

# PRIORITY

EXCLUSIVELY FOR PPS CLUB MEMBERS 

APR-JUN 2018

## SPARKLING INNOVATION

WALKING WITH RHINOS  
MINIATURE WATCH ART  
ULTIMATE NEW YORK



# New York's finest

From its cinematic skyscrapers to its concrete streets, New York City is the world's quintessential metropolis. Ex-New Yorker Kim Reyes highlights five tailor-made ways to eat, sleep, and live like a local and get the best out of the Big Apple

The team at FlyNYON can help you get the perfect shoe selfie with the sparkling New York City skyline

## FLYNYON AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY HELICOPTER FLIGHT

For an unobstructed view of the most photographed city in the world, nothing beats being sky-high. You'll get the most memorable experience with FlyNYON ([flynyon.com](http://flynyon.com)), offering the only doors-off helicopter flight in New York. Operated by aerial stock photography and video production company NYONair (you've probably seen their work in movies like *Thor* and *The Wolf of Wall Street*), FlyNYON is ideal for photographers, but you don't have to be a pro to capture incredible shots. Whether you're using a camera or a smartphone, both you and your equipment will be securely harnessed in during the flight for safety, and the team can offer shooting tips for any device.

**Empire State of Mind** There's no set flight route, so it's up to you to decide exactly what you want to see, and how. Whether it's a sunset scene across Central Park, a low approach on the Statue of Liberty, a top-down view over the Chrysler Building, the cacophony of lights in Times Square at night, or even a shoe selfie against that photogenic skyline – the pilots know all the best angles for you to get that perfect shot.

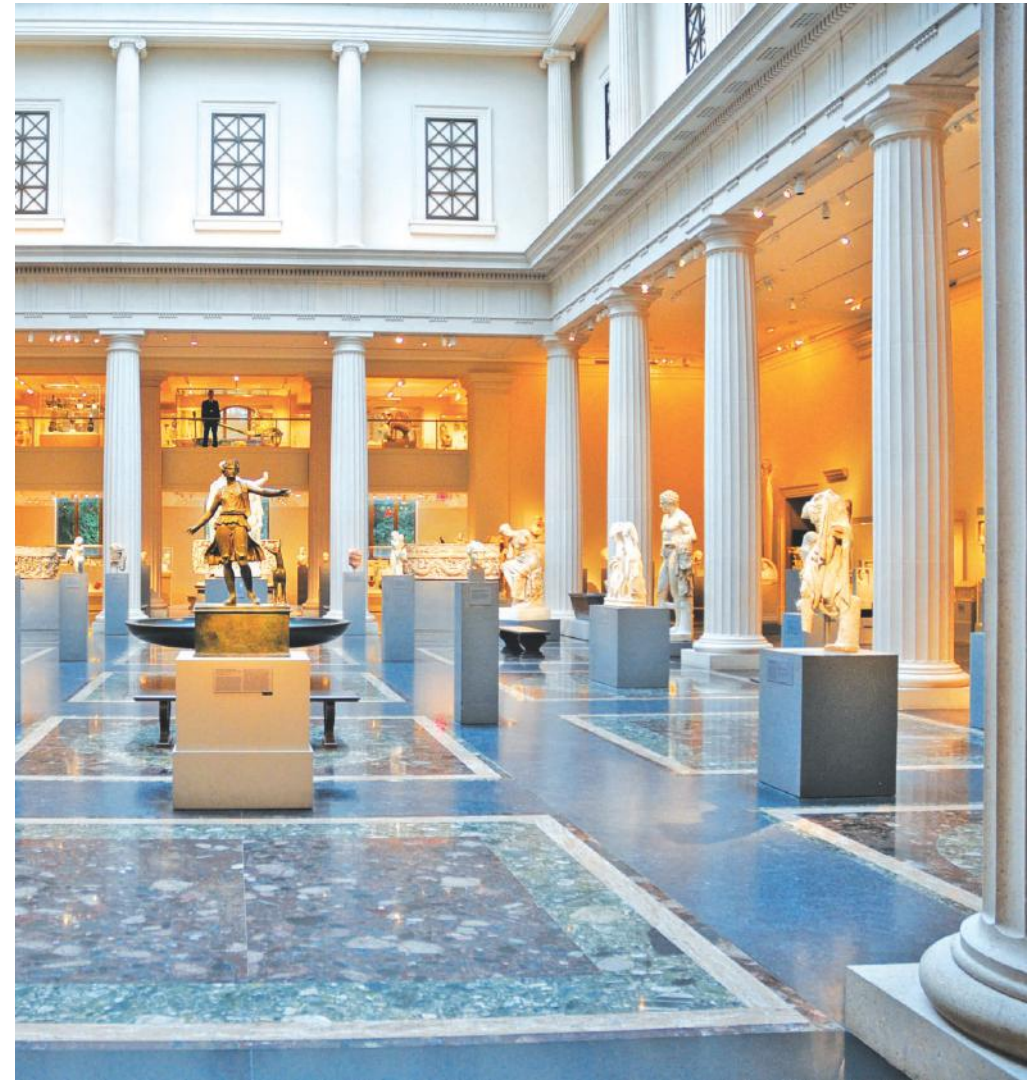
**Bespoke Big Apple** Book a custom private excursion, which can seat up to five passengers each with doors-off access, for an extended journey beyond the classic 30-minute flight time. Want to immortalise your moment in the sky? Hire one of FlyNYON's own videographers to film your experience and go home with a once-in-a-lifetime souvenir. →

