

GATHAY PACIFIC'S
NEW YORK

CARIBBEAN & RIVER CRUISING

DESTINATION | NEW YORK CITY


ISLAND EVOLUTION

**LOWER MANHATTAN
TAKES THE LEAD**

STORY AND PHOTOS BY TED DAVIS

The waterfront view of Lower Manhattan from the ferry to Governors Island





If a glamorous getaway to New York City is in your travel planner, then it can't hurt to arrive in style.

Hong Kong's Cathay Pacific Airways offers just such an entrance to JFK Airport for passengers who are departing from Vancouver. The airline brings a reputation for top service and luxury flying to any considerations on how to arrive in NYC. Count those considerations in spades for flyers who book a seat in one of Cathay's extended comfort classes (see sidebar).

When they get there, Manhattan will be waiting with its menu of world-class attractions, ranging from museums and art galleries

to stage theatres, music clubs and fine dining rooms. The celebrated energy of Manhattan is palpable, driven by a population of visitors and residents alike who come to experience and enjoy this famous urban island.

That celebration was shattered in 2001, when the 9/11 attacks destroyed the two World Trade Center towers. But in just 14 years, the gaping wound in Manhattan was largely healed, and Lower Manhattan is now in the midst of a new chapter of growth.

CATHAY PACIFIC TO NYC

Cathay Pacific operates its service between Vancouver YVR and New York City JFK once per day, as part of a route that starts and ends in Hong Kong. This route has been in existence since 1996, and was first established to provide a refueling stop in Vancouver.

Current airline technology now allows Cathay Pacific to operate flights non-stop between New York and Hong Kong, but the airline has retained the Vancouver itinerary due to continued demand. CX uses the latest B777-300ER on the route, with a choice of four cabin classes – First, Business, Premium Economy and Economy Class.

Throughout, the airline offers an international service standard with more personal space, attentive service, creative cuisine, complimentary beverage service, and myriad entertainment choices.

"Cathay Pacific is well known as a full-service, premium airline, so our intent is always to offer good value and the very best service," said Ross Cronin, director of sales and marketing for CX in Canada.



(r) The Oculus and Manhattan skyline from the new World Trade Center site



Galloping growth

For one thing, visitations to the ground zero memorials have generated a surge in tourism in Lower Manhattan that was not a factor in the past, when the area was solely business focused. As well, real estate redevelopments in the region around ground zero have helped stimulate a quick increase in the residential population in Lower Manhattan.

For instance, Lower Manhattan's residential population has tripled since year 2000, with a boom in the population of 18- to 44-year-olds. Also, the Lower Manhattan population has more than doubled in size in terms of non-family households since 2000. If the attackers' intent was to cripple economic confidence, the result has in fact been the opposite.

9/11 Memorials

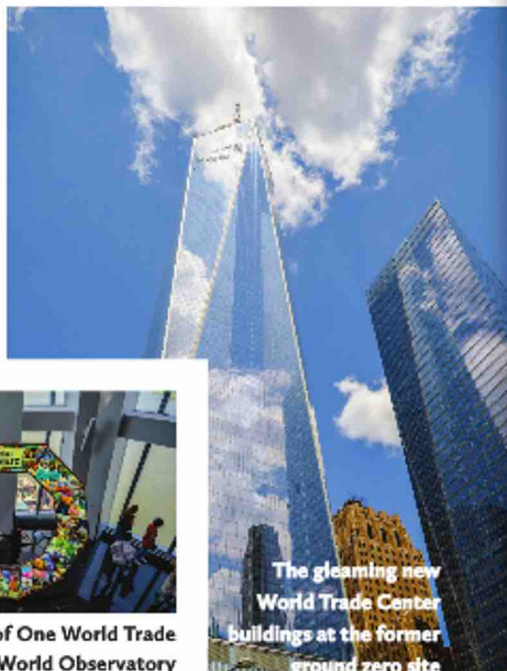
But emotional wounds linger for all who visit the Ground Zero site, which has been converted to a memorial installation of striking architecture innovations. These pay tribute to the many people who were killed on Sept 11.

They are anchored by the former site of the World Trade Center towers, which are now symbolized by two water features called the National September 11 Memorial. These have been built within the original footprints of the two towers. Water streams down the four slanted sides of each, converging in central pools. The names of all the attack victims are inscribed on the perimeters of the memorials, which opened in 2011.

Directly adjacent to the memorial footprint of WTC 1 is the new One



The National September 11 Memorial



View from the top of One World Trade Center, at the One World Observatory

The gleaming new World Trade Center buildings at the former ground zero site



Daily non-stop flights between Vancouver and JFK.

Cathay Pacific Airways offers daily non-stop flights between Vancouver and New York aboard a safe and comfortable Boeing 777-300ER. Book your customers with us and all the luxuries of International travel such as meals, drinks, pillows and blankets are included for free. For more details visit cathaypacific.com/ca.

Route	Flight	Depart	Arrive
YVR-JFK	CX888	22:50	07:00 +1
JFK-YVR	CX889	21:55	00:45

Actual departure and arrival times are subject to change without notice. Please refer to the flight schedule for the most up-to-date information.

CATHAY DRAGON



CATHAY PACIFIC

Life Well Travelled

A FOUR SEASONS WELCOME

Just steps from the ground zero memorials and the financial district is the new Four Seasons New York Downtown, which opened in 2016. It is the second Four Seasons hotel in Manhattan.

