

# Macy's Parade Information 2010

## **Macy's 84th Annual Thanksgiving Day Parade**

**Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade Route Begins:** 77th Street & Central Park West

**Thanksgiving Parade Ends:** 7th Avenue & 34th Street

## **Public Viewing Areas for the Parade:**

\*There is no reserved seating for the parade

**Central Park West:** West side of street from 70th Street to Columbus Circle & east side of street from 70th to 65th streets

**Columbus Circle:** West side of street

**7th Avenue:** between 58th & 42nd Streets

**42nd Street:** from 7th to 6th Avenues

**6th Avenue:** between 42nd & 34th Streets

**34th Street:** south side of street between Broadway & 7th Avenue

## **Details of Macy's Parade Route**

- The Parade begins at 77th Street & Central Park West at 9 a.m. The parade will march south on Central Park West.
- At Columbus Circle, the parade will then turn EAST onto Central Park South instead of heading down Broadway. When the parade reaches 7th Avenue, it turns south at the corner of Central Park South and marches to 42nd Street.
- The parade will then travel east along 42nd Street from 7th to 6th Avenues. At 6th (Avenue of the Americas), it veers south to 34th Street. At 34th Street it heads west to Macy's Herald Square and ends at 34th Street and Seventh Avenue at around noon.

## **Frequently Asked Questions:**

**Q:** We're coming this year to see the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. Any suggestions as to where best to view it?

**A:** *Central Park West between 61st and 72nd Streets if it is a sunny day (it'll keep you warm). Here is what Macy's recommends: Between 61st and 72nd on Central Park West!! To ensure a good viewing location, get there early. Spectators arrive as early as 6:30 a.m.*

**Q:** What is the recommended arrival time to get a decent viewing spot on the parade route?

**A:** *You should really get there by 7 a.m. (even 6 a.m. or earlier along Central Park West). And yes, officials recommend you please leave folding chairs at home. They will become cumbersome when the crowds start filling up the sidewalk and will have to be folded up. Dress in layers to keep warm. November in Manhattan can be quite cold. Come rain or shine.*

## **Macy's Parade Fun Facts**

- The first parade was in 1924 and featured floats, clowns, bands and a few zoo animals.
- The parade was originally called "Macy's Christmas Parade."
- In 1927 live animals were replaced with large balloons. The very first balloon was Felix The Cat.
- The parade's starting point has only changed once, in 1945, from 145th Street and Convent Avenue to the modern day kick off at 77th Street and Central Park West. The route was changed in 2008, moving from Broadway to a route along Seventh Avenue.
- The parade has been held continuously from 1924, except for 1942-1944 when it was halted due to WWII.
- The parade's first national broadcast was on NBC in 1948.
- This year's 84th celebration will feature more than 10,000 participants and be viewed by approximately 3.5 million live spectators, with another 50 million watching on television.