

Coursera Capstone project

Coursera IBM Data Science Certification

Report Content

- Introduction Section : discussion of the business and the interested audience in this project.
- Data Section: description of the data that will be used to solve the problem and the sources.
- Methodology section: discussion and description of exploratory data analysis carried out, any inferential statistical testing performed, and if any machine learnings were used establishing the strategy and purposes.
- Results section: discussion of the results.
- Discussion section: elaboration and discussion on any observations noted and any recommendations suggested based on the results.
- Conclusion section: report conclusion.

Introduction

I am currently residing in Rome, within walking distance to Piazza Bologna metro station therefore I have access to good public transportation to work. Likewise, I enjoy many amenities in the neighborhood, such as international cuisine restaurants, cafes, food shops and entertainment. I have been offered a great opportunity to work in Manhattan, NY.

Problem to be resolved:

How to find an apartment in Manhattan with the following conditions:

- Apartment with min 2 bedrooms
- Monthly rent not to exceed US\$7000/month
- Located within walking distance (≤ 1.0 mile, 1.6 km) from a subway metro station in Manhattan
- Amenities and venues similar to the ones described for current location
- **Interested Audience**
- I believe this is a relevant project for a person or entity considering moving to a major city in Europe, US or Asia, since the approach and methodologies used here are applicable in all cases. The use of FourSquare data and mapping techniques combined with data analysis will help resolve the key questions arisen. Lastly, this project is a good practical case toward the development of Data Science skills.

Data section

Data Requirements:

- Geodata for current residence in Rome with venues established using Foursquare
- List of Manhattan (MH) neighborhoods with clustered venues established via Foursquare (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Manhattan_neighborhoods#Midtown_neighborhoods)
- A list of Manhattan subway metro stops (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_New_York_City_Subway_stations_in_Manhattan and <https://www.google.com/maps/search/manhattan+subway+metro+stations/@40.7837297,-74.1033043,11z/data=!3m1!4b1>)
- List of apartments for rent in MH area with infos on neighborhood location, address, number of beds, area size, monthly rent price and complemented with geo data via Nominatim (<http://www.rentmanhattan.com/index.cfm?page=search&state=results> https://www.nestpick.com/search?city=new-york&page=1&order=relevance&district=manhattan&gclid=CjwKCAiAjNjgBRAGeiwAGLlf2hkP3A-cPxjZYkURqQEsWQK2jKQEpv_MvKcrIhRWRzNkc_r-fGi0lxoCA7cQAvD_BwE&type=apartment&display=list)
- Place to work in MH (Park Avenue and 53rd St) for reference

Data section

Data sources, data processing and tools used

- Rome data and map is to be created with use of Nominatim, Foursquare and Folium mapping
- MH neighborhoods were obtained from Wikipedia and organized by Neighborhoods with geodata via Nominatim for mapping with Folium
- List of Subways stations was obtained via Wikipedia, NY transit web site and Google map
- List of apartments for rent was consolidated from web-scraping real estate sites for MH. The geolocation (lat,long) data was found with algorithm coding and using Nominatim
- Folium map was the basis of mapping with various features to consolidate all data in ONE map where one can visualize all details needed to make a selection of apartment

Methodology

The strategy to find the answer is based on mapping the described data, in order to facilitate the choice of at least two candidate places for rent. The info will be consolidated in ONE map where one can see the details of the apartment, the cluster of venues in the neighborhood and the relative location from a subway station and from work place. A measurement tool icon will also be provided. The popups on the map items will display rent price, location and cluster of venues applicable.

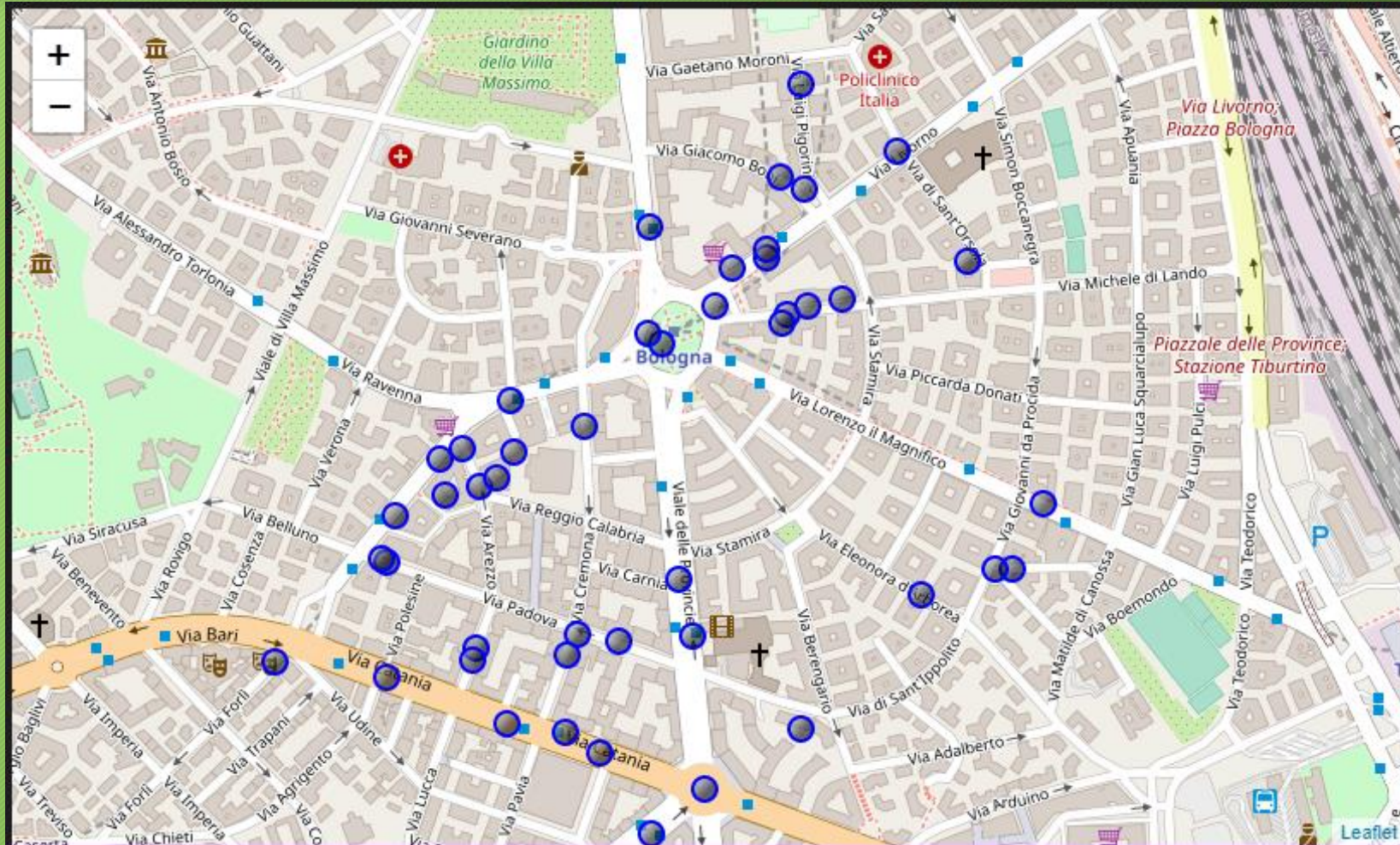
The tools:

