

Discovering Long Island City with 5 Must-Do Activities

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Long Island City has already been recognized as one of the country's fastest-growing cities. Now that [Amazon has locked in this Queens community as part of its HQ2 split](#) (the other city being [Arlington, VA](#)), development will continue to rise now that the news has officially been confirmed.

Opposite of Manhattan and across the East River, [Long Island City](#) (LIC for short) has numerous housing opportunities, great restaurants and bars, plus an incredibly short commute for those who travel into the city for work – you're only one subway stop away from

Coia sign in the distance is a good indicator you're approaching home!

Now that you're on your way to a fabulous new life in Long Island City, you'll want to start exploring the area right away. Once you've moved in, discover your new home by doing these five must-do activities first.

1. DINE AT M. WELLS STEAKHOUSE FOR YOUR FIRST MEAL.

When you've had enough unpacking for one day, start your night off right with a red-meat treat at M. Wells Steakhouse. Located conveniently near Queens Plaza Station, this popular restaurant is easy to access from Crescent Street.

Since opening for business in 2013, patrons of this establishment have enjoyed its rustic ambiance, exceptional service, and [menu items](#), such as a raw bar (clams, oysters), European-cut meats, and cocoa-bourbon pecan pie. Yummy! You'll find that the steakhouse is located in a refurbished auto-body garage – a chop shop-turned-chophouse if you will! Once you've had your fill of deliciousness, end the night with a specialty cocktail at Dutch Kills, a bar on Jackson Avenue.

2. WAKE UP WITH COLD BREW AT SWEETLEAF.

With three overall locations (two in LIC), there's no excuse for missing out on a hot cup of coffee at Sweetleaf. Inside their Jackson Avenue and Center Boulevard stores, drinks are prepared by master baristas – so you'll always get the perfect cup. The atmosphere is elegant and consists of hanging chandeliers, bar-style seating, and exposed brick in rooms equipped with complimentary Wi-Fi.

Patrons and visitors alike come to the coffeehouse for its matcha latte, macchiato, and cold brew such as the "Voodoo Child," a Vietnamese-style cold brew coffee and enjoyed with a vegan pastry.

3. SAUNTER THROUGH THE ART HALLS AT MOMA P.S. 1.

[MoMA P.S. 1](#) is one of the most established, not-for-profit contemporary art organizations in the United States. Founded in 1971, visitors come from all over to stroll through the galleries, exhibit halls, artifacts, and to watch one of its many art history films. It resides in a former school, which is how it got part of its name.

When you're ready for a break, you can grab lunch or a snack at its on-site cafes. M. Wells Dinette, sister restaurant to M. Wells Steakhouse, is located in the museum just like The Modern, a Michelin-star restaurant. Warm Up Saturdays is hosted in MoMA P.S. 1's courtyard. Music fans come here for a summer-long party featuring up-and-coming DJs, solo artists, and bands performing their hits.

4. DRINK BEER AT BIG ALICE BREWING COMPANY.

Need a cold, refreshing drink? How about one brewed locally?

Big aLICe Brewing is located on 43rd Road in the warehouse district. This place serves a great selection of beer in a hip, industrial-style taproom. The brewery's most popular drafts include the Sweet Potato Farmhouse Ale along with its sours, such as Cherry Blueberry and Hibiscus Goose. Which one will you try first?

To wrap up your first full day (of many!) in Long Island City, be sure to grab a nice waterfront bench in Gantry Plaza State Park and watch the sunset. Nestled on the East River, you'll have a gorgeous view of the Manhattan skyline with the sun setting behind the buildings as the water glistens below.

In addition to sports fields, this LIC green has four fishing piers, multiple gardens, and walking trails for your enjoyment. The Queensboro Bridge is only about 10 minutes by foot from the park, another excellent leisurely walking opportunity.

Published November 20, 2018

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

2 Responses



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Hello! I'm Lauren Ross, a copywriter here at Apartments.com. I love dogs, cupcakes, and lifestyle trends! In my free time, you can find me traveling or sipping my favorite cab-sauv wine. Tweet me @larossingaround!

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