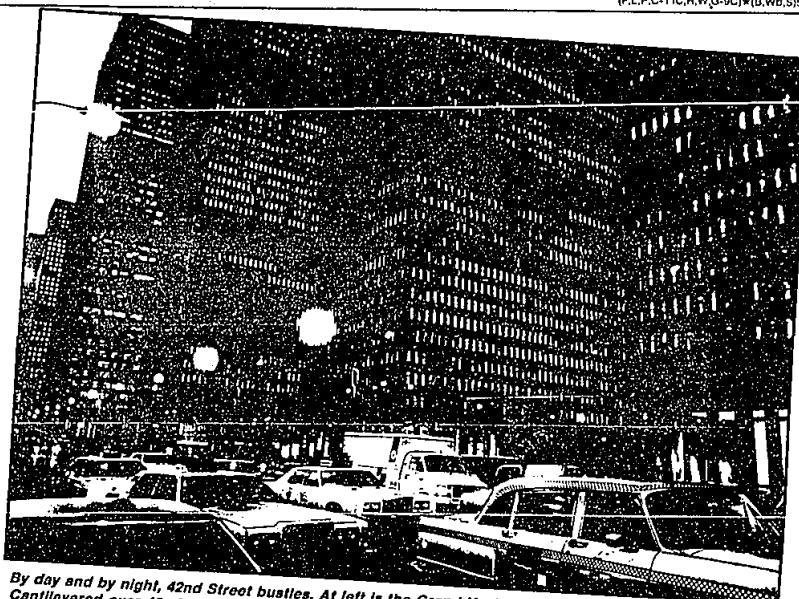


# Travel



Thursday, January 5, 1984 O&E

(F.L.P.C.-11C, R.W.G-9C) \* (B.W.G.S)C



By day and by night, 42nd Street bustles. At left is the Grand Hyatt New York, a new 1,407-room hotel. Cantilowered over 42nd Street is the hotel's conservatory-like restaurant and lounge. From Lexington Avenue, passerby can look up and see the tall windows of the Crystal Fountain dining room.

## 42nd Street: in the heart of the Big Apple

This is the second of a continuing series on New York.

**NEW YORK CITY:** From 42nd St. and Park Avenue South, near Grand Central Station, the late morning traffic makes a roar of cars and trucks, seen together by a dotted line of yellow cabs.

I am aboard a Carey Transportation Inc. bus to La Guardia Airport, \$4.50 one-way, with a small slice of the Big Apple behind me. It was a 24-hour stop focused on five blocks of 42nd St. from Lexington Avenue to The Avenue of the Americas.

The Big Apple is too big to swallow in one bite, but all the fascination and bustle of the city is available in one small slice.

The landmark and centerpiece of



**1-of-a-kind traveler**  
**Iris Jones**  
contributing travel editor

this part of New York City is Grand Central Station, hub of all the trains and subway lines of the metropolitan area. It is the heart of midtown.

Years ago I stayed in a hotel built over Grand Central, a gently fading but large, moderately-priced, grand dame called the Commodore. The Commodore was completely gutted in the late 1970s, while a new hotel called the

Grand Hyatt was built on its foundations.

**THE NEW HOTEL** has been open since 1980, but I didn't visit those old stomping grounds until I was on the way home from Israel recently. I got off the plane at 6 a.m., waited an hour at JFK for my bags, braved the morning rush hour into the city (cab fare \$24-plus-tip one way) so I was a tired and grubby traveler when I arrived at the glass-walled grandeur of the Grand Hyatt.

A huge atrium lobby had replaced the faded grandeur of the Commodore, with business men and women perched on casual chairs and around flowered fountains, drinking their morning coffee and reading the New York newspapers.

I was in no condition to drag my jet-lagged body into the glass-enclosed conservatory where others were eating breakfast and watching 42nd St. go by, so I went downstairs into Grand Central, where scores of tiny shops were serving croissants, quiche and other morning delicacies to passers-by.

When the lights came on again in my head four hours later, Public Relations Director Judith Schwantes took me to lunch in a classy, intimate restaurant called Trumpets, one of those elegant New York hotel restaurants where attentive but unobtrusive black-tie waiters bring you goodies like duck en croûte and Grand Marnier Soufflé.

**THUS FORTIFIED**, I wandered out into 42nd St. My first stop was across the street in the Philip Morris Building, where the Whitney Museum of American Art has recently opened a small midtown exhibit gallery in the lobby.

I was frankly bored by the safe, antiseptic permanent collection, but that's probably because I'm tired of Claes Oldenburg sculptures; it does create an interesting setting to sit around in, and the changing exhibits in a nearby room, are both popular and interesting.

I am always fascinated by the tiny

grocery stores that survive amid the office towers and boutiques in New York City. You can spend five bucks for a chunk of exotic cheese, some home made bread, and other little delicacies, then have lunch in Bryant Park or watch the chess players fight it out on the streets nearby.

**BRYANT PARK** is adjacent to the New York Public Library. You might not think of the library as a tourist destination if you didn't read the signs: photo exhibits, special little art exhibits, classes, and other fascinating goings-on amid the five million volumes that make up their main collection.

