Lower Manhattan in One Day:

Lower Manhattan is a bridge to our nation’s history and a gateway to New York City’s future. Amazing things are happening in Lower Manhattan. There’s so much to see and do, one or two days is hardly enough time. If a trip to Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty is in your plans, two days is what you’ll need to get a start on all Lower Manhattan has to offer.

Start at City Hall Park30, making your way past the Woolworth Building16, one of the city’s most important architectural landmarks. Directly across from the Woolworth Building, and a century apart, stands New York by Gehry26, a stunning example of modern architecture and a testament to the change taking place in Lower Manhattan. Continue to St. Paul’s Chapel27, which dates back to 1796 and is the only surviving pre-Revolutionary church in Manhattan. The chapel is also an important part of recent history. On 9/11, St. Paul’s served as a refuge for many of those affected by the tragedy.

Head south on Broadway along the Canyon of Heroes. Plaques embedded into the sidewalk note the triumphs and sacrifices and esteemed visitors honored here. Turn right at Cortlandt and arrive at the legendary department store (contours 23).

Return to Broadway and continue right on Liberty St. to the World Trade Center Site17. The complex includes The National September 11 Memorial & Museum38 and the Reflection Pools. Time and date specific reservations are required to visit the museum. While in the plaza, make sure to look up. At the northeast corner, stands the newly constructed One World Trade Center27, America’s tallest building and the symbol of a revitalized district. You can also see Santiago Calatrava’s World Trade Center Transportation Hub37, new taking shape nearby. Featuring a striking winged oculus design, the building is a masterpiece for any architecture buff.

Returning to Broadway, pass hono for Noguchi’s red cube sculpture and Mark Ot Souer’s abstract Joe De Verre on both sides of the street. Continue south to the corner of Wall Street where you will find Trinity Church18, the tallest building in Manhattan at the time of its completion in 1846. The copper cupola is home to the graves of famous New Yorkers Alexander Hamilton and Robert Fulton. Enjoy a quiet moment before heading east onto Wall Street1.

The world-famous destination is as once the capital of the capital, a frequent movie set and the location of some of New York’s most famous attractions. At the corner of Wall and Broad stand two landmarks: the New York Stock Exchange22 and Federal Hall27. You can’t miss Federal Hall — a huge statue of George Washington prominently guards the front. Inside is a small, informative museum dedicated to the nation-shaping events of pre-Revolutionary New York, including the first U.S. Congress and Washington’s inauguration as America’s first president in 1789.

Starting at around 4 p.m., the restaurants and bars that line Stone Street16 buzz with local workers celebrating the end of the work day. Lined just a few blocks away from the modern high rise buildings of Wall Street, Stone Street remains a cobblestone testament to New York’s Dutch past. Along with drinks, the street offers plenty of places to eat. Whether you’re up for just drinks or some food too, grab a seat and settle in for a true New York night.
Lower Manhattan In Two Days:

There’s so much to do in Lower Manhattan, two days here will only begin to scratch the surface. At the northern edge of Lower Manhattan is the African Burial Ground National Monument, which holds both freed and enslaved Africans that were buried from the 1690s until 1794. The sacred site was discovered during the construction of a federal office building in 1991 and has been an important and once forgotten part of New York City’s history. From there, you can come your way to the Brooklyn Bridge as a model of 20th century engineering, offering captivating views of the Lower Manhattan skyline and a quintessential New York City experience.

After the bridge, take your time strolling from Brooklyn Bridge and across Fulton, ultimately reaching the South Street Seaport.8 The South Street Seaport is a cultural, historic and entertainment destination. While the 17th is under construction, visitors can enjoy daily events sponsored by the SEE/CHANGE program as well as unique shopping and dining experiences at the many shops and restaurants along picturesque Front Street. If you’re looking to take in another theater experience, the TITUS Discount Booth 9 at the corner of World and John has the same discounted deals, but with swanky crowds, that are found at South Street Seaport.

Continue south along Water St., make a right on before 5th St., and you’ll arrive at historic Fraunces Tavern.10 The tavern has been in business since America’s earliest days. Built as a house in 1719 and turned into a tavern in 1782, it has been the site of nation-changing events and is also New York’s oldest surviving building as well as a museum and restaurant.

Next, head over to Bowling Green and take a picture in front of the famous Charging Bull crafted by artist Arturo Di Modica. The bull mysteriously appeared one night in front of the New York Stock Exchange and has since been moved to its current location on the north point of Bowling Green, it has become the symbol of Wall Street’s optimism and a must-see NYC attraction.

Directly across from the museum is Trinity Church.11 Elaborate crafts, textiles and ceremonial pieces are just a few of the thousands of artifacts on exhibit at the museum. Between 1892 to 1924, Ellis Island and the grounds underwent a significant transformation from a processing site for 12 million immigrants as they arrived in the New World.

If you still haven’t had your fill of waterfront-related activities, New York offers a great variety of boat tours. These views from the water can’t be matched with tours operating during the day and into the night, enjoy an entertaining and stimulating cruise of New York City’s most famous attractions.

Continue your waterfront experience with an evening stroll along the East River Esplanade 12 along the roofed path and pan for sightseeing lanterns on the waterfront. You can also stay connected and take advantage of the free public Wi-Fi provided by the Alliance for Downtown New York.

For additional themed itineraries and a complete list of hotels, attractions, restaurants and more, visit www.nycvisit.com for a complete list of the top things to do in Lower Manhattan, www.NYCVacation.com or scan the code to the left.

Alliance for Downtown New York
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Lower Manhattan On the Water:

Manhattan’s waterfront has shaped the history of the city and the United States. The harbor in Lower Manhattan is also home to some of the city’s most renowned and recognizable attractions. A visit to New York would simply be incomplete without time on the water.

Begin your day early to allow enough time to take in all the sights, starting with the 6:30 AM departure for the Harbor Sightseeing Cruise with Circle Line, offering a unique view of the iconic Statue of Liberty and the surrounding Manhattan skyline. This tour is a must for any visit to New York City, offering captivating views of the city and an unforgettable experience.

Tour the harbor, sip on a cocktail, and marvel at the views of the city’s most iconic landmarks. This is the perfect way to kick off your Manhattan experience, setting the tone for the adventures that lie ahead.

The Circle Line offers a wide range of sightseeing cruises, from the classic harbor tour to specialized themes such as the “The Empire State of Mind” cruise focusing on the city’s skyline and architecture or the “The History of New York” cruise exploring the city’s rich history.

On this tour, you’ll have the chance to see the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, the Brooklyn Bridge, and the Financial District. You’ll also have the opportunity to visit the 9/11 Memorial & Museum, which commemorates the tragic events of September 11, 2001, and the World Trade Center, which was destroyed in the same tragedy.

As you continue your tour, you’ll see the Woolworth Building, the Flatiron Building, and the Empire State Building, among many other landmarks. This cruise is an excellent way to see the city from a different perspective, taking in the panoramic views and learning about the history and significance of the iconic buildings.

The Circle Line offers a range of other tours, including the “Night Lights” cruise where you’ll see the city illuminated at night, the “The History of New York” cruise which explores the city’s rich history, the “The Empire State of Mind” cruise focusing on the city’s skyline and architecture, and many more.

These tours are a great way to see the city from the water, allowing you to relax and take in the stunning views of the city’s most iconic landmarks. Whether you’re a first-time visitor or a seasoned traveler, a cruise on the Circle Line is a must-do experience.

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