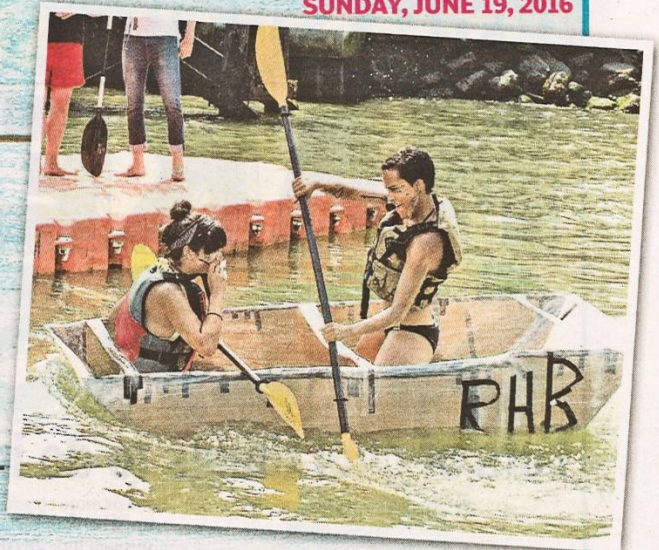


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DAILY NEWS
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HOT TIMES

The best things to do — in and around the city



ULTIMATE
SUMMER
GUIDE

WATERFRONT ALLIANCE; SASHA ARUTYUNOVA; SIX FLAGS GREAT ADVENTURE

ULTIMATE SUMMER GUIDE

MAKE A SPLASH!

Lots of cool things to do in the heat

BY JOE DZIEMIANOWICZ
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

HOTTOWN, summer in the city. Whether you want to spend a day at the beach, a ballgame or with the Bard, New York's got you covered — and then some.

There are countless family-friendly ways to chill out and, even better, many of them are free. And they're all featured in our Ultimate Summer Guide.

Fun in the sun is one of the coolest things about the sultry season. Beaches across the five boroughs come with splashy extras besides surf and sand.

Rockaway Beach in Queens offers free surf-side yoga classes and zumba. Orchard Beach in the Bronx serves up salsa dancing on Sundays. Hot-cha!

New York City is known for its art galleries and museums, where you can get a blast of culture accompanied by air-conditioning. Upcoming exhibits showcase creepy crocodiles, secrets of Coney Island and the man who inspired the Tony-winning "Hamilton."

On the High Line, the lovely elevated park along Manhattan's west side, art-gazing comes with cool breezes and natural eye candy.

New installations include a curlicued iron swan and a sleepwalker whose presence might be considered a wake-up call to open your eyes. Look around — appreciate what's around you.

That includes theater in the great outdoors, a perennial favorite. A musical version of Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" around Labor Day features a diverse cast made up of community groups. Details are at publictheater.org.

For more classics, Smith Street Stage whips up "The Tempest" in Carroll Park in Brooklyn through June 26 (smithstreetstage.org). Drilling Company imagines "A Midsummer Night's Dream" as a Lower East Side fable. It runs July 7-24 at 114 Norfolk St. (shakespeareintheparkinglot.com).

For concert lovers, warm-weather months are music to the ears. An oldie-but-goodie to put on your calendar: Paul Simon plays Forest Hills Stadium on June 30. And the Panorama Musical Festival debuts on Randalls Island on July 22 with Alabama Shakes, Kendrick Lamar, Sia and FKA Twigs.

To keep up your strength while having endless fun, you've got to eat — and drink. Thankfully, food festivals are sprouting up all over town. Like the Egg Rolls, Egg Creams, and Empanadas Fest on the Lower East Side this Sunday. There's something for everyone — food, opera, mask-making, art and a lot more.

The festival, in fact, is just like New York in summer — it offers everything under the sun.



Kendrick Lamar (above) will be playing at the Panorama Music Festival on Randalls Island on July 22. The city's beaches offer many places to make waves, and curlicued iron swan (inset top) can be found on the High Line.

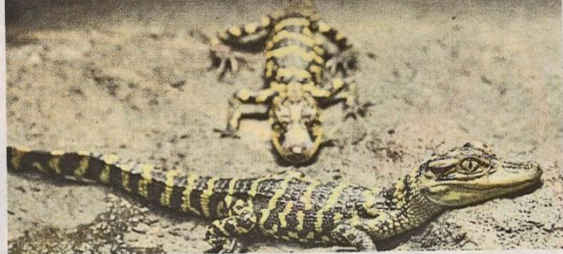


MANHATTAN

"Crocs: Ancient Predators in a Modern World"

(Runs through Jan. 2, fees range to \$35)
American Museum of Natural History, 170 Central Park West

You may already expect the fossils that are part of this exhibit, but it also features live beasts, including the Siamese crocodile, one of the most endangered species.



