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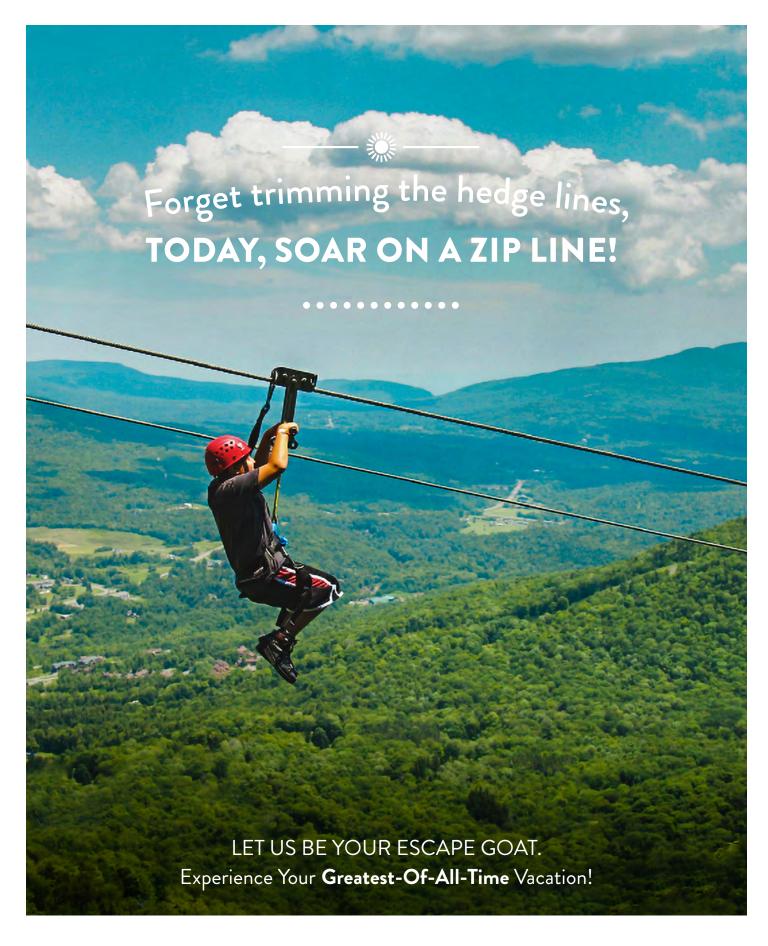
Secret

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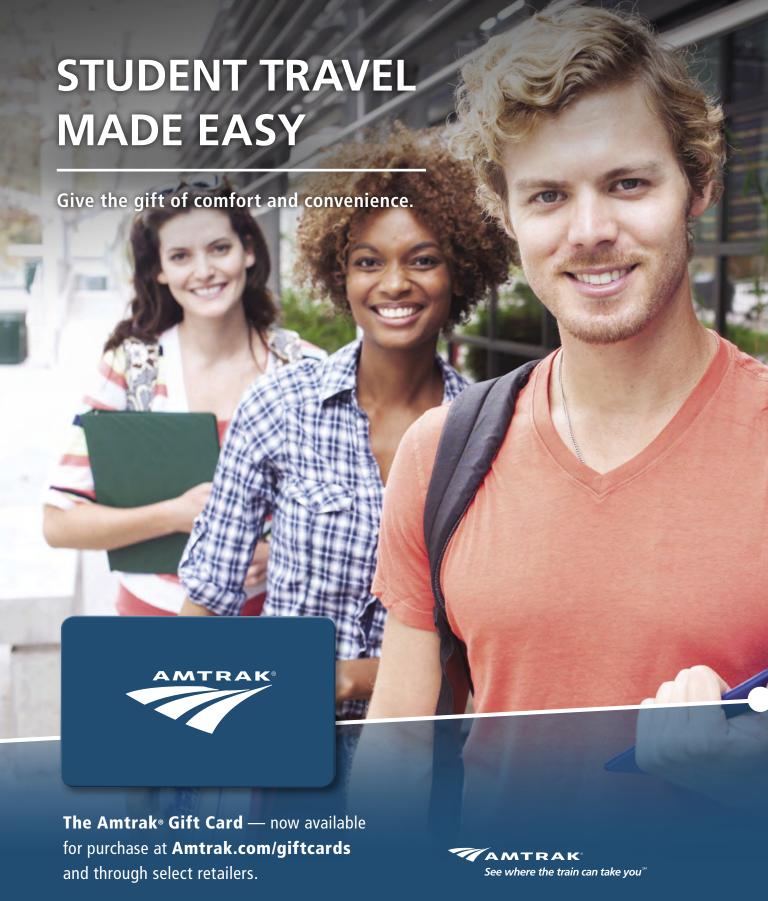
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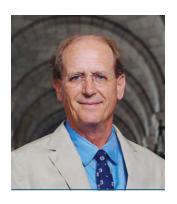
Cover photo by: James Sprankle Bannerman Castle, visible from the train in the Hudson River Valley.





FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

New York state exemplifies the best of what the Amtrak system has to offer. The Northeast Corridor, the busiest railroad in North America, runs through the heart of New York City, making it easy to hop aboard numerous daily trains headed north to Boston or as far south as Virginia. National Network trains starting in New York City, like the Silver Meteor and Lake Shore Limited, provide a one-seat ride to prime vacation spots including South Florida and Chicago.



and local history displays. In Buffalo, plans are moving forward for a modern downtown station. Amtrak also continues with expansion of New York Penn Station into the neighboring Moynihan Train Hall, which will become a boarding concourse for Amtrak and Long Island Rail Road customers. This project will help relieve congestion in the station for the more than 650,000 people who pass through it every day. Restrooms on the current Amtrak concourse were refreshed last year.

Through the annual financial support of New York state, Amtrak also operates a robust service connecting 26 communities across the Empire State, from major urban centers like Buffalo to small towns like Westport - and everything in between. Take advantage of seven daily roundtrips between New York and Albany-Rensselaer, two between New York and Niagara Falls, N.Y., and one roundtrip each between New York and Rutland, Vt., Montreal and Toronto.

Amtrak recently expanded its reach with convenient, affordable Thruway bus connections from our stations in Rochester, Syracuse, Utica and Saratoga Springs. Destinations include Cooperstown, known for the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum; Ithaca, home to renowned Cornell University; and the resort areas around Lake George.

To encourage your exploration of the region's natural and cultural sites, the state offers discounted travel on the Adirondack, Empire Service, Ethan Allen Express and Maple Leaf trains. The "See NY and Save" program provides 15 percent off the regular, full adult fare, while students ages 13 - 25 are eligible for 15 percent off the lowest Value or Flexible fare. Remember that Amtrak also offers new, easyto-use gift cards.

Amtrak and New York state remain focused on improving the customer experience in stations and onboard trains. A new station in Schenectady includes a spacious waiting area Customers traveling through the Big Apple are enjoying a smoother, more reliable ride following a \$50 million infrastructure renewal program that took place over summer 2018. It included major reconstructions of the Empire Connection along the West Side of Manhattan and the Spuyten Duyvil Bridge spanning the Harlem River.

Amtrak and its partners also advanced planning and design of the Gateway Program, which will feature a new, twotrack Hudson River Tunnel serving New York Penn Station. Constructing a new tunnel will allow Amtrak to rehab and modernize the existing North River Tunnel, which opened in 1910 and incurred serious damage from Super Storm Sandy. A new Hudson River Tunnel is essential to the continued growth and mobility of the greater New York area - one of our nation's most important population and economic centers.

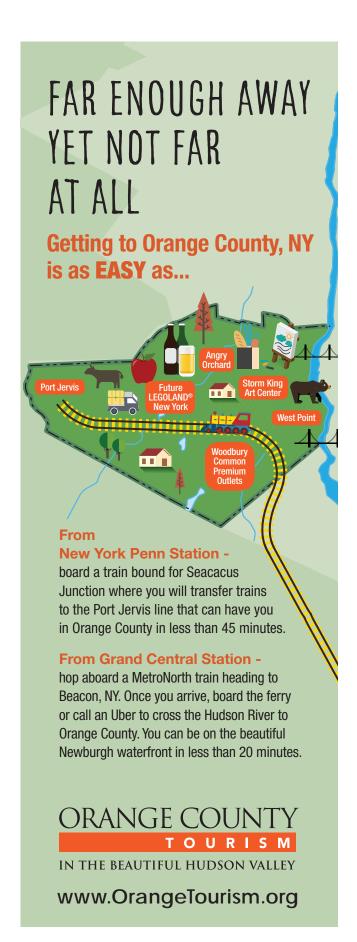
Whether traveling for work or fun, see where the train can take you this year - we look forward to welcoming you aboard.

