) (Monk’s Diner), the cast was known to enjoy all the great, no-fuss comfort food and 75-cent coffee their hearts desired. Finally, [Gray’s Papaya](#)’s hot dogs were declared by Kramer to be “better than filet mignon!”

For the hopeless romantic

Marriage Story

The story of Charlie and Nicole’s marriage dissolving is split between New York and LA, with NYC locations including the pair’s shared apartment in Park Slope, Brooklyn, and the theater company in Manhattan where both are employed. Other major scenes are shot in the Flatiron District, Times Square and the West Village.

When Harry Met Sally

Since its release 30 years ago, fans visiting New York City have “had what Sally was having” at [Katz’s Delicatessen on the LES](#), gone on double dates to [Café Luxembourg on the UWS](#), and enjoyed [Washington Square Park’s scenery](#), where Sally told Harry to “have a nice life” at the start of the film.

You’ve Got Mail

Important locales in this unforgettable ’90s romance are [Café Lalo](#) on the Upper West Side, “The Most Famous Café in the City”; [Zabar’s](#), the specialty food market where Joe saves Kathleen’s Thanksgiving; and the 91st Street Garden in [Riverside Park](#), where the film memorably concludes.

For the girls’ trip planner

Sex and the City

New York City has often been said to be the series’ fifth main character, in addition to Carrie, Charlotte, Miranda and Samantha. Notable moments across six seasons include retail therapy at Greenwich Village boutiques and Madison Avenue department stores, snacking on cupcakes at [Magnolia Bakery](#), riding the Staten Island Ferry, romantic moments at the middle of the [Brooklyn Bridge](#) and one of the girls catching a foul ball (and a date) at a [New York Yankees](#) game.

Gossip Girl

On Manhattan’s Upper East Side, Blair and company famously held lunch breaks on the steps at [The Met Fifth Avenue](#) before heading further uptown to Constance Billard and St. Jude schools, filmed at the [Museum of the City of New York](#). Meanwhile, scenes at the home of Chuck Bass and the Van der Woodsen family were filmed at the [Lotte New York Palace](#), a five-star hotel situated just five blocks north of [Grand Central Terminal](#), where Serena makes her dramatic entrance to the show in season 1.

Girls

The story begins at [Murals on 54 restaurant](#) in Manhattan, when the main character, Hannah, is told by her parents they will no longer financially support her. As the series unfolds, Hannah and her friends Marnie, Jessa and Shoshanna navigate their early 20s in Greenpoint, Brooklyn. They frequently congregate and enjoy latte's at [Café Grumpy](#), which is a real coffee shop that is fictionally managed by Ray in the series.

For the superhero superfan

The Avengers

The film's famous battle of New York included scenes across the City, with most of the action taking place in Midtown Manhattan. Captain America, Iron Man, Thor, Black Widow and Hawkeye first met the alien attackers in front of [Grand Central Terminal](#), mere blocks from Stark Tower (based on the former Condé Nast Building). In the end, Hulk defeats Loki for good in front of the historic [Chrysler Building](#), with Manhattan still standing, before Thor beams him back to Asgard from [Central Park's Bethesda Terrace](#).

Batman

The masked hero that popularized the nickname "Gotham" for NYC has been portrayed in areas throughout the City for more than 80 years. With Wayne Enterprises headquartered at [One Liberty Plaza](#), a block from the [World Trade Center](#) in Lower Manhattan, Batman defeats Bane in the final fight scene of the *Dark Knight* trilogy on the steps of the [New York Stock Exchange](#), while the [Queensboro, Brooklyn](#) and [Williamsburg bridges](#) play prominent roles in the film.

Spider-Man

Hailing from Queens, your friendly neighborhood Spider-Man has made harrowing rescues all over NYC throughout the decades. In the 2002 *Spider-Man* film, Peter Parker, played by Tobey Maguire, saves love interest Mary Jane from the Green Goblin in [Times Square](#) before defeating the villain on [Roosevelt Island](#). Other high-flying fights in the franchise take place at the [Empire State Building](#), [Statue of Liberty](#) and [Ellis Island](#).

For the thriller enthusiast

Ghostbusters

In addition, the functioning firehouse [Hook & Ladder Company 8](#) (Ghostbusters headquarters), **Spook Central** (55 Central Park West) and [The New York Public Library – Stephen A. Schwarzman Building](#) are some city locations with major roles in the 1984 film. Upon reopening to the public, the [Ghostbusters Experience at Madame Tussauds New York](#) in Times Square will invite visitors to reenact the 2016 film and fight ghosts through a hyperreality experience.

Men in Black

Agent K and Agent J fight aliens all over the five boroughs in this action-packed trilogy. In two memorable scenes, Agent J chases and captures the first alien he encounters on the job in the [Guggenheim Museum](#) on the Upper East Side, and the agents save the galaxy in **Flushing Meadows Corona Park, Queens**, after thwarting the takeoff of the spaceship hidden atop the historic 1964 World's Fair site.

Ocean's 8

In addition to a heist targeting [the Costume Institute Gala](#) at [The Met](#)—whose exhibition *About Time: Fashion and Duration* is now scheduled to debut October 29—major NYC landmarks and lesser-known neighborhoods are featured in the latest installment of the Ocean's franchise. The TWA Flight Center at JFK, now home to the new [TWA Hotel](#), houses the fashion show where Debbie Ocean and crew recruit

an integral teammate; [the Cartier Mansion](#) guards the necklace they are after; and a Bushwick, Brooklyn, loft acts as the team's headquarters.

For the whole family

Home Alone 2

Although Kevin didn't mean to visit New York City, he managed to check out some of the best attractions in Midtown Manhattan while he was there. As he successfully thwarted the bandits' plan to rob Duncan's Toy Chest (based on [FAO Schwarz](#)), Kevin also enjoyed all the amenities offered at [The Plaza Hotel](#), caught a show at [Carnegie Hall](#) from a VIP point of view, fed the pigeons in [Central Park](#) and met family at the [Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree](#).

School of Rock

Imposter substitute teacher Dewey Finn and his students put on a show for their "final exam" in a Battle of the Bands shot inside Staten Island's [St. George Theatre](#). In the lead-up to this legendary performance, the class practices all year at Horace Green Prep School, filmed at the borough's [Wagner College](#).

Night at the Museum

While the [American Museum of Natural History](#) on the Upper West Side is currently closed, you can still see many of its exhibits come to life as night guard Larry Daley protects them from would be thieves. When the museum reopens to the public, visitors will be able to see one of the most prominent characters, Rexy, in a temporary solo exhibit (currently planned to be on view through August), including fossils, virtual reality experiences and life-size *T. rex* models that explore this famous predator in greater depth than ever before.

To plan a future TV-inspired trip, visit [nycgo.com](#). When travel to NYC is again possible, curated experiences by [On Location Tours](#) experts will make exploring TV and movie locations a reality.

For images corresponding to this latest story idea, visit the NYC as Seen on Screen [imagery library](#).