

TRAFFIC

- Traffic is heaviest at the Battery, passenger ship terminals and ferry slips. **BE CAUTIOUS:** Ferries generate strong wash currents while maneuvering at landings.
- Vessels seem further away than the kayakers low vantage point.
- Vessels are limited to 5 mph within 100 feet of shore, making it a safer area for kayakers.
- Avoid shipping lanes and commercial boat traffic.
- Don't haul out or launch when large vessels are transiting.
- Never pass between a tug & its tow (a barge). Tow lines can be up to a mile long and not visible.

TIDES & CURRENTS

- Plan circumnavigation route to coincide with the tides and river currents. Time on the water is about 6 to 8 hrs.
- Tides are semi-diurnal, two high and two low waters every 24 hrs. and vary by location in the harbor.
- Hudson River ebbs (southward) during the first 2 hours of flood tide (eastward) at the Battery and floods (northward) during the first 1.5 hours of ebb tide (westward).
- The East River floods eastward and ebbs westward.
- Harlem River floods (southward) with eastward Hell Gate currents & ebbs (northward) with westerly currents. The slack is Hudson River dependent.

PADDLER

• Mileage: 24.7 nautical miles/28.5 statute miles •

- Wear a USCG-approved lifejacket at all times.
- Boat with experienced guides and in groups.
- Dress in weather appropriate clothes, avoid cotton.
- Wear a wet suit if water temp drops below 65 F.
- Know and obey the navigation rules.
- Be prepared to swim.
- Be visible—carry a whistle, flares & lights.
- Communicate via VHF Marine Radio & cell phone.
- Bring plenty of drinking water and food.
- Wear sun protection: hat, sunglasses, & sun screen.
- Have on protective footwear.
- File a Float Plan.

SAFELY

RESTRICTED ZONES

- Within 25 yards of port facilities, pier ends, bridge piers or abutments, overhead power cables, or tunnel vents.
- Within the Passenger Ship Terminal Security Zone, covering Piers 84 to 96 on the Hudson River.
- Within 100 yards of all military, cruise line or commercial shipping, including those anchored or moored.
- Within 150 yards of Liberty and Ellis Islands.
- Within 175 yards of the United Nations, on the Manhattan shore between E 35 Street and E 59 Street.

TIDES & CURRENTS

- The most dangerous time to cross the Battery is 2 hours after high water due to variable currents from the Hudson and East Rivers.
- Tidal currents on the East River are shifting and very strong due to timing differences between NY Harbor and LI Sound.
- The East River's strongest currents, reaching up to 6 knots, are at its narrowest point, between the Brooklyn and Manhattan Bridges.
- Hell Gate waters are extremely turbulent and should be crossed only at slack water at the turn of the tide.

RESOURCES

Charts & Conditions

Charts: www.boatersbox.com/html/nyharbor.htm

Local Notice to Mariners: www.navcen.uscg.gov/lnm/d1/

Safety & Security Zones: homeport.uscg.mil/newyork

Tides: tidesonline.com

Traffic: Monitor CH 16 VHF FM & CH 13 VHF FM (Hell Gate).

Water Temperature: www.nodc.noaa.gov

Water Quality: www.ndbc.noaa.gov/maps/New_York.shtml

Weather Forecast: weather.gov

Emergency

Emergency: Call 911

Mayday: USCG Channel 16 VHF FM or (718) 354-4120.

NYPD Harbor Unit: VHF Channel 17 or (718) 765-4100.

Security: Report any suspicious activity to the Coast Guard via marine radio Ch. 16 or call (718) 354-4353 or (718) 354-4356.

Permits

Parks & Recreation Launch Permit: Annual launch sites permits for \$15 fee. Park's launch sites are open from dawn to dusk, May 21 to November 20. Call 311 or www.nyc.gov/parks.

Governors Island Permit: Groups only. Contact GIPEC (212) 220-2200 or online at www.govisland.com.

