

Where to go while in the Big Apple

Attractions

These are the “best bet” choices from the CSPA staff

Statue of Liberty National Monument



For the first time since September 11, 2001, the **Statue of Liberty National Monument** is open to visitors. Naturally, there are many new security procedures, but the experience for a first-time visitor can be exhilarating.

Visitors can experience a special insiders' view of the engineering marvel that is Bartholdi's design of this American treasure. Through a newly installed glass ceiling, visitors can view the inside structure of the Statue while guided by a National Park Service ranger. In addition, visitors will once again be able to walk out onto the Statue's observation deck to see the panoramic views of New York City and the harbor, and witness the Statue up close from her promenade and Ft. Wood.

A limited number of daily tickets to tour the monument are available at the ferry ticket offices in New York or New Jersey for walk-ins or reserved in advance by calling: **1-866-STATUE-4** (1-866-782-8834) or on-line at: www.statuereservations.com.

American Museum of Natural History



A taxidermist's paradise and proud owner of a fantastic new wing packed with dinosaurs. The museum also houses a Hall of Human Evolution and Biology, chronicling the theoretical human development from ape to *homo sapien*.

The museum is also home to the Rose Center for Earth and Space, a celestial research facility which includes a newly refurbished Hayden Planetarium.

The Planetarium currently hosts two space shows: “The Search for Life: Are we Alone?” narrated by Harrison Ford and “Passport to the Universe” narrated by Tom Hanks.

Admission to the Museum and the Space Center is suggested at \$14 per adult and \$8 per child (2-12 years old). Space shows, IMAX movies and special exhibits require an additional fee and advanced ticketing.

Central Park West at 79th St., (212) 769-5100; www.amnh.org

Shopping

We'll give you the list and let you decide if your wallet can handle a visit!



Saks Fifth Avenue

From the day its doors opened in 1924, Saks Fifth Avenue's mission has always been the same: to be the first and only choice for the most discerning consumers, the ones with the highest expectations.

611 Fifth Ave., (212) 753-4000

Lord & Taylor

Tour the museum-quality merchandise worthy of a chandelier and marble surroundings in this home of high fashion.

424 Fifth Ave., (212) 391-3344

Dining Choices

CSPA staff members share their favorite restaurants and cafés.

Amsterdam Restaurant

Recommended by Ed Sullivan

Newly renovated and reopened to the public in November 2004, this New American Fusion restaurant and lounge offers an inventive and diverse menu of culinary delights influenced by Asian, Mediterranean and Latin cuisines. *1207 Amsterdam Ave. at West 119th St., (212) 662-6330; www.amsterdamrestaurant.com.*

Angelo & Maxie's

Recommended by Antonio Rodríguez

This traditional steakhouse is a cornerstone of the Gramercy Park restaurant district. Despite having prices slightly on the high side, the cuisine (traditional American) is definitely worth it. *233 Park Ave South at East 19th St., (212) 220-9200; www.angelo-maxies.com.*

Così Coffee & Sandwich Shops

Recommended by Rebecca Castillo

This chain's attraction is summed up in one magic word: S'MORES. You can generously share a platter of S'mores ingredients with others (or be greedy), assembling the parts and roasting over a tabletop “campfire.” Seventeen locations in N.Y.C.; *for more information, check www.getcosi.com*

Kitchenette

Recommended by Denise Báez

This “country in the city” restaurant features a bakery and café area and boasts an extremely popular menu of comfort foods. Noted for its compact quarters and decorative coat hooks. *1272 Amsterdam Ave. at West 122nd St., (212) 531-7600; www.kitchenettenyc.com*



Time Warner Center

Time Warner Center is the 2.8-million-square-foot complex that—in addition to housing many of Time Warner's New York employees including Corporate, CNN and Turner Broadcasting Sales—offers a breathtaking environment where people dine, shop, live, work and are entertained.

Enhanced by lobby exhibits and performances, Time Warner Center serves as a space for the community, where people can explore and connect with vital, creative experiences.

*Columbus Circle
(Broadway, from 58th to 60th Streets)*

What's hot

Here are two popular places in Times Square that are hot attractions for visitors and New Yorkers alike.



