

A Compilation from cited sources...

HIGH LINE

New York City



Photo: https://www.visitcity.com/en/new-york-city/attractions/the-high-line?campaginid=141831554&adgroupid=4635356895&targetid=kwd-29628109424:loc-190&utm_source=bing&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=New%20York%20Auto%20Attractions%20G3&utm_term=the%20high%20line%20nyc&utm_content=New%20York%20City%20G3%20-%20The%20High%20Line%20New%20York

OVERVIEW

The High Line is more than a park. It's a public space where you can view art, walk through gardens, experience a performance, savor delicious food, or just connect with friends and neighbors—all while enjoying a unique perspective of the city.

Built on a historic, elevated freight line, the High Line has become a world-renowned inspiration for how cities can transform industrial infrastructure into hybrid public spaces.

Link: <https://www.thehighline.org/about/>



Radial Bench, High Line Park, between west 28th and 29th streets.

[Photo © Iwan Baan, 2011]

Photo: <https://placesjournal.org/article/above-grade-on-the-high-line/?cn-reloaded=1>

HISTORY

History from: <https://www.thehighline.org/history/>

Believe it or not, the High Line was once destined for demolition. Luckily, the community rallied together to repurpose it instead, creating the park you see today, for everyone to enjoy. It has since become a global inspiration for cities to transform unused industrial zones into dynamic public spaces.

1999

[For a complete timeline visit LINK: <https://www.thehighline.org/history/>]

In the decades of disuse, many people were calling the High Line an ugly eyesore (Mayor Giuliani signed a demolition order, one of his last acts in office). But few of these critics saw what had secretly taken over the structure: a thriving garden of wild plants. Inspired by the beauty of this hidden landscape, Joshua David and Robert Hammond founded Friends of the High Line, a non-profit conservancy, to advocate for its preservation and reuse as a public space. Friends of the High Line remains the sole group responsible for maintenance and operation of the High Line (and is funded by supporters just like you).

2003

To provoke dialogue about the High Line, in a time when its transformation into a park was not yet ensured, Friends of the High Line hosted an “ideas competition,” receiving 720 ideas from over 36 countries for ways the park might be used (including ideas that were neither realistic nor practical, like a rollercoaster, or a mile-long lap pool). At the time, few people had heard of the High Line; the competition helped drive both awareness and excitement.

2004 – 2006

With strong support from then-Mayor Bloomberg and the City Council, a special zoning area was proposed: The West Chelsea Special District facilitated the use of the High Line as a public park. When the City Council passed the rezoning, the front page of *The New York Times* read, “Frog of a Railroad to Become Prince of a Park.” Landscape architecture firm James Corner Field Operations; design studio Diller Scofidio + Renfro; and planting designer Piet Oudolf were selected as the team to transform the High Line.

2009

Four years after CSX Transportation donated ownership of the structure to the City of New York, and three years after first breaking ground (in April 2006), the first section of the High Line opened to the public from Gansevoort to 20th streets. High Line Art was founded in 2009, and continues every year to commission and produce artworks on and around the High Line.

2012 – 2014

With Section 2 of the High Line (20th to 30th streets) open to the public, the New York City Planning Commission approved a zoning text amendment, making possible the third segment, at the Rail Yards. The High Line at the Rail Yards (between 30th and 34th streets and 10th and 12th avenues) opened in 2014, including a temporary walkway.

Today

The High Line is now one, continuous, 1.45-mile-long greenway featuring 500+ species of plants and trees. The park is maintained, operated, and programmed by Friends of the High Line in partnership with the NYC Department of Parks & Recreation. On top of public space and gardens, the High Line is home to a diverse suite of public programs, community and teen engagement, and world-class artwork and performances, free and open to all.

Note: Friends of the High Line raises nearly 100% of the High Line’s annual budget. Owned by the City of New York, the High Line is a public park programmed, maintained, and operated by Friends of the High Line, in partnership with the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation.