

SOUTH HARLEM, NEW YORK

Overview



Harlem Meer (Northern Central Park) -
Photo: Central Park Conservancy

Directly north of Central Park, South Harlem features historic architecture, cultural landmarks and arts centers, green spaces, and a diverse community. While primarily a residential area, there are also many great restaurants to visit as you walk along the relatively wide streets. South Harlem's population is comprised of many long-time, multi-generational residents, as well as many newcomers to the neighborhood.



Mount Morris Park Historic District -
Photo: New York Times



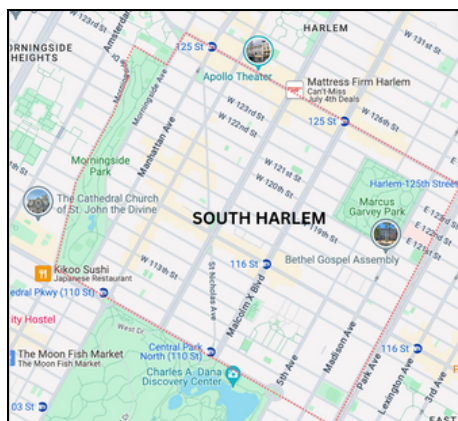
Archer & Goat Restaurant – Photo: Wall Street Journal



Duke Ellington Sculpture – Photo: New York Times



Malcolm Shabazz Harlem Market – Photo: Google



South Harlem Map

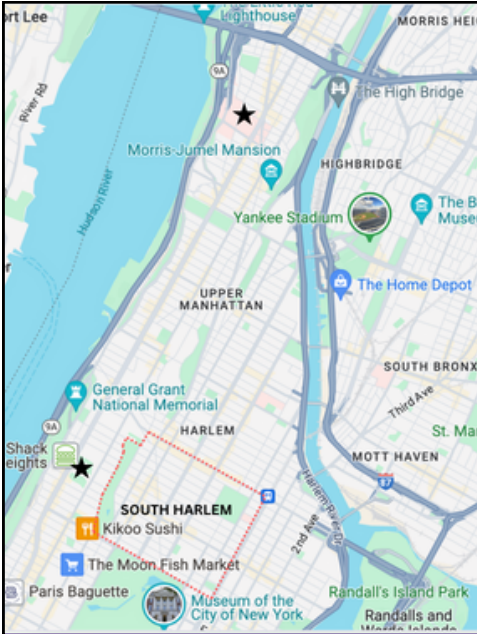
Location

South Harlem is a small neighborhood bordered to the south and north by 110th street (Central Park North) and 125th Street, and to the west and east by Morningside Drive and Park Avenue. It includes both Marcus Garvey and Morningside Parks. The A, B, C, D, 2, and 3 trains all stop in this neighborhood.



Marcus Garvey Park– Photo: Wikipedia

Living in South Harlem and Working at Columbia



South Harlem is a great community to live in and a very easy commute to Columbia.

Commuting by Car:

- To get to the Morningside and Manhattanville campuses, you can drive up Morningside Avenue after driving west from your home. To get to the CUIMC campus, you can drive up St. Nicholas Avenue. During rush hour, there may be some traffic on city streets.

Commuting by Public Transit:

- You can take the M116 or M4 bus to the Morningside or Manhattanville campuses, and the C or A (depending on starting point) to the CUIMC campus. For the Morningside campus, walking may be faster from some locations.
- For more information refer to: new.mta.info/ and transportation.columbia.edu/

**Commuting to:
Morningside Heights & Manhattanville Campuses**



5-15 mins

via 110th and 125th Streets



15 mins

via **M116**

**Commuting to:
CUIMC Campus**



15-35 mins

via St. Nicholas Avenue



20 mins

via **C** OR **A**

Real Estate and Housing



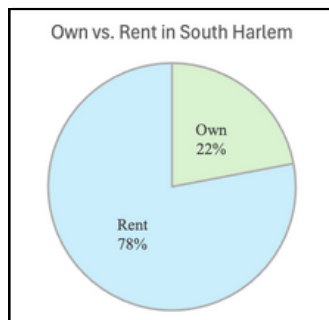
Rental Buildings in South Harlem
– Photo: Zillow



A Co-op Building in South Harlem
– Photo: StreetEasy



Interior of a Condo Apartment in South Harlem
– Photo: Zillow



Most South Harlem residents rent an apartment. Prices to purchase range from:

\$200,000 - \$5,000,000 for apartments

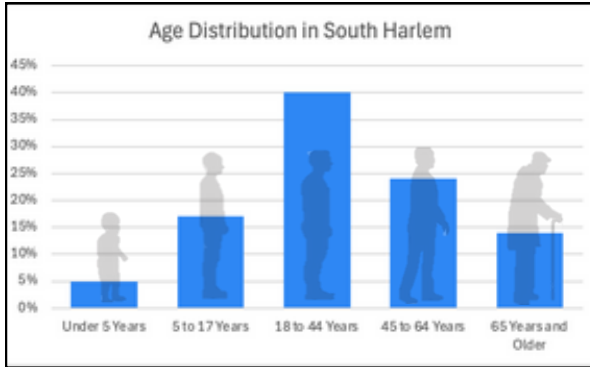
\$1,100,000 - \$7,000,000 for townhouses

