

Final Project

--- Cousea Capstone

Airbnb Recommendation for Travelers in NYC



Qingqing Cao

01/08/2020

Introduction:

New York is one of the world's major commercial, financial and cultural centers. Its core, Manhattan, is the most densely populated borough. It is known for many major attractions. Every year, many travelers choose New York for different reasons. They may come for sight seeing, shopping, arts and shows, nightlife, or business trips, etc. Travelers usually wish to stay in neighborhoods that close to their places of interests, and they usually have a budget limit for accommodations. This project is to help travelers to choose the best area for choosing airbnb based on their locations and interests.

People who might be interested in this projects are travelers who plan to choose airbnb in NYC.

Data usage:

The purpose of traveling are divided into four categories: outdoors, arts, shopping, and food. Boroughs and Neighborhood information are acquired from the lab data. Locations related to these categories are explored and clustered using Foursquare API. Airbnb data is downloaded from the website:

<https://www.kaggle.com/dgomonov/new-york-city-airbnb-open-data/data>
(<https://www.kaggle.com/dgomonov/new-york-city-airbnb-open-data/data>).

Dataset example is in Dataset part.

Dataset

Request neighborhoods in Manhattan

In [8]:



```
1 manhattan_data = neighborhoods[neighborhoods['Borough'] == 'Manhattan'].reset_index(drop=True)
2 manhattan_data.head()
```

Out[8]:

	Borough	Neighborhood	Latitude	Longitude
0	Manhattan	Marble Hill	40.876551	-73.910660
1	Manhattan	Chinatown	40.715618	-73.994279
2	Manhattan	Washington Heights	40.851903	-73.936900
3	Manhattan	Inwood	40.867684	-73.921210
4	Manhattan	Hamilton Heights	40.823604	-73.949688

Read airbnb data from csv file. The csv file contains airbnb name, host_name, borough, neighbourhood_group, position, room_type, price, etc.

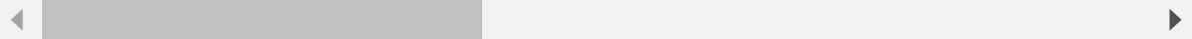
In [9]:



```
1 airbnb=pd.read_csv('AB_NYC_2019.csv')
2 airbnb.head()
```

Out[9]:

	id	name	host_id	host_name	neighbourhood_group	neighbourhood	latitude
0	2539	Clean & quiet apt home by the park	2787	John	Brooklyn	Kensington	40.64749
1	2595	Skylit Midtown Castle	2845	Jennifer	Manhattan	Midtown	40.75362
2	3647	THE VILLAGE OF HARLEM....NEW YORK !	4632	Elisabeth	Manhattan	Harlem	40.80902
3	3831	Cozy Entire Floor of Brownstone	4869	LisaRoxanne	Brooklyn	Clinton Hill	40.68514
4	5022	Entire Apt: Spacious Studio/Loft by central park	7192	Laura	Manhattan	East Harlem	40.79851



In [10]:

```
1 airbnb.drop(columns=['id', 'host_id', 'minimum_nights', 'number_of_reviews', 'last_review']
2 airbnb.head()
```

Out[10]:

	name	host_name	neighbourhood_group	neighbourhood	latitude	longitude	reviews_per_month
0	Clean & quiet apt home by the park	John	Brooklyn	Kensington	40.64749	-73.97237	1.0
1	Skylit Midtown Castle	Jennifer	Manhattan	Midtown	40.75362	-73.98377	1.0
2	THE VILLAGE OF HARLEM....NEW YORK !	Elisabeth	Manhattan	Harlem	40.80902	-73.94190	1.0
3	Cozy Entire Floor of Brownstone	LisaRoxanne	Brooklyn	Clinton Hill	40.68514	-73.95976	1.0
4	Entire Apt: Spacious Studio/Loft by central park	Laura	Manhattan	East Harlem	40.79851	-73.94399	1.0

We assume the reviews per month is related to the popularity of the host. The one with higher reviews per month is more popular.

In [11]:



```

1 airbnb.columns=['name','host_name','borough','neighbourhood','latitude','longitude','
2 airbnb_m=airbnb[airbnb['borough']=='Manhattan'].reset_index(drop=True)
3 airbnb_m.fillna(0,inplace=True)
4 airbnb_m.head()

```

Out[11]:

	name	host_name	borough	neighbourhood	latitude	longitude	room_type	price
0	Skylit Midtown Castle	Jennifer	Manhattan	Midtown	40.75362	-73.98377	Entire home/apt	215
1	THE VILLAGE OF HARLEM.....NEW YORK !	Elisabeth	Manhattan	Harlem	40.80902	-73.94190	Private room	115
2	Entire Apt: Spacious Studio/Loft by central park	Laura	Manhattan	East Harlem	40.79851	-73.94399	Entire home/apt	115
3	Large Cozy 1 BR Apartment In Midtown East	Chris	Manhattan	Murray Hill	40.74767	-73.97500	Entire home/apt	215
4	Large Furnished Room Near B'way	Shunichi	Manhattan	Hell's Kitchen	40.76489	-73.98493	Private room	115



Mathedology

What we do in the mathedology part is 1) use Foursquare API to explore restaurant, arts, shopping center, outdoor activity locations in Manhattan; 2) show these locations on the map and use labels to show their name and category; 3) cluster airbnb in Manhattan by their prices and popularities; 4) show the airbnb locations on the map.

In [18]:



```
1 manhattan_restaurants.head()
```

Out[18]:

	Neighborhood	Neighborhood Latitude	Neighborhood Longitude	Type	Venue	Venue Latitude	Venue Longitude	Venue Category
0	Marble Hill	40.876551	-73.91066	food	Arturo's	40.874412	-73.910271	Pizzeria
1	Marble Hill	40.876551	-73.91066	food	Tibbett Diner	40.880404	-73.908937	Diner
2	Marble Hill	40.876551	-73.91066	food	Dunkin'	40.877136	-73.906666	Doughnut Shop
3	Marble Hill	40.876551	-73.91066	food	Land & Sea Restaurant	40.877885	-73.905873	Seafood Restaurant
4	Marble Hill	40.876551	-73.91066	food	Boston Market	40.877430	-73.905412	American Restaurant

In [20]:



```
1 manhattan_arts = getNearbyVenues(names=manhattan_data['Neighborhood'],
2                                   search_query='arts',
3                                   latitudes=manhattan_data['Latitude'],
4                                   longitudes=manhattan_data['Longitude'],
5                                   )
6 manhattan_arts.head()
```

Out[20]:

	Neighborhood	Neighborhood Latitude	Neighborhood Longitude	Type	Venue	Venue Latitude	Venue Longitude	Venue Category
0	Marble Hill	40.876551	-73.910660	arts	Villa Lobos	40.875592	-73.909496	Music Venue
1	Marble Hill	40.876551	-73.910660	arts	Sonnet Project - Sonnet #152	40.880538	-73.911295	Performance Arts Venue
2	Chinatown	40.715618	-73.994279	arts	Museum at Eldridge Street	40.714724	-73.993497	Museum
3	Chinatown	40.715618	-73.994279	arts	Metrograph	40.714999	-73.991035	Independent Movie Theater
4	Chinatown	40.715618	-73.994279	arts	Sofar HQ	40.713523	-73.996289	Music Venue

In [22]:



```

1 manhattan_shopping = getNearbyVenues(names=manhattan_data['Neighborhood'],
2                                     search_query='shops',
3                                     latitudes=manhattan_data['Latitude'],
4                                     longitudes=manhattan_data['Longitude'],
5                                     )
6 manhattan_shopping.head()

```

Out[22]:

	Neighborhood	Neighborhood Latitude	Neighborhood Longitude	Type	Venue	Venue Latitude	Venue Longitude	\ Cat
0	Marble Hill	40.876551	-73.91066	shops	T.J. Maxx	40.877232	-73.905042	Depar
1	Marble Hill	40.876551	-73.91066	shops	Rite Aid	40.875467	-73.908906	Phar
2	Marble Hill	40.876551	-73.91066	shops	Vitamin Shoppe	40.877160	-73.905632	Suppl
3	Marble Hill	40.876551	-73.91066	shops	Lot Less Closeouts	40.878270	-73.905265	Dis
4	Marble Hill	40.876551	-73.91066	shops	GameStop	40.874267	-73.909342	Game

