

High Line Park, New York

The High Line was an elevated freight rail line in the degraded Meatpacking District, which went out of use in 1980, transformed into a public park on Manhattan’s West Side. It is owned by the City of New York, and maintained and operated by *Friends of the High Line*. Founded in 1999 by community residents, *Friends of the High Line* fought for the High Line’s preservation and transformation at a time when the historic structure was under the threat of demolition. It is now the non-profit conservancy body working with the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation to make sure the High Line is maintained as an

extraordinary public space for all visitors to enjoy. In addition to overseeing maintenance, operations, and public programming for the park, *Friends of the High Line* raises the funding to maintain and operate the High Line and its programs from both private and public sources. NYC’s High Line park is certainly one of the most popular New York attractions. In 2009, the two kilometres and a half strip were transformed into what is now considered one of the most unique urban parks in NYC, featuring wildflowers, vegetation, benches and outdoor art installations in addition to stunning views of New York’s skyline.

1 Read the text and complete the chart.

1. High Line in the past	
2. Current owner	
3. Operating private body	
4. Information about <i>Friends of High Line</i>	
5. Aims of the <i>Friends of High Line</i>	
6. Extra activities of Friends of High Line	
7. Length of High Line	
8. Features of High Line Park	

2 Do you know any examples of urban transformation like High Line Park in the region where you live or in other parts of Italy?

