

40 Tips for Digital Nomad Life in New York City

New York City is a great place for digital nomads and has lots to offer for both short-term and long-term stays. As a multicultural metropole, it provides endless opportunities with many niche-markets, start-ups, and businesses of any industry. This city definitely never sleeps! NYC is a pulsating hotspot that is bubbling with energy while constantly changing and providing a challenging yet exciting environment all at the same time.

Last summer, we spent three months in NYC and enjoyed city-life while working remotely for our own businesses while also doing some on-site work gigs. Since we were staying in NYC for a three-month period, we rented a room through Airbnb for the first couple of days and then searched for an affordable room once we were in the city.

We used to live in NYC for fifteen years, before starting our full-time travel lifestyle three years ago, so we know the city in- and out, even though it is constantly changing, lots of things were the same when we visited this time around.

This is our guide for Digital Nomad Life in New York City:

Pros:

1. It is a multicultural city with unique people and many niche groups
2. There is an endless list of things to do
3. Lots of museums, galleries, festivals, concerts, movies, theater, comedy, and Broadway
4. Excellent food from around the world
5. Many outdoor activities, public parks, waterfront areas, beaches and woods nearby
6. Lots of educational opportunities, courses, workshops, and classes with all kinds of topics
7. Many different neighborhoods and options to explore all five boroughs
8. Walking-friendly and public transportation from bus, train, boat, cabs, and cablecar
9. Free wifi everywhere
10. Many fitness opportunities including free outdoor options in the city parks, regular gyms, CrossFit gyms, boutique gyms and fitness classes, boot camps, cycling classes, dance classes, martial arts schools, pilates, yoga, climbing halls, kayaking on the Hudson and East River, bike trails, walking trails along the waterfronts, public and private swimming pools, and even hiking nearby.

Cons:

1. NYC is one of the most expensive cities in the world!
2. High cost of living
3. Expensive food, especially when eating out or buying coffee and drinks
4. Seasons can be harsh with ice-cold winter, humid and hot summer temperatures
5. It is always noisy
6. It is a crowded environment with lots of people everywhere
7. Stressful environment and lots of people are stressed
8. It can be hard to make friends

Recommended Places to Work from:

1. Public library: <https://www.nypl.org/locations/map>
2. Public parks: <https://www.nycgovparks.org/parks>
3. Cafes and restaurants
4. Indoor halls and atriums
5. Hotel lobbies
6. Co-working spaces:
 - We Work and We Work Now: <https://www.weworknow.com/>
 - Greendesk - eco-friendly: <https://greendesk.com/>
 - Neue House - for creatives: <https://www.neuehouse.com/>
 - Villageone: <https://villageone.nyc/>
 - Croissant - membership and app to give you daily options: <https://www.getcroissant.com/pricing>
 - Common: <https://www.common.com/> also offers co-living
 - Tribe Coliving: <https://www.tribecoliving.com/> also offers co-living

Great Networking Opportunities:

1. meetup.com
2. Eventbrite.com
3. Co-working spaces
4. Conferences
5. Gallery openings
6. Start-up companies
7. Businesses of every industry
8. Stores everywhere

Tips to Reduce Spending:

1. Rent a room in the outer boroughs: Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens, Staten Island, Jersey City
2. Get a room for the first few days and look for affordable options once you are there:
 - a. Airbnb: ask for a lower price if doing a long-term rental: www.airbnb.com
 - b. Craigslist: listing for both rooms and apartments: www.craigslist.com
 - c. Outpost: co-living options: <https://outpost-club.com/new-york>
 - d. Gypsy Housing fb group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/NYC.BK.Apartments/>
 - e. Brock Underground: listing of more options:
https://www.brickunderground.com/blog/2011/11/find_a_roommate_online_12_web_sites_that_do_the_heavy_lifting_for_you
3. Cook at home, only eat out on occasion
4. Chose restaurants with lunch specials or Indian restaurants with lunch buffet options
5. Buy from food trucks or get a \$1 pizza slice
6. Shop groceries at the many farmer's markets and supermarkets in the outer boroughs
7. Use the bicycle, walk or take public transportation instead of cabs
8. Use Groupon or Classpass for deals