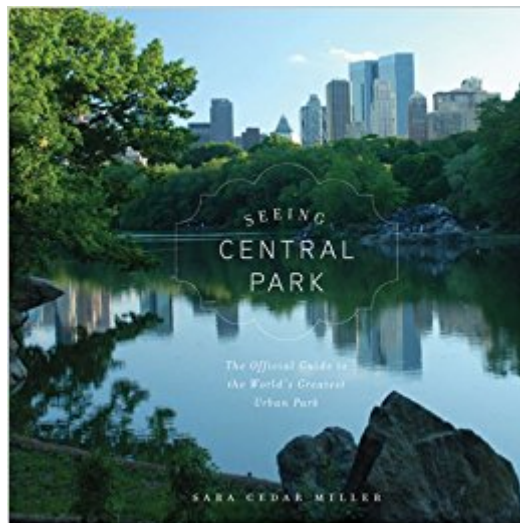


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# Seeing Central Park: An Official Guide To The World's Greatest Urban Park



## Synopsis

For more than 150 years, Central Park has been the centerpiece of New York City, drawing more than 25 million visitors each year. In *Seeing Central Park*, Sara Cedar Miller, the official historian and photographer of the Central Park Conservancy, takes readers through America's most popular and celebrated park, where natural and manmade features are interwoven into a spectacular work of public art. Combining superb research and writing with breathtaking photographs, *Seeing Central Park* is not only a gorgeous gift book, but also a guide through every significant design feature in the park, from the largest, such as the Reservoir, to the smallest, such as the intricate carvings in the stonework surrounding Bethesda Terrace. *Seeing Central Park* also reveals many newly renovated and restored designs, including Bow Bridge, which has been canonized in countless films, and the Minto Tile Arcade near the famous Bethesda Fountain.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Sara Cedar Miller has been the official photographer and historian for the Central Park Conservancy since the 1980s. She is the author of *Abrams' Central Park: An American Masterpiece*. She lives in New York.

This book is indispensable for walking in Central Park; in plain terms, it is simply necessary for "Seeing Central Park" properly, the way it should. All parts of this mega-park are gorgeous, and this book details each and every corner of it. All the statues and monuments are explained, as are all the pathways, roads, structures and bodies of water. The park's fascinating history is given in great

detail. Perhaps the best feature of the book is the pictures, each and every one stunning in its own right. A person with enough time on his/her hands should take a full day, no less, to see Central Park - using this book is an absolute must!

After reading a Kathy Reichs book with a crime taking place in Central Park, I realized in all the visits I'd made, I never knew much about the park. This small book gives excellent descriptions of every section of the park. A good gift.

I just got this book in the mail today and it is absolutely delightful! It is full of gorgeous photographs and information about the intricacies of Central Park and I can't wait to read the text to learn more about NYC's amazing work of art that is Central Park. It looks like Sara Cedar Miller has done an exceptional job of sharing the history of the park's creation and its designers. I think it's amazing that the people of New York had the foresight to preserve such a large section of Manhattan Island as a park that all could enjoy. I wonder what the designers would say if they could see it now! The book has a smaller page size than some of our other "coffee table" books, but sometimes something smaller invites you for a closer look. It's beautifully presented in hard back form, and the dust cover has a map of Central Park on the reverse side. It's almost too pretty to carry along for a visit to the park! The book divides the Park into three sections and features a good balance of text and photographs of the many design elements of areas in the park. Some of the photos spread across two pages and others are smaller close-ups of more intricate decorations or embellishments on bridges and buildings. I love the fact that Sara Cedar Miller has included photos from all of the seasons, from the flowering fruit trees to snow-covered tree branches. Our son lives in Manhattan and we've visited the Park several times but have never explored it fully (nor has he!). Now that we have this book I'm sure we'll make more forays into the Park, bolstered by what Sara has presented to us in her delightful book. I would highly recommend it to anyone who is interested in learning more about "the World's Greatest Urban Park."

What an incredible little book!! If you enjoyed Sara Cedar Miller's "Central Park: An American Masterpiece" you'll definitely enjoy "Seeing Central Park". Miller's knowledge of the park is unparalleled, and her intelligent and tender writing humanizes the park even for those of us who live in New York, and walk through the park and enjoy it on a regular basis. I rarely review things but having recently given this book as a gift to a few friends and getting even for those who don't live in New York, learning about the history and contribution to the city which Olmstead and Vaux made

when they designed the park. I've bought a case of the books as Christmas presents for various friends who have seen my copy of the book and marveled over the beauty of the pictures of the park and the city which surrounds it. Its a true gift for any lover of NYC. Most importantly - the content and production of the book are stellar - the photos are beautiful and unlike most traditional 'guidebooks' the quality of printing is exquisite. The book is arranged in sections of ascending segments of the streets and then by the individual areas which are contained in that 10 block chunk of streets. There is also an adorable and useful map printed on the inside of the dust jacket so you can orient yourself in the park as you read through the book. Miller's photography and writing are stellar - witty and informative, the book seems more like an informative conversation than a lecture. An excellent purchase to be sure!

### Beautiful images

As tourists we ran around the park and marveled at the wonder of creation that makes this part of New York so appealing. We came across this book and it filled in all the blanks and gave us information that made us yearn to go back and appreciate it even more. The book is full of wonderful stories about the historical origins of the gardens, statues, fields, and people both past and present who are responsible for this oasis in the heart of Manhattan. It is well illustrated and the photos capture as best they can the beauty of the park.

A visual delight. If you love Central Park ,as almost anyone has enjoyed the pleasure of this magnificent oasis in the middle of NYC, you will love the book as well.

This is a great little book, ideal to help first time visitors to the Park, as myself, and to keep as a memory. Very informative and featuring many nice pictures is a pleasure to browse, before visiting, at the park and afterwards. It's a great deal for the price!

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