

10 Essential Things to Do in New York City During the Holiday Season

It's Christmas time in the city—New York City, of course! From the iconic Fifth Avenue window displays to Her Majesty the Rockefeller Center Christmas tree, there isn't a single cross street not decked out this time of year. And with so many sights to see and [peppermint mochas to drink](#), celebrating the holiday season in the city requires a foolproof, fun-filled plan. Look no further: I've put together a local's guide to the best things to do in New York around the holidays, and let's just say it sleighs. Get ready for a multitude of festive photo ops, Christmas markets, and internet-famous hot cocoa stops. You'll be in the holiday spirit in a New York minute.

'Tis the season for a holiday happy hour, and surprise, surprise: NYC exceeds expectations. Grab a holiday martini at [Rolf's](#), Gramercy's year-round Christmas-themed bar, or pop into the [Miracle on 9th Street](#) pop-up bar for a cocktail aptly named "Elfing Around." In search of city views? Make a reservation at the snowglobe-esque rooftop lounge, [Ophelia](#). skip (some of) the crowds and opt for a drink at a historic hotel like [The Carlyle](#) or [The Plaza](#).