



*RECREATION, NATURAL
RESOURCES, AND CULTURAL
ATTRACTIONS*

Jersey City offers a wide range of recreational and cultural activities for residents as well as workers, employers and visitors. Its historic sites are among the most important landmarks in the nation and its parks and walkways provide athletic facilities as well as passive areas for rest and relaxation. The City's museums provide a range of exhibits and collections to spark the interest of children and adults of all ages.

MAJOR PARKS AND WALKWAYS

There are approximately 1,550 acres of parkland and open space in Jersey City. Liberty State Park is a State of New Jersey Park, and Lincoln Park is part of the Hudson County Park system. Washington Park, on Jersey City's northern border with Union City, is also part of the County system. The close to 60 other parks in the City are part of the municipal park system. Of these, 14 are what the City's Department of Parks considers to be major parks.

State Parks

Liberty State Park, the focal point of the Liberty Park neighborhood, is a national and international tourist attraction serving as a gateway to the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. The Park encompasses the historic Central Railroad of New Jersey Terminal Museum, the Liberty Science Center, Liberty Walk, and the Interpretive Center as well as several nature areas. A portion of the Park's undeveloped area contains environmentally sensitive areas that are unlikely to be developed. Once such area is the Liberty Natural Area that preserves one of the few remaining salt marsh environments in the Region. Some portions of the Park contain "Brownfields" sites that require environmental remediation prior to reuse.

County Parks

Lincoln Park, located in the West Side neighborhood, has 11 baseball diamonds, six football fields, 18 tennis courts, a swimming pool, a quarter-mile track and other sports facilities. It also has a lake used for miniature yacht races and ice skating.

Municipal Parks

Arlington Park in the Martin Luther King-Bergen/Lafayette neighborhood has a basketball court, a playground and a passive area.

Bayside Park in Greenville has tennis courts, baseball diamonds, basketball courts, football fields and a playground.

Caven Point, on the eastern edge of Greenville along the Hudson River, was formerly an army base. After part of the base was closed, it was taken over by the City and developed as the Caven Point Athletic Complex that encompasses



several fields and athletic facilities.

Columbia Park in Greenville has a playground and passive areas.

Country Village in Greenville is a large complex with ballfields, a playground, tennis courts and a former roller rink that will be redeveloped.

Enos Jones Park in Historic Downtown has two ballfields, a basketball court, a roller rink and a playground.

Hamilton Park in Jersey City's Historic Downtown, houses tennis courts, a basketball court and passive areas.

Lafayette Park, in the Martin Luther King-Bergen/Lafayette neighborhood, has a playground but is primarily a passive park.

Leonard Gordon Park in the Heights neighborhood is best known for its sculptures of Buffalo and Bears. The park was designed by the landscape architect John T. Withers who left much of the rocky terrain in its natural state.

Pershing Field Park in the Heights neighborhood has many active recreational facilities including an outdoor running track, basketball courts, tennis courts, Little League baseball fields, an ice skating rink and an Olympic-sized pool.

Riverview Park (Captain Fiske Park) in the Heights has a playground, basketball court, and passive areas.

Waterfront Park (Owen Grundy Pier) in Exchange Place is a passive park.

Van Vorst Park in Historic Downtown has a playground, a flower garden and passive areas.

WALKWAYS

The Hudson River Waterfront Walkway currently extends along nearly 15 miles in Hudson County, and encompasses state, county and municipal parks. Once complete, it will provide a contiguous 18.5 mile linear walkway system of parks, piers and open space along the Hudson River and Upper New York Bay waterfront, extending from the George Washington Bridge to the Bayonne Bridge.

The Hackensack RiverWalk is a planned eight-mile waterfront park, originally constructed as a small pedestrian path in conjunction with the Harmon Cove development in Secaucus. Completion of the trail will allow public access along the river while providing a continuous pedestrian trail linking retail, office, commercial and residential districts. The trail will link Lincoln Park to the Hudson County Park and points north.

Liberty Walk, a section of the Hudson River Waterfront Walkway, stretches 1.3 miles across the waterfront of Liberty State Park. The pathway is used for both active and passive recreational activities.