Web-scraping of sites is used to consolidate dataframe infos which was saved as csv files. Geodata was obtained by coding a program to use Nominatim to get lat and long of subway stations and of apartments for rent listed

Geopy_distance and Nominatim were used to establish relative distances. Seaborn graphic was used for general stats on rental data.

Maps with popups labels allow quick identification of location, price and feature, thus making the selection very easy

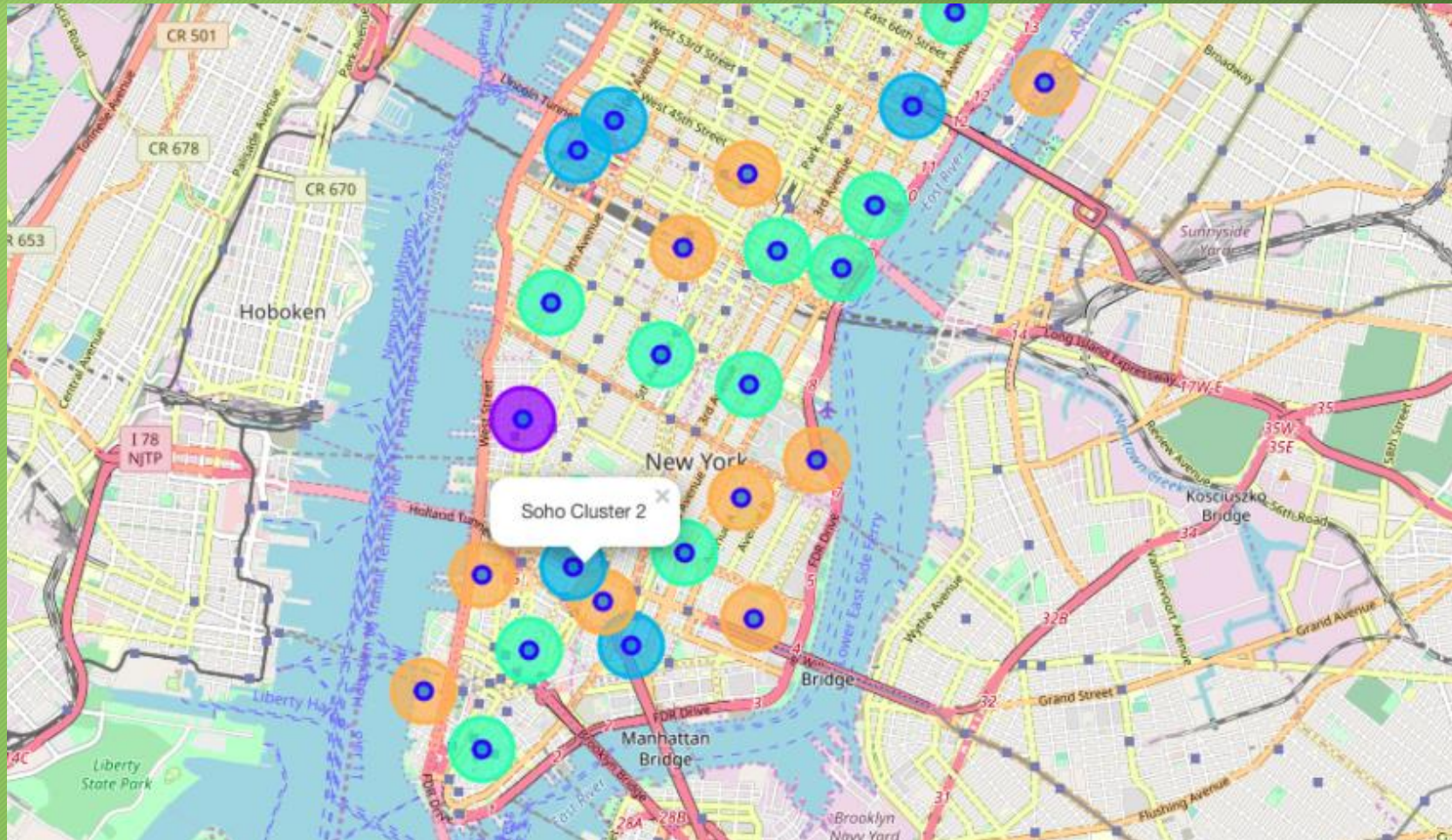
Execution and results



Venues around Neighborhood in Rome

	name	categories	lat	lng
0	Millimetri di Pizza	Pizza Place	41.914350	12.521968
1	Mizzica	Dessert Shop	41.912474	12.517887
2	La Stiva	Seafood Restaurant	41.911363	12.520865
3	Coffee Pot	Cocktail Bar	41.913817	12.522222
4	Cus Cus	Mediterranean Restaurant	41.912225	12.518391
5	Mercure Roma Piazza Bologna	Hotel	41.912311	12.518598