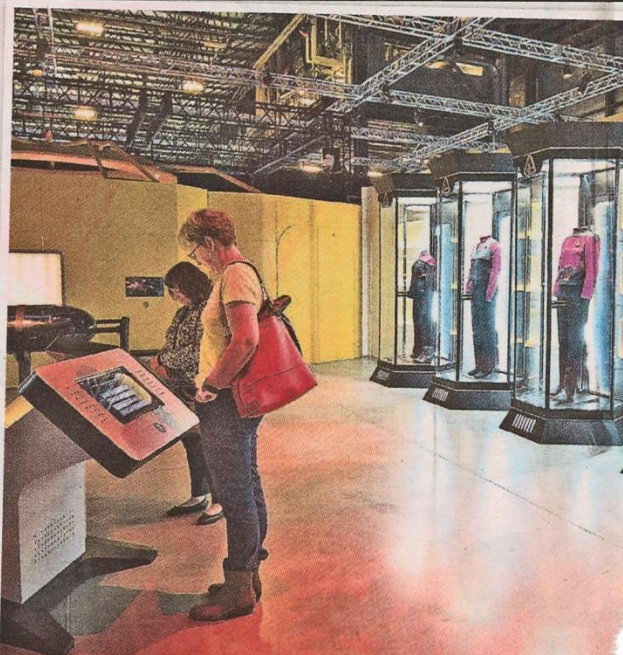
"Summer of Hamilton" (Opens July 4, fees range to \$20)

New York Historical Society, 170 Central Park West
It's a museum-wide celebration of the Founding Father. Life-size bronze statues of Alexander Hamilton and Vice President Aaron Burr, depicting their duel, are on display, as is Hamilton's desk. Liev Schreiber narrates a film, "New York Story," on a loop, about the city Hamilton helped build.

"Diane Arbus: In the Beginning"

(July 12-Nov. 27, suggested donation starts at \$12)
The Met Breuer, part of Metropolitan Museum of Art, 945 Madison Ave.

This collection features 100 of Arbus' photos, some two-thirds of which have never been displayed, showing how even in her earliest works, the photographer crafted haunting images.



"Star Trek: The Starfleet Academy Experience"

(July 9-Oct. 31, fees range to \$25)
Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum, Pier 86, 46th St. at 12th Ave.

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of "Star Trek: The Original Series," the Intrepid will offer an interactive experience where visitors can act out being a cadet and joining the Starfleet Academy. Props and costumes from the beloved show are displayed.

ULTIMATE SUMMER GUIDE

A WILD RIDE



The Joker, a new 4D, free-fly coaster, debuted this season at Six Flags Great Adventure.

Coasters for thrill-seekers and attractions for all

BY GINA SALAMONE
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

WHY SO SERIOUS? The Joker, a new "free-fly" roller coaster based on the Batman villain, debuted at Six Flags Great Adventure this season. Other amusement parks in and around New York City have upped their thrill game with exciting new rides and attractions as well. Here's your guide to what's new:

SIX FLAGS GREAT ADVENTURE
(1 Six Flags Blvd., Jackson, N.J.; sixflags.com/greatadventure; general admission for adults is \$71.99 at the gate, and \$46.99 online. Discounts for kids.)

The second-biggest amusement park in the Northeast is known for its thrill rides and roller coasters. There are also kiddie rides, meet and greets with "Loo-

and "The Wild Life Games," featuring live animals.

What's new: The theme park bills The Joker as the second 4D, free-fly coaster in the world. After being lifted up a 12-story, 90-degree hill, you'll smoothly flip upside down and feel weightless thanks to magnetic technology. Unlike standard roller coasters, the traditional track is replaced with "4-D wing vehicles" that seat up to eight. Watch your friends and family scream, thanks to seats that allow riders to face each other.

Old favorites: Great Adventure pays tribute to heroes as well as villains. After The Joker, make your way to his rival's ride: Batman. It's designed to make you feel like you're flying as you whip around at 50 miles per hour. For more family-friendly rides, take a ride on the Big Wheel or the Congo Rapids, a round river raft that floats through fast-moving water and into swirling whirlpools.