**ART SMART MUSEUM TOURS**

With their sheer number and size, New York’s world-renowned museums can overwhelm even the most enthusiastic art lover. Get the most out of museum-hopping with Art Smart ([artsmart.com](http://artsmart.com)), which conducts private art tours to the city’s best cultural institutions. Led by professional art historians and scholars, each tour is curated especially for you – whether it’s an overview of historical art movements or a deep-dive into a specific collection or artist.

**Empire State of Mind** Your cup runneth over with Art Smart’s insider access: think VIP admission to the Metropolitan Museum of Art before it opens to the public, a kid-friendly art adventure for the whole family, or a guided walk-through by a fashion historian of the Costume Institute’s much-buzzed special exhibition, “Heavenly Bodies: Fashion and the Catholic Imagination”, opening 10 May.

**Bespoke Big Apple** Feed your artistic appetite as well as your palate with the Feast Your Eyes package, in which a customised museum tour is accompanied by a specially crafted food and wine pairing. If you’re considering new acquisitions to your art collection, Art Smart’s advisory service can arrange private tours of suggested local galleries for you to peruse pieces for purchase. →



This spread, from left: Art Smart’s art historians and scholars can provide in-depth information on a specific collection or artist; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, more commonly known as The Met

This spread, from left: Shop in style in a chauffeured limousine; at private showrooms and studios, get a sneak peek at new collections before they're produced for stores



Go beyond the global luxury brands on Madison Avenue and plunge into the local fashion scene with a personalised shopping spree around the Garment District



#### STYLE ROOM SHOPPING TOUR

The city's most stylish don't rely on labels. Go beyond the global luxury brands on Madison Avenue and plunge into the local fashion scene with the help of Karen Parker O'Brien of Style Room ([styleroom.com](http://styleroom.com)), who'll take you on a personalised shopping spree around the Garment District. Her little black book includes emerging New York designers whose pieces hang next to famous labels like Derek Lam and Chloé, and appear on the red carpet worn by the likes of Gigi Hadid, Emma Stone and Meryl Streep.

**Empire State of Mind** Before your tour, Style Room will collect detailed information about your personal style and shopping preferences, from most-worn labels and wardrobe wish lists to images of full-length outfits, in order to curate a list of under-the-radar designers you're sure to love. You'll then get insider access to showrooms and studios otherwise closed off to the public, with the option to buy current-season clothes, accessories and jewellery directly from the designers at special prices.