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITES

Central Railroad of New Jersey Terminal (CRRNJ)

The one and one-half mile terminal complex that stretched along the Jersey City waterfront was developed by the Central Railroad of New Jersey (CRRNJ) in the 1880s. The CRRNJ closed the terminal in 1967. Now the focal point of the three-part historic centerpiece that it shares with Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty, the partially restored terminal is used as a visitors' center and for exhibits and social and cultural events. Ferries leave from the front of the terminal to take visitors to the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island.

Ellis Island

Ellis Island is a small island in Upper New York Bay that is a symbol of America's immigrant heritage. Between 1892 and 1954, the immigrant depot processed over twelve million people, the greatest tide of immigrants in the nation's history. Since 1965, it has been part of the Statue of Liberty National Monument. While it is under the political jurisdiction of New York, Ellis Island is located in New Jersey waters off the coast of Jersey City.

Statue of Liberty

The Statue of Liberty, with its One Communipaw Avenue address in Jersey City, reopened in August 2004 following a multi-million dollar renovation. Located on 12-acre Liberty



The Hudson River Waterfront Walkway

Island in New York Harbor, the Statue was a gift of international friendship from the people of France to the people of the United States and is one of the most universal symbols of political freedom and democracy.



Central Railroad of New Jersey Terminal (CRRNJ)



Statue of Liberty

MUSEUMS AND CULTURAL DISTRICTS (See Map 17, p. 47)

The African American Museum housed on the second floor of the Greenville Branch of the Jersey City Library collects, preserves and exhibits numerous examples of African American history and culture. Its exhibits have included historic African American churches, quilts dating back to the early 1840s and a variety of displays pertaining to the history of Black Americans in New Jersey.

The Jersey City Museum located in Historic Downtown has been a Jersey City institution for more than 100 years. It has educated a diverse urban community by collecting, exhibiting and interpreting a 20,000-piece historically significant collection of fine art and objects of everyday use. These works capture and preserve the immigrant experience and document the industrialization of the northeast from the 17th century to the present. Since the 1970s it has built an important art collection featuring the work of artists whose cultural diversity mirrors that of Jersey City's community.

Liberty Science Center

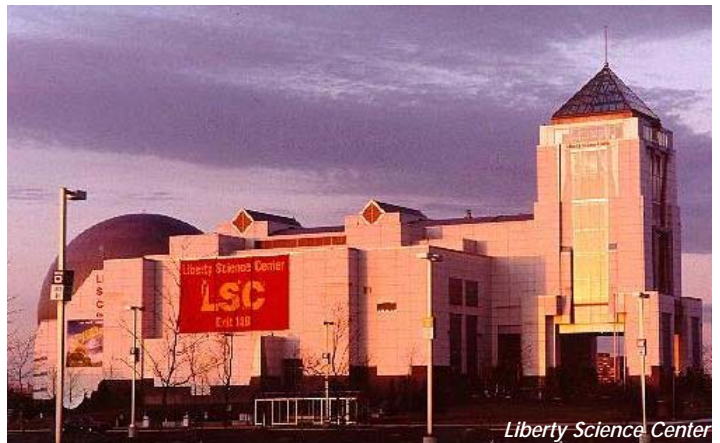
Liberty Science Center is the Region's preeminent science education center that is dedicated to inspiring imagination and creativity through adventures in interactive discovery. Located in Liberty State Park, the Center is home to more than 250 hands-on exhibits on three floors dedicated to the themes of invention, health and the environment. It houses numerous science-related activities and demonstrations, as well as the nation's largest IMAX® Dome Theater. The Center also offers offsite and online educational programming for students as well as professional development opportunities for teachers.

Powerhouse Arts District

The Powerhouse Arts District is an eight-block area of 19th century warehouse buildings located between Jersey City's Waterfront neighborhood and Historic Downtown. The District is developing into a focal point for the City's arts, culture and entertainment. The City is working with the local artist community to promote the area as a future pedestrian-friendly entertainment and tourism center, with galleries, theaters, restaurants, entertainment centers and shopping.



Ellis Island



Liberty Science Center



Powerhouse Arts District