

NYC Itinerary: 1 Day (Go-Go Pace)

1 day • Go-go pace • TravelMakesMeHappy.com

How to use this PDF: Packed day with views + the biggest icons. Plan for lots of walking and quick transitions.

Day 1 — NYC Greatest Hits (Go-Go Pace)

| Time | Stop | Notes |
|-------|---|--|
| 8:00 | Grand Central Terminal | Fast walk-through + photos. |
| 8:45 | NY Public Library (quick) | 10–15 minutes is plenty. |
| 9:15 | Bryant Park (quick) | Coffee + reset. |
| 9:45 | SUMMIT One Vanderbilt (ticketed) | Book an early timed entry for fewer crowds. |
| 11:15 | Fifth Avenue + St. Patrick's | Quick cathedral stop. |
| 12:00 | Rockefeller Center + Radio City (outside) | Fast photos; keep moving. |
| 12:45 | Lunch | Quick bite in Midtown. |
| 2:00 | One World / 9/11 Memorial | Short visit, museum optional. |
| 3:15 | Wall Street + Charging Bull | Photo stop. |
| 4:00 | Brooklyn Bridge walk | Golden hour if timing works. |
| 5:30 | Canal Street stroll (optional) | If you still have energy—quick pass through. |

Quick Tips (Make NYC Easier)

- Start early for the most popular spots—NYC feels calmer before 10am.
- Group by neighborhood to avoid zig-zagging across the city.
- Build in snack + restroom breaks (Bryant Park and Grand Central are great for this).
- If you're doing an observatory (SUMMIT / Edge / Top of the Rock), book a timed entry.
- For the Brooklyn Bridge, sunrise = quieter photos; sunset = golden skyline.

What to Pack (Short & Sweet)

- Comfortable walking shoes (you'll thank yourself).
- Portable phone charger + map app (subway + photos drain battery).
- Layers (subway platforms + winter wind can be a wild combo).
- A small umbrella or rain shell (NYC weather changes fast).

Optional Notes

Optional upgrade: Swap SUMMIT for Top of the Rock or the Empire State if that's your dream view.
Best photo strategy: do major icons early, and save the bridge for late afternoon.

Full guide + landmark descriptions:

<https://travelmakesmehappy.com/top-15-iconic-nyc-landmarks-you-wont-want-to-miss/>

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