



Manhattan from Top of the Rock



Central Park

## NEW YORK CITY

May 20, 2023 – 8 Days

New York City, the city of icons. The list of familiar sights and experiences goes on and on: Empire State Building. Statue of Liberty. Rockefeller Center. American Museum of Natural History. Top of the Rock. Macy's Fifth Avenue. Radio City Rockettes. Metropolitan Museum of Art. Ground Zero. Central Park. Times Square. Wall Street. Broadway.

The tour is planned for May, traditionally a quieter time for the city, when hotel rates are not as exorbitant. This tour has a balance of organized activities and free time to help you maximize your explorations during the stay. Two Broadway musicals are included and you may want to book some additional shows. A two-day Top View sightseeing bus pass is included, so you can hop on, ride a few blocks, hop off, and conveniently visit an attraction. Your knowledgeable Wells Gray tour director is available to assist with your plans. Come and have a fabulous time in New York City!

Activity Level: 2



9 Meals Included:

6 breakfasts, 3 dinners

Fares per person:

\$5,090 double/twin; \$6,395 single; \$4,720 triple  
Please add 0.3% GST.

Early Bookers:

\$240 discount on first 10 seats; \$120 on next 6

Experience Points:

Earn 98 points on this tour.

Redeem 98 points if you book by March 16, 2023.

Departure from: Victoria



Times Square

## ITINERARY

### Day 1: Saturday, May 20

A transfer is provided to Victoria Airport and our WestJet flight leaves at 1 pm for Calgary. We stay overnight at the Marriott Hotel, conveniently located in the airport terminal.

**Meals included:** Dinner

**Accommodation:** Marriott Hotel YYC

### Day 2: Sunday, May 21

Our continuing flight is non-stop to New York's Kennedy Airport, arriving in late afternoon.

**Welcome to New York City!** Enjoy your first glimpse of the sights of the city on the way to the hotel where we stay six nights.

**Accommodation:** M Social Hotel Times Square

### Day 3: Monday, May 22

During a guided **sightseeing tour of Manhattan**, we view some of its iconic sights such as Times Square, Rockefeller Center, Fifth Avenue, Little Italy, and Central Park. Afterwards, an orientation to the subway system, using your six-day pass, is provided by your tour director, so you feel comfortable about this convenient way to get around. The rest of the afternoon is free time.

**Meals included:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** M Social Hotel Times Square

### Day 4: Tuesday, May 23

We admire the panoramic view at **Top of the Rock**, the 70<sup>th</sup> floor art-deco observation deck above Rockefeller Center. For the rest of the day, take advantage of your Top View sightseeing pass. Using the supplied map showing different routes and pick up locations, you can hop on, ride a few blocks, hop off, and conveniently visit an attraction. Dinner is included at Ellen's Stardust Diner. Tonight, we attend **A Beautiful Noise: The Neil Diamond Musical** at the Broadhurst Theatre.

**Meals included:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Accommodation:** M Social Hotel Times Square

### Day 5: Wednesday, May 24

After breakfast, the day is free to customize your visit to New York, using your Top View hop-on, hop-off touring pass or subway pass.

**Option:** A matinee Broadway show can be booked with details available 3 months prior.

**Meals included:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** M Social Hotel Times Square

### Day 6: Thursday, May 25

The morning is free time. At noon, we take a 1½ hour narrated **landmarks cruise** to view New York's most famous buildings from the water, including a close-up view of the Statue of Liberty.

Tonight, we enjoy a second Broadway musical, **Some Like It Hot** at the Shubert Theatre.

**Meals included:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** M Social Hotel Times Square

### Day 7: Friday, May 26

We ride the subway, then the ferry to **Ellis Island** viewing the famous Statue of Liberty from the water. The Ellis Island Museum tells stories of the 17 million immigrants who arrived here from 1892 to 1954. The rest of the day is leisure time. Dinner is at the Emmett O'Lunney's Irish Pub on 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue, a block from our hotel.

**Meals included:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Accommodation:** M Social Hotel Times Square



### Day 8: Saturday, May 27

With treasured memories of the Big Apple, we fly on WestJet via Toronto to Victoria. A transfer is provided to your pickup point.

**Meals included:** Breakfast

## WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Transfer to and from Victoria Airport
  - Flight from Victoria to New York and return
  - Current air transport tax and security fees
  - Airline luggage fee for 1 suitcase per person
  - Transfers between airport and Manhattan hotel
  - 7 nights of accommodation and hotel taxes
  - New York Subway pass for all 6 days
  - Locally-guided tour of the landmarks and famous sights of Manhattan
  - 2-day Top View sightseeing bus pass
  - Top of the Rock 70<sup>th</sup> floor Observation Deck
  - *A Beautiful Noise: The Neil Diamond Musical*
  - Cruise past Manhattan landmarks
  - Broadway Musical: *Some Like It Hot*
  - Subway and ferry to/from Ellis Island with view of Statue of Liberty
  - Ellis Island Museum
  - Knowledgeable tour director
  - Luggage handling at hotels
  - **9 meals:** 6 breakfasts, 3 dinners
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## TOUR NOTES

