

The background of the entire page is a photograph of the interior of Grand Central Terminal in New York City. The image shows the iconic vaulted ceiling with its large, ornate windows. In the center, there is a circular information kiosk with a large, ornate clock on top. The kiosk is surrounded by a large crowd of people walking through the terminal. The text box is centered over the image, containing the title and subtitle.

THE GENERATION ORANGE GUIDE

— to —

# New York City

*Insider Advice on Adulting in Your New City*

**GENERATION  
ORANGE**

Syracuse University

**Alumni**  
ASSOCIATION

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## Welcome

Dear 2017 grad and new member of Generation Orange,

WELCOME TO NEW YORK CITY!

What is Generation Orange, you ask? Gen O grads are Syracuse University alumni who have graduated in the past 10 years—and are now establishing their roots as young leaders and professionals. There are more than 12,500 members of Gen O right here in NYC.

We're sure you're excited—and also a little nervous—as you embark on this next chapter of your life. Have no fear! We've put together this guide for you featuring tips, tricks, and advice to help you as you transition to life in NYC.

No clue how to start the apartment hunt? *We've got you covered!*

Feel like going on an adventure? *No problem!*

Need new Instagram foodie photos? *We have plenty of suggestions on where to eat!*

So take a moment and skim through the pages that follow. We're sure you'll find something worth your while. :)

Best of luck on your endeavors and as always, GO ORANGE!

- The Generation Orange Leadership Council



## **NYC Alumni Organizations + Resources**

- SU in NYC - With the highest concentration of SU alumni in the world, NYC truly does bleed Orange! Lubin House and Fisher Center are SU's centers in NYC; these spaces are used to host various events ranging from speakers to art gallery viewings and workshops. There's also an alumni engagement team based at Lubin House! Stop by to meet them, and check out what events are coming up [here](#).
- Big Apple Orange - The official Syracuse University Alumni Club of NYC. They host various events throughout the year. Check out what's coming up and sign up for their mailing list [here](#).
- Keep up with the latest and greatest news and happenings of SU in NYC on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#)!



## **Apartment Hunting Tools**

### **Resources to Find Apartments**

- Craigslist - Great for subleases or to move into an existing lease.
- Roomi - You can find great apartments if you already have a roommate, but there are also listings for folks looking for roommates to join a lease. They also host events where you can meet potential roommates in addition to viewing apartments.
- Streeteasy - Great to find apartments if you are looking solo or have roommates.
- Zillow - Great to find apartments if you are looking solo or have roommates.
- Compass - Great to find apartments if you are looking solo or have roommates.
- Padmapper - Great to find apartments if you are looking solo or have roommates.

### **Things You'll Need Before You Go Apartment Hunting**

- Letter of Employment or Proof of Income Letter that states the length of work and annual salary. Ask for this on your first day/orientation session at your job.
- Your two most recent pay stubs. If you don't have pay stubs yet, explain that to your leasing office and the Letter of Employment should suffice.
- Latest bank statements.
- Copy of your photo ID or passport.
- First two pages of your latest tax return. You may not need it, but it's good to have on hand.

- Reference letters from previous landlords are great if you have them, but they're not mandatory.
- Bring a blank check or your checkbook. You'll be surprised at how quickly apartments come off the market, so if you find something you fall in love with, you'll be ready to make it yours.

### Common Things To Know When Looking For An Apartment

- Start your search by narrowing down what part of NYC you want to be in. The next section shows a breakdown of all the various neighborhoods in Manhattan, Brooklyn, and Queens.
- Schedule viewings quickly. Apartments are taken off the market quickly, so reach out as soon as you find a place you're interested in. It would also be wise to spend a day viewing multiple apartments so that you can compare and contrast. Try to bundle viewings by neighborhood.
- Keep an eye out for places with "No broker fees." Brokers are individuals who will help you look for an apartment based on the criteria you provide them with, but for a steep cost. Usually 8.5%-17% of your annual rent. You can avoid this fee by joining an existing lease or looking at properties where a leasing company will pay the broker fee on your behalf.
- You (and your roommates, if applicable) will likely need to make 40x the rent among you (or your combined salaries). This is to ensure that you have the proper cash flow to pay rent.
- In the case that you do not make 40x the rent, have no credit history/have poor credit, or lack employment or rental history, you will need a guarantor. A guarantor is an individual who guarantees payment on the lease if you cannot pay. The most common guarantors are family members, but they will need to make at least 80x the monthly rent. This is assessed through pay stubs and other financial documents.
- Guarantors can also be secured by paying a fee to private equity and insurance firms. One of the biggest in New York is a company called [Insurent](#). For about 80 percent of one month's rent, Insurent will act as your guarantor as long as you have good credit history and earn about 28 times the monthly rent.
- In addition to signing the physical lease, you will need to provide a security deposit, first month's rent, and sometimes the last month's rent to fully secure your apartment.



