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# What's Trending NYC

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with the Newest and Latest...*



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## 6BC Botanical Garden

The East Village is rife with community gardens, and 6BC, named for its location on East 6th Street between Avenues B and C, is one of the most famous. The nearly 40-year-old garden has evolved from a place where locals tended small plots to a verdant space dedicated to biodiversity and horticulture education. The lush, otherworldly environs include a small fish pond, a meandering brick path, and a pergola and trellis wrapped in blooming vines. It's generally open on weekends from noon to 6 p.m. and weekdays after 6 p.m., but if you swing by and the gate is closed, there are at least two dozen other gardens within a two-block radius to sate your need for nature.

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## The Church of St. Luke in the Fields

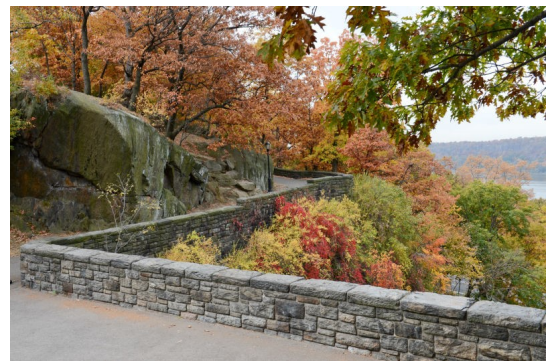
The West Village is dotted with publicly accessible gardens, but the Garden at the Church of Saint Luke in the Fields is unique because of its location. It's in the neighborhood's historic district on the corner of Hudson and Barrow streets, so it benefits from more light and open sky than gardens tucked in tight lots between rowhouses. Plus, it's blocked from the bustle of the streets by brick walls, so it's quieter, too. Inside, you'll find an oasis filled with leafy trees, wildflowers, blooming bushes, and carefully manicured gardens that attract over 100 species of birds and two dozen types of butterflies and moths. It's open daily from 10 a.m. to dusk, but closed on holidays.

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## Tudor City Greens

The gardens of Tudor City feel hidden partly



## Heather Garden

Some of the city's best secret gardens are

because they're not wholly accessible at street level; when you approach on East 42nd Street, you have to go up one of two staircases located on either side of the street, and a bridge connects the two block-long parks. When the development first opened in the late 1920s, the gardens served as a reprieve from the industrial activity and pollution on the East River. Today they offer a quiet escape from the chaos of the city, just blocks from Grand Central and the United Nations. They're open to the public daily from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

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## Bruce's Garden

At the northernmost tip of Manhattan, you'll find one of the city's most delightful gardens adjacent to Isham Park just south of West 215th Street. The garden has been around since the 1970s, when its namesake, Bruce Reynolds, volunteered in the park. It benefits from mature trees and lush plantings, and there's a meandering path with a few benches and a gazebo, along with ornamental flowers and two beehives. It was renamed Bruce's Garden in 2002 in honor of Reynolds, who died in the September 11th attacks while on duty as a Port Authority Police Officer.

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hidden within bigger parks. Such is the case with Heather Garden, a sloping three-acre piece of Fort Tryon Park that offers views of the Hudson River. Designed in 1935 by the Olmsted brothers and planted with a mix of trees (elm, yew, dogwood), flowering shrubs (azaleas, old world roses, hydrangeas), and perennials—including one of the largest collections of heath and heather on the East Coast—the garden is one to visit in every season.

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## Willis Ave Community Garden

Encompassing four city lots, this South Bronx green space is on the larger side for a community garden. It's been a well-tended site since 1997, and a generous donation in 2014 allowed for a much-needed upgrade that included building a 12' by 36' casita—proudly decked with Puerto Rican flags—a compost toilet, a regraded lawn, a mulched picnic area, and new plants along the border and pathways, including leafy vines and birch trees.

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## Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum

The historic Bartow-Pell Mansion is not a secret; its Greek Revival interiors are considered to be one of the finest examples in the country. What's lesser-known is that its gardens and grounds are free and open to the public daily from 8:30 a.m.

to dusk. The formal terraced gardens were designed by architects Delano & Aldrich in 1915, and each of the four quadrants is encased within a masonry wall with a square pool at the center.