**M Social Hotel Times Square:** Your accommodation for six nights in New York City is at the four-star M Social Hotel (formerly Novotel Times Square Hotel), located in the heart of Midtown Manhattan. It is right in the theatre district on the corner of 52<sup>nd</sup> Street and Broadway and is within walking distance to New York City's best attractions: 6 minutes to Times Square, 8 minutes to Central Park, 5 minutes to Rockefeller Center, and 6 minutes to Fifth Avenue's prestigious shops. The hotel has a fitness centre and restaurant, and many other restaurants are nearby.

**Walking:** New York City is best explored on foot. Because of traffic congestion and the proximity of everything to our hotel, many of the attractions we visit are reached by walking which could be 1 block to 2 km. Note that taxis are numerous and accessible, so you have the option of taking a cab if you prefer. A subway pass for all 6 days is included, so it is easy to get around.

**Theatre:** We have included show tickets for two Broadway musicals – *A Beautiful Noise: The Neil Diamond Musical* at the Broadhurst Theatre and *Some Like It Hot* at the Shubert Theatre. There is an option for a third arranged show. If you want to attend additional shows, Wells Gray staff can assist you in purchasing tickets in advance, or you can wait until you get to New York and pick up 'day of show' tickets for a greatly reduced rate at the ticket office located in Times Square. There could be 30 to 40 shows playing when you are there.

**Flights:** Do you prefer seating in business class? Do you want window or aisle seating? Do you want to stay longer in New York and return independently? For all 3 preferences, WestJet does not allow changes to our group block, so please book your own flight and take our option of "No Flight" for a discount of \$920 per person.

 **Activity Level 2:** Moderate activity including lots of walking on New York streets and touring independently. The coaches cannot carry a scooter or motorized wheelchair. There can be longer walks in the airports. If Activity Level 2 could be challenging, you must bring a companion who is able to assist you. The tour director and drivers have many responsibilities, so please do not expect them, or your fellow travellers, to provide ongoing assistance. If you are not capable of keeping up with the group or require frequent assistance, the tour director may stop you from participating in some activities or some tour days. In extreme situations, you may be required to leave the tour and travel home at your own expense; travel insurance will probably not cover you.



## TOUR POLICIES

**Payments:** A deposit of \$400 per person is requested at the time of booking and balance is due March 16, 2023. By paying the deposit, you agree to the Terms & Conditions, Activity Level and Cancellation Policy outlined. Payments can be made by online banking, cheque, Visa or Mastercard (\$5,000 limit per person per booking on credit cards).

**Discounts:** Early bookers receive \$240 discount on first 10 seats and \$120 on next 6 seats for booking early with deposit. The discount is not offered after March 16, 2023.

**Cancellation Policy:** Up to January 16, 2023, the cancellation charge is \$100 per person. From January 17 to February 16, the cancellation charge is \$200 per person. From February 17 to March 16, the cancellation charge is \$400 per person (your deposit). From March 17 to April 14, the cancellation charge is 70% of the tour fare. After April 14, there is no refund.

**Itinerary and Fare Changes:** As the world emerges from the pandemic, many of our suppliers such as hotels, restaurants, attractions, and transportation providers are struggling with shortage of staff, inflated costs, and supply line challenges. Sometimes we are notified about changes to the itinerary prior to departure and sometimes during the tour. We do our best to substitute a similar service if something cancels, but occasionally the only alternative is to provide a refund for the missed activity. Theatres can close shows earlier than scheduled, so a replacement show would be arranged in that case. Please note that if we are forced to cancel a tour component due to an issue beyond our control, the current penalties still apply if you choose to cancel the entire tour. Fuel surcharges and changes to taxes or other tour costs can occur at any time, therefore Wells Gray Tours reserves the right to increase fares due to such changes up to departure.

**Food Allergies:** You must notify us no later than at final payment if you have a food allergy.

**Travel Insurance:** A Comprehensive Insurance policy is available through Wells Gray Tours and coverage is provided by Travel Guard. Policies purchased at deposit include a waiver of the pre-existing condition clause, otherwise policies can be purchased no later than at final payment. Please contact us for details.

**Home pickups** may be offered in Greater Victoria, depending on the number of people booked and coach size. Decision is made about 2 weeks before departure and you will be contacted about your pickup point and time.

**Photo Credits:** Wikimedia (all photos)

**Experience Points:** This tour earns 98 e-points. Each time you travel on a Wells Gray tour, you earn Experience Points or e-points. One e-point equals \$1. Redeem your points on select tours or accumulate enough points to earn a free tour! Redemptions offered until March 16, 2023.

**Consumer Protection BC Licences:** Kamloops 178, Vernon 655, Kelowna 588, Penticton 924, Victoria 65842

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