In [24]:



```

1 manhattan_outdoors = getNearbyVenues(names=manhattan_data['Neighborhood'],
2                                     search_query='outdoors',
3                                     latitudes=manhattan_data['Latitude'],
4                                     longitudes=manhattan_data['Longitude'],
5                                     )
6 manhattan_outdoors.head()

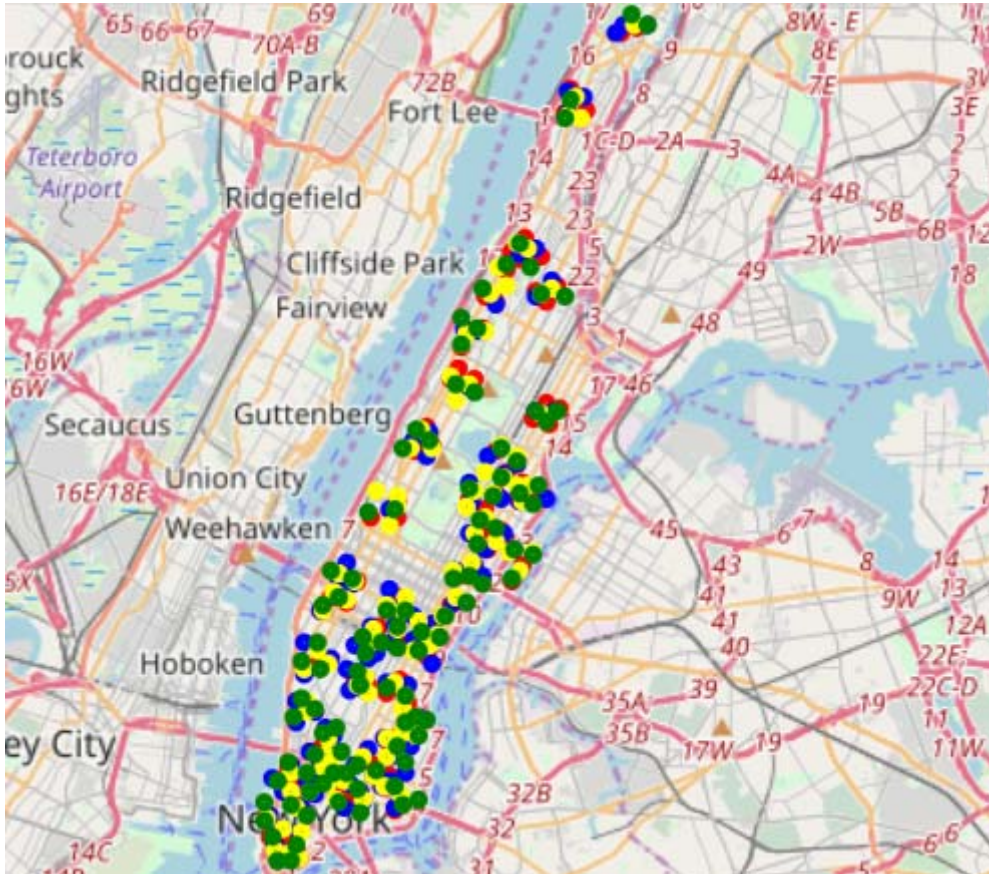
```

Out[24]:

	Neighborhood	Neighborhood Latitude	Neighborhood Longitude	Type	Venue	Venue Latitude	Venue Longitude	C
0	Marble Hill	40.876551	-73.91066	outdoors	Bikram Yoga	40.876844	-73.906204	
1	Marble Hill	40.876551	-73.91066	outdoors	Blink Fitness	40.877271	-73.905595	
2	Marble Hill	40.876551	-73.91066	outdoors	Planet Fitness	40.874088	-73.909137	
3	Marble Hill	40.876551	-73.91066	outdoors	Marble Hill Playground	40.877765	-73.907994	Pla
4	Marble Hill	40.876551	-73.91066	outdoors	Orange Park, Marble Hill, Bronx, NY	40.877986	-73.908028	

Results

From the distribution of these clusters in the map, those four colors mix up evenly, which means there is no place that only one or two categories take advantages.