**Bespoke Big Apple** Save all your energy for shopping and request a chauffeured tour in a stretch limo, which includes sips of champagne and bites of gourmet chocolate in between showroom stops. Some designers offer on-the-spot tailoring or customised accents on handbags. Regardless, your style cachet will skyrocket with unique pieces that you won't see anyone else wearing back home. →



Right: Let your stomach lead the way as you explore Greenwich Village. Facing page, clockwise, from top left: One of the oldest areas in the city, the Village began as a Dutch outpost and became a cultural and artistic mecca in the 1960s and '70s; the 'secret bite' revealed on the day of the tour that's a blend of two cultures; MacDougal Street in the heart of the Village, home to Caffe Reggio, one of the most iconic coffeehouses in the city; a cheesy slice of pizza, New York style



**SECRET FOOD TOURS NEW YORK**

There's no shortage of Michelin-approved dining in New York, but savvy eaters know that the best food isn't always served on fine bone china. Secret Food Tours ([secretfoodtours.com](http://secretfoodtours.com)) makes it easy to hunt down delectable versions of iconic New York eats: a cheesy slice of thin-crust pizza, an 'everything bagel' with a schmear, gourmet doughnuts and the Reuben sandwich, among others, are all included in the tour. Between bites, you'll stroll through the historically rich Greenwich Village – known simply as 'the Village' to locals – learning little-known tales about the neighbourhood and the city's most famous foods.

**Empire State of Mind** Helmed by generations-deep native New Yorkers, the three-hour gastronomic journey avoids

guidebook-glorified tourist traps and instead seeks out hidden local spots for the most authentic experience. In addition to the classics, you'll also get a taste of the city's epicurean evolution: the tour culminates with the 'secret bite' – a savoury dish that embodies the quintessential New York story of two distinct cultures blending together to create something new – revealed only on the day of the tour.

**Bespoke Big Apple** If you're hungry for more than what's offered in the standard tour, request for a customised private tour. Don't be afraid to get specific – one recent custom tour, for a group of 10th-generation Austrian butchers, focused solely on butcheries and barbecue restaurants in Manhattan, Brooklyn and Queens. →





**Facing page, from top:** Aerial view of the Upper East Side, the Metropolitan Museum of Art (centre) and Central Park; this spacious townhouse on East 72nd Street is walking distance to the park.

**Below right:** The grand interiors of a Brooklyn townhouse. Onefinestay hand-picks every property in its portfolio



PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES; ART: SMART; STYLE ROOM: BRIAN BUNBY

[ ULTIMATE ]

**ONEFINESTAY LUXURY HOME RENTALS**

Even in the most enchanting hotel, you'd still feel like a visitor. With Onefinestay ([onefinestay.com](http://onefinestay.com)), which specialises in luxury home rentals located in the city's most coveted neighbourhoods, you'll feel right at home in a pied-à-terre to call your own – for the duration of your stay, at least. The rest of the year, it may be home to a well-travelled architect or artist or, as in the case of one Washington Place property, the previous residence of famed American composer John Philip Sousa.

**Empire State of Mind** Take your pick: a historic Soho brownstone with a stoop, a bohemian hideaway in the East Village, a converted industrial loft in Brooklyn or a penthouse condo on Fifth Avenue. Each residence boasts the unique charm of a true New York abode without the presence (physical or figurative) of the homeowners themselves – personal items are stored away, and toiletries, towels and bed linens replaced by Onefinestay's immaculate high-quality sets worthy of a five-star hotel.

**Bespoke Big Apple** Opt to include a local iPhone for domestic calls and data during your stay, and it will also come preloaded with local area tips, such as the closest supermarket and pharmacy, plus the homeowners' picks of nearby restaurants and bars, so you'll feel instantly acquainted with your new neighbourhood. You can also request to have the kitchen fridge and pantry stocked with your pre-selected groceries – from essentials like water and eggs to your favourite organic cereal – before you even arrive. ■

*Singapore Airlines flies daily to New York.*

**Each residence boasts the unique charm of a true New York abode without the presence (physical or figurative) of the homeowners themselves**

