

A STROLL AT THE MET WITH “WALKS OF NEW YORK”

Posted by [Used York City](#) on Monday, April 21, 2014 · [8 Comments](#)



The great cities of the world – Rome, Paris, London, Istanbul – are true walking cities. I proudly add New York City to this illustrious list of capital cities. In order to know a city, you **HAVE** to walk its streets. It's that simple. Subways, railroads, cars, metros and buses will get you from here to there — but you'll miss all the fun in between!

Now UYC has [featured several local walks](#) of some intimate NYC pockets. **But these are slivers of the apple – we barely peeled the Big Apples's shiny skin when it comes to the vast majority of our landmark sights.** And of course, the bottom line here is you simply have to get out... put those sneakers on ... and just do it!

Now we can surely help you out here by strongly suggesting that you take a professional, organized walking tour in order to maximize your NYC experience. **I thought as a born and bred New Yorker I simply knew it all – why on earth would I need a tour? Well, I was put to the test by “[Walks Of New York](#)” – an idea whose time has come.**



“Walks Of New York” is a NYC sightseeing tour group offering affordable (ranging in cost from \$25 to \$59) and time saving (many tours involve “skipping the line” and each tour is approx. 2 ½ hours) private tours – limited to 12 people – of the major, important districts of New York. They offer carefully organized intimate tours of interest to tourists, as well as native New Yorkers. So much we don’t know! Trust me; this is time and money well spent. And should there be some area of particular interest to you not offered, you can readily discuss your wants with them, and they can customize their tours accordingly.

Probably their “Highlights of New York Tour: Times Square, Rockefeller Center, Grand Central” is of central importance to everyone’s visit, but I urge you to go to their website to read up on the many diverse, affordable tours available. So interesting – there is a behind the scenes Broadway Theater tour; as well as a Lower East Side Tour focusing on the cuisine unique to this area. But of high interest to me was the “B&H New York Photography Tour: High Line, Meatpacking, and Chelsea Market.” This has become one ultra hot neighborhood since its recent gentrification, uniquely accented by the addition of the High Line. To make this tour even more intriguing, “Walks of New York” is spinning this into a photographic experience with a seasoned photo guide leading you to the best shots of this super cool area using your readily available cell phone as well as more advanced cameras.

Now I adore the Metropolitan Museum of Art, I have been a member for more years than I care to count! So when the opportunity arose to take a **private tour** of this monumental edifice offered by “Walks of New York,” I cynically thought it would be a repeat of the many wonderful Friday nights I have spent there enjoying their exquisite holdings.



Well, thanks to Jason Spiehler from” Walks of New York,” I learned more in a 2 ½ hour walk thru the MET than I did in the entire spring semester of my Art History class! Jason is a walking encyclopedia, incredibly knowledgeable! We covered some 5,000 years of visual treasures in the MET – from Early Egypt to Ancient Rome, medieval limestone statuary to the wood carvings of primitive New Guinea, thru 19th Century American bronzes and sculptures, to Emmanuel Leutze’s monumental oil painting “George Washington Crossing the Delaware.” **One MET... many worlds. And with Jason’s expert guidance and intelligent context, these worlds come alive.**

The same can be said of New York... one city, many worlds. Be it architectural, cultural, historical, aesthetic... or just sheer fun... a professional, well tuned walking tour can help you enjoy these worlds thru a new pair of eyes.... so much to see!

“Walks of New York” transforms NYC into your own private playground. With a glorious (and well deserved, I might add) spring season just around the corner, this is the perfect time of year to enjoy an outdoor tour of NYC.

I say it again.... get out there and just do it!

And at long, long last – WELCOME SPRING!

By: Joanne Theodorou