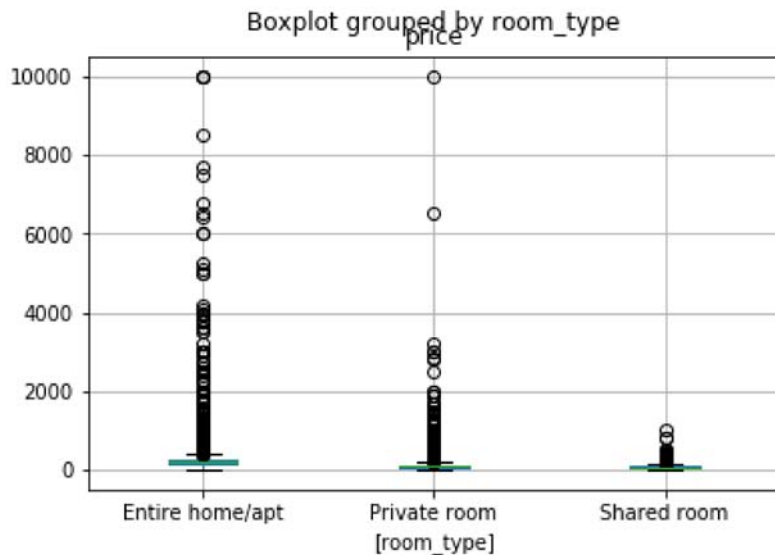
Next, we will analyze airbnb data. Because airbnb dataset is really large, and cannot be fully shown in folium map. Similar clustering operation is conducted to airbnb in Manhattan. First, let's look at how the prices of airbnb affected by locations and room type.

In [38]:

```
1 airbnb_m.boxplot(['price'],by=['room_type'])
```

Out[38]:

<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot at 0x1b5186e5eb8>



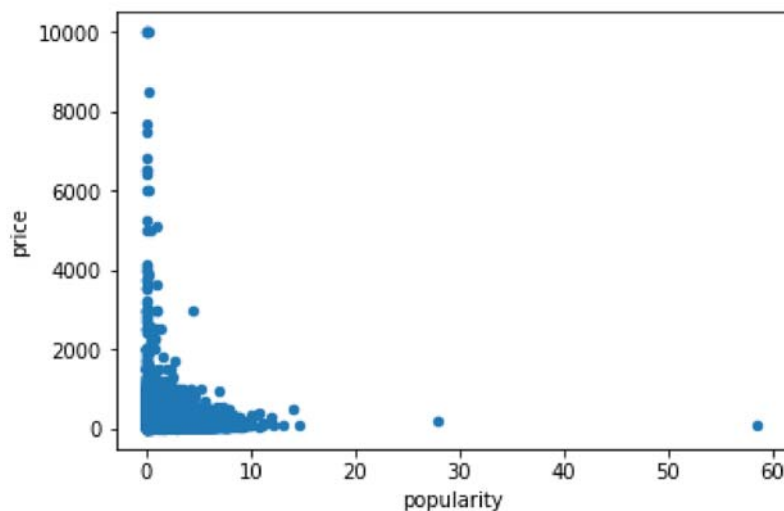
The price is related to the room type. Entire room/apt has the highest mean price compared with private room or shared room. More outliers which prices are higher than the maximum (third quarter + 1.5* interquartiel range) show in the type of entire room/apt, and followed by private room, and shared room.

In [33]:

```
1 airbnb_m.plot(kind='scatter',x='popularity',y='price')
```

Out[33]:

<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot at 0x1b518694d68>



No obvious trend is found in the relationship between the price and popularites if we consider the whole dataset.