6	Villa Massimo	Park	41.914248	12.521542
7	FLOUR farina & cucina (già Pane al Pane) kosher	Food Court	41.910857	12.519599
8	Piazza Bologna	Plaza	41.913544	12.520654
9	Pico Gelato	Ice Cream Shop	41.917847	12.519930

MH Map - Neighborhoods and cluster of venues



GeoData MH apts for rent

```
mh_rent=pd.read_csv('MH_rent_latlong.csv')
mh_rent.head()
```

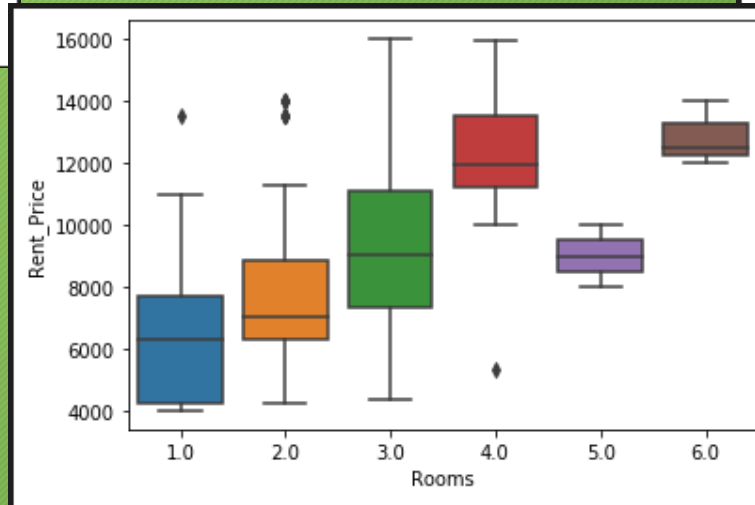
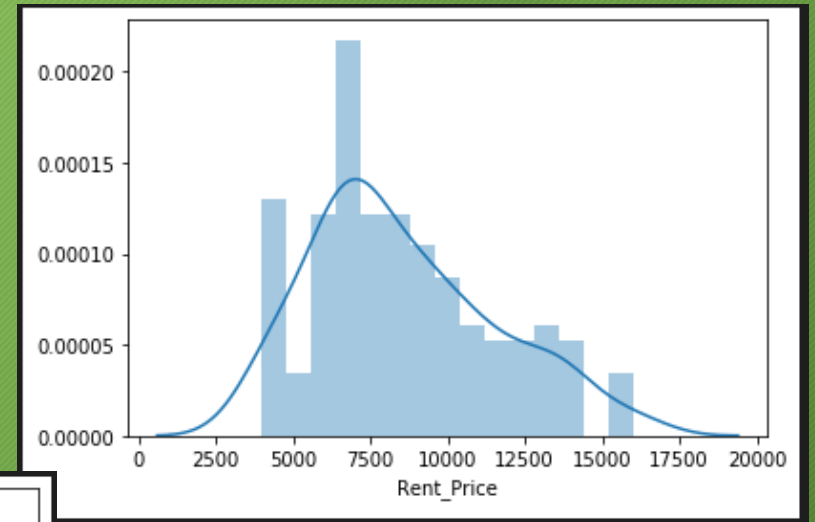
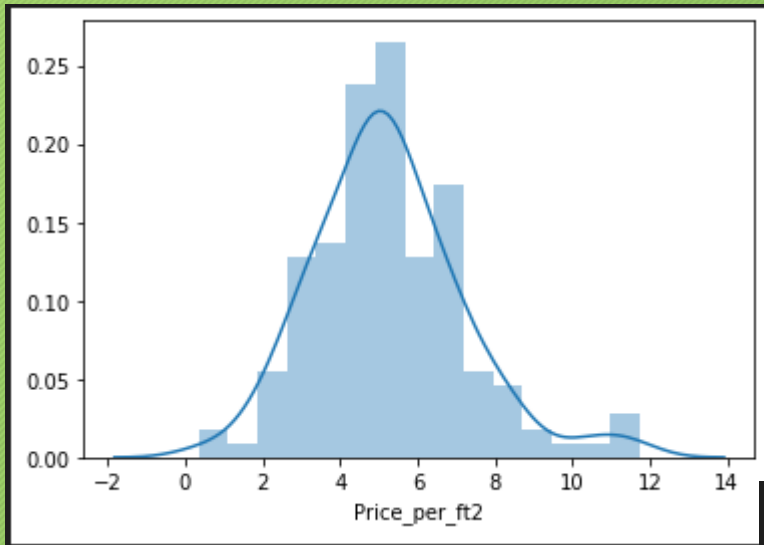
	Address	Area	Price_per_ft2	Rooms	Area-ft2	Rent_Price	Lat	Long
0	West 105th Street	Upper West Side	2.94	5.0	3400	10000	40.799771	-73.966213
1	East 97th Street	Upper East Side	3.57	3.0	2100	7500	40.788585	-73.955277
2	West 105th Street	Upper West Side	1.89	4.0	2800	5300	40.799771	-73.966213
3	CARMINE ST.	West Village	3.03	2.0	1650	5000	40.730523	-74.001873
4	171 W 23RD ST.	Chelsea	3.45	2.0	1450	5000	40.744118	-73.995299

```
mh_rent.tail()
```

