



## 5 WAYS TO ENJOY NATURE IN NEW YORK CITY

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The Nature Conservancy

Even the toughest New Yorkers need to reconnect with the natural world once in a while. But who says you have to leave the city to get your nature fix? The fact is, there are more than 6,000 acres of park space in our five boroughs — and many are just a MetroCard swipe away! So grab your outdoor gear and get on board.

Next stop: Nature.

## QUEENS Look for Birds

at Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

**A S** to Broad Channel  
**Q35** to Jamaica Bay

New Yorkers are lucky to have this avian paradise in their backyards. You'll find 300 species of migratory birds here, like willets and green herons in spring and summer, or osprey and black-crowned night-herons year-round.

Learn more at  
[nature.org/jamaicabay](http://nature.org/jamaicabay)

## BRONX Take a Hike

in Van Cortlandt Park

**1** to Van Cortlandt Park  
**Bx9** to Riverdale 262 St.

New York's fourth-largest park is home to four hiking trails, ranging from easy to difficult. And it's a great showcase of our natural history, with glacial rock formations, deciduous forests, and wetlands in the northern section of the park.

Learn more at [nycgovparks.org](http://nycgovparks.org)

## BROOKLYN

### Set up Camp

at Floyd Bennet Field

- 2** **5** to Flatbush/Nostrand Avenues
- A** **S** to Rockaway Park/Beach 116th St.
- Q35** to Flatbush Ave.

Camping spots fill up quickly, so be sure to make a reservation. At \$20 per day, this campsite is a two-for-one deal on nature. The woodland habitat—a destination for flora and fauna by its own right—also faces the salt marshes of Jamaica Bay.

Learn more at [nps.gov/gate](https://nps.gov/gate)

## MANHATTAN

### Ride a Bike

along the Manhattan Waterfront Greenway

- 1** to South Ferry
- N** **R** to Whitehall St.
- 4** **5** to Bowling Green

Most sections of the path's 32 miles are waterfront, and those that aren't connect via bike-only lanes. Start in Battery Park for a marked entrance to the path. Then head East to Stuyvesant Cove Park, a good place to look for monarch butterflies thanks to an abundance of flowers like milkweed and goldenrod.

Learn more at [nyc.gov](https://nyc.gov)

## STATEN ISLAND

### Paddle a Kayak

at Great Kills Park

- S78** from Staten Island Ferry
- S79** from Brooklyn to Great Kills Park

First, apply for the \$15 permit required to paddle in all NYC Parks waterways. Then, consider bringing a pair of binoculars along with your other gear; this park houses one of the island's osprey nesting sites, with raised platforms designed to provide habitat.

Learn more at [nyc.gov](https://nyc.gov)

The Nature Conservancy 

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