NPS Gateway National Recreation Area: Car-top launch site parking permit. Jamaica Bay Unit: (718) 338-5094; Staten Island Unit: (718) 987-6790 www.nps.gov/gate

NYS OPRHP: (212) 866-3100 or nysparks.state.ny.us

USCG Event Permit: (718) 354-4197 uscg.mil/d1/units/actny

For more maps and links, go to www.goingcoastal.org

Brochure developed and provided by Going Coastal, Inc. and sponsored by the National Safe Boating Council.



www.goingcoastal.org

CONNECTING PEOPLE & COASTAL RESOURCES



Manhattan CIRCUMNAVIGATION Paddling Safety Guide



**BE A SAFE BOATER—
WEAR A LIFE JACKET!**

Manhattan

CIRCUMNAVIGATION

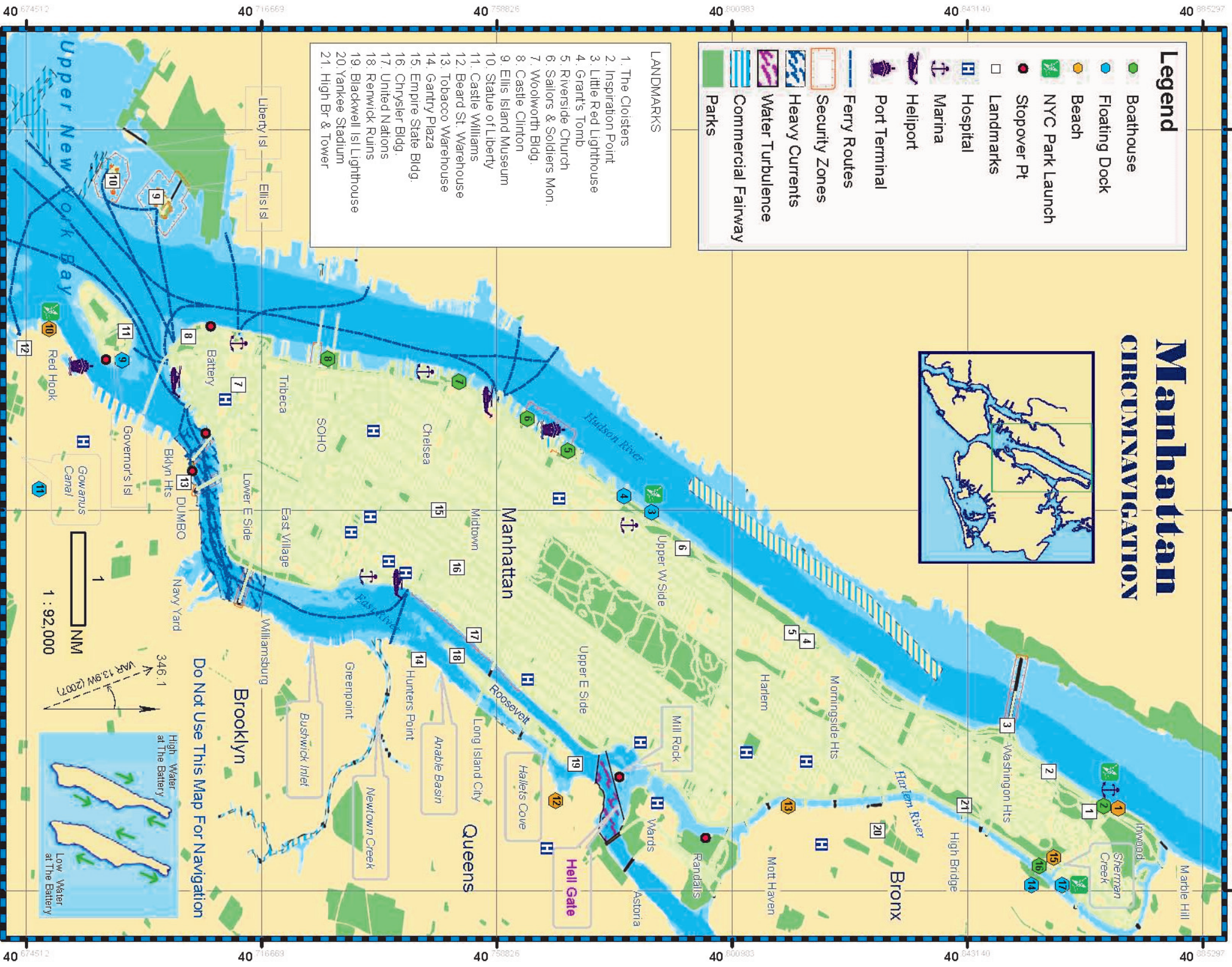


Legend

- Boathouse
- Floating Dock
- Beach
- NYC Park Launch
- Stopover Pt
- Landmarks
- H Hospital
- ⚓ Marina
- ⚓ Heliport
- ⚓ Port Terminal
- Ferry Routes
- Security Zones
- Heavy Currents
- Water Turbulence
- Commercial Fairway
- Parks

LANDMARKS

1. The Cloisters
2. Inspiration Point
3. Little Red Lighthouse
4. Grant's Tomb
5. Riverside Church
6. Sailors & Soldiers Mon.
7. Woolworth Bldg.
8. Castle Clinton
9. Ellis Island Museum
10. Statue of Liberty
11. Castle Williams
12. Beard St. Warehouse
13. Tobacco Warehouse
14. Gantry Plaza
15. Empire State Bldg.
16. Chrysler Bldg.
17. United Nations
18. Remwick Ruins
19. Blackwell Isl Lighthouse
20. Yankee Stadium
21. High Br & Tower



Launch Sites	Type	Administrator	Phone
1	Dyckman Marina	NYC Parks	311
2	Inwood Canoe Club	Private	(212) 463-7740
