



## Being a tourist in my own city

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Hi, I'm Richard and I'm a New Yorker. Even though I am very familiar to my city, I still take a few seconds to look up and around and realize how lucky I am to be living in one of the greatest cities in the world. I've noticed I haven't been to many of the touristic places of my own city though. So I decided to take one day to go to the main attractions.

I started the day in Central Park, one of the most famous parks in the world. Of course, I had been there before but I started there just because it's one of my favourite places and one of the main attractions in New York. It is a constructed park that was designed to give New Yorkers a quite and more pure space in the city where skyscrapers abound. Apart from the green area, there is a zoo and a Victorian castle inside the park.

Then I decided to go to St Patrick's Cathedral because I realized I've never been inside it. It's a Gothic Cathedral and it was built in response to the increasing numbers of Irish immigrants in the city. There is a Pieta statue that is three times larger than the Pieta in St. Peter's, Rome.

My next stop was Times Square, even though I had also been there before I was always in a hurry, this time I just wanted to enjoy the atmosphere go to the shops and have lunch. A funny thing about there is that its shape is actually a triangle, not a square. It is also one of the world's most Instagrammed locations.

One of New York City's most beloved landmarks is the Grand Central Terminal so I decided to go there, it has a glorious history of creation, decline, and rebirth — much like the story of New York City itself. Because thousands of commuters pass through Grand Central Terminal every day, there's a market, filled with delicious pre-prepared foods, but if you have time is worth having a meal at the Grand Central Oyster Bar.

This restaurant is a true NYC gem, offering a great variety of seafood.

Walking around the Greenwich village was my next choice, It's a neighbourhood on the west of Manhattan Island and it's called "The Village". It's famous as a centre for the arts. One thing I've never done was a Cruise on the Hudson River so I went there and really enjoyed it. It was a hop-on-hop-off cruise. It passed the Statue of Liberty, Lower Manhattan and the Brooklyn Bridge. The Brooklyn Bridge was the world's first steel-wire suspension bridge. To prove Americans the bridge was safe twenty-one elephants walked across the Brooklyn Bridge in 1884.

Near the sunset I went to The top of the Rock building, 259 metres high and it has a breathtaking view from its 70th deck where you can have a 360 view of New York. I finished my journey on Broadway street earlier known as the Great white way because it was one of the first streets in New York to be fully illuminated. It is the longest street in NYC I saw the Phantom of the opera play which is the longest-running Broadway show. It was incredible to see all these places with a tourist eye I'll definitely do it more often.