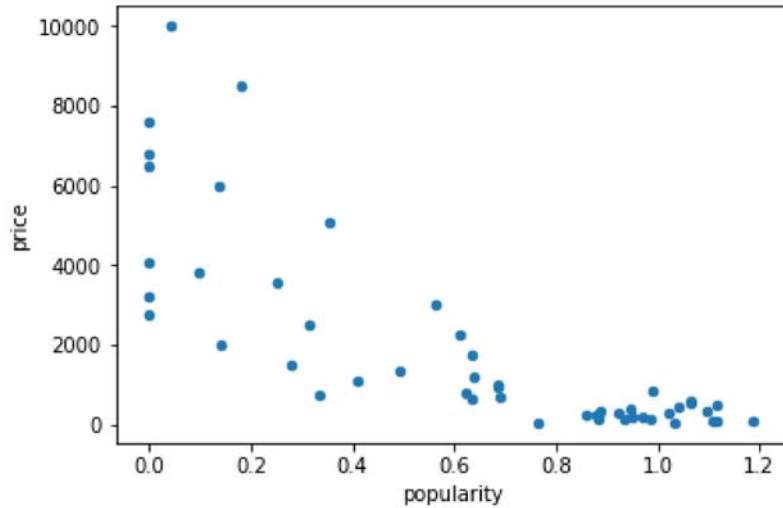
In [36]:



```
1 airbnb_mmean.plot(kind='scatter',x='popularity',y='price')
```

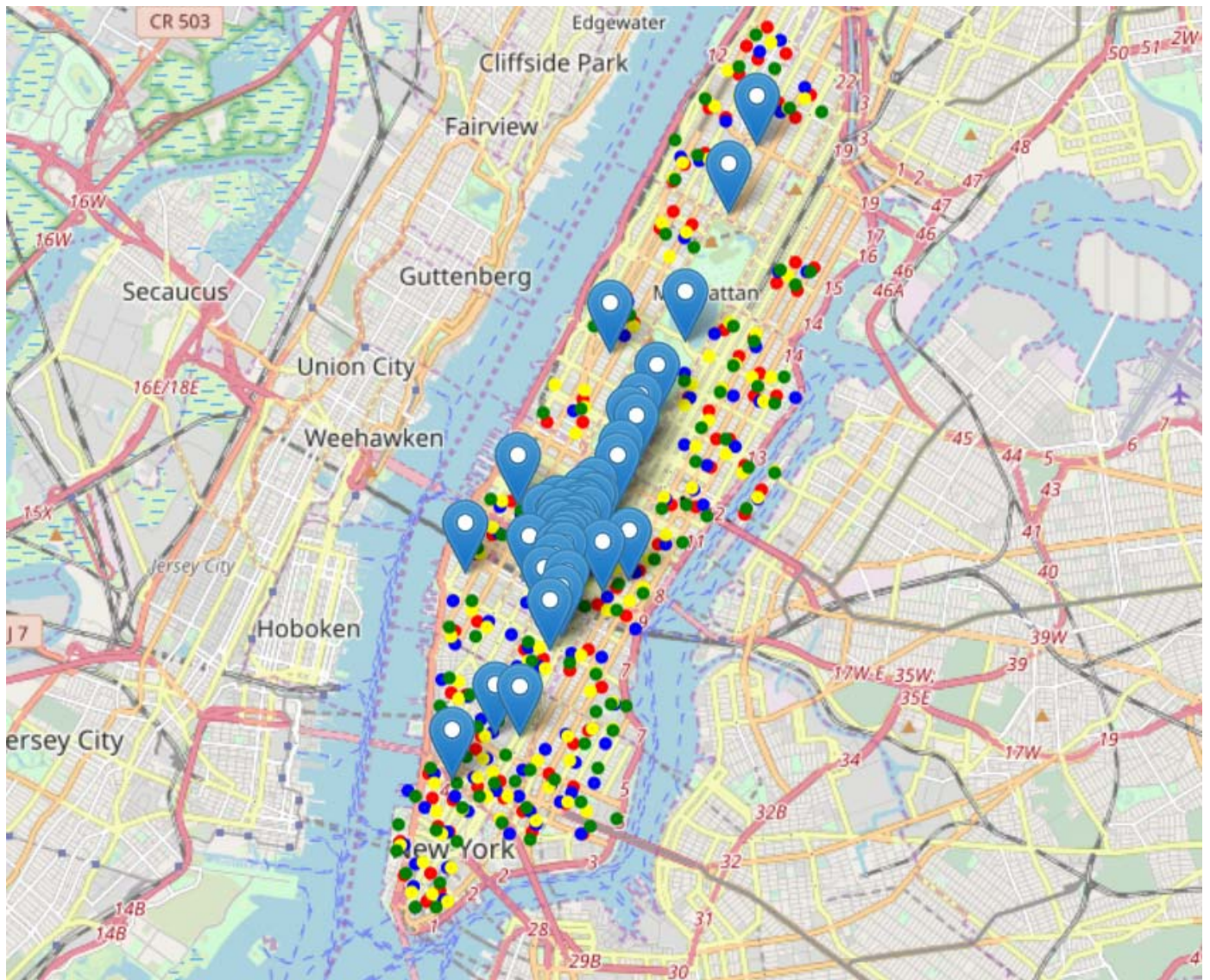
Out[36]:

