

Central Park



www.timkang.com

The grandest of the U.S.'s outdoor public urban spaces, Central Park has welcomed the city's residents for more than 150 years. Covering 843 acres, the park reaches up through the middle of the borough, stretching from the top of Midtown to the base of Harlem. Designed in the 1850s by Frederick Law Olmstead and Calvert Vaux, to capture the feeling of wilderness in the middle of the city, the park's natural environments today thrive with flora and fauna. During our time in the park, we will only sample a tiny portion of the park's features.

1. Columbus Circle entrance

2. Literary Walk and The Mall

Named for the four statues of literary figures grouped together in the park's south end, the Literary Walk anchors the south end of the Mall. Covered by a graceful canopy of curved elm branches, The Mall is an icon of Central Park, and its only straight-line pathway.

3. Bethesda Terrace

Perhaps the most famous location in Central Park, Bethesda Terrace has served as the heart of the park since its redesign by Olmstead and Vaux in the 1850s.

4. Angel of the Waters

At the center of Bethesda Terrace, the statue, Angel of the Waters, depicts the blessing of the waters of Bethesda in the Gospel of John.

5. Ramble Stone Arch

One of 36 bridges or arches in the park, the Ramble Stone Arch stands in the middle of the park's main tangle of wild trees and shrubs, The Ramble.

6. Central Park West & American Museum of Natural History

We'll exit the park at W. 77th St., and walk north along Central Park West, in front of the American Museum of Natural History, another of New York's very famous museums.

7. Lunch at Firehouse Tavern, 85th St. & Columbus Ave.

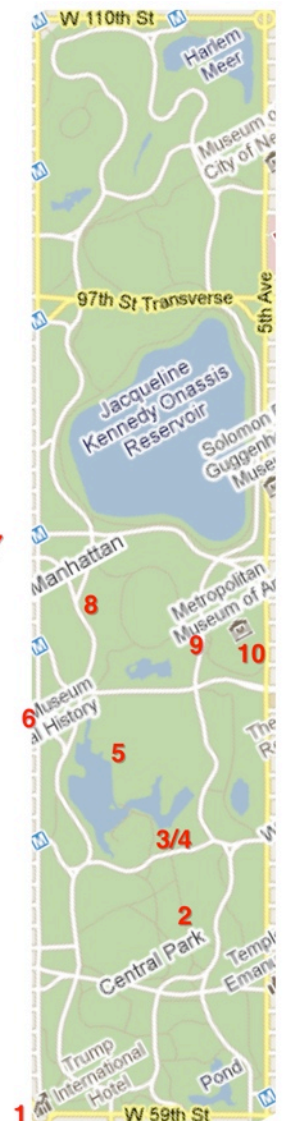
8. W. 85th Street Entrance to Great Lawn

Entering the park at 85th St., we'll cut southeastward across the park, along the edge of the Great Lawn, making our way to E. 80th St. by way of The Obelisk.

9. The Obelisk (Cleopatra's Needle)

Dating to 1500 BCE, the obelisk was transferred to New York between 1880 and 1881.

10. The Metropolitan Museum of Art



Metropolitan Museum of Art

About the Met

From www.metmuseum.org:

"The Metropolitan Museum of Art is one of the world's largest and finest art museums. Its collections include more than two million works of art spanning five thousand years of world culture, from prehistory to the present and from every part of the globe.



www.metmuseum.org

"Founded in 1870, the Metropolitan Museum is located in New York City's Central Park along Fifth Avenue (from 80th to 84th Streets). Nearly five million people visit the Museum each year.

"The Metropolitan Museum of Art was founded on April 13, 1870, 'to be located in the City of New York, for the purpose of establishing and maintaining in said city a Museum and library of art, of encouraging and developing the study of the fine arts, and the application of arts to manufacture and practical life, of advancing the general knowledge of kindred subjects, and, to that end, of furnishing popular instruction.'"

Your Assignment at the Met

During our visit to the Met, each student will be asked to view several specific collections, and to observe various artworks for later reference in class work.

First, please select three works of art from the museum's various collections that capture your interest. Based on your selections, you will prepare a five-minute oral presentation describing and interpreting these objects, to be delivered in class on Monday, August 23rd. Select one object from the American Wing, one object from the Met's collections of non-Western art, and one object from the classical European masters.

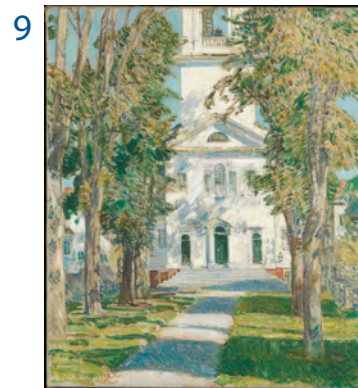
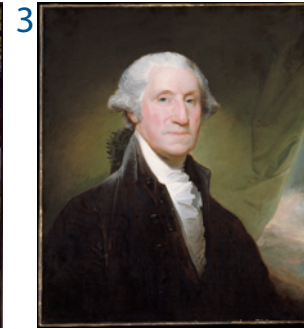
Second, students will prepare a group presentation in groups of 3, describing and interpreting one of the museum's special exhibits, as noted below. To accomplish that task, each group is asked to select one of the three special exhibits.

