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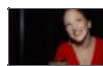
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# travel



LAS VEGAS INSIDER  
XANIA WOODMAN

*"We know you didn't come to Vegas for the culture or to study the delicate desert ecosystem"*

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## INSIDER'S GUIDE TO NEW YORK

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## NYC on \$50 a day

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GET HOTELS

Did you know that flight booking sites charge travellers up to \$50 in booking fees? Expedia.com.au doesn't, so that's why we've come up with a step-by-step guide to how to better spend that \$50 on sightseeing, food and fun in New York.

*"These theatres and cinemas all draw huge crowds, but you won't pay a penny to attend."*

### New York on \$50 a day

New York City is one of the most expensive destinations in the world, no one will argue with you on that. But you can do heaps more than you thought possible with just \$50 a day.

### Breakfast with the sights

Where better for breakfast than one of New York's many delis? With at least one on every block it's easy to grab a coffee with a fruit salad or a bagel for roughly \$5.

Walk as you eat and get some extra fresh air with a free ride on the Staten Island Ferry. Then cruise the Financial District and Wall Street on foot, before...

### A bit of morning culture

Many museums and cultural attractions in NY still offer the option to pay just a small donation to enter. We're not suggesting you pay nothing (ahem) but if you're really short on cash, chuck \$5 in the pot at the Metropolitan Museum of Art or the Natural History Museum for a morning's worth of bargain entertainment.

New York museums that accept donations for entry:

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- › Brooklyn Museum
- › Queens Museum of Art and the Panorama
- › Museum of the Moving Image
- › The Sculpture Centre
- › Studio Museum of Harlem

### Getting around

If you're only taking one trip, try to travel off-peak (any time other than 6-10am or 4-8pm), when fares are a third cheaper. Otherwise buy an unlimited pass for \$8.25. Even cheaper (read: FREE) is to walk.

### Free entertainment

Aside from museums, there are always free shows and events to attend in New York. Buy a copy of *Time Out* from any street vendor and check the listings. In summer, Bryant Park Monday Night Movies, Central Park Summerstage and Shakespeare in the Park all draw huge crowds, but you won't pay a penny to take part.

### A cheap lunch

Grab one of New York's famous hotdogs from a licensed street seller. There's one on every corner and they're rarely more than \$4 each.

### Take a free afternoon tour

- › Big Apple Greeter is a non-profit organisation that matches visitors with friendly and enthusiastic New Yorkers. They rely on the support of donors to keep them running, but the tours to varying neighbourhoods are free and there's a no-tipping policy, too. Be sure to book in advance.
- › Times Square Exposé Free Walking Tour leaves every Friday at noon from the Times Square Visitor Center (sign up at the NYC & Co Official Visitor Information Desk). You'll enjoy a free, behind the scenes look at the pulsing heart of Manhattan and get the lowdown on its fascinating history.
- › AudioSnack.com is a wiki site packed with audio tours that previous visitors have created themselves. Simply download them onto your iPod and take it at your own pace.

### Dinner and drinks

So much competition between New York's intricate maze of bars and restaurants means there's a special offer or discount somewhere, every day of the week.

Cheap Eatery lists eats under \$10 only. And drinkdeal.com is updated daily with happy hours and dining specials all over the city (we've seen \$1 oysters and \$6 burgers). For completely free drinks in New York, my open bar is your best friend, but if you allow \$20 for dinner and drinks and shop around, you'll be fine.

### Tacky souvenirs

Walking 'round at night is fun and lots of shops stay open, including those for tourists. Go on, buy yourself that "I heart NY" magnet. At just \$5, you deserve it. You've got roughly three bucks left. Could be time for a late night pizza slice?

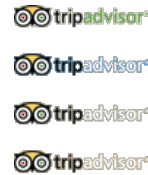
### Costs:

- Breakfast: \$5
- Museum: \$5
- Travel pass: \$8.25
- Lunch: \$5
- Dinner and drinks: \$20
- Tacky souvenirs: \$5
- Late night pizza: \$3
- Total: \$51.25**

**So, now you know what to do with that extra \$50 you've got from booking flights with . to find out just how much you could save on international and domestic flights when booking with compared to other booking sites.**

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## TOP HOTELS & ATTRACTIONS



## Best of New York City

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Summer's the season of backpackers, so here are the top ten things you need to know about the dorm-dwelling set on **RALPH**.



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