Outdoor book stalls sell second hand goodies in the park itself, near the newest of New York's discount ticket stalls. For a long time now, you have been able to buy theater tickets half-price at TKTS booths in either Duffy Square (Times Square) or in the Wall St. district.

This new booth gives you the same opportunity to buy half-price tickets for musical and dance events. The rules are the same in either case: tickets for certain performances go on sale on the day of performance; you pay half the box-office price plus a very small service charge.

## Here's tips for taxiing in N.Y.

The next time you get into a cab from Kennedy Airport to New York City, take one of the yellow pamphlets placed in the back seat. It will tell you in six languages what your fare should be. The fare, which covers all passengers is what shows on the meter, plus 60 cents surcharge between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. You should agree on any non-meter destination before departure.

Fares between terminals at Kennedy airport run \$2 to \$4; from Kennedy to La Guardia, about \$13; from Kennedy to midtown, about \$22, plus tolls. You pay double the meter, plus tolls, to go from Manhattan to Newark airport, Westchester or Nassau County. The pamphlet has the cabbie's number on it and, in case you have a question or complaint, the address and phone number of the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission.

These pamphlets are available to anyone driving in from Kennedy airport; they are obviously designed to help newcomers to understand the system.

What the pamphlet won't tell you, is that you can share cabs from La Guardia (about \$5) or Kennedy (about \$12) to midtown if you are willing to wait at a marked airport taxi stand until other people are there to share your cab. It's well worth trying. You can always take the regular taxi at the regular rate if other passengers are not available.

You'll find a lineup of people at busy times. As I told you a few weeks ago, you can also take the JFK Express train for under \$5 one-way, but don't do it if you can't easily carry your own luggage.

What the pamphlet won't tell you, is that you can share cabs from La Guardia (about \$5) or Kennedy (about \$12) to midtown if you are willing to wait at a marked airport taxi stand until other people are there to share your cab. It's well worth trying. You can always take the regular taxi at the regular rate if other passengers are not available.

## FLORIDA

Saturday to Saturday Roundtrip Flights

**Tampa \$139**

plus \$11 tax and airport fees

**Ft. Lauderdale \$149**

plus \$11 tax and airport fees

Fares available for a limited time only on flights departing Jan. 13, 21, 28 and Feb. 4. Regular fares \$10 more. Add \$30 for two week return. For an immediate booking, call AAA Travel Services or your travel agent.



Michigan



AND UNITED

BIRMINGHAM	DETROIT AREA	LIVONIA
<b>GREAT ESCAPE</b> 510-8080	<b>HUDSON'S TRAVEL SERVICE</b> Oakland 585-8020 Westland 425-3386 Northland 569-5153 Briarwood 994-0085	<b>FANTASTIC TRAVEL</b> "The Cruise Expert" 1615 Middlebelt 261-0070 4113 Orchard Lake Rd. 855-4100
		<b>WEST BLOOMFIELD</b> <b>GEMINI TRAVEL</b> 855-3600
	<b>USE YOUR HUDSON'S CHANGE</b>	

## CARIBBEAN CRUISE SPECIAL

**February 24, 1984**  
**Free Round Trip Air FROM DETROIT**

**7 DAY CRUISES FROM FLORIDA TO**  
**SAN JUAN, ST. THOMAS,**  
**ST. MAARTEN**

**% OCEANIC**  
313-241-1094

Again this winter the magnificent OCEANIC will sail every Saturday from Ft. Lauderdale to 3 of the Caribbean's most popular ports. And our affordable rates include free roundtrip airfare from 53 gateways on all cruises December 31 to April 7th.

The 5-star OCEANIC, famous for fine cuisine and the warm and friendly service of her Cuban crew, offers overboarded staterooms, duty free shopping, exciting entertainment, movies, swimming, casino and quiet moments at sea. Paratouring Regally.

**CALL IMMEDIATELY FOR OUR SPECIAL DISCOUNTED RATES**

**562-6700** Discount offer expires Jan. 20th  
**Towne House Travel**



American Red Cross

**Time on your hands?**

**We could use those hands.**

**Join us.**

**Send Your Love Around The World.**  
We make it easy for you.  
Charlotte, North Carolina  
1-800-228-3393  
(Toll Free)

## Casa de Campo is

**championship golf day and night tennis white sand beach gourmet restaurants horseback riding luxurious accommodations picturesque artisans colony trap and skeet shooting warm caribbean winters and warm dominican hospitality**

## Casa de Campo

**one week vacations as low as \$599**

**only from**

**SamsonTours**

See Your Travel Agent For Full Details

DEARBORN HEIGHTS	STATEWIDE	WEST BLOOMFIELD
<b>SCOTTIE TRAVEL</b> 27354 W. Warren 277-3800	<b>AAA</b> Michigan <b>CONTACT ANY AAA OFFICE</b>	<b>GEMINI TRAVEL</b> 855-3600
PLYMOUTH	STATEWIDE	
<b>EMILY'S WORLD</b> 266 Elm 708 S. Main St. Plymouth MI 48170 455-5744	<b>VILLAGE TRAVEL</b> 326 Elm 646-4181 Airport Hilton 326-6080	
SOUTHFIELD	WESTLAND	
<b>Greatways</b> 358-0680	<b>VENTURE OUT TRAVEL</b> 32911 Warren at Veno Call Judi or Peggy 425-5834	

