

chinatown



new york city

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www.ExploreChinatown.com

Chinatown New York City, the largest Chinatown in the United States, is located in one of the oldest neighborhoods in Manhattan. Founded in the late 1870's by Chinese immigrants, Chinatown offers a unique historical and cultural experience not found anywhere else in the world.

Experience the sights, feel the pulse, challenge your senses – there is something for everyone. An endless array of restaurants, teahouses and bakeries to sample. Gift, fashion and jewelry shops for you and your family. Supermarkets, fresh produce and fish markets for the gourmand. Arts, antiques, landmarks and cultural treasures for collectors and history buffs. Exciting festivals and nightlife for all.

Located on the east side of Lower Manhattan, Chinatown is easily accessible by subway and bus and within walking distance from SoHo, South Street Seaport, TriBeCa, Little Italy, Wall Street, City Hall and the courthouses. Come explore the neighborhood at the center of the downtown experience – Chinatown!



Getting There

BY SUBWAY

6 J M Z N Q R W to Canal Street Station

B D to Grand Street Station

F to East Broadway Station

BY BUS

M1, M6, M9, M15, M22, M103, B39, B51

WALKING

From East Village (Cooper Square, below St. Marks / 8th Street)

Walk straight down 3rd Avenue (which becomes Bowery) to Chatham Square.

From SoHo

Walk downtown on Broadway, turn left on Canal Street.

From TriBeCa

From Broadway, walk east on Canal Street or Worth Street.

From Little Italy

Walk downtown on Mulberry Street to Canal Street.

From South Street Seaport or Wall Street

Walk uptown on Pearl Street (which becomes St. James Place) to Chatham Square.

From World Trade Center Site (corner of Church Street & Vesey Street)

Walk uptown on Church Street or Broadway to Canal Street. Turn right and walk east.

From the Courthouses / Centre Street

Walk east on Worth Street one block to Columbus Park.



Explore the Streets of Chinatown

Each street in Chinatown possesses its own distinctive personality. Whether characterized by their stores and restaurants or their unique size and shape, the streets of Chinatown provide a fascinating cultural experience on every block.

1 MOTT STREET & CANAL STREET

Considered by many the heart of Chinatown. Walk downtown on Mott Street and experience the culinary delights of Asia. You'll come upon the Eastern States Buddhist Temple of America and the Church of the Transfiguration, one of the oldest churches in Manhattan. Canal Street is known for its jewelry stores and shopping bargains.



2 GRAND STREET & MOTT STREET

This is where to start if you're shopping for fresh ingredients. You'll find rows of fish and vegetable markets as well as grocery stores stocking all kinds of Asian spices and sauces. For those looking to eat, rather than cook, restaurants and specialty food stores abound.

3 DOYERS STREET

Off Mott Street, running between Pell Street and Chatham Square, this unusual street features a 90-degree turn. You may recognize it from movies and TV shows. According to legend, the merchants built the street crooked so that straight-flying ghosts couldn't move through it. Today you'll find the local post office, one of Chinatown's first dim sum restaurants and lots of barber shops.



4 BAXTER STREET BETWEEN CANAL STREET & BAYARD STREET

A slice of Saigon, where you'll find a row of restaurants specializing in Vietnamese cuisine, known for its healthy abundance of fresh herbs and vegetables, minimal use of oil and treatment of meat as a condiment rather than a main course.

5 EAST BROADWAY

The neighborhood of Chinatown's newest immigrants, it is largely the home of the Fujianese, from China's southeastern coast. Find street markets and dining choices in the hustle and bustle of endless commerce.

Explore the History of Chinatown

Often overlooked, Chinatown is the site of a rich history that not only tells the story of the Chinese-American experience, but also that of early Irish, Jewish and Italian immigrants. Today, remnants of the neighborhood's European-American ancestry stand side-by-side with more recent Asian-inspired landmarks.

6 CHATHAM SQUARE

Site of the Kim Lau Memorial Arch, erected in 1962 in memory of the Chinese Americans who died in WWII, and a statue of Lin Ze Xu, a 19th-century anti-drug hero in China. East of the Square, on Division Street, is Confucius Plaza, where a statue of Confucius stands near the tallest residential building in Chinatown.



7 COLUMBUS PARK

Between Mulberry Street and Baxter Street, below Bayard Street. Chinatown's largest park, where you can often see people practicing Tai Chi in the morning, playing table games or relaxing with their pet song birds. Created in the 1890's to improve the Five Points neighborhood, it is a major recreational facility used for sports, festivals and outdoor events.

8 FIVE POINTS

At the intersection of today's Mosco, Worth and Baxter Streets, and named for the intersection of the five streets that converged at the south end of what is now Columbus Park. Site of the city's first tenements, it was built to accommodate the massive immigration of Germans and Irish.

9 MUSEUM OF CHINESE IN THE AMERICAS

Housed in a late 19th-century schoolhouse at 70 Mulberry Street, 2nd floor. One of the most important national archives of Chinese history in America, it offers special exhibits, public programs and tours of Chinatown.