Madame Tussaud's New York

Madame Tussaud's is a world-renowned institution with a lot to celebrate. They have a fascinating and colorful history behind them - entertaining people from all over the world for over 200 years.

With a heartfelt desire to enthrall and inspire, state-of-the-art interactivity and an exceptional gift for partying, they have what it takes to keep visitors smiling!

243 West 42nd St, (212) 512-9600,
www.nycwax.com



Toys "R" Us

The Times Square Toys "R" Us, features a giant ferris wheel to ride until you're dizzy, a life size T-Rex roaring at you and more toys than ever seen in one place. It's no wonder it's the prime shopping destination for Times Square visitors.

This mammoth store features an E.T. shop, Magic store, LEGO shop, 4,000-ft. Barbie dollhouse and the interactive 'R' Zone, not to mention a Candy Land shop for refueling after all that toy gazing.

1514 Broadway, (646) 366-8800,
www3.toysrus.com

BRIGHT LIGHTS, BIG CITY

Broadway Babies

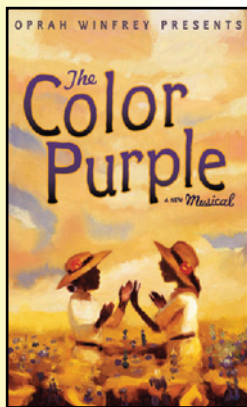
Long before Dorothy dropped in, two other girls meet in the Land of Oz. One, born with emerald-green skin, is smart, fiery and misunderstood. The other is beautiful, ambitious and very popular. How these two unlikely friends end up as the Wicked Witch of the West and Glinda the Good Witch makes a most spellbinding musical - **Wicked!** (Gershwin Theater, 222 West 51st St; www.wickedthemusical.com)



In what must be *déjà vu* for the media maven, Oprah Winfrey presents **The Color Purple**, a new musical based on the novel by Alice Walker and the film by Stephen Spielberg.

The story centers on Celie, a woman who endures insurmountable hardships within her own family and struggles to find her identity and love. The show blends dance with the sounds and rhythms of blues, gospel, jazz, swing, rural roots and African music.

(Broadway Theater, 1681 Broadway;
www.colorpurple.com)

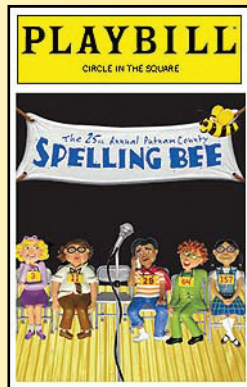


Telling the legendary tale of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table and the quest for the Holy Grail, in song, **Monty Python's Spamalot** features a chorus line of legless knights, men in tights (with legs), killer rabbits and dancing divas, creating some of the most unforgettable production numbers you will ever see in the theatre...at least that night, anyway. (Shubert Theater, 225 West 44th St; www.montypythonspamalot.com)



In the **25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee**, six young people in the throes of puberty, overseen by grown-ups who barely managed to escape childhood themselves, learn that winning isn't everything and that losing doesn't necessarily make you a loser. A sold-out smash at Off-Broadway's Second Stage Theatre, **Spelling Bee** has been called "irresistible and entirely lovable" by the *New York Times*.

(Circle in the Square, 1633 Broadway;
www.spellingbeethemusical.com)



SOME NOTES ON TICKETS

Tickets for Broadway and off-Broadway shows can usually be purchased through Tele-Charge (212-239-5258, www.telecharge.com) or Ticketmaster (212-307-4100, www.ticketmaster.com).

When booking tickets for groups of 20 or more, ask for the Group Sales to get a better per ticket rate. Ask about the possibility of using a school purchase order to secure your ticket order as well.

Be sure to ask your ticket sales agent if a study guide exists for the show you are planning to see.

CAMP BROADWAY

Whether you're interested in a class on the African chants used in **The Lion King** or an introduction to acting with a cast member from **The Producers**, Camp Broadway can arrange a theatrical learning experience to enhance your visit to the theater.

If you are looking to add a creative and educational supplement to your visit to New York, call **Camp Broadway**, the premier theater arts education resource! (212-575-2929, www.campbroadway.com)

(Camp Broadway and CSPA sponsor **The Stringers Program** for N.Y.C. student journalists. See www.studentpressreview.com for more details.)