

New York City Trip Cost + Hidden Fees Worksheet

v6.0 Authority Planner Edition | Great Price Flights

Use this worksheet before booking NYC flights, hotels, airport transfers, attraction passes, Broadway tickets, travel insurance, and hidden costs. Estimates only; verify current prices and provider terms before booking.

1. Full NYC Trip Cost Worksheet

Category	Your estimate	Notes to verify
Flights	\$	JFK/LGA/EWR, baggage, seats, arrival time, cancellation
Hotel	\$	Area, taxes/fees, room size, cancellation, subway access
Airport transfer	\$	AirTrain, subway, LIRR/NJ Transit, bus, taxi, rideshare, private transfer
Food	\$	Bagels/pizza, casual meals, reservations, tax/tip
Subway/bus/local transit	\$	OMNY taps, airport rail add-ons, late-night routes
Attractions / passes	\$	Empire State, Top of the Rock, 9/11, Statue ferry, museums, pass math
Broadway / events	\$	Ticket fees, seat location, resale risk, cancellation rules
Insurance	\$	Medical, cancellation, delay, baggage, event/ticket risk
Luggage/storage	\$	Hotel storage, lockers, luggage storage apps, early arrival
Shopping/extras	\$	Taxes, tips, taxis, weather backup, observation deck swaps
Hidden-fee buffer	\$	10%-20% recommended for first-time visitors
Estimated total	\$	Divide by travelers and days

2. NYC Airport Decision: JFK vs LGA vs Newark

Airport	Best when	Check before booking
JFK	International flights, Queens/Brooklyn access, AirTrain to subway/LIRR	AirTrain fee, luggage, Jamaica/Howard Beach transfer, late arrival
LaGuardia (LGA)	Domestic flights, shorter taxi/rideshare to Manhattan/Queens, free Q70 bus option	Traffic, no direct subway, bus connection, terminal pickup rules
Newark (EWR)	Good fare/schedule, Midtown via NJ Transit, New Jersey stays	NJ Transit + AirTrain cost, PATH option, traffic/toll if driving

3. NYC Hotel Area Shortlist

- Midtown / Times Square - maximum first-time convenience; crowded and often pricey.
- Chelsea / Flatiron / NoMad - central, walkable, good food/transit balance.
- Upper West Side - family-friendly, Central Park/museums, calmer nights.
- Lower Manhattan / Financial District - Statue/9/11/Brooklyn access; quieter at night.
- Williamsburg / Downtown Brooklyn - value/food/views; more subway planning.
- Long Island City - often better hotel value with fast Midtown subway access.

4. Attraction Pass + Broadway Checklist

Topic	Good when	Check before booking
Attraction pass	You will visit enough included paid attractions	Reservation rules, blackout dates, pass validity, duplicate attractions
Observation deck	Weather is clear or you have flexible timing	Timed entry, refund rules, skyline view preference
Statue/Ellis ferry	You want official island access	Official seller, departure point, security, crown/pedestal limits
Broadway	You have a must-see show or date	Seat map, fees, resale terms, cancellation rules
Museums	Rain/cold/heat backup days	Timed entry, closed days, special exhibit fees

5. 4-Night NYC Budget Template for 2 People

Category	Example	Your estimate
Flights	\$700	\$
Hotel, 4 nights	\$1,600	\$
Airport transfers	\$160	\$
Food	\$600	\$
Subway/bus/local transit	\$90	\$
Attractions / passes	\$500	\$
Broadway / events	\$350	\$
Insurance	\$80	\$
Luggage/storage/extras	\$120	\$
15% buffer	\$630	\$
Estimated total	\$4,830	\$

Before booking: compare airport choice, hotel area, transfer plan, attractions/pass math, Broadway/event tickets, insurance, and hidden-fee buffer together.