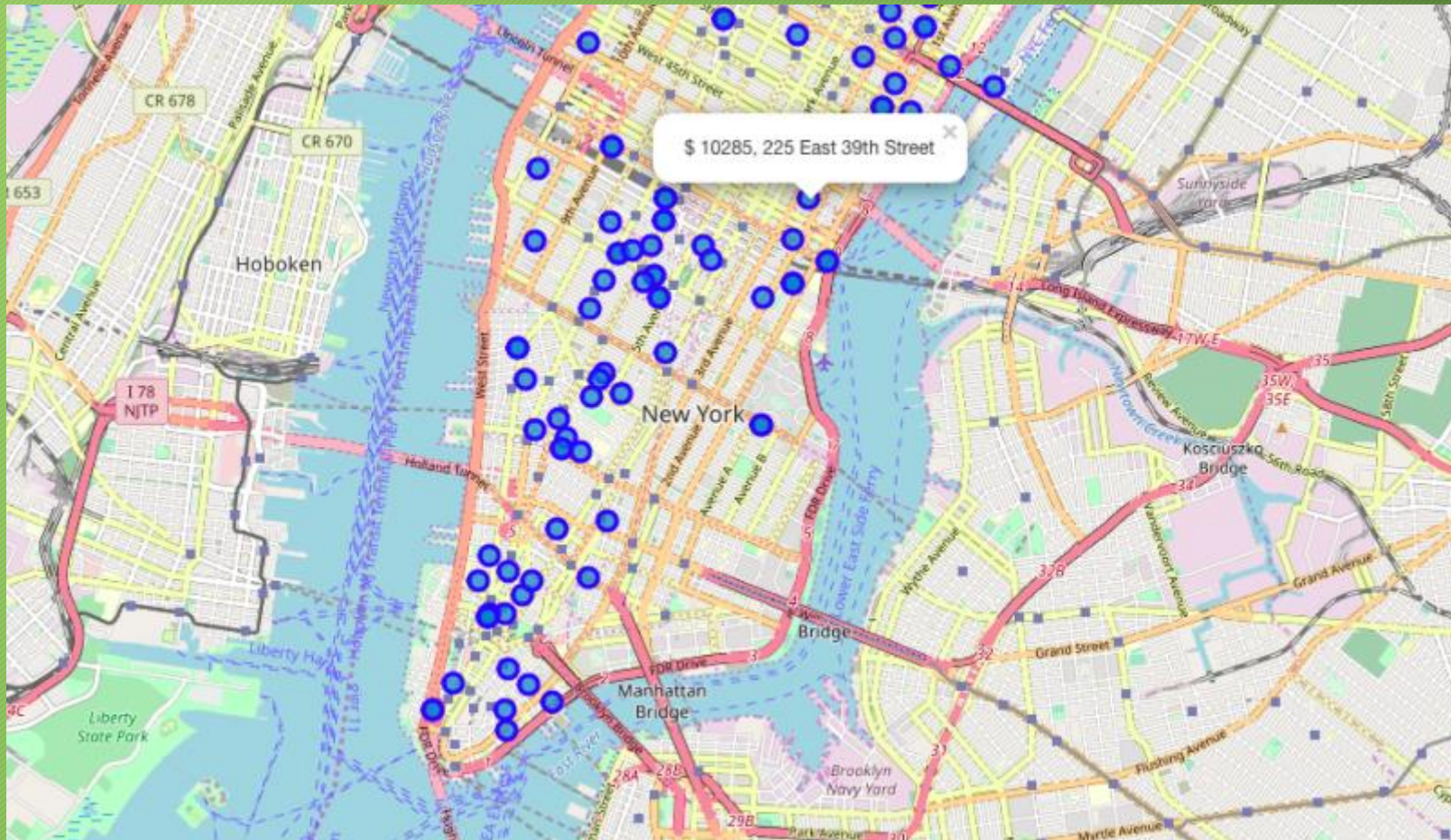
	Address	Area	Price_per_ft2	Rooms	Area-ft2	Rent_Price	Lat	Long
139	200 East 72nd Street	Rental in Lenox Hill	5.15	3.0	1700	8750	40.769465	-73.960339
140	50 Murray Street	No fee rental in Tribeca	7.11	2.0	1223	8700	40.714051	-74.009608
141	300 East 56th Street	No fee rental in Midtown East	3.87	3.0	2100	8118	40.758216	-73.965190
142	1930 Broadway	No fee rental in Central Park West	5.06	2.0	1600	8095	40.772474	-73.981901
143	33 West 9th Street	Rental in Greenwich Village	6.67	2.0	1500	10000	40.733691	-73.997323