10 CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

Located on Mott Street at Pell Street, the church stands unchanged in the midst of restaurants and gift shops. The church of New York City immigrants since 1801, serving – in succession – the Irish, Italian and, currently, the Chinese community. Sermons are delivered in Cantonese as well as English.



11 MAHAYANA BUDDHIST TEMPLE

The largest Buddhist temple in Chinatown, across from the Manhattan Bridge. See the golden Buddha, perhaps the largest in New York, seated serenely on a lotus.



12 FIRST SHEARITH ISRAEL CEMETERY

At St. James Place, just off Chatham Square. Dating from 1683, this is the oldest Jewish cemetery in New York City.

13 EDWARD MOONEY HOUSE

At the corner of Bowery and Pell Street, the oldest townhouse in New York City was built in 1785 after the Revolutionary War by Edward Mooney, a butcher. It became a tavern in the 1820's, a store and hotel in the early 20th century, then a pool parlor, a restaurant, a Chinese club, and today, it is a community bank. The architecture combines late Georgian and early Federal styles.



Thanks to: Museum of Chinese in the Americas

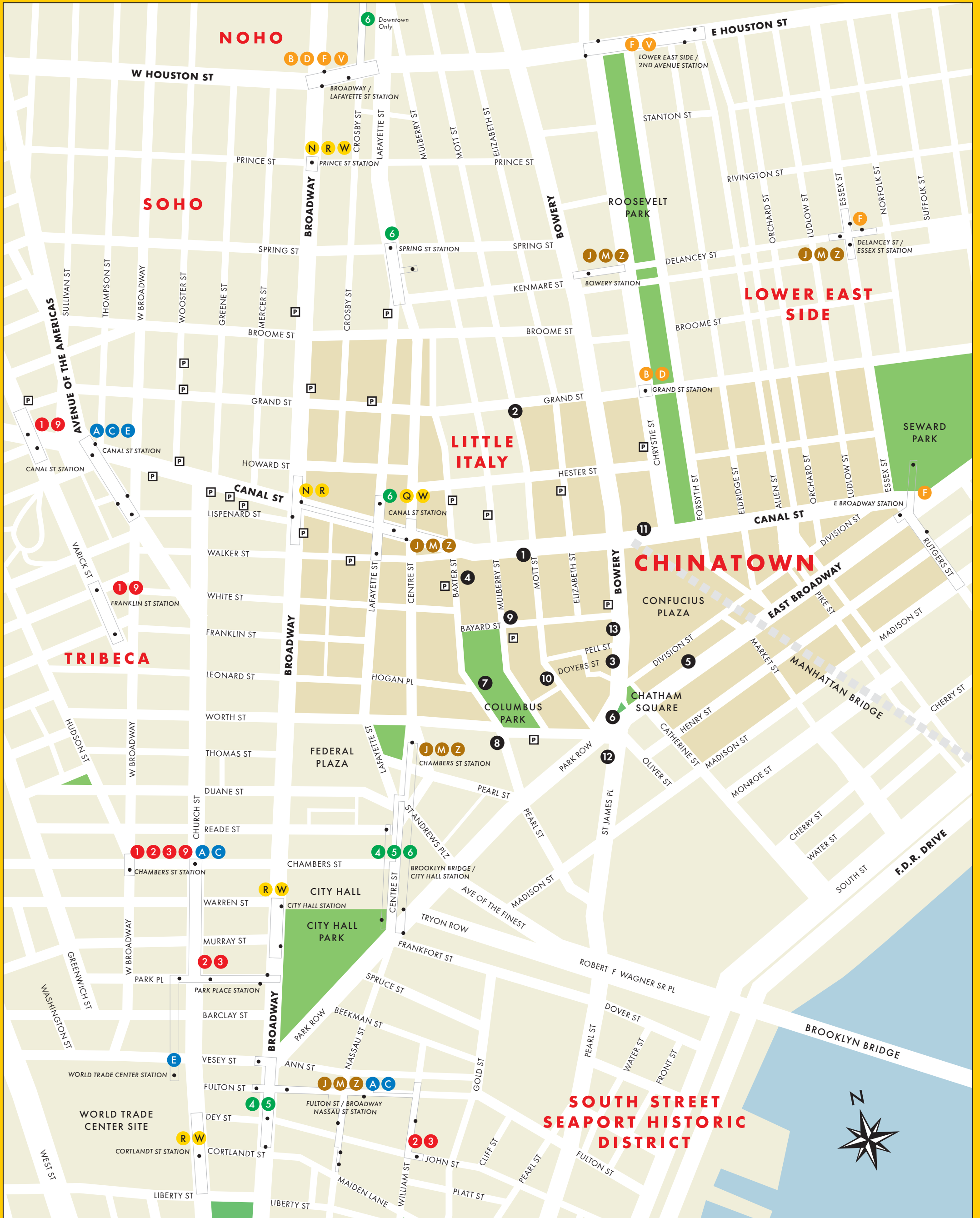
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Chinatown Photos by Corky Lee

