

# Tourist FOR A DAY



**CASTLE CLINTON**  
Seated at the tip of the island (26 Wall Street), Castle Clinton was erected as a military fort to protect from British invasion during the War of 1812. Today, Castle Clinton draws millions of visitors to New York Harbor each year with free, guided tours of the site's history, the annual Music at Castle Clinton concert series and the Eastern Nation Bookstore.

Jewish-American poet, novelist and playwright. Born in New York in 1849, Lazarus was also an important forerunner of the Zionist movement and taught technical education to help Jewish immigrants become self-supporting. Her esteemed sonnet "The New Colossus" appears on a bronze plaque in the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty.

**THE IRISH HUNGER MEMORIAL**  
At the corner of Vesey Street and North End Avenue sits a half-acre, cantilevered landscape of limestone, soil and native vegetation imported from the western coast of Ireland. Designed by artist Brian Tolle in 2002, The Irish Hunger Memorial raises public awareness of the Great Irish Famine of 1845 to 1852 and brings continued awareness to current issues of famine and hunger worldwide.

**THE IMMIGRANTS**  
At the south end of the Eisenhower Mall stands *The Immigrants* by sculptor Luis Sanguino. The larger-than-life bronze features various ethnic figures expressively posed to memorialize the struggles experienced by individuals dislocated from their native countries. *The Immigrants* is purposefully located near Clinton Castle, which served as a processing facility for newly arrived immigrants from 1855 to 1890, until the construction of Ellis Island.



**THE SPHERE**  
*The Sphere*, by German sculptor Fritz Koenig was originally created in 1971 as a monument to world peace. For 30 years the large metal sculpture was a permanent fixture in Austin Tobin Plaza, located directly between the Twin Towers. After the 9/11 attacks, *The Sphere* was pulled from the rubble, visibly damaged by the collapsed towers and relocated to Battery Park. Today, visitors will find *The Sphere* formally rededicated with an eternal flame as a memorial to the victims of 9/11.

**EMMA LAZARUS MEMORIAL**  
Located at the northwest end of Battery Park, the Emma Lazarus Memorial Plaque commemorates the life and work of the prolific

Photographed by Tony Shi and Lana De Doncker. Map by Morghan Andrews.



**EAST COAST MEMORIAL**  
Designed by the architectural firm of Gehron and Seltzer, the East Coast Memorial commemorates the 4,601 missing American servicemen of World War II, whose lives were lost in the Atlantic Ocean while engaging in combat. The memorial's eight immense granite pylons hold the names, rank, organization and state of the deceased and face the Statue of Liberty from the southern end of Battery Park.

**JERUSALEM GROVE AND THE BATTERY LABYRINTH**  
Quietly nestled in tandem on the northwest corner of Battery Park, Jerusalem Grove and The Battery Labyrinth offer visitors a peaceful area for reflection. The Grove of 15 cedar trees, donated by the city of Jerusalem to the people of New York, provides shade to the adjacent Battery Labyrinth. Created in 2002 by the Battery Conservancy, The Battery Labyrinth's walking path is outlined with 1,148 granite blocks that form seven circular rings. Visitors are encouraged to follow the path on a journey that is open to contemplation and healing from the tragedies that occurred on 9/11.



—STACY SEILER

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## DEBRIEFING OF DOWNTOWN'S BATTERY

**BATTERY PARK**  
**Battery Park (BP) in Brief**  
BP, the birthplace of New York, is located at the southern tip of Manhattan, where the Hudson and East rivers merge. Originally called New (or Nieuw) Amsterdam, this area adopted its name from the "battery" of cannons set up by the Dutch settlers to defend the settlement. BP is one of the city's oldest public open spaces and the largest public open space in Lower Manhattan.

**Tourist Attraction**  
Annually, over four million people (residents, workers, students, tourists) visit the park annually while three million passengers travel via ferry to the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island.

**The Battery Musical Appearances**

- "Open Letter to NYC" by The Beastie Boys
- "Bury Me on the Battery" by Joan Osborne
- "City Love" by John Mayer
- "New Killer Star" by David Bowie
- "New York, New York" from the musical *On the Town*

**Fun Facts**

- BP boasts 25 acres of waterfront parkland.
- In 2005, builders working on the South Ferry subway station ran into the remains of a 200-year-old stone wall. After excavation, four walls and over 250,000 artifacts were found.
- Zelda the turkey hangs out in BP and now, there is a turkey-shaped garden in her honor.

**BATTERY PARK CITY**  
**Battery Park City (BPC) in Brief**  
BPC sits northwest of BP. This 92-acre planned community, which was once water, was built on landfill from the World Trade Center—a project that began in the 1970s and continues today. West Street bounds the neighborhood to the east, while the Hudson River secures the area to the north, south and west. The south section is constructed of open space and high-rise residential buildings. To the north is the World Financial Center and Stuyvesant High School, among other buildings.

**Residential Population**

- 2000: approximately 7,600
- 2011: approximately 10,000

**Architectural Timeline**

**1959:** The formerly prosperous port area was occupied by several deteriorating shipping piers, which prompted Governor Rockefeller's desire to redevelop the area.

**1966:** Architect Wallace K. Harrison proposed a "comprehensive community" of housing, social infrastructure and light industry.

**1968:** The New York State Legislature created the BPC Authority to oversee development.

**1979:** The master plan saw BPC as an extension of the existing street grid of NYC that would incorporate the best elements of traditional NYC neighborhoods.

**Today:** A successful exercise in community renewal, BPC has achieved worldwide acclaim as a blueprint for urban development.

—SIENA TUGENDRAJCH



The Irish Hunger Memorial

East Coast Memorial