## Major Neighborhoods in NYC

- Brooklyn
  - Greenpoint
  - Williamsburg
  - Dumbo
  - Clinton Hill
  - Fort Greene
  - Carroll Gardens
  - Red Hook
  - Park Slope
  - Bedford Stuyvesant
  - Bushwick



- Manhattan
  - Upper West Side
  - Midtown West
  - Chelsea
  - Greenwich Village
  - Soho
  - Tribeca
  - FiDi
  - Upper East Side
  - Midtown East
  - Murray Hill
  - Gramercy
  - East Village
  - Lower East Side
  - Harlem



- Queens
  - Astoria
  - Hunters Point
  - Woodside
  - Jasonson Heights
  - Sunnyside
  - Maspeth
  - Long Island City



Of course, Hoboken, NJ is also a very popular spot for Generation Orange alumni!

## Must Eat/Drink Places

### Brunch

- Maharlika (East Village)
- Locando Verde (TriBeCa)
- Jack's Wife Freda (Soho)
- The Grey Dog (Multiple Locations)
- Freeman's (LES)
- Bluestone Lane (West Village)
- Cook Shop (Chelsea)
- Russ & Daughters (LES)
- Manila Social Club (Williamsburg)
- Loosie's Kitchen (Williamsburg)
- Butcher's Daughter (Nolita, West Village)
- Two Hands (Little Italy)
- Citizen's of Chelsea Cafe (Chelsea)
- Dudley's (LES)
- Bagel Store (Williamsburg)

### Lunch/Dinner

- Artichoke Pizza (Multiple Locations)
- Melt Shop (Multiple Locations)
- Shake Shack (Multiple Locations)
- Katz's Delicatessen (LES)
- Root & Bone (East Village)
- Izakaya Mew (Koreatown)
- Baohaus (East Village)
- Jing Fong (Chinatown)
- Ippudo (Multiple Locations)
- Lam Zhou (Chinatown)
- Han Dynasty (East Village)
- Taco Maha (West Village)
- Roberta's Pizza (Bushwick)
- Grimaldi's (Dumbo)



- Hometown BBQ (Red Hook)
- Avocaderia (Sunset Park)
- Burger & Lobster (Flatiron)
- Seamore's (Seafood)
- Quality Eats (West Village)
- Peter Luger (Williamsburg)
- Raclette (East Village)
- Union Fare Gastro Hall & Bakery (Union Square)

### **Sweet Tooth**

- Bread's Bakery (Union Square)
- Doughnut Plant (Multiple Locations)
- Dough (Multiple Locations)
- Ferrara Bakery (Little Italy)
- Matcha Bar (Williamsburg)
- 10 Below (Chinatown)
- Chinatown Ice Cream Factory (Chinatown)
- Momofuku Milk Bar (Multiple Locations)
- Wafel & Dinges (East Village)
- Black Tap (SoHo)
- Bibble & Sip (Theater District)
- Macaron Parlour (East Village)
- Levain Bakery (UWS)
- Laduree (SoHo)
- Chikalicious (East Village)
- Ice & Vice (LES)
- Sweet Corner Bakeshop (West Village)
- Taiyaki (Chinatown)
- Wowful (Multiple Locations)

### **For A Drink or Two**

- The Tippler (Chelsea)
- Standard Biergarten (Chelsea)
- Genuine Liquorette (SoHo)



- La Caverna (LES)
- Mulberry Project (Little Italy)
- Employees Only (West Village)
- The Campbell Apartment (Midtown)
- Loopy Doopy Rooftop Bar @The Conrad Hotel (Battery City)
- Los Feliz (LES)
- Apotheke Speakeasy (Chinatown)
- Mr. Fong's (Chinatown)

### **Where Syracuse Grads Typically Gather**

- Marshall Street Bar (Midtown East)
- The Hill (Midtown East)
- East End Bar & Grill (UES)
- Village Pourhouse (East Village)



### **Fitness + Outdoor Activities**

#### **Gyms**

- Crunch Gym - Student details available \$\$
- Equinox - \$235 / month, special offer: 3 Day Free Guest Pass
- New York Sports Club - \$79/month
- New York Health & Racquet - \$120/month
- Blink - \$25/month
- YMCA - \$91/month

#### **Yoga Studios**

- Yoga Vida - \$20 for 2 weeks unlimited

#### **Beaches**

- Rockaway Beach (Queens)
- Jacob Riis (Queens)
- Jones Beach (Long Island)
- Long Beach (Long Island)
- Orchard Beach (Bronx)
- Coney Island (Brooklyn)

## **Skiing Trips**

- Day trips from the city including transportation, lift ticket and rentals:
- Ovrride.com
- Nycsnowbus.com
- REI

