

New York City *First Visit*

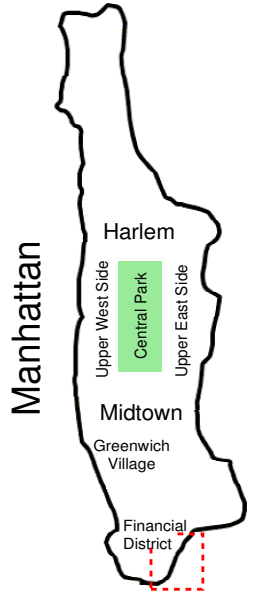
South Street Seaport / City Hall / Brooklyn Bridge



Duration: 1 to 4 hours **Distance:** 1.5 miles
Interest Category: First Visit

MAP KEY

- Tour Route
- Parks
- Bodies of Water
- Pedestrian Areas
- Notable Buildings
- Monuments
- Shops
- Recommended Eateries
- Restrooms
- Restaurants
- Information
- Subway Stations
- Bus Stops



Maps are not to scale

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The eastern side of Manhattan's Financial District only boasts one big-name attraction, the beloved Brooklyn Bridge. But the neighborhood's concentration of smaller (but no less interesting) sights makes it as essential for first time visitors as the Stock Exchange and Battery Park on the other side of Broadway (Tours 31 & 32). This tour starts at Fraunces Tavern, where George Washington gave his farewell address to the Continental Army, then leads you through a dozen other sights and attractions before taking you halfway across the big bridge.

GETTING THERE: Take the #1 subway train to South Ferry station, #4 or #5 subway train to Bowling Green station, or the R or W subway train to Whitehall Street station. By bus, catch the M9 or M15 bus to Broad St. or M1 or M6 bus to the end of the line at Peter Minuit Plaza.

START at **Fraunces Tavern** (www.frauncestavernmuseum.org), on the corner of Pearl St. and Broad St. Built as a house in 1719, the structure was converted into a tavern in 1762 by Samuel Fraunces. In 1783, the tavern was the site of George Washington's farewell address to the officers of the Continental Army.



Believing that his service to the nation was completed, Washington intended the address to mark his retirement. He used the speech to congratulate the officers on victory in the Revolutionary War and to outline his beliefs on how the government should be run going forward. Washington's retirement was significant because some of his supporters had urged him to use his public stature to seize more power and establish a military dictatorship. By resigning his commission, Washington ensured that democracy would be given a chance to take hold. Ironically, the popularity of this decision helped propel Washington out of retirement and into the presidency in 1789. In addition to the museum, Fraunces Tavern houses a restaurant (average lunch entree: \$20). Check the museum's website for hours and days of operation, and for admission prices.

From Fraunces Tavern, walk down Pearl St. to the end of the block and turn left at Coenties Alley, crossing Pearl St., to the **Stadt Huys** block. This is the site of the city's first city hall (or "Stadt Huys," in Dutch), built in 1641. The lighter blocks in the sidewalk mark the walls of the Stadt Huys, while darker blocks mark the limits of **Lovelace Tavern**, which stood beside the Stadt Huys and that itself served as city hall from 1670 to 1706. While nothing remains of the Stadt Huys or its foundation, the ruins of the tavern can be seen below street level through a rectangular window surrounded by brass railings. Nearby, a circular railing protects another window with a view down into the cistern (water tank) of a house that was built on the site in 1689.



Next, continue up Coenties Alley, away from Pearl St., then turn right on Stone St. This narrow, pedestrian-only street is lined with several restaurants, most of which set up outdoor tables (*photo at right*) for brunch, lunch and dinner. Food options on the street range from a **Subway** sandwich shop to **Smorgas Chef** (www.smorgaschef.com), a Scandinavian restaurant with lunch entrees averaging \$20.

At the end of Stone St., turn right and follow William St. across Pearl St. and Water St. At this point, William St. becomes **Old Slip**, a wide street divided by a park in the middle. Before this part of the shoreline...

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