3	79 St. Boat Basin	NYC Parks	311
4	72 St. Riverside S	Floating Dock	(646) 613-0375
5	Pier 96 HRP	Boathouse	(646) 613-0375
6	Pier 84 HRP	Boathouse	(212) 564-5412
7	Pier 66 HRP	Boathouse	(212) 924-1788
8	Pier 40 HRP	Boathouse	(646) 613-0375
9	Governor's Island	Floating Dock	(212) 220-2200
10	Valentino Park	Gravel Beach	NYC Parks
11	2nd St Landing	Floating Dock	311
12	Hallett's Cove	Sand Beach	
13	Park Ave St. End	RipRap	
14	Roberto Clemente	Floating Dock	NYS OP&HP
15	Swindler's Cove	Sand Beach	NY Restoration Project
16	Peter J. Sharp BH	Boathouse	NY Rowing Assn.
17	W 202 Street-end	Floating Dock	NYC Parks

Padding Organizations	Phone	Web Site
Appalachian Mountain Club	(212) 986-1430	amc-ny.org
Downtown Boathouse	(646) 613-0375	downtownboathouse.org
Friends of Brook Park	(646) 206-5288	friendsofbrookpark.org
Gowanus Dredgers Canoe Cl.	(718) 243-0849	gowanuscanal.org
Inwood Canoe Club	(212) 463-7740	inwoodcanoeclub.org
LIC Community Boathouse	(718) 228-9214	licboathouse.org
New York Outrigger	(917) 676-6458	nyoutrigger.org
Red Hook Boaters	(718) 241-3683	redhookboaters.org
Sebago Canoe Club	(718) 885-3193	sebagocanoeclub.org
Touring Kayak Club	(718) 885-3193	touringkayakclubny.org
Yonkers Paddling & Rowing	(914) 963-5544	yprc.org

Outfitters	Phone	Web Site
Manhattan Kayak Company	(212) 924-1788	manhattankayak.com
New York Kayak Company	(800) 529-2599	nykayak.com

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