(1000 Surf Ave., Brooklyn; lunaparknyc.com; no entrance fee, packages are based on how much you want to do)

Brooklyn's seaside playground has the added bonus of being bordered by the beach, and it's within walking distance of the New York Aquarium, the Brooklyn Cyclones' ballpark and the original Nathan's Famous.

What's new: The Endeavor opened late last summer, but this is the first full season guests can enjoy it. Just looking at this spinning ride in the sky is enough to make some dizzy. Riders fly up to 60 feet from the ground in open-air, suspended passenger vehicles at 25 miles per hour, rotating at about 90 degrees parallel to the ground.

Old favorites: Little ones will enjoy the Tea Party where they can steer spinning



tugboat attraction that rocks back and forth. Thrill-seekers won't want to miss roller coasters like the Thunderbolt, which makes a 90-degree vertical drop before later looping you upside down; or the Cyclone, a wooden classic that dates back to 1927.

SIX FLAGS GREAT ADVENTURE, LUNA PARK

ULTIMATE SUMMER GUIDE

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Morey's Piers teed off its summer season with the opening of Starlux Mini Golf, a 27-hole putt-putt course.

MOREY'S PIERS

(3501 Boardwalk, Wildwood, N.J.; moreyspiers.com; no entrance fee; packages vary)

The colossal collection of more than 100 attractions is spread out over three amusement piers and two water parks along the beach. It's been family-owned since 1969.

What's new: The 27-hole Starlux Mini Golf Course debuted this season. Putt your way through two levels and three different-themed courses. Golfers can choose to play just one, two or all three of the nine-hole courses. They include: the beach course, featuring giant sandcastles and the largest artificial sand dune on the island; an ocean course, boasting fountains and sea creatures; and the second-level boardwalk course, decked out with plastic palm trees and nostalgic Wildwood memorabilia. Prices start at \$8 for nine holes, \$12 for 18 holes and \$16 for 27 holes for adults. Discounts for kids.

Old favorites: In case you missed its big debut last year, visit Kong, a 20-foot-tall ride based on the beloved gorilla on Surfside Pier. Visit classics like the carousel, tilt-a-whirl, and Tiny Tea Party while you're there. Also, stop by Mariner's Pier for Rollie's Coaster, the Giant Wheel, and Can Am Raceway. Then there's Adventure Pier for The Great White roller coaster, and SkyCoaster, which blends a sky-diving and hang-gliding experience into one scary ride.

SESAME PLACE

(100 Sesame Road, Langhorne, Pa.; sesameplace.com; admission fees are \$55 for those 2 and up through Sept. 5)

This paradise for the preschool set, which also has rides that appeal to older kids, is the country's only theme park based entirely on "Sesame Street." Favorite characters from the long-running show, from Big Bird to Elmo, walk around and pose for pictures while you make your way through

14 acres of water attractions, whirling rides a roller coaster and stage shows.

What's new: The new show "The Magic of Art" launched in the Neighborhood Theater this season. This interactive show features Abby Cadabby, Elmo, Cookie Monster, Grover and Telly as they prepare for Sesame Street's Big Art Show. Purple-haired Abby doesn't know what kind of art to create at first. So her friends inspire her to use her imagination.

Old favorites: Smaller "Sesame Street" fans will love the Flying Cookie Jars ride, Monster Mix-Up, Sunny Day Carousel or Snuffy's Slides. Older kids and adults will make their way to the Vapor Train roller coaster. If you visit during summer, don't miss water rides like Bert & Ernie's Slip & Slide, Big Bird's Rambling River, or The Count's Splash Castle.

ADVENTURELAND

(2245 Broad Hollow Road (Route 110), Farmingdale, L.I.; adventureland.us; free admission, a "Pay One Price Ticket" costs \$29.99 per person, or you can pay per ride.)

Since 1962, the Long Island amusement park has kept families entertained with rides, attractions and games. There are restaurants, snack stands and a food court on site.



What's new: Formula One Bumper Cars was introduced this year, lowering the height requirements from the park's previous 25-year-old bumper cars, so that more kids can enjoy them. Each of the 16 cars feature more than 20

LED lights and riders will bump along against the backdrop of an LED curtain decked out with 2,100 more LED lights.

Old favorites: Last year, a new coaster called Turbulence rolled into Adventureland. The park bills it as "Long Island's largest and only spinning coaster," as each car spins freely in circles while whizzing around the track. For smaller children, try the Kid-die Carousel, the NYC Race, or Pirate Island, where kids can climb, jump and slide their way through an obstacle course.

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MOREY'S PIERS; ADVENTURELAND