

## Explore NYC! Guide

### **Downtown East: The East Village & The Lower East Side**

This guide combines two vibrant areas on the East side of Manhattan known as the East Village and the Lower East Side. Neighborhoods within the East Village and Lower East Side include Alphabet City, the Bowery, Little Italy, and Chinatown. If you want a less touristy experience during your time in NYC, visit the locations below.

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### **The East Village**

Accessible via the L, [4/5/6](#) trains

#### **Activity 1:** Spin the [cube at Astor Place](#)

Originally installed in the East Village in 1967, this cube-shaped sculpture is titled “Alamo.” The spinning of the cube became its own NYC attraction, though this wasn’t a feature intended by artist Tony Rosenthal.

#### **Activity 2:** Walk through [St. Marks Pl](#)

St. Marks Place is the East Village’s foremost destination. The three-block street runs from Cooper Square (Astor Place), home of the art and engineering college Cooper Union, to Tompkins Square, a Victorian-era park that forms the neighborhood’s gritty heart. Along the way, find colorful secondhand stores, bars, open-air bazaars, tattoo parlors, stately buildings laden with history, and dozens of restaurants.

#### **Activity 3:** Visit [Tompkins Square Park](#)

This popular park in the middle of the East Village is a perfect centerpiece for its eclectic neighborhood, which houses artists, radicals, fashion lovers, and those who have lived in the neighborhood for decades and witnessed its many changes.

**Dining Options:** [Tompkins Square Bagels](#); Abraco (coffee); [Veselka](#)

## The Lower East Side

Accessible via the **F/M, J/Z** trains

### **Activity 1:** Visit the [New Museum](#)

Founded in 1977, the New Museum is a leading destination for new art and ideas. It is Manhattan's only dedicated contemporary art museum and is respected internationally for the adventurousness and global scope of its curatorial program.

**Please Note:** Free admission with ICOM card is **not** guaranteed

### **Activity 2:** Walk through [Little Italy and Chinatown](#)

The Chinatown and Little Italy Historic District is located in downtown New York City. The Chinatown neighborhood was formed from the mid-19th to the early 20th century, a dynamic period in American history when waves of immigrants from all corners of the world came to New York seeking opportunity. See how these two enclaves intersect while walking down Canal Street.

**Dining Options:** [Katz's Delicatessen](#)

## Public Transportation Information

Navigating the Subway and Bus

Download or use the following applications on your personal device to navigate NYC.

- Apple Maps (Recommended)
- Google Maps (Recommended)
- MYmta (Available on [IOS](#) and [Android](#))