## **Hikes**

- Breakneck
- Bear Mountain
- Blue Mountain

## **Things to Do in NYC**

### **Big Events**

#### Smorgasburg

Seasonal outdoor food market, held in Williamsburg and Prospect Park  
Every Saturday starting April 1st in BK and Sundays starting April 2nd in Prospect Park through  
September 30th, 2017

#### Governor's Ball

Music festival, held in Randall's Island (June 2-4, 2017)

#### Hot 97 Summer Jam

Hip hop concert held at MetLife Stadium, East Rutherford, NJ (June 11, 2017)

#### Electric Zoo

Electronic Dance Music festival, held in Randall's Island (September 1-3, 2017)

#### Rockefeller Center Tree Lighting

Seasonal tradition in New York, Christmas tree lighting at Rockefeller Center  
(November 29, 2017)

#### Long Island City Flea

Outdoor market in LIC (5-25 46th Ave in LIC ) featuring food, art, jewelry, antique, and furniture  
vendors every Saturday & Sunday from 11 a.m.—6 p.m.

## Cultural Institutions

### Free

The High Line

Always free

Bronx Museum of the Arts

Always free

Brooklyn Museum

Free every first Saturday of the month, 5-11 p.m.

Frick Collection

Free every first Friday of the month, 6-9 p.m.

Jewish Museum

Free every Saturday

Museum of Modern Art (MoMA)

Free every Friday from 4-8 p.m.

Neue Galerie New York

Free every first Friday of the month 6-8 p.m.

### \$\$

American Museum of Natural History

\$25 for adults, \$19 for students

Tenement Museum

\$22 for adults, \$17 for students

Museum of Mathematics

\$15 for adults

National September 11 Memorial & Museum

\$24 for adults, \$18 for students

### **Free Events**



### Shakespeare in the Park

Free, large-scale Shakespeare shows at the Delacorte Theater in Central Park  
(May 23-August 2017)

### Lap Dance Saloon

Comedy Show at HiFi in East Village  
(Free from March 20-October 23, 2017)

### Nothing Important!

Comedy Show at Friends and Lovers in Crown Heights  
(Free from March 24, 2017-January 19, 2018)

### Coney Island Mermaid Parade

Coney Island, Brooklyn  
June 17, 2017

### Washington Square Outdoor Art

Washington Square Park, Greenwich Village  
(Free from May 27-September 10, 2017)

## **Helpful Apps**

### **Entertainment & Activity Apps**

- Yelp - If you're looking to try new food and even venture into a new neighborhood, Yelp will give you reliable suggestions.
- Pulsd - Trying to have fun on a budget is hard, but Pulsd makes it a bit easier. The app always has great deals on great places to eat and things to do around the city.
- Groupon - An app that is filled with discounts.
- TodayTix - Broadway fanatic on a budget? No problem. TodayTix provides great seats at reasonable prices. You can purchase tickets for shows up to a week in advance.
- Hopper - Looking to get out of town? Hopper does an analysis of various airlines and provides you with best deals. You can even track them so if you prices drop, you will be the first to know!
- Cool Cousin - Always wish you could live the lives of cool "influencers" in your city? Well Cool Cousin is the app for you. Cool Cousins in each city will provide you with places to hit up when you're looking to try something new.



## Food

- Seamless - Feeling lazy but hungry? Seamless has your back with literally hundreds of restaurants that deliver to your doorstep.
- Eat 24 - Same as Seamless, but Yelp's version.
- Ritual - Get points for ordering lunch and skip the line!
- Uber Eats - Hundreds of NYC restaurants that deliver to you at "Uber" speed.

## Transit/Navigation

- NYC Subway Transit - A simple NYC Transit map of all the subway lines. Very handy when you need a quick reference.
- Citymapper - You type in your destination and it provides you with all the transportation options (walking, biking, subway, bus, cab, etc) along with the travel time and associated costs. It's quite helpful if you're in an unfamiliar neighborhood or if it's late out and you want to find the quickest and or cheapest way home.
- Transit - Does all the same things as Citymapper, but has a feature where you can track where subways and buses are in real time.
- The PATH train, New Jersey Transit, Metro North, and LIRR are all great ways to get away for the weekend—perhaps on a weekend adventure or to visit family and friends!

## General Tips & Tricks

- Keep your student ID with you. You never know when you can pull it out for a sweet discount—particularly at museums and other cultural institutions!
- Always check for a "first time user" discount code. This particularly applies to things like new apps that you download (ride sharing, food ordering, etc).
- Get the monthly unlimited MTA card. It gives you unlimited rides on the subway and buses that run throughout the five boroughs. That allows for unlimited adventures!
- If you're looking for slightly used and inexpensive furniture, use Craigslist. You'll find some gems on there that won't cost you an arm and a leg. Or, keep an eye out in your neighborhood because people are always moving and often times leave some great items on the sidewalk.
- If you ever find yourself bored, there's always something to do in NYC. Google events happening on that particular day, because there will almost always be a farmers market, flea market, comedy show, street festival, movie screening, or concert going on.

