

The Weekend Guide to New York
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Saturday

Brunch / Early Lunch Minetta Tavern
113 Macdougall St
Only order the Black Label Burger and don't change anything about it. Don't add ketchup, cheese, or anything else! Just have it as the chef makes it because it is honestly incredible. I recommend it medium rare, it's not bloody, just juicy and amazing. If you can't do that, please don't go above medium. It's a very old school type of restaurant and personally I prefer it for lunch (especially since the burger is quite heavy) but you can go anytime. They actually run out of the Black Label Burger, so don't go too late. If you don't make it on Saturday, make sure to go another day, but also keep in mind that they only serve lunch/brunch on Wednesdays – Sundays.

After lunch The Met
1000 5th Ave
Take a cab and head up to Midtown. If the weather is nice, there's a rooftop exhibition. The sculptures on show right now aren't my idea of interesting but the view of Central Park and the city is unreal. They have a really cool vibe as well.

Another favorite option of mine is going to the Museum of Modern Art, which is my absolute favorite museum in the world. They don't have any cool rooftop exhibitions, but the modern art there is cool to explore.

If you're less of a museum person but want to do some touristy stuff, the cheesiest but most efficient option (which I secretly love) is taking the big red bus tour of New York. I know both of you have been to the city before so maybe you've already seen most of the stuff, but when I took this after several trips of going to New York, I realized how little of the city I've actually seen.

Dessert Momofuku MilkBar
15 w 56th ST, New York, NY 10019 (Between 5th and 6th avenues)
Since you'll be in the midtown area, stop by here before heading back to SoHo to change for the evening. They're known for their Cereal Milk. They have a very creative, interesting yet simple menu. Try their Soft Serve or the Shakes; the cookies and pies are also excellent.

Dinner Beauty and Essex
146 Essex St between Stanton & Rivington
New York, NY 10002
The food is good (not amazing, but good), but the place is extremely cool. You walk in through a pawnshop and find the restaurant in the back. There's a Champaign bar in the ladies' bathroom. Some good choices to order are the tomato tartar, the lobster tacos and the steak.

After Dinner Apothéke
9 Doyers St. at Bowery
Another very cool New York spot. Insane cocktails, they're all done in the style of an apothecary and mixed together in a very funky way as if you're in some guy's lab. The presentation is unreal, the music is great, and they definitely show off at the bar while putting the drinks together.

Sunday

Breakfast Jane's
100 W Houston St between Thompson & La Guardia
You have to go here for brunch on Sunday because it's the only day that they serve their homemade granola. They also have a phenomenal Vanilla Bean French toast that is worth trying. The line can get pretty long unless you go there early or reserve in advance.

After breakfast The Highline
Starts in the Meatpacking District and runs between Gansevoort and West 30th street
This is an old railway that runs above the city streets and was transformed into a public outdoor garden and walkway. If the weather is nice, it's a very enjoyable and unique spot to walk through.

After you get off The Highline, you'll be very close to Midtown. I love walking so what I would recommend is to walk up towards Midtown and stroll up Fifth Avenue towards the park. It's quite a walk but very enjoyable, especially if the weather is nice. Midtown can be crazy packed with tourists on the weekends, but they're not too bad.

If you get hungry, you can walk through Central Park towards The Boathouse. The food is good but not phenomenal, but the view of the lake is quite nice. Another favorite of mine is picking up sandwiches from Via Quadrano (25 E 73rd St) and taking them with you to the park for a picnic style lunch.

They are very popular for their Paninis. My favorite is the bresaola Panini. The tentazione Panini is also pretty good. Something about the bread makes it cut your upper pallet, so flip it over when you eat it, and you'll be safe.

- Afternoon dessert Levain Bakery
167 W 74th St (Between Columbus Ave & Amsterdam Ave)
If you're by the park, you have to invest some time to walk to the bakery. It's a little out of the way, but definitely worth it. Best (and biggest) cookies I've ever had.
- 7:00 PM Book of Mormon
230 W. 49th St
This is a must see production. It's brilliantly hilarious and entertaining.
- Dinner Miss Lilly's
132 W Houston St, New York, NY 10012
(646) 588-5375
The place is simply cool. It has a very casual vibe, hip crowd and amazing food. Great music plays all night long. This is one of the must go to places. The corn is a must have as is the banana pudding dessert. They also serve dinner till pretty late, so you don't have to rush to get there but definitely reserve in advance as it's usually quite packed.

Monday

- Breakfast Clinton Street Baking Company
4 Clinton Street
Everything on the menu is fantastic. They're known for their blueberry pancakes; I tried the banana pancakes and they were amazing. I also had the Brioche French toast and it is phenomenal. Order extra maple butter. The sugar-cured bacon is fantastic. Cash only.
- After Breakfast Brooklyn Bridge
You won't be too far away from the Brooklyn Bridge. You can either cab it to the start of the bridge or walk (which I would recommend because you'll see so much more). It's one of the most beautiful strolls and the bridge itself is lovely. You can also rent bikes and try that, but the biking lanes are too close to the pedestrians so I would recommend just walking. It's around an hour's walk to go to the end of it and back, and it's pretty enjoyable.
- After the walk, I would recommend you head to Soho and walk around there if you guys are in the mood for shopping or anything like that.
- Easy Lunch Café Habana
17 Prince St
While in Soho when you get hungry (which will be a while because Clinton Street's breakfast is quite heavy), stop by this place to nibble on their corn. It's fantastic and unbelievably addictive. Skip the wait of the restaurant and order from their take out branch next door

- Dessert**
- Rice to Riches
37 Spring St
Rice pudding in all the flavors you can imagine. It's incredibly delicious, but quite heavy so it's great after a light lunch. My favorite was the butterscotch with crumble toppings.
- Sunset**
- Chelsea Waterside Park/ Chelsea Piers
West 23rd Street and the West Side Highway
This is one of my favorite spots to hang out by the Hudson. Either take a Frisbee and hang out on the grassy area, or just chill on one of the benches and catch the beautiful sunset by the river. Whichever way you do it, it'll be a very relaxing spot to enjoy the afternoon. Within the piers, there are so many activities you can do including rock climbing, bowling, etc.
- If you want something less casual with a view, go to the Standard Rooftop to catch the sunset. They also happen to have phenomenal mini burgers (though I haven't tried them there yet but I've heard amazing reviews).
- Dinner**
- Chelsea Market
75 9th Ave (Between 15th & 16th St)
If you want something casual go here. The fish market is incredible with a fantastic lobster section in the back that is worth trying.
- Catch
21 Ninth Avenue
If you want something more upscale, try Catch. It's a seafood restaurant, and it's one of the 'in' New York scene places right now. Monday nights are where it has a good vibe and great for people watching, so make sure to book in advance.
- Tuesday**
- Breakfast**
- Katz Deli
205 E Houston St
I would skip a traditional breakfast, and go straight to Katz Deli, especially if you are meat lovers. They serve hands down the best pastrami sandwich I've ever had. It's a huge place and very touristy crowd, but the most fantastic meat ever. They open early, too. Cash only.
- Dessert**
- Doughnut Plant
379 Grand St
They have very creative doughnuts. A must try is the Crème Brule and tres leche. Look out for different specialty flavors too. If you're short on time, pick some up to go and enjoy them on the plane. Cash only.