Third, all students are invited to visit the Arts of Korea gallery and view the artworks from Côte d'Ivoire listed below. Reflect on the presentation of these objects, their inclusion in a U.S. museum—presumably for their representative status as markers of cultural specificity—and the "accuracy" of their portrayal of what might (or might not) be a familiar cultural context to you.

Finally, it is very important that each student visit the American Wing's Engelhard Court, paying special attention to the exhibit of Tiffany windows and decorative arts, and the Karl Bitter pulpit and choir rail, both prominently displayed in the court.

Beyond these four required tasks, explore as much of the Met as you can. With such vast holdings, most New York museum enthusiasts even find it difficult to visit every corner of the museum. Listed below are several suggestions to help you get started. Begin here, and follow your curiosity!

The American Wing



- 1 Karl Bitter, *All Angels' Church Pulpit and Choir Rail* (1900); 2 Louis C. Tiffany, *View of Oyster Bay* (1908);
3 Gilbert Stuart, *Portrait of George Washington* (begun 1795); 4 William Guy Wall, *New York from the Heights
Near Brooklyn* (ca. 1820–1823); 5 Edward Hicks, *Peaceable Kingdom* (ca. 1830–1832);
6 Francis William Edmonds, *Taking the Census* (1854); 7 Winslow Homer, *Northeaster* (1895, reworked 1900);
8 Childe Hassam, *Broadway and 42nd Street* (1902); 9 Childe Hassam, *The Church at Gloucester* (1918)

Items from the Cultures of Korea and Côte d'Ivoire

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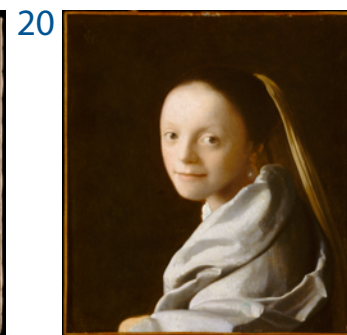
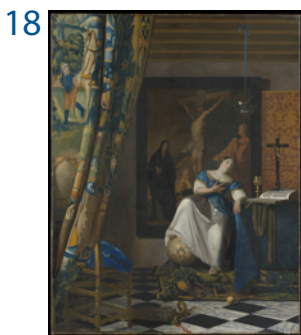
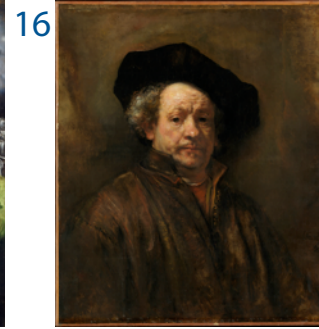


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10 Water-Moon Avalokiteshvara (1730); 11 Portable Shrine (n.d.);
12 Kòmò Helmet Mask (19th-mid20th century); 13 Face Mask (19th-20th century)

Masterworks of Western Art Traditions



- 14 El Greco, *The Miracle of Christ Healing the Blind* (possibly ca. 1570); 15 El Greco, *View of Toledo* (n.d.); 16 Rembrandt van Rijn, *Self-portrait* (1660); 17 Rembrandt van Rijn, *Aristotle with a Bust of Homer* (1653); 18 Johannes Vermeer, *Allegory of the Catholic Faith* (ca. 1670–1672); 19 Johannes Vermeer, *Young Woman with a Water Pitcher* (ca. 1662); 20 Johannes Vermeer, *Study of a Young Woman* (ca. 1665–1667); 21 John Constable, *Salisbury Cathedral from the Bishop's Grounds* (ca. 1825); 22 Vincent van Gogh, *Self-Portrait with a Straw Hat* (1887); 23 Vincent van Gogh, *Irises* (1890); 24 Duccio di Buoninsegna, *Madonna and Child* (ca. 1300)

20th-Century American Masters

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Special Exhibits

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- 25 Mary Cassatt, *Young Mother Sewing* (1900); 26 Jackson Pollock, *Autumn Rhythm* (1950);
27 Edward Hopper, *Tables for Ladies* (1930); 28 Roy Lichtenstein, *Stepping Out* (1978);
29 Andy Warhol, *Self-portrait* (1986);
30 Floral collar from Tutankhamun's Embalming Cache (ca. 1336–1327 B.C.);
31 Vase with Birthday Reception for General Guo Ziyi, Qing dynasty, Kangxi period (1662–1722);
32 *King Dasaratha and His Retinue Proceed to Rama's Wedding* (ca. 1690–1710)