<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot at 0x1b518707828>



From the clustered data, generally cheaper airbnb has higher popularities.

The clusters of airbnb and attractions are shown in the map below



Discussion

In four categories (restaurants, arts, shopping and outdoors) in Manhattan, arts has the the least number of items, which is 835. Other three categories all has over 1000 items.

All four categories are clustered into 100 clusters and shown in the map separately. Red markers show restaurant clusters; yellow markers show shopping places; blue markers show arts places; green markers show locations for outdoors. From the distribution of these clusters in the map, those four colors mix up evenly, which means there is no place that only one or two categories take advantages. The more we reach the south of Manhattan, more attractions (include all four categories) show up. Most attractions accumulated on the south of the Broadway-Lafayette Street. And east side of the Manhattan has more attractions than the west side.

There are more than 21000 airbnb in Manhattan, and the price ranges from 0 to 10000. The price is related to the room type. Entire room/apt has the highest mean price compared with private room or shared room. More outliers which prices are higher than the maximum (third quarter + 1.5* interquartiel range) show in the type of entire room/apt, and followed by private room, and shared room. We assume the reviews per month is related to the popularity of the host. The one with higher reviews per month is more popular. No obvious trend is found in the relationship between the price and popularites if we consider the whole dataset.

Then we divided airbnb based on their locations, prices and popularities and sorted the data by descending popularites. From the clustered data, generally cheaper airbnb has higher popularities. This is not always the truth because the popularity of the location is also decided by other reasons such as the hosts' attitudes, the

cleaness of the room, etc. The price of the airbnb is generally higher on the south of Manhattan. The two clusters on the north of the Manhattan have relatively low price, which are 39 and 54 dollars per night. Travelers with low budget can consider this area. The mean price of the clusters on the south of the Manhattan is much higher than the mean price of the airbnb. This might be because they are close to many attractions. However, because of the high price, they do not have a high popularity. The majorities of the airbnb apartments are between 23rd and 50th street. The price and popularity are very diverse in this area. As there are many attractions in this area, and the mean prices in this area are generally acceptable. This area is recommended for most travelers in NYC.

Conclusion

Based on the analysis and discussion above, main ideas are concluded here:

- (1) There is no differences among the distribution of restaurants, arts, shopping and outdoors location. Travelers can always enjoy them in the same area.
- (2) More attractions lay on the south part of Manhattan, and east side has more attractions than west side of Manhattan.
- (3) Airbnb price is related to the room type. Usually private house/apt has higher price than private room or shared room. Generally cheaper airbnb will attract more travelers.
- (4) The price of the airbnb is higher on the south of Manhattan and lower on the north of Manhattan, similar trend as the attractions number.
- (5) For most travelers, the area between 23rd and 50th street is most recommended for them to choose airbnb. The price is very diverse in this area and there are many attractions in the area.