Rental price stats MH apts

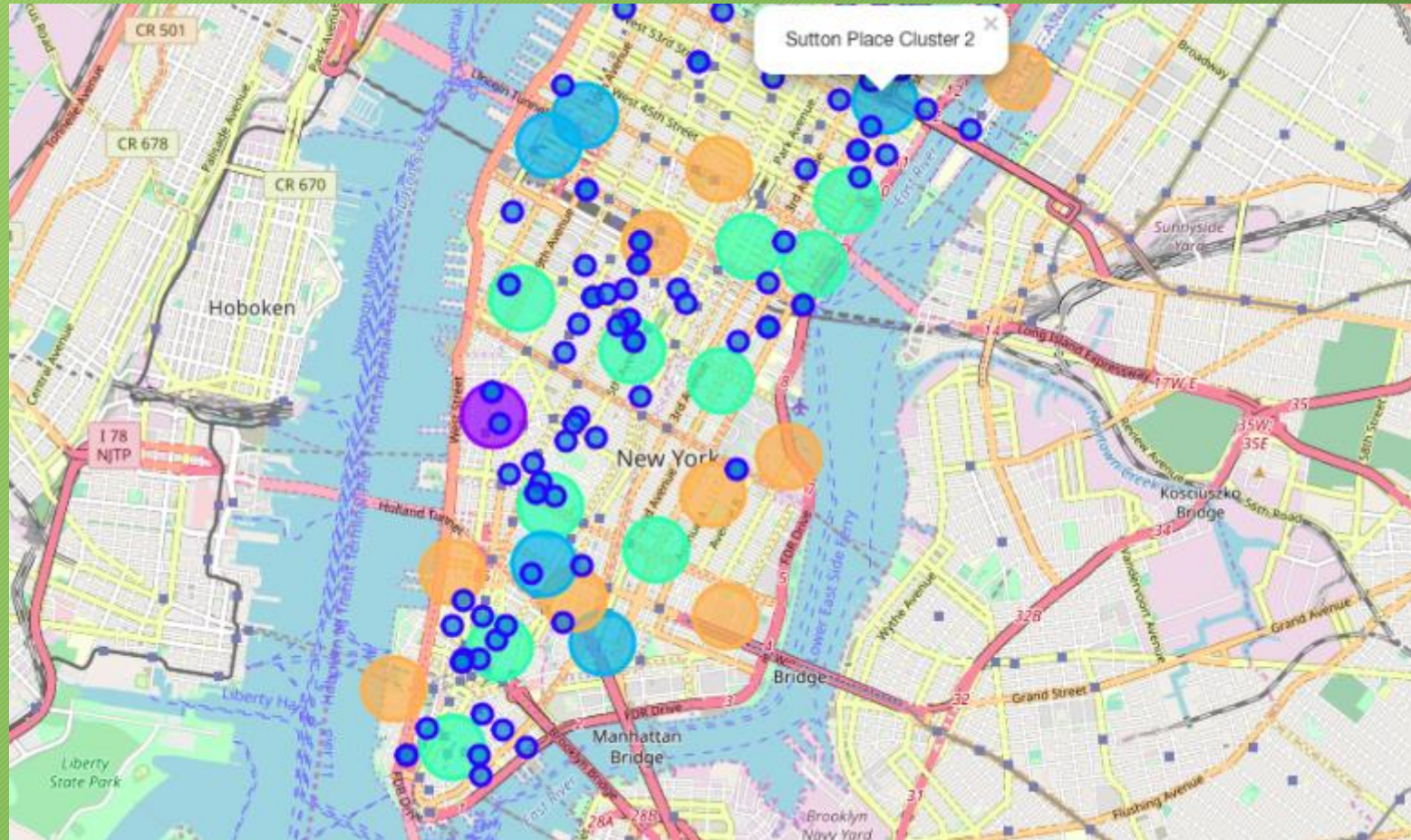
Budget \$7000/month is around the mean



Apts for rent in MH



MH apts for rent with venue clusters



Venues of cluster 3

```
## kk is the cluster number to explore
kk = 3
manhattan_merged.loc[manhattan_merged['Cluster Labels'] == kk, manhattan_merged.columns[[1] + list(range(5, manhattan_
```

	Neighborhood	1st Most Common Venue	2nd Most Common Venue	3rd Most Common Venue	4th Most Common Venue	5th Most Common Venue	6th Most Common Venue	7th Most Common Venue	8th Most Common Venue	9th Most Common Venue	10th Most Common Venue
3	Inwood	Mexican Restaurant	Lounge	Pizza Place	Café	Wine Bar	Bakery	American Restaurant	Park	Frozen Yogurt Shop	Spanish Restaurant
5	Manhattanville	Deli / Bodega	Italian Restaurant	Seafood Restaurant	Mexican Restaurant	Sushi Restaurant	Beer Garden	Coffee Shop	Falafel Restaurant	Bike Trail	Other Nightlife
10	Lenox Hill	Sushi Restaurant	Italian Restaurant	Coffee Shop	Gym / Fitness Center	Pizza Place	Burger Joint	Deli / Bodega	Gym	Sporting Goods Shop	Thai Restaurant
12	Upper West Side	Italian Restaurant	Bar	Bakery	Vegetarian / Vegan Restaurant	Indian Restaurant	Coffee Shop	Cosmetics Shop	Wine Bar	Mexican Restaurant	Sushi Restaurant
16	Murray Hill	Sandwich Place	Hotel	Japanese Restaurant	Gym / Fitness Center	Coffee Shop	Salon / Barbershop	Burger Joint	French Restaurant	Bar	Italian Restaurant
17	Chelsea	Coffee Shop	Italian Restaurant	Ice Cream Shop	Bakery	Nightclub	Theater	Art Gallery	Seafood Restaurant	American Restaurant	Hotel
18	Greenwich Village	Italian Restaurant	Sushi Restaurant	French Restaurant	Clothing Store	Chinese Restaurant	Café	Indian Restaurant	Bakery	Seafood Restaurant	Electronics Store
27	Gramercy	Italian Restaurant	Restaurant	Thrift / Vintage Store	Cocktail Bar	Bagel Shop	Coffee Shop	Pizza Place	Mexican Restaurant	Grocery Store	Wine Shop
29	Financial District	Coffee Shop	Hotel	Gym	Wine Shop	Steakhouse	Bar	Italian Restaurant	Pizza Place	Park	Gym / Fitness Center
31	Noho	Italian Restaurant	French Restaurant	Cocktail Bar	Gift Shop	Bookstore	Grocery Store	Mexican Restaurant	Hotel	Sushi Restaurant	Coffee Shop