Rotating sculpture installations dot the landscape.

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## Windmill Community Garden

A relative newcomer to the garden scene, the Windmill Community Garden opened in 2016 after a group of Long Island City residents took initiative to transform the formerly vacant lot on 29th Street between 39th and 40th avenues. The 25' by 100' garden is a mix of passive seating areas and planting beds. They partner with Flux Factory, an art gallery across the street, for temporary exhibitions and events like block parties.

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## Smiling Hogshead Ranch

This ragtag urban farm is most notable for its location on a disused spur of the LIRR, directly beside Sunnyside Yards, the country's busiest rail junction, and surrounded by warehouses.



## Naval Cemetery Landscape

After nearly a century closed to the public, the Brooklyn Naval Cemetery reopened at the end of May sporting new walkways, plantings, and signage. The revitalization of the Naval Cemetery Landscape is part of the Brooklyn Greenway

Guerilla gardeners saw potential when they first put down roots in 2011, and when the MTA caught on, they worked with the volunteers to turn the lot into an officially sanctioned community garden. Today, the old rails act as a main path through the garden, leading visitors by pergola-covered picnic tables at the front, personal planting plots, a brightly painted patio, to finally a more passive wooded area that's been left wild. They host regular events that are open to the public.

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Initiative's mission to activate and create more public green space in its namesake borough. Marvel Architects and Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects designed the park to pay homage to the 2,000 naval officers and Marines laid to rest at the site (the known remains have since been exhumed and moved to Cypress Hills) with its winding observation path, memorial meadow, and "sacred grove."

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# Here Today, Gone Tomorrow

Curated List by Sharon Hoge

Never mind if you still hesitant about venturing out in public, there's no need to be art starved. An array of online offerings provides a myriad of virtual tours. Here are some New York City exhibits and institutions to visit online.

## The Frick Museum

Each Friday afternoon at 5 pm, viewers are invited to mix up a recommended beverage to sip while listening to an explication of a treasure from the Frick's collection. Past "Cocktails with a Curator" have paired up Boucher's "A Lady on Her Daybed" with a champagne and gin "French 75." For Bellini's "St. Francis in the Garden" Peter Jay Sharp Chief Curator Xavier F. Salomon suggested a "Xavier's Manhattan." Recipes for mocktail versions are offered for juniors. Each presentation is maintained on the website for following weeks.

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## Staley-Wise Gallery

John Lennon and Mick Jagger confer tete-a-tete, Karl Lagerfeld looks out askance, a young Truman Capote glances up from the book he is reading, Marlon Brando saunters by in a black leather jacket, Halston lounges in his living room. They are among photographs of "Men of Style" on the Staley-Wise website all month.

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## The Metropolitan Museum of Art

No matter how often you've visited, chances are you haven't managed to examine every one of the 200,805 items from the collection depicted on the museum website. Organized in categories of Metal, Rock Textile, Clay, Ink, Silk or arranged by subject, chronology, color tone, the city's treasury is laid out to click on and admire. A virtual tour is included.

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## New York Botanical Garden

Birds chirp, classical music plays, blossoms bob in the breeze in lovely "Spring Walks" through daffodils, crabapples, cherry blossoms, lilacs – lovely vignettes on the New York Botanical Garden website put a "spring" in your step with an indoors breath of fresh air.

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## The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum

Savor works by Helen Frankenthaler, Jackson Pollock, Kenneth Nolan, Jeff Koons, and other modern masters while clicking through the collection of the Guggenheim Museum. There is a slide show tour of the extraordinary building's evolution, and Recent Acquisitions keep you up to date.

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PHOTO CREDITS Sharon King Hoge Guggenheim: Kenneth Nolan, "Trans Shift" 1964 High Line: Jordan Casteel, The Baayfalls, 2017/2019 (rendering). A High Line Commission. On view December 2019 – December 2020. Courtesy the High Line.

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