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About the Central Park Conservancy

The mission of the Central Park Conservancy is to restore, manage, and enhance Central Park in partnership with the public.

The Conservancy aspires to build a great organization that sets the standard for and spreads the principles of world-class park management — emphasizing environmental excellence — to improve the quality of open space for the enjoyment of all New Yorkers.

The Conservancy is committed to sustaining this operating model to provide a legacy for future generations of Central Park users.

The Central Park Conservancy is a private, not-for-profit organization founded in 1980 that manages Central Park under a contract with the City of New York Department of Parks and Recreation. Thanks to the generosity of many individuals, corporations, foundations, and the City of New York, the Conservancy has invested nearly \$500 million to date into the Park making it a model for urban parks worldwide. Since its founding, the Conservancy has prescribed a management and restoration plan for the Park; funded major capital improvements; created programs for volunteers and visitors; and set new standards of excellence in Park care.

With 25 million visitors each year to its 843 acres, Central Park is the most frequently visited urban park in the United States. The Conservancy provides 85 percent of the Central Park's annual \$25 million operating budget and is responsible for all basic care of the Park. Conservancy crews aerate and seed lawns; rake leaves; prune and fertilize trees; plant shrubs and flowers; maintain ballfields and playgrounds; remove graffiti; conserve monuments, bridges, and buildings; and care for water bodies and woodlands by controlling erosion, maintaining the drainage system, and protecting over 150 acres of lakes and streams from pollution, siltation, and algae.



Tour the Park!



Free Walking Tours of Central Park November 2009

www.centralparknyc.org/walkingtours

FREE WALKING TOURS Our free guided walking tours take place year-round, rain or shine, except in extreme weather conditions (heavy rain, sustained winds of 30mph or more, snowstorms, 25 degrees or below, or 95 degrees or above). The tours, led by experienced, knowledgeable guides who are volunteers in the Central Park Conservancy's Walking Tour Program, last about 1 to 1½ hours. No reservation is required for individuals or groups of six (6) or fewer people. Groups of seven (7) or more people should call 212-360-2726 to schedule a custom tour. Please be at the designated location at least five minutes before the start of the tour.

Please Note: Children under 16 must be accompanied by parent(s) or guardian. **Tour dates and times are subject to change without notice.**

✦ **AMBLE THROUGH THE RAMBLE** Pass over streams, under arches, through the woods along a maze of pathways in this secluded 38-acre woodland respite. **Start:** Belvedere Castle, mid-Park at 79th Street. (212-772- 0210)

✦ **THE CASTLE AND ITS KINGDOM** Take a walk around the lands dominated by Belvedere Castle, situated high on Vista Rock. Visit this tiny 55-acre realm on an eclectic tour of history and nature. **Start:** Belvedere Castle, mid-Park at 79th Street. (212-772-0210)

✦ **CROSS-PARK PROMENADE** You will see many surprises: a hidden bench that tells time, miniature boats powered by the wind, a magnificent sculpture celebrating fresh water. These are just some of the sites on this east-to-west walk through the Park. **Start:** Fifth Avenue and 72nd Street, in front of the statue of Samuel F.B. Morse. (212-772-0210)

✦ **MANHATTAN ADIRONDACKS** Olmsted and Vaux designed the North Woods to replicate the forests of the Adirondack Mountains, with their crystal streams, tumbling cascades, rustic bridges, and picturesque pools right in New York City's backyard. **Start:** Charles A. Dana Discovery Center inside the Park at 110th Street, between Fifth and Lenox Avenues. (212-860-1370)

✦ **A ROAD ONCE TRAVELED** Holding the Park's northern highlands was key in the American Revolution and the War of 1812 because armies could see their enemies approach as they sailed down the East River. History buffs will love this tour of the Harlem Meer and its strategic environs. **Start:** Charles A. Dana Discovery Center, inside the Park at 110th Street between Fifth and Lenox Avenues. (212-860-1370)

✦ **SENECA VILLAGE** Seneca Village was Manhattan's first known community of African-American property owners, on land that would become Central Park. Learn about the history of the village, the property owners, and what New York City was like at the time. **Start:** southeast corner of 85th Street and Central Park West. (212-772-0210)

✦ **WEST SIDE STORIES** Walk through a scenic area on the western edge of the Park, much of which is off the beaten track for most visitors. See rolling meadows, Lake views, bridges of different styles, and a garden with flowers and plants mentioned by Shakespeare. **Start:** north side of West 81st Street at Central Park West. (212-772-0210)

✦ **WATERWAYS AND VISTAS** Walk from the Dairy to Belvedere Castle and learn about the intricate design of Central Park's web of pastoral landscapes and formal romantic vistas. **Start:** outside the Dairy Gift Shop, mid-Park at 65th Street. (212-794-4064)

✦ **VIEWS FROM THE PAST** As you promenade through the heart of Central Park, imagine living in 19th-century New York City. Learn about the Park's history and hear how its designers, Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux, struggled to make their vision our reality. **Start:** outside the Dairy Gift Shop, mid-Park at 65th Street. (212-794-4064)

✦ **MEMORIAL WALK** Combine a walk through Central Park with a look at how different generations of New Yorkers viewed the Park as a proper place to remember their veterans. **Start:** Columbus Circle by the Maine Monument at Central Park West and 59th Street. (212-794-4064)

SUNDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	SATURDAY
1 NYC Marathon No Tours!	3 12:00 pm—Cross-Park	4 12:00 pm—Manhattan 1:00 pm—The Castle	5 12:00 pm—Views	7 11:00 am—Manhattan 12:00 pm—Amble 1:00 pm—Seneca
8 12:00 pm—West Side 1:00 pm—Manhattan	10 12:00 pm—The Castle	11 12:00 pm—Views 1:00 pm—Waterways	12 12:00 pm—Cross-Park	14 11:00 am—Cross-Park 12:00 pm—The Castle 1:00 pm—A Road 2:00 pm—Waterways
15 12:00 pm—Amble 1:00 pm—Views 2:00 pm—Manhattan	17 12:00 pm—Cross-Park	18 12:00 pm—West Side 1:00 pm—Cross-Park	19 12:00 pm—The Castle	21 11:00 am—Amble 12:00 pm—Manhattan 1:00 pm—West Side 2:00 pm—The Castle
22 12:00 pm—Cross-Park 1:00 pm—West Side	24 12:00 pm—Views	25 12:00 pm—Waterways 1:00 pm—Amble	26 Thanksgiving Day No Tours!	28 11:00 am—Waterways 12:00 pm—West Side 1:00 pm—Cross-Park 2:00 pm—Views
29 12:00 pm—Views 1:00 pm—Seneca 2:00 pm—A Road	<i>Special!</i> Wednesday, November 11 Veterans' Day Special 11:00 am—Memorial Walk		<i>Special!</i> Friday, November 27 Thanksgiving Day Special 11:00 am—Cross-Park Promenade	