TRANSPORTATION REPORT
NY + NJ / OCTOBER 2026

HALLOWEEN EXTRA

THE HALLOWEEN DETOUR



ALL FUN. ALL WEIRD. YES, REALLY.

**October is supposed to be strange.
Transportation apparently took that as an assignment.**

Bed bugs. Bird smugglers. A cruise with a latitude problem.
Plus roadside sightings from a brain raised on 1980s television.

GLENN WALDORF / SPECIAL BONUS EDITION / OCTOBER 31, 2026

PLEASE KEEP YOUR SENSE OF HUMOR FASTENED

Things that go bite in the flight



Editorial illustration. The airline incidents below were reported this month.

WHEN YOU GOTTA GO…

New York becomes an unscheduled rest stop.

An American Airlines flight from Madrid to Dallas diverted to JFK on October 6 after six of its eight lavatories reportedly stopped working. Two functioning bathrooms were apparently not enough for the rest of the transatlantic trip.

New York: now serving as America’s emergency comfort station.

AeroCorner | October 2026 ↗

BED BUGS TAKE FLIGHT

The least welcome frequent flyers.

Passengers on a Qantas flight from Perth to Rome reported bed bug bites. The airline canceled the return flight scheduled for October 10 and took the Dreamliner out of service for a deep clean.

Apparently “sleep tight” was an instruction, not a promise.

People | October 2026 ↗

FOWL PLAY AT MIA

That is not what “personal item” means.

Federal complaints describe 21 live birds concealed on two travelers arriving separately from Cuba. Ten were in tubes sewn into one man’s underwear; eleven were hidden in another garment. Both men face smuggling charges.

Carry-on. Checked bag. Absolutely no third category.

Smithsonian | October 15 ↗

THE ROADSTER LEAVES THE ROAD

Please mind the gap. And gravity.

At a Texas demonstration, Tesla’s new Roadster prototype climbed an inverted ramp, flipped through the air and landed using thrusters. This was a staged stunt, not sustained flight. Production is promised for 2028.

Your next exit may be above you.

CNN | October 15 ↗

WRONG TURNS AND OTHER LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

Please recalculate reality

CRUISE BLUES

Packed for the Bahamas. Welcome to Halifax.

Royal Caribbean’s Oasis of the Seas left Cape Liberty with a very different itinerary after bad weather forced a change: Canada instead of Florida and the Bahamas. The beachwear stayed packed. The search for sweaters began.

Sit down in your Thinking Chair…

Clue 1: Sweaters. Clue 2: North. Clue 3: Halifax.

Cruise Hive | October 2026 ↗

SPIDER-MAN GETS HIS OWN WAY

Forest Hills unveiled Spider-Man Way at Ingram Street and Ascan Avenue on October 12, honoring Peter Parker’s Queens roots.

With great power comes alternate-side parking.

ABC7 | October 12 ↗



Street-sign typography recreated for this edition.

ROCK AND ROLL

The internet-famous Steinway Boulder got a new home. NYC DOT acknowledged that relocating random boulders is part of the job.

Finally, a city move with no security deposit.

NYC DOT | October 8 post, archived ↗

SAY YES TO THE DRESS

A bride left her gown on an NJ Transit train while heading for a flight. Crews tracked it down and returned it in what the agency called a 20-minute miracle.

Something borrowed. Something blue. Something still on the 8:02.

News 12 | October 9 ↗

BRANCH LINE SERVICE

An I-78 crash in Hunterdon County left a car lodged almost vertically in a tree. Crews rescued both occupants, who were reported in stable condition.

**We are very glad they got out.
The parking situation remains unusual.**

News 12 | October 12 ↗

SEEN IN THE WILD / GLENN’S OCTOBER ROAD NOTES

A little Knight music



Editorial illustration inspired by real sightings; the ramp service is imaginary.

KNIGHT TRANSPORTATION. AT NIGHT.

I-287, driving home from the BOMA golf outing.

I passed a Knight Transportation truck and immediately thought of Knight Rider. If I’d been driving a Trans Am, maybe the ramp would have dropped so I could pull into the back and take a nap for the rest of the ride home.

Then I spotted Knight Riders Limo. For that name, shouldn’t a red scanner and a politely disapproving onboard computer come standard?

Apparently my brain is still programmed by 1980s television.

IS THAT A ROCKET?

Spotted beside me in New York City: a purple promotional mini-truck carrying a giant rocket.

Finally, someone takes “launch the campaign” literally.

GO-4. THREE WHEELS.

The little GO-4 spotted in Jersey City looks like a golf cart that took a wrong turn. It’s a three-wheel vehicle built for jobs such as parking enforcement.

The name is not a wheel count.

GO-4 | Manufacturer brochure ↗



How much of the news on pages 2–3 happened?
Yes, all of it. The jokes are ours.

INTERNET DETOUR
Amish Cybertruck
One horsepower. Just add oats.
Satire, not a real Tesla model.

Happy Halloween. Regularly scheduled transportation problems return in November.