

PolaCon NYC 2026—Getting Around NYC

Navigating New York City can be daunting, even if it isn't your first time in town. But don't worry, we have a few pointers for getting around in the Big Apple.

Fortunately, NYC has excellent public transit (by American standards anyway). Map apps (Apple, Google, etc.) will give reliable directions for the subway and bus. You can also use [MTA.info](https://www.mta.info) to plan public transportation routes and check service status.

It's very easy to pay fare for the subway and buses with MTA's tap-to-pay system, OMNY (boo surveillance capitalism; yay convenience). Just tap your smartphone or compatible debit or credit card on the OMNY reader at the subway turnstile or when you get on the bus. You can also get a separate OMNY card from vending machines in most subway stations. OMNY automatically handles transfers, so you won't be charged more than once when you're eligible for a free transfer between the subway and bus, or between certain subway stations.

The subway is usually the best option for most trips within the city. At first the system can be a bit overwhelming (in large part because it's actually three separate systems in a trenchcoat). The key to subway mastery is following the signage! Once you know which line you want to ride in which direction, you just need to follow station signs guiding you to the correct platform.

We'll share specific subway guidance for each day of PolaCon, but here are the two stations you'll want to remember most:

- **York St (F train)** is the closest station to our venue, 26 Bridge
- **Grand St (L train)** is the stop for Brooklyn Film Camera

If you need or prefer to take a car, taxis are usually cheaper than rideshare apps (not to mention an important element of the real New York experience). If you'd rather not flag down a cab, you can schedule or summon one with the Curb or Arro apps.

Day Zero

Ghostbusters Filming Location Photowalk

Our tour with the New York City Ghostbusters begins at the famous New York Public Library building on 5th Avenue. Take the subway to:

- **Grand Central—42 St:** 4, 5, 6, 7 trains, or shuttle train from Times Sq—42 St
- **Bryant Park:** B, D, F, M trains

The tour will require us to take additional subway trips under the guidance of our Ghostbuster hosts.

Film Forever Kickoff at Bogart House

If you want to check out the IFS Polaroid Corner at Film Forever's kickoff event, take the **L train** to **Grand St**. The venue is a few minutes' walk away at 230 Bogart St.

Day 1

Take the **F train** to **York St** in Brooklyn to reach the PolaCon NYC venue, 26 Bridge. We'll be there all day!

Day 2

Early Bird Photowalk

We'll meet at PARK at KIMS (119 Elizabeth St) for a little coffee, then a nice stroll through Chinatown and across the Manhattan Bridge before the main event continues. The closest subway stations are **Bowery (J and Z trains)** and **Grand St (B and D trains)**, but **Canal St (6, N, Q, R, W trains)** is also only a few blocks away. This walk will conveniently bring us to the venue!

If you're skipping the early walk, you can once again take the **F train** to **York St** to reach 26 Bridge.

Day 3

Our Sunday photowalk will have three legs with breaks in between. Refer to the info below if you need to join us midway.

Brooklyn Bridge to City Hall

To join the walk from the beginning, once again take the **F train** to **York St**—but this time head to the Brooklyn Bridge Walkway Entrance. We'll walk across the bridge into Manhattan, then take a break in City Hall Park.

City Hall to Camera West

To join the walk's second leg, use any of these stations:

- **Brooklyn Bridge—City Hall:** 4, 5, 6 trains
- **Chambers St:** J, Z trains
- **City Hall:** R, W trains
- **Park Place:** 2, 3 trains
- **Chambers St:** A, C trains
- **World Trade Center:** E train

Starting from City Hall Park, we'll walk through Tribeca to Camera West's SoHo location.

Washington Square Park to the Meatpacking District

The walk's third leg will begin after a break in Washington Square Park. To join us there, take the **A, C, E, B, D, F, or M trains** to **W 4 St—Washington Square**. From there, we'll walk through Greenwich Village to the edge of the Meatpacking District, where the **L train** from the **14 St/8 Av** station will bring us to Brooklyn Film Camera for the evening's back yard wind-down.