MH subs geodata

click to scroll output; double click to hide

		sub_address	lat	long
0	Dyckman Street Subway Station	170 Nagle Ave, New York, NY 10034, USA	40.861857	-73.924509
1	57 Street Subway Station	New York, NY 10106, USA	40.764250	-73.954525
2	Broad St	New York, NY 10005, USA	40.730862	-73.987156
3	175 Street Station	807 W 177th St, New York, NY 10033, USA	40.847991	-73.939785
4	5 Av and 53 St	New York, NY 10022, USA	40.764250	-73.954525

```
# removing duplicate rows and creating new set mhsubl
mhsubl=mh.drop_duplicates(subset=['lat', 'long'], keep="last").reset_index(drop=True)
mhsubl.shape
```

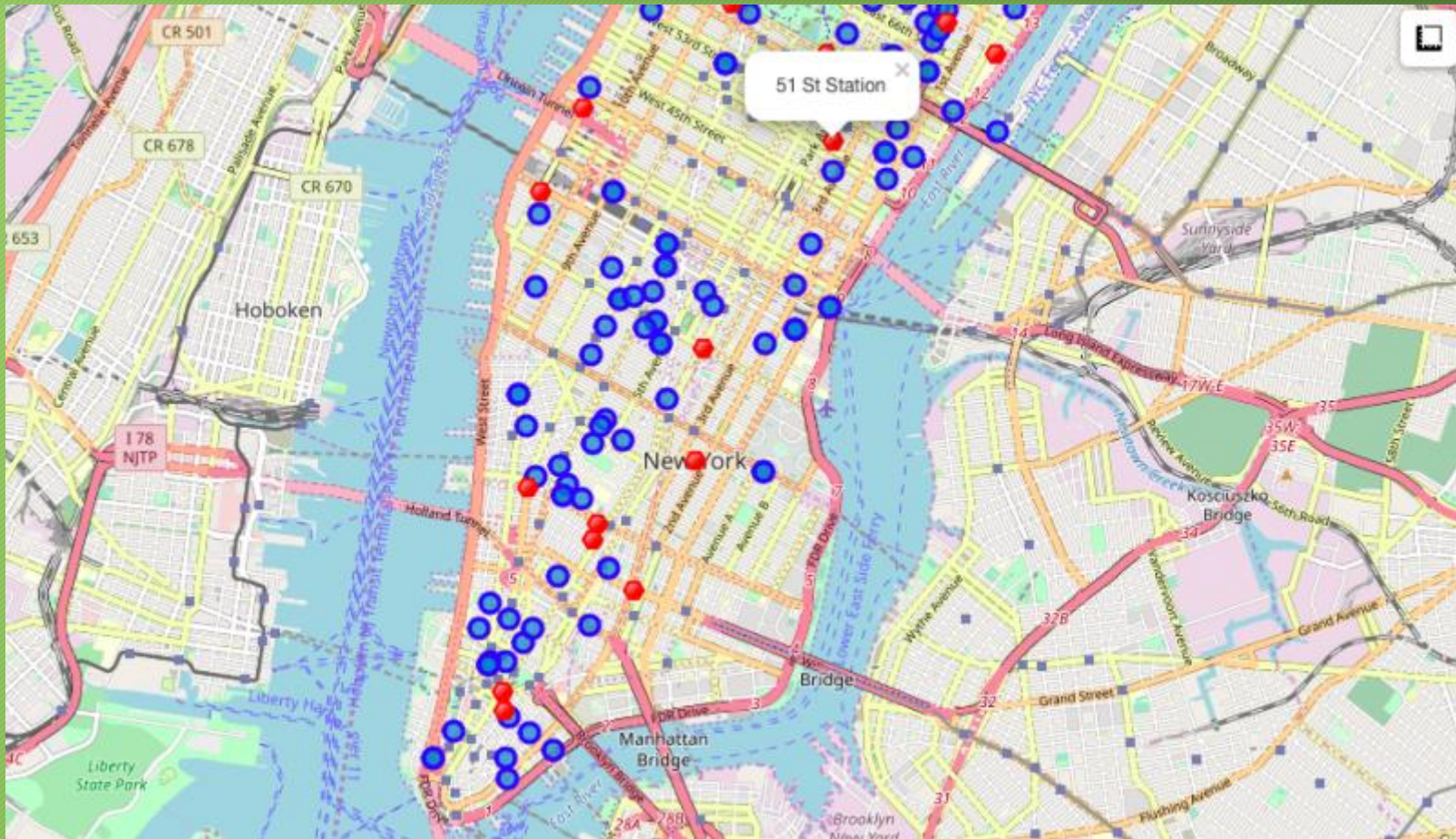
```
(22, 4)
```

```
: mhsubl.tail()
```

:

	sub_station	sub_address	lat	long
17	190 Street Subway Station	Bennett Ave, New York, NY 10040, USA	40.858113	-73.932983
18	59 St-Lexington Av Station	E 60th St, New York, NY 10065, USA	40.762259	-73.966271
19	57 Street Station	New York, NY 10019, United States	40.764250	-73.954525
20	14 Street / 8 Av	New York, NY 10014, United States	40.730862	-73.987156
21	MTA New York City	525 11th Ave, New York, NY 10018, USA	40.759809	-73.999282

Apts for rent (blue) and subs stations (red)