Median Home Value: \$835,000

Median List Price/square foot: \$973

Average Rent: \$3,100

Demographics



Population: 62,700

Households: 27,100

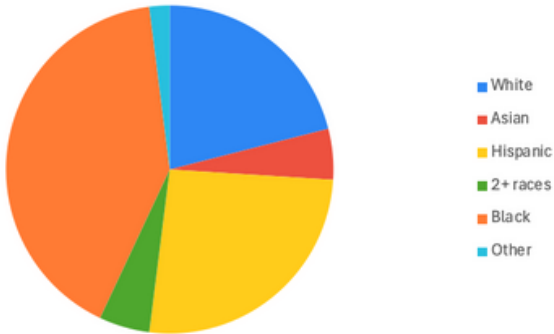
Population Density: 79,200 per sq. mile

2022 Median Household income: \$70,100

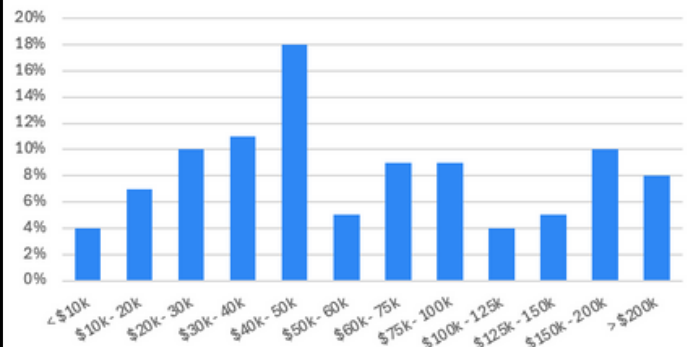


Harlem EatUp! Festival - Photo: Google

Racial Demographics in South Harlem

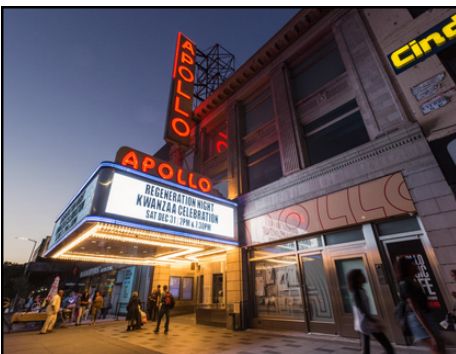


2022 Median Household Income Distribution



Sources: [census.gov](https://www.census.gov); [censusreporter.org](https://www.censusreporter.org); city-data.com; [niche.com](https://www.niche.com)

Points of Interest



Apollo Theater – Photo: NYC Tourism

The world-famous Apollo Theater is on 125th street in South Harlem. It has been open since 1914 and played a pivotal role in developments in music and other performing arts, especially around the Harlem Renaissance.



Morningside Park – Photo: NYC Parks

Morningside Park is a popular city park near Columbia's main campus and on the west side of South Harlem. With playgrounds, gardens, and athletic fields, the park is a central spot for the local community.



Studio Museum – Photo: Google

The Studio Museum in South Harlem is primarily dedicated to African American artists' work, and hosts both permanent and rotating exhibits, as well as artists in residence. They also offer programming for children and families.

Schools

South Harlem is in Manhattan school Districts 3 and 5, depending on exact address. There are a variety of public and charter school options in the neighborhood and there is also easy access to other nearby New York City school options.



P.S./I.S. 180 Hugo Newman School - Photo: Homes.com



Teachers College Community School - Photo: InsideSchools



Harlem Village Academy West Middle Charter School - Photo: InsideSchools

History

Lenape people originally used the land in upper Manhattan for farming and hunting, but in 1658 the plains of Harlem was settled by the Dutch, named after the city of Haarlem. In 1776, the Battle of Harlem Heights was a key victory for Americans in the Revolutionary War. This battle was primarily on the current site of Columbia's main campus and in and around South Harlem.

It wasn't until the late 1800s that housing development began in Harlem, with the expansion of train lines. In the early 1900s, the Black population in Harlem grew significantly, with people coming from other parts of the city, the American South, and the Caribbean. During the Harlem Renaissance of the 1920s-1930s, the arts flourished with key figures such as Langston Hughes, Zora Neale Hurston, Aaron Douglas, and Alain Locke residing here.



1969 Harlem Cultural Festival - Photo: Rolling Stone

In 1934, the Apollo Theater on 125th street, originally restricted to White patrons, was purchased by Sidney Cohen and became a center for Black performers. In 1969, Marcus Garvey Park (then Mount Morris Park, renamed in 1973) was the site of a music festival by the Harlem Cultural Festival organization which is now often referred to as "Black Woodstock," featuring performers such as Stevie Wonder and Nina Simone. The designation of Central Harlem below 125th street as South Harlem is a newer one, as this area is facing a significant amount of housing development.

Learn More About Hamilton Heights

[NYT: South Harlem: 'A Busy, Interesting Place to Live'](#)

[Compass: South Harlem Neighborhood Guide](#)

[Columbia Spectator: Hidden Corners of New York City: Exploring South Harlem](#)

[Apollo Theater](#)

[The Studio Museum](#)

[Harlem EatUp! Festival](#)

[Central Park Conservancy: Harlem Meer](#)

[InsideSchools](#)

[Zillow](#)

[StreetEasy: South Harlem](#)