

YOUR MONTHLY MILE | June

There are endless paths to travel in Central Park, and even lifelong New Yorkers can discover something new in its 843 acres. Check out this month's featured landmarks to learn more about their history and about the Central Park Conservancy's mission to restore, manage, and enhance Central Park.



1 The Pool
With its grassy banks, weeping willows, and rushing waterfall, the Pool is one of the most idyllic spots in the Park and features many species of birds, fish, and amphibians. A naturalistic boulder grotto at the southwest of the Pool is a well-concealed reminder that Central Park is entirely man-made. Behind the boulder, a 48-inch pipe feeds the Pool fresh water from the Reservoir just half a mile south.



2 Glen Span Arch
Glen Span Arch is one of two rustic arches that form the boundaries of the Ravine, the stream valley of the North Woods (which you'll explore even further later on this walk). Glen Span arches over the stream, called the Loch, at its south end, with Huddleston Arch at its north end. Both stone structures are sunken into the Park's landscape. The structure carries the West Drive above, while a narrow footpath runs under it along the water.



3 Huddleston Arch
A marvel of engineering and construction, Huddleston Arch is considered by many to be the most surprising of Central Park's arches. Built entirely of huge, uncut boulders, this arch contains no mortar or other binding material. Only gravity and pressure keep the massive boulders in place. As you retrace your steps to make your way further into the North Woods, admire the Ravine's newly restored paths, landscapes, and rustic features from recent work by the Conservancy.



4 The North Woods
Make your way further into the thickly forested North Woods. This woodland evokes the naturalistic spirit of the Adirondack Mountains – fallen trees, or snags, are left where they land (unless hazardous or obscuring paths), providing nutrients to surrounding plants, homes to wildlife, and a natural look to the landscape. The North Woods is a favorite spot of birdwatchers, runners, and hikers.



5 The Blockhouse
Built in 1814, the Blockhouse is the only remaining fortification that was built to defend against the British during the War of 1812. It has the distinction of being Central Park's longest-standing structure. This rugged stone structure once had a sunken wooden roof and mobile cannon that could be deployed quickly.



6 The Great Hill
Located at one of the Park's highest points, the Great Hill is an open hilltop meadow with picnic tables, a quarter-mile soft surface oval path, and a ring of stately trees. It offers spectacular views of the northern end of the Park and the Manhattan skyline. This area is popular for picnics, lawn games, running or race walking on the oval track, and our annual event, Great Jazz on the Great Hill.