

# NYC Travel & Hotels

(close to the Conference & a few others)

*Note: for NYC, it is always best to make a reservation far in advance. Then, as the time approaches, you can always check to see if better deals have come in. Especially recheck shortly before your trip. Most hotels have discount rates for AAA, some have discounts on the Internet and some, like the Comfort Inn, have member programs that you can join over the phone and then get their discount.*

## **Getting Into New York (Manhattan)**

There are 3 airports you can fly into: JFK, LaGuardia and Newark. Newark is in New Jersey but Manhattan is very accessible from there and often it is cheaper to fly into Newark than the New York airports. All of the airports have connections to 2 or 3 of these places in Manhattan: *Port Authority Bus Terminal* (42<sup>nd</sup> St & 8<sup>th</sup> Ave), *Grand Central Terminal* (120 E 41<sup>st</sup> St) or *Pennsylvania Station* (also called Penn Station, at 34 St & 8<sup>th</sup> Ave).

From any of the airports you can get to Manhattan by *SuperShuttle* for \$12-\$20. This is like a group taxi. The main disadvantage is that if you are dropped off last (or picked up first on the return to the airport, you will spend an extra 45 minutes driving around in the Shuttle. If you're not in a hurry, it's very convenient and inexpensive. Call 800-258-3826 or 212-315-3006.

A private taxi is more expensive. From Newark airport, with tolls, the cost is about \$49 (includes tolls) + tip (if your hotel is west of 5<sup>th</sup> Ave; add \$6 if it is east of 5<sup>th</sup> Ave.) From JFK it is \$35 (flat rate) + tolls + tip. The ride is 40-60 minutes. From LaGuardia it is about \$16- \$26 + tolls + tip.

From Newark there is also a New York City bus that goes to Port Authority Bus Terminal in New York and to Grand Central Terminal. This runs about every half hour during regular daytime hours and is only \$12. You can to one of these stops and then take a short taxi ride to your hotel from there. Olympia Airport Express does the same route, at about the same frequency for \$12. Call them at: 212-964-6233 or 908-354-3330.

From Newark there are also trains that go to Pennsylvania Station. In the airport you take the Air Train to the North Airport Rail Station (which is within the airport) and then take the NE Corridor Line or North Jersey Coastline into New York for about \$12—a ride that takes only 20 minutes, making one stop in New Jersey before heading into New York. This might be a good option for rush hour in particular, when roads going into New York can be quite slow, although the train would be crowded then, too, and I don't know how that will be with luggage, because I haven't gone that route myself.

From JFK there is now an AirTrain for \$5 that connects you to a subway train that goes into Manhattan. During rush hour, though, the subway is not the best place to be with luggage. From JFK and LaGuardia there is also a New York Airport Service Express Bus for \$13 from JFK and \$10- \$12 from LaGuardia (call 718-875-8200). It goes to the Port Authority Bus Terminal; another that goes to Grand Central Terminal; and another goes to Penn Station. There are ways to go to Manhattan from these airports by a combination of city bus and subway, but I'd suggest leaving that for the locals or the daring.

**HOTELS in NYC (It pays to call several places and shop around.)**

**Least Expensive**

(**NOTE:** Leo House, Episcopal Seminary, and Gershwin Hotel below, are all within walking distance, all less than a mile. The NY Int'l Ayh- Hostel is an easy subway ride, just 1 train, but about 15 minutes on the train. )

**American Dream Hostel** - 212-260-9779// 917-885-6191 // 168 E. 24<sup>th</sup> St. (Lexington-3<sup>rd</sup> Ave)

- Room options: 2 Single beds for 1 or 2 people; 1 double bed & 1 single bed (for 2 or 3 people); 4 single beds for 3 or 4 people. Rates: 39.99 & & 44.99 per person.
- There is a kitchen equipped with a microwave-oven refrigerator, and space for food storage. A breakfast of coffee, milk, toasts, Marmalades, butter, peanut butter, hot/cold cereal is served every morning.
- They also have 24-hour reception & check-in (so there is no curfew). They accept children, credit cards, have luggage storage & security lockers, have a common room, have telephone/fax facilities. Non-smoking on premises.

**Leo House** - 212-929-1010 // on W. 23<sup>rd</sup> St, between 8-9<sup>th</sup> Ave

- \$65-75 / night for a single (cheaper is for shared bath)
- \$76-86 / night for a double (cheaper is for shared bath)
- Maximum stay is 2 weeks. They start to book 2 ½ months beforehand but can fill up a month to even 2 months ahead.

**Episcopal Seminary** - 212-243-5150 or 1-888-487-5649 (Fax: 212-727-3907) // 175 9<sup>th</sup> Ave (at 21<sup>st</sup> St.)

- doubles are \$70/night with shared bath. I believe these are dorm-type rooms. The seminary has a lovely tree-lined courtyard.

**The Gershwin Hotel** - 212-545-8000 (Fax: 212-684-5546) 7 East 23<sup>rd</sup> St.

Email: [reservations@gershwinhostel.com](mailto:reservations@gershwinhostel.com). Their website is [www.gershwinhostel.com](http://www.gershwinhostel.com). They say they are a cross between a hotel and a hostel.

