

Cheap Eats Tour

NYU Student Resource Center

About this Walking Tour

There are so many restaurants in the heart of Greenwich Village, and a large portion of them cater to NYU students with lunch/dinner specials and/or student discounts. This tour focuses on the blocks surrounding NYU's Kimmel Center for University Life, and will introduce you to a wide variety of cuisine for only a smidgeon of what it costs to eat in other NYC neighborhoods!

I've written this tour and suggested these restaurants based on almost 10 years of experience at NYU. In case you've downloaded this tour and are reading it on your computer I've included websites and email addresses for additional information. If you're planning to walk the entire tour, allow about 45 minutes (that is, if you don't stop and sample the food!)

This tour does not officially endorse any of the restaurants listed, and I didn't receive any sort of incentive to include them (in fact, they probably have no idea they're on my tour). If you have any questions or comments about this tour, please contact me at buffy@nyu.edu.

Beginning the Tour

Start at the NYU Kimmel Center for University Life, 60 Washington Square South. As you exit the Kimmel Center, turn left (west), cross Thompson Street, and continue on Washington Square South to the corner of Sullivan Street.

Stop #1: The Dosa Man: Washington Square Park @ Sullivan Street

- a dosa is a South Indian rice crepe, filled with veggies, sauce, and/or potatoes
- the "Dosa Man" (his real name is Thiru Kumar) and his cart are known throughout the city for his great food
- the Dosa Man can help you decide what to choose, especially if you've never been there before
- almost everything he serves is vegan
- everything \$5 or less
- you can even email the Dosa Man at nydosas@yahoo.com.

Continue on Washington Square South across MacDougal Street, to...

Stop #2: Red Bamboo: 140 West 4th Street

- great place for vegetarians
- even meat eaters love to eat there
- can get very crowded (small size)
- good service, fast delivery

Stop #3: Vegetarian's Paradise: 144 West 4th Street

- Often referred to as VP2
- same owner as Red Bamboo

Stop #4: Galanga: 149 West 4th Street

- \$6.50 lunch specials
- cozy atmosphere, yet low key

Stop #5: Washington Square Diner: 150 W 4th St

- dinner entrees aren't cheap, but a la carte (and breakfast) items are

Turn left (south) onto 6th ave and look across the street (corner of 6th Ave & West 4th) for...

Stop #6 Papaya dog: 333 6th Avenue

- traditional rivalry for title of "best hot dog" with the famous Gray's Papaya, at 402 6th Ave. (don't get the two confused)
- hot dogs are \$1.25 each – they also sell hamburgers, chicken fingers, etc.

Turn left (east) onto w. 3rd st past...

Stop #7 McDonalds: 136 West 3rd Street

- they have a 10% discount for NYU students
- they have an ATM with a \$0.99 fee – cheap, compared to other ATM surcharges around the village

Stop #8 BB Sandwich Bar: 120 W 3rd St.

- very small, easy to miss
- specializes in a single sandwich - a 'New York' interpretation of the Philly Cheese Steak that's tasty and surprisingly light
- not a true philly cheese steak, but still very good
- NYU student discount - \$2.75 for a sandwich!

Stop #9 Tonnie's Minis Cupcake Shop : 120 W 3rd St

- people say these cupcakes taste better than Magnolia's
- cupcakes aren't too sweet

Stop #10 J&B's coffee: 123 W 3rd St

- great coffee, and exceptional service!
- a medium coffee is \$1.25, large is \$1.50, and every 10th cup is free! (be sure to pick up the frequent buyer card to get your 10th cup free, and get it stamped each time you get coffee)
- They add steamed milk to your coffee for no extra charge
- The guys who run the place are super friendly, and it only takes them a few visits to memorize your order

Turn right (south) onto MacDougal past...

Stop #11 Mamouns': 119 MacDougal

- best tasting falafel in the area, and it only costs \$2
- other items on the menu are just as tasty
- delicious baklava
- open late (until 5 am)

Stop #12 Ben's Pizzeria: 123 MacDougal St

- one of the village's oldest pizza places
- discount with NYU ID (especially on whole pies; you may have to negotiate for a per-slice discount)

Stop #13 Press Toast: 112 MacDougal St

- French bread with fillings (veggie and meat options), pressed in a panini grill
- Unique menu, including the "Israeli toast," with hard-boiled egg slices, swiss cheese , olives, and hot sauce
- Menu prices are \$3-\$4.50
- They serve breakfast and dessert "toasts", and are open really late

Stop #14 The Hummus Place: 99 MacDougal St

- amazing hummus, served warm
- one plate of hummus is more than enough for a meal
- also serves salads and a couple other menu items – everything is good!
- they take campus cash

Stop #15 Esperanto: 114 MacDougal St

- free wireless internet
- open 24 hours a day
- great study spot

Stop #16 Café Reggio: 119 MacDougal

- one of the oldest coffee shops in the village, opened in 1927
- has an espresso machine from 1902 (the shop's pride and joy)
- cappuccino for under \$3, espresso for under \$2
- great people watching at the outside tables

Turn left (east) onto Bleecker Street, past...

Stop #17 Indian taj: 181 Bleecker St

- popular Indian buffet \$8.95
- 20% nyu discount for dinner (from the menu, not the buffet)

Stop #19 Pizza booth: 65 Bleecker St

- not particularly cheap, but they have an outdoor garden in the back!

Stop #20 Suzie's (continue past Sullivan, and then double back): 163 Bleecker St

- speedy delivery
- lots of NYU clubs order Chinese food from here
- cheap lunch specials
- generous serving sizes

After Suzies, turn around on Bleecker, and head back the way you came (about 1 block), and turn right (north) onto Sullivan Street, past...

Stop #21 Jamaican flavors: 240 Sullivan St

- small, take-out counter (only a couple seats inside) – in nice weather, get your food and take it to Washington Square Park

- jamaican patties are their specialty – flaky crust with meat or veggie filling
- they also have wraps and traditional caribbean cuisine
- their macaroni and cheese is AMAZING!
- patties are under \$2 apiece – 1-2 patties is a very satisfying lunch

Stop #22 Peanut Butter & co: 240 Sullivan St

- they take campus cash
- don't forget to stop by the SRC (Kimmel, 210) to get coupons! Some coupons are buy one sandwich, get one free – others are buy one sandwich, get a free jar of Peanut butter
- they sell flavored peanut butter – like dark chocolate, and cinnamon raisin

Turn right (East) onto w. 3rd Street, past...

Stop #23 Shade Crepes window: 241 Sullivan St at W. 3rd

- fast and easy, and delicious! They make both sweet and savory crepes

Stop #24 Temple in the Village

- vegetarian, vegan, and macrobiotic food
- buffet of food sold by the pound (\$6/lb.)

Stop #25 Baluchi's: 90 West 3rd St

- nice restaurant to go with a friend from 12-3pm, because everything on the menu is half off
- delicious Indian food
- has many options for vegetarians

Turn right (South) onto Thompson Street, past...

Stop #26 Pluck U: 230 Thompson St

- fast delivery
- takes campus cash
- features sandwiches and wraps
- GREAT tatertots that have cheese & jalepenos inside

Stop #27 Boyd Thai: 210 Thompson St

- buffy's favorite thai food – lunch special is around \$6 for salad, spring roll, AND entrée
- desserts here are particularly amazing.

End of tour (now choose a place to eat!)