Selected Apt

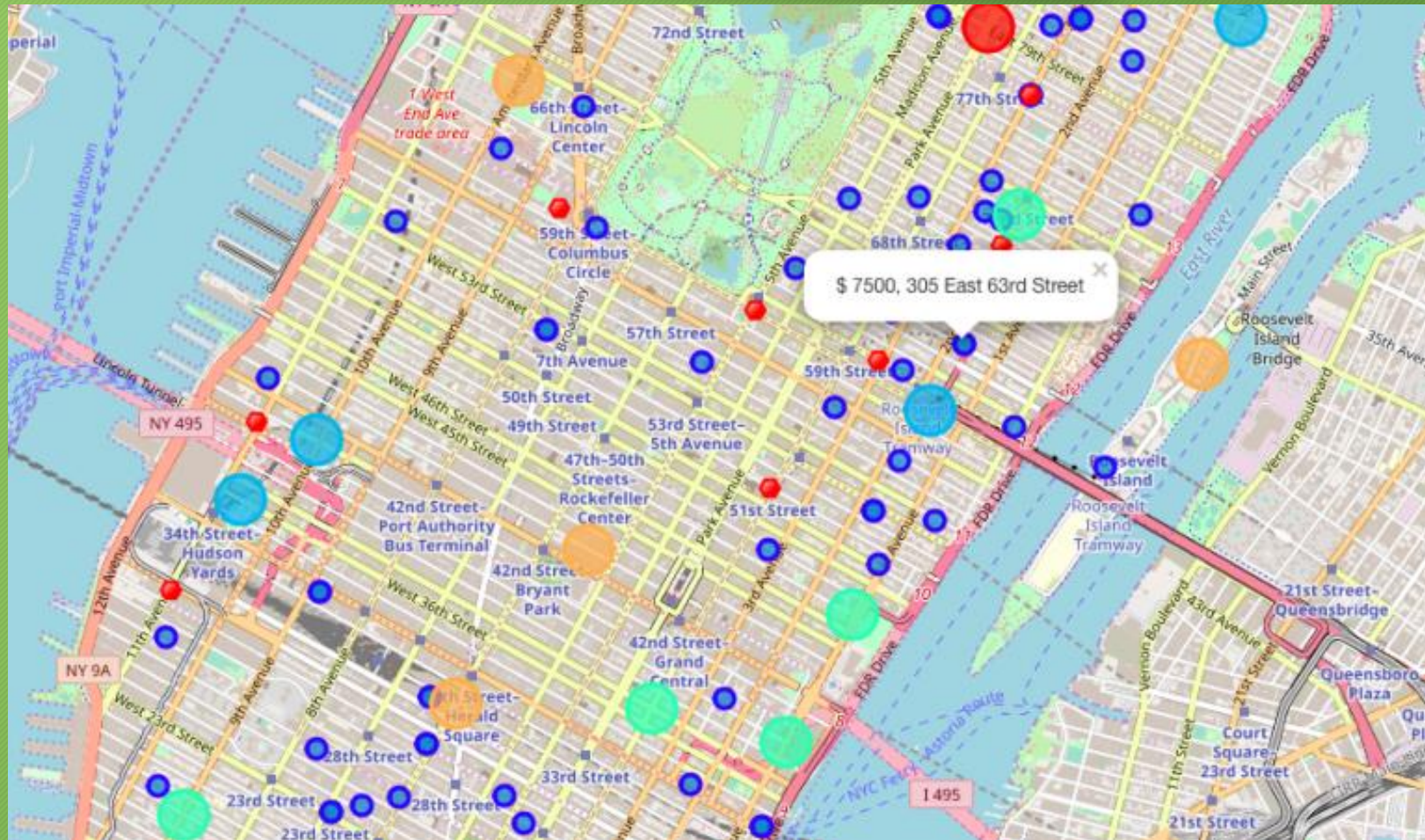
The consolidated map shows all the informations used for the decision:

- Apts address
- Price
- Neighborhood
- Cluster of venues
- Sub station nearby

Blue dots = apts

Red dots = subs

Bubble = cluster of venues



APTS selection

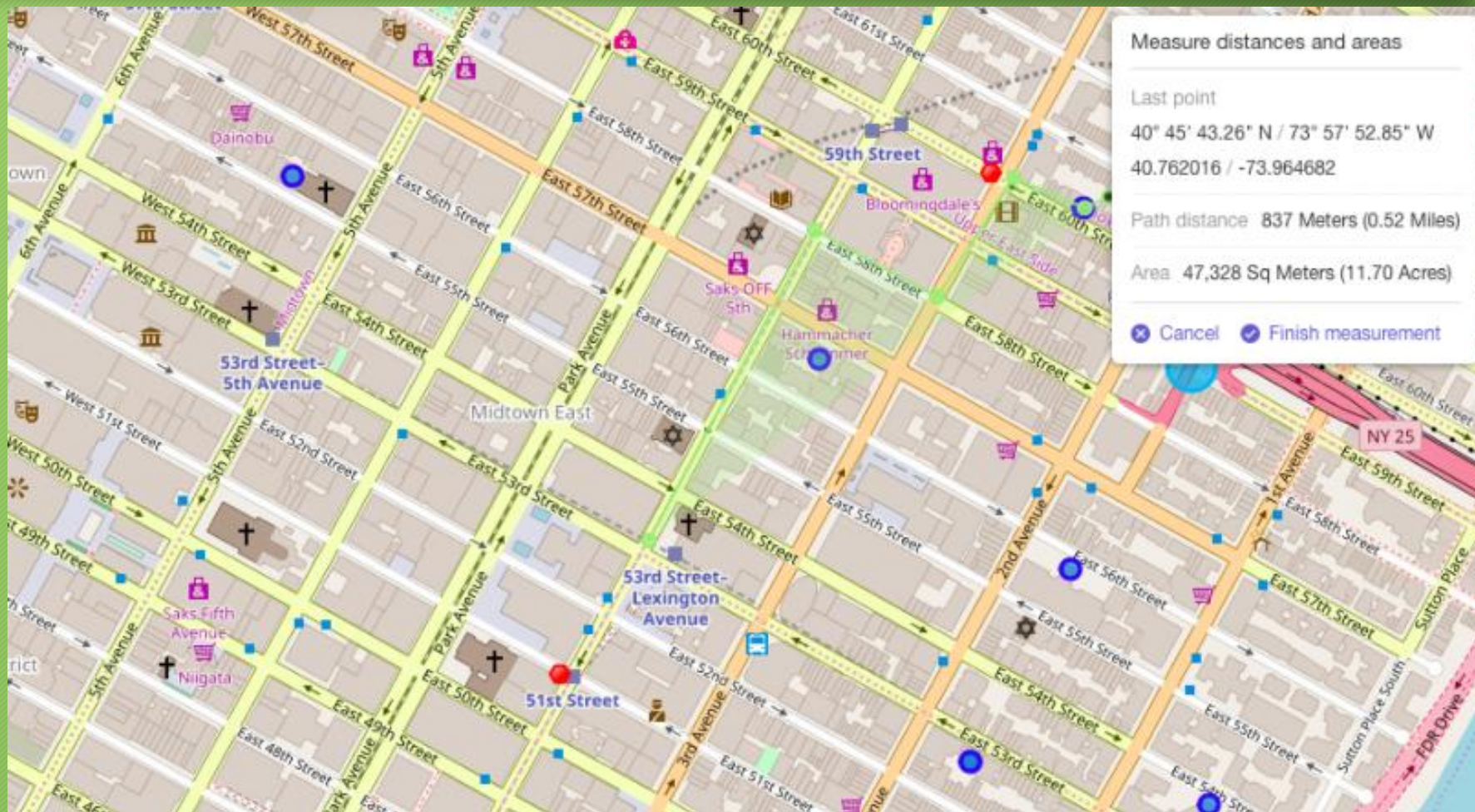
Using the map above I was able to explore all the possibilities since the popups provide the info needed for a good decision.

