

Speaking Card 27

New York City

● Where is New York?

New York is the name of two places, a state and a city, in the United States. New York State is in the north-east / on the East Coast. New York City is in the south-eastern corner of New York State / near the Atlantic Ocean. "New York" can mean either the city or the state. Sometimes people write New York City as NYC.

● What's the difference between New York City and Manhattan?

New York City is divided into five regions / areas, which are called boroughs. The five boroughs are Manhattan, the Bronx, Queens, Brooklyn and Staten Island. The Bronx is to the north, on the mainland. Manhattan is an island in the middle of the Hudson River. Queens and Brooklyn are east of Manhattan. Staten Island is south of Manhattan. Manhattan is the most famous borough in New York City.

● How many people live in New York City?

There are about 8.5 million / eight-and-a-half million people in New York City. There are about 2.5 million people in Brooklyn / about 2 million in Queens / almost 1.5 million in the Bronx / close to 500,000 in Staten Island. More than 1.5 million people live in Manhattan, which covers only 23 square miles (60 km²)! The people who live there come from many different backgrounds. They can be / are rich / poor / famous / ambitious / well-educated / hard-working / successful / artists / students / business people.

● What is New York City like?

New York City is a very large / crowded / expensive / exciting / cosmopolitan city. Many people move to New York from other states / countries, so the population is quite diverse / people speak many different languages. There is a large arts / fashion / business / financial / restaurant culture in New York. More than 50 million people / tourists visit New York each year.

● What kind of transport does it have?

It's easy / not too expensive to get around New York City using public transportation (AmE) /

transport (BrE). You can use / take the subway 24 hours a day. It has 21 different lines / goes to all five boroughs. You can also take the bus / walk / ride a bike. New York's yellow taxis / cabs are very famous, and you can also hire / take a town car (AmE) / limousine. These can be expensive / slow because traffic in New York is really bad. Very few / not many people drive cars in New York City.

● Name some famous buildings or places in NYC.

Times Square is a large area in the centre of Manhattan with lots of stores (AmE) / shops (BrE) / advertisements / bright lights. Broadway is an area of central Manhattan with a lot of theaters (AmE) / theatres (BrE), musicals and plays. The Empire State Building is a tall / famous building, and many people like to see the view / take pictures from the top. Madison Square Garden is a famous arena where you can see a concert / a basketball game / an ice hockey match. Central Park is the largest park / green space in the city. The 9/11 memorial and One World Trade Center / Freedom Tower are in southern Manhattan. The Statue of Liberty is on the Hudson River between New York and New Jersey.

● What do people eat?

There are many / thousands of restaurants in New York City. You can find lots of ethnic food, such as Italian food in Little Italy / Chinese food in Chinatown / South and Central American food in Northern Manhattan / Queens. New York is famous for pizza / bagels / hot dogs / delis / fine dining / brunch. New Yorkers often eat out / go to restaurants or order take out (AmE) / takeaways (BrE) / have food delivered to their homes.

● When do people like to visit New York?

Many tourists come to New York for the holidays / at Christmas to see the decorations / go shopping / skating / sightseeing. The weather in New York is nice / mild in spring / autumn. Summer is the worst time to visit New York because it's really hot / humid / there is not much green space.

