

## Top of the Rock™ Rockefeller Center's Legendary Observation Deck



A view of Central Park and the Hudson from Top of the Rock

New York is a city that offers many venues that feature many different skyline views from many different perspectives—harbor tours, helicopters, waterfront restaurants, observation decks, and rooftop dining—to name but a few. And these are all wonderful ways to see the city. However, few can come even close to the view from **Top of the Rock™**, located at 30 Rockefeller Plaza, W. 50th St. btw. Fifth & Sixth Aves.

After being closed for 20 years, Top of the Rock™'s dazzling, 360-degree indoor and outdoor views were opened to the public in November of 2005. The observation deck on top of Rockefeller Center is not exactly new, though. In fact, it was open from 1933 to 1986. The brainchild of John D. Rockefeller, the original deck was designed to evoke the luxurious upper

decks of a 1930s grand ocean liner, furnished with deck chairs, gooseneck fixtures, and large air-conditioning vents intended to look like the stacks on a ship.

Top of the Rock™ preserves the historic integrity of Rockefeller's creation while incorporating innovative features and new technology. There's 55,000 square feet of space, including three decks featuring outdoor terraces and indoor space. Visitors go up through the ground-level atrium to the mezzanine exhibition space, which has a multi-media exhibition exploring the history and construction of Rockefeller Center. This exhibition includes images on plasma televisions, an original basswood model of 30 Rockefeller Plaza, and a simulated beam where you can imagine you are part of the 1930s construction crew that walked across it, hundreds of feet in the air. High-tech

sky shuttle elevators then take you up to the 67th floor, and the elevators are a marvel in themselves, with transparent glass ceilings against which rapid video sequences of historic Rockefeller Center imagery are projected as you are rapidly accelerated upward.

The elevator leaves you in the interior of the Grand Viewing Room, a wrap-around space that has north and south views; an additional indoor viewing space is offered in the high-ceilinged Weather Room. Escalators then take you to the Grand Viewing Decks on the 69th floor, surrounded by transparent glass panels that allow unobstructed visibility of up to 80 miles in all directions. The 70th floor—a mere 20 feet wide and 200 feet long—crowns the building with a 360-degree panoramic view of the city. From here you can behold all of the prominent landmarks, including the Empire State Building, the Chrysler Building, the Brooklyn Bridge, and a perfect view of Central Park.

Top of the Rock™ offers two ticketing options that combine admission to neighboring attractions at a reduced price. **The Rock Pass** includes adult admission to Top of the Rock™, the **NBC Studio Tour** (49th St. btw. Fifth & Sixth Aves.), and the **Radio City® Stage Door Tour** (Sixth Ave. btw. 50th & 51st Sts.) for \$45 (a 17% savings), and is available at the box offices for all three venues. If the **Museum of Modern Art** is on your agenda, a \$30 combination ticket that provides access to both Top of the Rock™ as well as MoMA, available exclusively at the Top of the Rock™ box office. Additionally, the new Top of the Rock™ **GPS Audio Experience** is a first-of-its-kind, high-tech, audio/visual aid that



provides historic facts, anecdotes, photos, music, and descriptions of the many features of the observation deck with a simple touch of a button—essentially an entertaining, personal tour guide that goes at your own pace and is tailored to your interests.

Ticket prices are \$17.50 for adults, \$16 for seniors, and \$11.25 for children under 12. Additionally, to minimize the waiting time, Top of the Rock™ offers reserved-time tickets where you can reserve the date and time of the desired visit in advance. These tickets are available for purchase by calling 877-NYC-ROCK or by visiting [www.topoftherocknyc.com](http://www.topoftherocknyc.com). Top of the Rock™ is open 365 days a year from 8am until midnight.

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