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BY **CAROLINE WATERSTON**

Manhattan is the perfect combo of luxury and value - a place where you can dig out discount store bargains then splash out on tickets for the latest Broadway hit. Or spend the afternoon strolling through Central Park then drink in the views from a fashionable rooftop bar. It's where history collides with the breathtakingly modern. And nowhere more so than at these two brilliant hotels.

## **SUMMER IN NYC**

### **SUMMERSTAGE**

Parks across New York will be hosting events this summer, most of them free, including stars from the Metropolitan Opera performing in Central Park. [cityparksfoundation.org/summerstage](http://cityparksfoundation.org/summerstage)

### **SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK**

Central Park houses the Delacourt Theater which has free performances until the end of August. This year sees Troilus and Cressida and an all-female Taming of the Shrew, starring Janet McTeer. [Publictheater.org](http://Publictheater.org)

### **GETTING THERE**

Virgin Atlantic has flights from £430 return. [virgin-atlantic.com](http://virgin-atlantic.com)

### **MORE INFO**

From [nycgo.com](http://nycgo.com)



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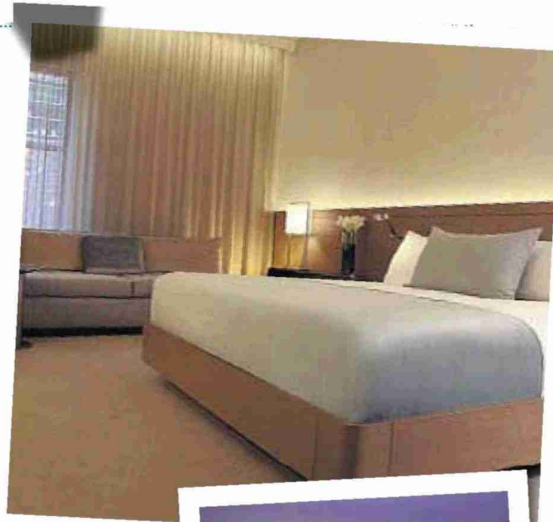
### SPLURGE: THE KNICKERBOCKER

On the corner of Broadway and 42nd Street, this hotel was built in 1906 by the Astors, New York's richest and most powerful family and it was the grandest establishment in the city, packed with celebrities at every turn.

Reopened in 2015 (and yes, the doormen do wear knickerbockers), it has all the things you'd want from a historic hotel; impressive lobby, a posh restaurant and hip coffee bar. The 330 rooms are slick and serene and there's a real sense of space. Average room size is 430sqft – palatial in Manhattan.

But head to rooftop bar St Cloud on the 17th floor and you'll get a power-packed view of New York. It overlooks Times Square and at night you'll not find a better take on the place that's known as the crossroads of the world – a crazy kaleidoscope of neon signs, theatre billboards and bustling crowds. So, enjoy the views and the cocktail menu. It's an amazing way to raise a Manhattan to Manhattan.

**STAYING THERE** Rooms start at \$266.  
[theknickerbocker.com](http://theknickerbocker.com)



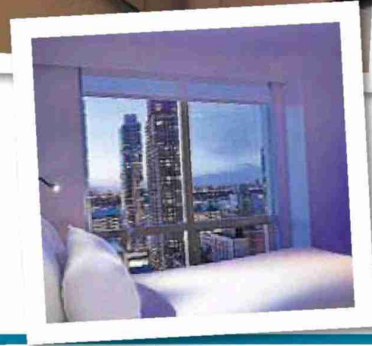
### SAVE; YOTEL

This budget hotel may be a few minutes' walk from the Knick, but it's definitely the product of a different century.

You check yourself in on a touch screen and a robot stores your luggage. At 130sqft the rooms are small, but the airline designers brought in to fine-tune them have packed in a huge amount – from streamlined bathrooms and built-in furniture to an electronic bed that

rises or lowers at the press of a button. And the Yotel's bar and lobby area is huge, with great food. The roof terrace on the third floor is the largest of any Manhattan hotel – with trees, a bar and a great vibe. Come here and you'll definitely know you're in New York.

**STAYING THERE** Rooms start at \$149, including breakfast coffee and muffins. [yotel.com](http://yotel.com)



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