The Brooklyn Heights Tour

Our famous BSL Brooklyn Heights Walking Tour begins with a leisurely walk down Montague street towards the Brooklyn Heights Promenade. The tour will begin at school and finish in Manhattan, with many stops and sights in between.

As you stroll down Montague you’ll approach a special building where your leader will ask you a quiz question. (Hint: it has to do with the history of NYC) Montague Street is one of the main streets of Brooklyn Heights with many shops, cafes, and restaurants. On Montague Street you’ll be able to see many Brooklynites out and about in the neighborhood. Brooklyn Heights is also famous for writers, such as Arthur Miller.

Once you arrive at the promenade you’ll be able to see some of the famous sights from the Brooklyn Side - Statue of Liberty, Ellis island, Governors Island, Lower Manhattan and the financial district.

When you arrive at the promenade check out some of the plaques on the ground. These plaques show the development of New York City from a port city to the wonderful city that it has become today.

As you walk along the promenade, then you’ll turn right at end and then left onto Colombia Heights. From here you are going to walk down through and into Brooklyn Bridge Park. Brooklyn Bridge Park is a wonderful place year-round, but especially during the summer. They do many free movies and sometimes concert and art events in the park. It’s also a wonderful place to sit and relax or have a picnic.

After you have walked through Brooklyn Bridge Park and you have arrived at the pier with the local ferry services you will have left Brooklyn Heights and you’ll now be in DUMBO. DUMBO is a neighborhood that has undergone many changes and has turned into a cool artistic area, and also with also expensive apartments that have wonderful views of Manhattan. A lot of the buildings that were originally used as storage facilities and warehouses have been preserved, and you’ll notice the style of architecture is quite different from the brownstones of Brooklyn Heights.
You’ll pass by St. Ann’s Warehouse, and the new DUMBO retail developments along the water. Also you’ll see a little carousel on the waterfront. You’ll continue onwards and there you will find the most iconic shot of the Manhattan Bridge. Carefully head into the middle of the cobblestone street, and peak through the middle of the bridge and you’ll be able to see a special building and get the perfect picture.

After you’ve gotten a great shot of the Manhattan Bridge and walked along the cobblestone streets of DUMBO, you’ll head up Washington Street and on to the famous Brooklyn Bridge.

Brooklyn Bridge was designed by German immigrant named Joseph Roebling. Unfortunately, he died before the construction of the bridge was started. His son Washington took over the project, but then he became incapacitated, and so his wife Emily took over. Emily was the first person to walk the bridge in 1883. After the construction of the bridge, there were many skeptics at the time who were worried the bridge would not stand the weight of all the passengers and cars. In order to showcase the strength of the Brooklyn Bridge, PH Barnum, a famous impresario of the time, suggested that he take his troupe of elephants over the bridge to prove it was ok. That was exactly what happened and the bridge indeed was ok!

Now you’ll get a chance to walk over the bridge as so many residents, and tourists alike have done since the late 1880’s. Be sure to look all around as the bridge provides stunning views of Manhattan in every direction!

At end of bridge, you’ll have crossed the East River and are in Manhattan! The bridge drops you off right near City Hall and other municipal buildings. From that point you have close access to the Financial District, Chinatown and other neighborhoods in lower Manhattan!