- \$33 + taxes gets a room in a large, 8-bedded room.

**NY Int'L Ayh-Hostel** - 212-932-2300/ 212-932-2574- Fax // 891 Amsterdam Ave, between 103-104 Streets.

- They have air conditioning in summer and have non smoking rooms, cafe, fax machine, garden, & laundry services. The subway is right there at 103 St.
- \$32-\$38 for a bed in a dorm-type room. Some private rooms may be available for more. Reviews say it has large, clean rooms.

**Americana Inn** - 212-840-6700 69 W. 38<sup>th</sup> St.

- (ask for Dan, for some reason, I'm told, he gives cheaper rates. At the time of this writing, he works the night shift and is off on Tuesdays)
- Starting at \$55/night and can go lower for a group. Rooms very small but very clean. 640 beds.

You can check these websites:

[www.hostelny.com](http://www.hostelny.com) or [www.hostel.com/us.ny.ny.html](http://www.hostel.com/us.ny.ny.html) or [hotels.com](http://hotels.com) or [travelweb.com](http://travelweb.com) or [www.ny.com/hotels/budget.html](http://www.ny.com/hotels/budget.html). And there are others.

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### **More Expensive-- but still very 'Reasonable' (for NYC)**

**ThirtyThirty Hotel** - 212-689-1900 // 30 E. 30<sup>th</sup> St. [www.thirtythirty-nyc.com](http://www.thirtythirty-nyc.com)

- They have some rooms that have shared baths that are less expensive. Local calls are 1.00 per call; 800 call are free.

**Manhattan Inn** - 212-629-4064 // 303 W. 30<sup>th</sup> St.

- \$ 75/ 95/ night. No outgoing calls from the room, just receive calls.

**Herald Square Hotel** - 212-279-4017 // 19 W. 31<sup>st</sup> St. (5<sup>th</sup> Ave- Broadway)

- Standard single or double is \$99.
- A large one is \$120, for 2 people.
- And they have very small singles, perhaps converted closets, for \$65/ night.
- \$1.00 per local call; 800 calls free.

**Hotel Pennsylvania** - 212-736-5000 // 401 Seventh Ave at 33<sup>rd</sup> St. [www.hotelpenn.com](http://www.hotelpenn.com)

- The rooms are a good enough size and the rooms with 2 beds are quite large with a very large closet. But the carpet in the bedrooms is old and a bit grungy. Rates are usually good (\$85.), though, and can be \$10 cheaper per night at their website.

**Hotel Stanford** - 212-563-1500 or 1-800-365-1114 // 43 W. 32<sup>nd</sup> St. // [www.hotelstanford.com](http://www.hotelstanford.com)

- The TV is small, but there is a small refrigerator in each room.
- The rooms are older, but clean.
- Rates are good (\$99)
- Local calls are .60 for the first minute; then .10/min; 800 calls are free.

**Amsterdam Hotel** - 212-579-7500 // 340 Amsterdam Ave (near W. 76 St.)

- A bit far from the conference, but a quick subway ride away
- Rooms from \$79
- Local calls are .35 for the first minute & then .05 per minute; 800 calls are .50 per call

The chain hotels listed below sometimes have specials, and often better deals for them can be found at their sites or general hotel booking sites on the Internet. All of them have TV's and direct dial phones.

**La Quinta** - 212-736-1600 // 17 W. 32<sup>nd</sup> St (5<sup>th</sup> Ave- Broadway).

- Singles are a good size, clean & modern, with a large TV.
- Free local & 800 calls.
- This hotel may have good rates (\$80 +) if you call ahead.

**Red Roof Inn** - 212-643-7100 // 6 W. 32<sup>nd</sup> St. (5<sup>th</sup> Ave- Broadway)

Free local & 800 calls.

### **Comfort Inn**

42 W. 35<sup>th</sup> St at 212-947-0200 . Or, 129 W. 46<sup>th</sup> St. at 212-221-2600. Or, 442 W. 36<sup>th</sup> St at 212-714-6699. Or, You can also, by calling 800-521-2121, become a member of Choice Hotels, which includes Comfort Inns, Quality Inns, Econo Lodge and Clarion Hotels. Then you can use this number for reservations at any of them and the membership gets you a discount. Some of these other hotels, besides the Comfort Inn have hotels a little further, but still within walking distance. At some hotels, such as some Comfort Inns that charge for local calls, membership gets you free local calls.

**Holiday Inn** - 212-736-3800 // 49 W. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street

- Ask for a room away from Broadway.
- They charge 1.00 for the first 5 min of local calls; 800 calls are free.

**Ramada New Yorker Hotel** 1-866-800-3088 // 481 8<sup>th</sup> Ave (at 34<sup>th</sup> Street)

- 75 per call for local calls and for 800 calls.

### **Apartments:**

**Chelsmore Apartments** - 212-924-7991 // 205 W. 15 St. // [www.chelsmore.com](http://www.chelsmore.com)  
email: [reservations@chelsmore.com](mailto:reservations@chelsmore.com).

- Excellent rates.
- Many of the apartments face 7Ave and they can't guarantee one in the back when you reserve.
- All the 1 BR apts though are in the back.
- There is usually a 6 night minimum, but that may be waived in slow times of the year.