

New York for New Year

Every New Years Eve I love to watch the various celebrations from around the world and think how exciting it would be to be there! Well, dreams have a way of turning into reality and that is how I found myself, along with 2 of my friends, arriving in Manhattan on 27th December 2011

There is something special about being in the Northern Hemisphere for Christmas/ New Year. The Christmas lights in the department stores, the skaters in Central Park and the children wrapped up in their jackets, scarves and gloves. The inviting warmth coming from the shops just seem to beckon you in...and we certainly spent quite some time in the shops!

The preparations for New Years Eve began early. There were policemen everywhere erecting barricades and closing streets. There were also people everywhere staking their claim for the best vantage point in Times Square. We had somewhat reluctantly decided not to spend all day camping in Times Square and elected instead to take a little cruise on the Hudson River to welcome in the year. This was some party boat - in fact so much partying we became oblivious to the cold! Just prior to midnight the boat came to a standstill in front of the Statue of Liberty where we were treated to a display of fireworks as the clock struck 12mn

At 2am we wended our way back to the hotel, a little bedraggled and weary, and as we walked through Times Square amongst the litter and the debris, we still had to battle our way through throngs of happy revelers.

So, we did it! We had been in New York for New Year – and I have the T-shirt to prove it.