



They may look cute and cuddly in their unauthorized dress-ups as Minny Mouse, Superman or other famous icons. When you encounter them, understand that they're hanging out at the popular tourist spot for one reason: to get as much cash as possible from clueless tourists.

You pause to take a photo or just look at them, and they'll expect money. Often, angrily demand it. Worse, recent city police arrests involve some of the characters that verbally and physically molest female and child tourists. If your group or family visits Times Square, especially if it includes teen or younger girls, be especially aware of unwelcome contact with the costumed predators.