

Condé Nast Traveler

TRUTH IN TRAVEL // DECEMBER 2013

NOT HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

*THE (UN)TOURIST
GUIDE TO NYC
LAST-MINUTE
NEW YEAR'S GETAWAYS*

**GIFT
GIVING
ON
THE GO**

Tea for two at The Plaza
hotel's Champagne
Bar in New York City.

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YOUR DAILY TRAVEL INTELLIGENCE



NEW YORK, NEW TRADITIONS

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ILLUSTRATIONS BY PETER OUMANSKI

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Must Do

BROOKLYN & THE BRONX

... and while you're there

1. You've made it all the way to the South Street Seaport! Celebrate with a hot toddy at the **DEAD RABBIT** (30 Water St.) before grabbing a cab for the five-minute drive across the Brooklyn Bridge to catch a ride on **JANE'S CAROUSEL** (below), a

beautifully restored merry-go-round from 1922 that's housed in a glass structure in Brooklyn's DUMBO neighborhood. Kids will love the old-fashioned horses; you'll love the views of the snowy skyline (janescarousel.com).

2. Don't leave DUMBO without treating yourself to the most decadent hot chocolate of your life at **JACQUES TORRES CHOCOLATE** (66 Water St.).

3. No need to stick to Central Park for sledding—**PROSPECT PARK** has some of Brooklyn's best

hills. Head to the eastern side of Lookout Hill for sled-worthy slopes (enter the park at 16th St. and Prospect Park S.W.).

4. Asian-fusion favorite **TALDE** is just a few minutes' stroll from Prospect Park, and a good place to reload on carbs:

Try the addictive pretzel-and-chive dumplings and oyster-and-bacon pad thai (369 Seventh Ave.; 347-916-0031; entrées from \$19).

5. **DYKER HEIGHTS** isn't one of Brooklyn's touristed neighborhoods... except at Christmastime,

when the houses here—specifically 80th to 86th streets between 10th and 13th avenues—get covered from foundation to roof in Christmas lights and decorations.

6. Up in the Bronx, kids will get a kick out of the New York Botanical Gar-

den's annual **HOLIDAY TRAIN SHOW**, where model trains whip past replicas of more than 140 New York City landmarks, all set in a winter wonderland (718-817-8700).

7. On your way back into Manhattan, take a detour to **ARTHUR AVENUE**—or the "real Little Italy," as Bronx natives call it. Pizza lovers, see who has the best slice: **GIOVANNI'S BRICK OVEN PIZZA** (2343 Arthur Ave.; 718-933-4141), **MARIO'S RESTAURANT** (2342 Arthur Ave.; 718-584-1188), or **ZERO OTTO NOVE** (2357 Arthur Ave.; 718-220-1027). Finish your New York City adventure with a cannoli from **MADONIA BROTHERS BAKERY** (2348 Arthur Ave.). □

PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW PILLSBURY. COURTESY BONNI BENRUBI GALLERY

