

BSL CLASSROOM LOCATION GUIDE CITY HALL PARK

A BIT OF HISTORY FIRST!

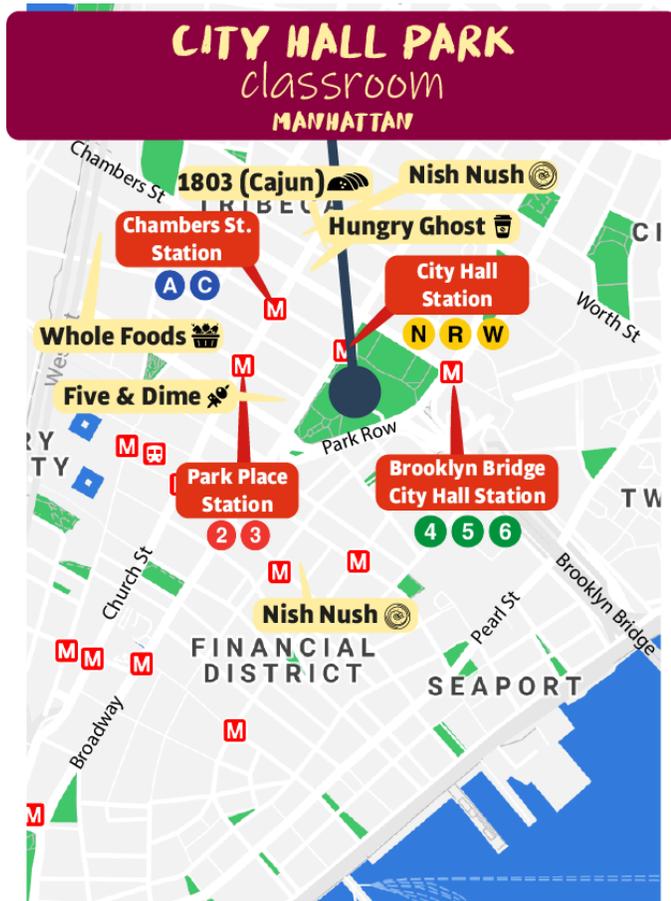
Surrounded by centuries-old majestic government buildings that date back to 1812, City Hall park provides a much-needed green spot in a bustling downtown area. At lunchtime each afternoon it springs to life when those working in the neighborhood come to relax, eat, and soak in sunshine on its grassy lawns.

For people-watching enthusiasts, the park provides a crosscut of New York life as government workers, jury members, and newlyweds visiting City Hall for their marriage licenses stroll through its grounds.

It has played a key role in New York civic life for centuries, from its Colonial beginnings as a rebel outpost to its current function as the seat of City government. The land has been used, among other things, as a pasture, a prison, a parade ground, a public execution site, an almshouse, an art museum, and a post office.

The park is home to more than a dozen monuments, and in 1991, during the construction of a nearby federal office building, an African burial ground was uncovered on portions of the northern part of the park, and designated as a City landmark and National Historic site in 1993.

In 1999 a \$34.6 million project fully restored the park, adding a central walkway and gardens and replacing pavement with grass and trees.



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THE BARE ESSENTIALS

***Find these on the map on page 1*

Morning coffee

- Blue Spoon Coffee
- Hungry Ghost**
- Laughing Man Café
- Pain Quotidien
- Five Dime**
- Starbucks
- Takahachi Bakery

Lunch options

- The Hummus and Pita Co
- Nish Nush**
- 1803 (Cajun)**
- Just Salad

Something sweet

- Van Leeuwen

Grocery stores & pharmacies

- Whole Foods**
- Duane Reade

Nearest subway stations and lines

- Brooklyn Bridge–City Hall (4, 5, 6 lines) on site
- City Hall (W, R lines) on site
- Chambers Street (J, Z lines) 2 min walk
- Park Place (2, 3 lines) 5 min walk

Nearest public restrooms

- Not available

PLACES TO VISIT NEARBY

Less than a mile (0-10 mins walk)

- Brooklyn Bridge
- Tribeca
- 9/11 Memorial

A little bit further (1 mile – 30 min walk)

- Wall Street/financial district
- Staten Island ferry
- Battery Park
- Chinatown

7 COOL THINGS TO DO AFTER YOUR ENGLISH CLASS

1. Well of course, the most obvious and easiest activity to do after class, is to walk the iconic Brooklyn Bridge. Its entrance is located right next to the park. Be sure to go down the stairs on the other side before you get to the end of the bridge, and this will take you directly into Dumbo.
2. Head South on Broadway for a few minutes, and then turn right on Fulton st until you reach the 911 Memorial site. It's worth spending a while drifting between the 2 memorial pools. If you have booked tickets, the 911 Memorial museum is excellent and well worth a visit.
3. Head westwards down Chambers Street for a few minutes until you reach Tribeca. This is a cool neighborhood to explore for a couple of hours, lots of cobbled streets and cool "lofts" to look into. Later in the day, continue westwards until you reach the Hudson River and there check out the newly built Pier 26.
4. It's just a 12 minute walk from here to Chinatown, so this is a great place to start for lunch. Check out the bustling food markets of Chinatown, eat Pan-Fried Pork Dumplings at the Dim Sum Parlor, and then wander through Little Italy towards Nolita.
5. Head North on Broadway for about 30 mins, turning left on East 4th street, and you will reach Washington Square Park. This is a great place to start your afternoon exploring Greenwich village and the West Village. There are so many lovely streets around here that you should take your time to stroll around some of them.
6. Get on the R train and head to Brooklyn to explore Prospect Park and Park Slope for the afternoon. It's only a 20 min ride on the subway to Union street, and from here you can explore 5th and 7th avenues in Park Slope, which are the main streets of this vibrant neighborhood.
7. Take the 4 or 5 train heading north uptown. Get off at Grand Central station. After spending a short while exploring this superb train station, walk out onto 42nd street. From here, you could either head south seeing the NY Public library, the Empire State Building and the Flat Iron building or north to see the Rockefeller centre and the famous St Patrick's Cathedral.

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