



NEW YORK: A SUGGESTED ITINERARY

Here's a **2 to 3 nights / 3 days New York City itinerary** designed for an Indian tourist who wants to see the **major attractions**, enjoy art, outdoor vibes, and NYC flavour without it being overly expensive or rushed:

Day 1 – Arrival & Evening in Manhattan

Afternoon/Evening (after hotel check-in)

- **Times Square** – Begin with the bright neon heart of NYC. Soak in the bustle, take photos, and enjoy the atmosphere.
- **Broadway District Walk** – Even if not watching a show, a walk around the theatres is worth it.
- **Dinner** – Try Indian/Asian fusion food nearby (options like **Tamarind Tribeca** for fine Indian or **The Kati Roll Company** for casual).



Perfect first evening introduction to New York.



Day 2 – Full Exploration

Morning:

- **Statue of Liberty & Ellis Island** – Take the ferry from Battery Park early to avoid crowds. Spend ~3 hours exploring Liberty Island (you can climb to the pedestal if pre-booked).
- **Wall Street & Charging Bull** – After the return ferry, walk to the Financial District.

Afternoon:

- **Brooklyn Bridge Walk** – Cross from Manhattan to Brooklyn, enjoy skyline views.
- **DUMBO, Brooklyn** – Grab a slice of New York pizza at **Juliana's** or **Grimaldi's**, and take pictures at the famous Washington St. view of the bridge.

Evening:

- **Empire State Building Skydeck** – Head back to Midtown. Go up around sunset for sweeping views of Manhattan.
- Post-skydeck dinner at a casual NYC diner or **Shake Shack** for an American experience.

Day 3 – Half Day (before departure)

Morning:

- **Central Park Walk** – Stroll through the southern section (The Pond, Gapstow Bridge, and The Mall).
- **Museum of Modern Art (MoMA)** – See Van Gogh’s *Starry Night* and other masterpieces.
- If time allows, quick photo stop at **Rockefeller Center** and **St. Patrick’s Cathedral** nearby.

Optional (depending on flight/train timing):

- A quick stop at **Grand Central Terminal** for its iconic main hall.

Day 3 – If Full Day with Night Stay

Evening:

Broadway Show – Book in advance for a musical (e.g., *The Lion King*, *Wicked*, *Hamilton*).

Pre-theatre dinner in the Hell’s Kitchen neighbourhood (casual, diverse food options from Thai to Italian).

Day 3 Neighbourhoods, Riverside & Hidden Gems

Morning:

Roosevelt Island Tramway – Take the aerial tram from Manhattan (2nd Ave/59th St.) to Roosevelt Island for skyline views. Stroll the riverside & Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Park.

Head back by tram/subway.

Afternoon:

SoHo – Walk its cast-iron streets, boutique shops, and art galleries.

Greenwich Village – Stop for coffee, explore Washington Square Park, and feel the bohemian vibe.

Chinatown & Little Italy – Affordable lunch (dumplings, noodles, or Italian pasta).

Evening:

Times Square (again, at night) – A final soak in the electric lights.

Optional farewell drink/dessert at a rooftop bar with skyline views (budget-friendly options around Midtown or Lower East Side).

Summary of Covered Highlights:

- Statue of Liberty & Ellis Island
- Brooklyn Bridge & DUMBO
- Times Square
- Empire State Building Skydeck
- MoMA
- Central Park
- Wall Street/Charging Bull
- Rockefeller Center / St. Patrick's Cathedral (optional)
- Roosevelt Island
- SoHo
- Greenwich Village
- Chinatown & Little Italy

Essentials for Smooth Travel Around NYC: Metrocard and OMNY

- **Payment Methods:**
New York's subway and bus system now works with **OMNY**, a tap-to-pay system. You can use your contactless credit/debit card, smartphone (Apple/Google Pay), or an OMNY card. Tap at the turnstile and go—no more swiping.
- **MetroCard vs. OMNY:**
MetroCards are still accepted until at least 2026, but OMNY is the future. MetroCards cost \$1 to purchase and you can load them for pay-per-ride or unlimited use. However, tap-to-pay with OMNY is far more convenient.
- **Fares:**
A single ride on subway or local bus is **\$2.90**—flat fare regardless of distance.
- **Weekly Fare Cap with OMNY:**
When you use the **same OMNY device or card**, the system caps your spending at **\$34 over any 7-day period**. Once you hit that, the rest of your rides for that week are free.

Ideal Option for a 3-Day Visit

There's no official "3-day pass," but you have two smart options:

1. **Pay-per-Ride (OMNY)**
Tap for each ride: $\$2.90 \times \sim 12 \text{ rides} = \text{about } \34 . Unlimited rides thereafter.
Best for travelers who board ~ 4 times/day or more.
2. **7-Day Unlimited MetroCard**
Costs **\$34** and allows unlimited rides for 7 days. Same cost as hitting the fare cap with OMNY—but easy and predictable.

For a 3-day stay, if you plan to take at least 12 subway/bus rides across your hotel, sightseeing, and transfers, either option works well and costs roughly **\$34 total**.

AIRPORT TO HOTEL

1. Yellow Cab (Flat Fare Taxi)

- **Cost:** Flat fare **\$70** (plus tolls & tip, \sim total \$85–\$90).
- **Time:** 45–90 minutes (traffic-dependent).
- **Best For:** Hassle-free, door-to-door with luggage.
- **How:** Official taxi stand outside each terminal. Ignore touts—always take a yellow cab.

2. AirTrain + Subway (Most Affordable)

- **Cost:** \$8.50 (AirTrain) + \$2.90 (subway) = ~\$11.40 total per person.
 - **Route:**
 - Take **AirTrain** from JFK terminal → Jamaica Station.
 - Transfer to **E train** (blue line) → Midtown Manhattan (Times Sq, Penn Station, etc).
 - **Time:** 60–75 minutes.
 - **Best For:** Budget travellers, solo tourists, light luggage.
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3. AirTrain + LIRR (Fastest Public Transit)

- **Cost:** \$8.50 (AirTrain) + \$7.75–\$10.75 (LIRR off-peak/peak) = ~\$17–\$20 per person.
 - **Route:**
 - AirTrain → Jamaica Station.
 - Transfer to **Long Island Rail Road (LIRR)** → Penn Station (34th Street, Manhattan).
 - **Time:** 35–45 minutes.
 - **Best For:** Faster than subway, good if hotel near Penn Station.
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4. Shuttle / Shared Ride

- **Cost:** \$25–\$40 per person.
 - **Time:** 1–1.5 hours (depends on drop-offs).
 - **Best For:** Solo travellers with medium luggage, don't mind waiting.
 - **Providers:** Go Airlink NYC, SuperShuttle.
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5. Rideshare (Uber/Lyft/Via)

- **Cost:** \$65–\$90 (depending on time & surge).
 - **Time:** 45–90 minutes.
 - **Best For:** Convenience if not near a subway stop. Often competitive with taxis.
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Our Recommendation for First-Time Visitors (with luggage):

Take the **yellow cab flat fare** for peace of mind—especially if your hotel is in Midtown Manhattan.

 **Budget Option:** AirTrain + LIRR to Penn Station is the fastest and still affordable.