Apt #1: rent cost is \$7500, slightly above the budget. It is located 400 m from subway station at 59th Street and work place is another 600 m away. Venues for this apt are as of Cluster 2 and it is located in a fine district in the East side of MH

Apt #2: rent cost is \$6935, slightly under the budget. It is located 60 m from subway station at Fulton Street but to go to work place it will need 40-60 min subway ride. Venues for this apt are as of Cluster 3.

Based on current Rome venues, Cluster 2 type of venues is a closer to my current living place, consequently Apt #1 is a better choice: extra monthly rent is worth the conveniences it provides.

I will walk to work, home-work distance is less than 1 km



Venues in Cluster 2 near future home

```
## kk is the cluster number to explore
kk = 2
manhattan_merged.loc[manhattan_merged['Cluster Labels'] == kk, manhattan_merged.columns[[1] + list(range(5, manhattan_r
```

	Neighborhood	1st Most Common Venue	2nd Most Common Venue	3rd Most Common Venue	4th Most Common Venue	5th Most Common Venue	6th Most Common Venue	7th Most Common Venue	8th Most Common Venue	9th Most Common Venue	10th Most Common Venue
0	Marble Hill	Coffee Shop	Discount Store	Yoga Studio	Steakhouse	Supplement Shop	Tennis Stadium	Shoe Store	Gym	Bank	Seafood Restaurant
1	Chinatown	Chinese Restaurant	Cocktail Bar	Dim Sum Restaurant	American Restaurant	Vietnamese Restaurant	Salon / Barbershop	Noodle House	Bakery	Bubble Tea Shop	Ice Cream Shop
6	Central Harlem	African Restaurant	Seafood Restaurant	French Restaurant	American Restaurant	Cosmetics Shop	Chinese Restaurant	Event Space	Liquor Store	Beer Bar	Gym / Fitness Center
9	Yorkville	Coffee Shop	Gym	Bar	Italian Restaurant	Sushi Restaurant	Pizza Place	Mexican Restaurant	Deli / Bodega	Japanese Restaurant	Pub
14	Clinton	Theater	Italian Restaurant	Coffee Shop	American Restaurant	Gym / Fitness Center	Hotel	Wine Shop	Spa	Gym	Indie Theater
23	Soho	Clothing Store	Boutique	Women's Store	Shoe Store	Men's Store	Furniture / Home Store	Italian Restaurant	Mediterranean Restaurant	Art Gallery	Design Studio
26	Morningside Heights	Coffee Shop	American Restaurant	Park	Bookstore	Pizza Place	Sandwich Place	Burger Joint	Café	Deli / Bodega	Tennis Court
34	Sutton Place	Gym / Fitness Center	Italian Restaurant	Furniture / Home Store	Indian Restaurant	Dessert Shop	American Restaurant	Bakery	Juice Bar	Boutique	Sushi Restaurant
39	Hudson Yards	Coffee Shop	Italian Restaurant	Hotel	Theater	American Restaurant	Café	Gym / Fitness Center	Thai Restaurant	Restaurant	Gym

Discussion

In general, I am positively impressed with the overall organization, content and lab works presented during the Coursera IBM Certification Course. I feel this Capstone project presented me a great opportunity to practice and apply the Data Science tools and methodologies learned. I have created a good project that I can present as an example to show my potential. I feel I have acquired a good starting point to become a professional Data Scientist and I will continue exploring to creating examples of practical cases.

Conclusion

I feel rewarded with the efforts, time and money spent.

I believe this course with all the topics covered is well worthy of appreciation. This project has shown me a practical application to resolve a real situation that has impacting personal and financial impact using Data Science tools.

The mapping with Folium is a very powerful technique to consolidate information and make the analysis and decision thoroughly and with confidence. I would recommend for use in similar situations.

One must keep abreast of new tools for DS that continue to appear for application in several business fields.