This wonderfully discrete property flies well under that radar at its address near Broadway on Barclay St., with subtle signage and understated front door portico. Inside is a comfortable lobby that features a raised work counter with power

outlets for guests on the go. At one end of the lobby is CUT by Wolfgang Puck, which specializes in fine slices of well-prepared protein.

The first 24 floors of the building are home to the Four Seasons. Rooms are spacious, tastefully appointed, comfortable and well designed for in-room work, dining and relaxation. There is a high-tech fitness centre and one of the largest indoor lap pools in the city, at 23 metres in length, at a depth of 1.2 metres.



Lots of tourists and residents alike enjoy the sun on the High Line.

instance, it is under 15 minutes on a ferry to Governors Island from the Lower Manhattan piers. En route, passengers are treated to one of the best possible views of Manhattan for memorable photos. The cost of the ferry ride is a mere US\$2.75 return.

A more exciting way to get a waterfront view of the city is on board a sailboat. North Cove Marina, on the Hudson River side of Manhattan, rents small sailboats for reasonable rates and provides instructors if needed. An hour on the water demonstrates the fickle winds that bounce off buildings and swirl around the Hudson River, but more great photos can be had in return for the effort. Great dining options are available next to the marina.

There aren't enough nights in a year to cover all the evening entertainment options in New York City. But a nearly fail-proof option is to take in a stage performance on or off Broadway. Smallish theatres provide clear views and great audio. Hot tickets that are currently sought after include *Come From Away*, *Waitress*, *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*, *The Book of Mormon*, *Wicked*, *Chicago*, *A Bronx Tale* and many more. 📺

World Trade Center. This building opened in 2015, and with its angled, reflective walls, it is the most striking structure in the Manhattan skyline. It is also the tallest building in the western hemisphere, sixth tallest in the world.

Atop One World Trade Center is the One World Observatory, which encompasses an observation deck composed of floor-to-ceiling windows. The observatory is located on floors 100 to 102 and provides spectacular views of Manhattan, the Hudson River, Brooklyn Bridge, Ellis Island, the Statue of Liberty, etc.

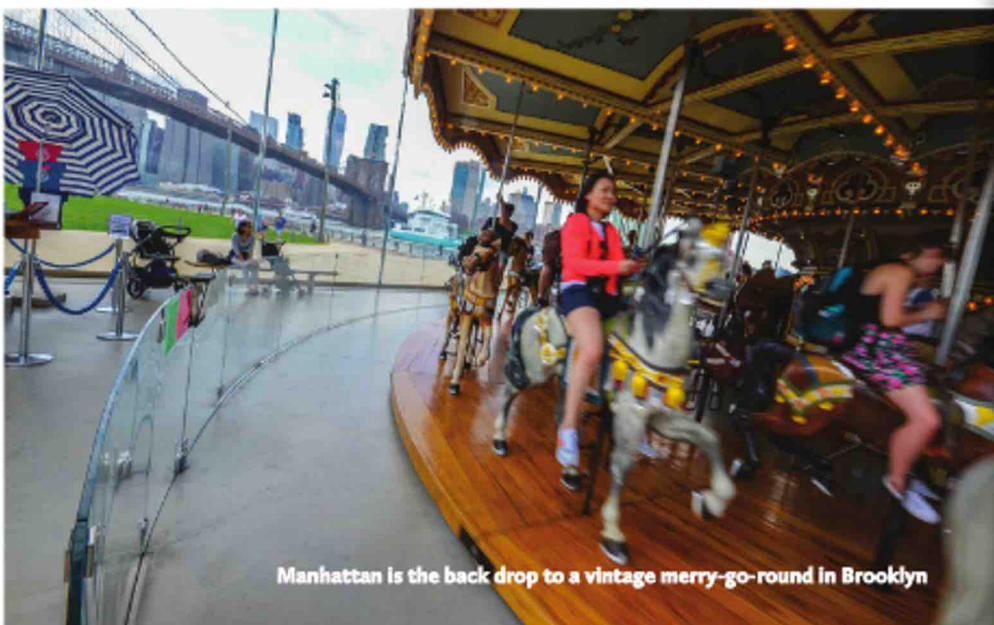
This campus of memorials also includes a museum dedicated to the events of 9/11, called the September 11 Memorial Museum. It tells the story of 9/11 through multimedia displays, personal narratives and a collection of monumental and personal artifacts. The space has two core exhibitions at its archeological heart: the memorial exhibition, called "In Memoriam," and a three-part historical exhibition that explores events on the day of the attacks, what led up to them and their aftermath. The 9/11 Museum opened in 2014.

Maybe the most unusual architectural exercise in the whole campus is the Oculus, which houses the World Trade Center commuter train station and an adjoining upscale shopping mall. The building features two rows of gently curving white steel ribs that rise from the ground on either side of a concourse dome. The design symbolizes a dove taking flight, and it is an arresting sight.

NEW YORK STATE OF MIND

Vibrant Manhattan helps lighten sobering 9/11 thoughts with its countless diversions. A good way to brighten the mood can be a stroll on the High Line, the raised walkway park that meanders through Lower Manhattan. It is 2.3 km in length and was built on a former elevated spur of the New York Central Railroad. The High Line is effectively an aerial greenway that features boxed plantings with flowers and trees, plus lots of seating options for relaxing, as well as pop-up eateries. It is very popular with tourists and residents alike.

On the other hand, a short trip on to the waters that border the shores of Manhattan is a must-do excursion. For



Manhattan is the back drop to a vintage merry-go-round in Brooklyn