Richard Anderson

Amtrak President and Chief Executive Officer









2019

www.NewYorkByRail.com







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From Our Publisher

Interest remains strong in Amtrak nationwide especially in New York By Rail's coverage area throughout New York, Canada and eastern Vermont. We hope this 16th annual edition of New York By Rail provides ample reasons to plan a

getaway to rail-accessible destinations to explore unique attractions, outdoor adventures, fantastic events and other fun activities.

New York By Rail provides year-round information to many rail-minded travelers, like you, during various stages of your Amtrak getaway. In addition to our award-winning print magazine, you often find us at NewYorkByRail.com after searching topics online. We're happy to offer useful travel ideas by navigating you to the nearest Amtrak station, suggesting the best connections from the train station to your final destination and providing estimated travel times. Many of you have discovered

the ease of booking all-inclusive New York By Rail Travel Packages to popular destinations such as Montréal, Niagara Falls, Saratoga, Lake George and the Hudson River Valley.

More than ever, many of you are sharing Amtrak experiences with New York By Rail. Your enjoyable rail experiences often occur onboard the train, whether it's riding solo, among friends or with family. We're glad to hear, through your letters, emails and posts, that you've gained family bonding time, seen breathtaking views and met interesting people on the train. One couple told us about a day trip on Amtrak taken for the sole purpose of relaxing with each other on the train. (See Train Talk on pages 8-9 for a sampling of passenger experiences.)

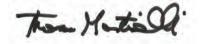
One of my favorite train-trips this past year was riding Amtrak to New York City with my 10-year old son to experience his first New York Knicks basketball game at Madison Square Garden. Avoiding car traffic and the ease of getting to

> the game from Penn Station - along with an exciting Knicks' overtime victory - made this trip even more enjoyable.

> Another recent, notable Amtrak-related family experience occurred when my father was honored by the City of Yonkers with its inaugural lifetime achievement award on his 90th birthday. His efforts to both restore the Yonkers train station and as the leading force behind convincing Amtrak to add a stop in Yonkers were cited among his major accomplishments during his six terms as Mayor of Yonkers during the 1970s and 1980s. (Read Phil Pepe's first-hand account, "How the City

of Yonkers Won an Amtrak Stop", on pages 37-39). Dad's legacy will live on for train riders and Yonkers residents through a special plague dedicated in his honor at the Yonkers train station prior to his passing last fall.

Now more than ever is a great time to ride Amtrak! Whether it's a day trip or multi-day journey, Amtrak can make it more enjoyable. Keep sharing your stories!



Thomas Martinelli Publisher & Chief Content Officer







– NEW YORK – _____ BY RAIL ____

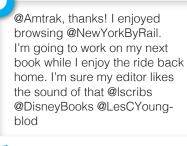
TRAIN TALK

Correspondence from our passengers and our friends on social media



Two days ago, I was waiting for my luggage at Albany Airport, and I picked up a copy of New York By Rail... My mother and sister were on the cover, the first two people on the right sitting at the table. Needless to say, we now have copies of New York Rail on all of our coffee tables!

- Diana O





Subject: Good Catch!



The Montreal Formula 1 Grand Prix race does not take place on the city's streets. It takes place on the Circuit Gilles Villeneuve.

- Vincent S



Your 2018 New York by Rail Guide, page 97, has a downtown skyline shot that's definitely NOT Buffalo. This is a great destination city on Amtrak with signature architecture. Please correct in future publications.

- Ann P





Subject: Fabulous Beekman Boys

My wife and I just got back from an Amtrak trip to NYC [from Rensselaer Station]. I read your magazine. It was great. 'Nice to see my friends Josh and Brent, "The Fabulous Beekman Boys," featured. I am a writer and radio broadcaster and have worked with them in Sharon Springs on many events. They are fantastic.

— Chuck D

I enjoyed an issue of New York By Rail that I picked up while planning a trip (especially a story on the Beekman Boys).

- Maria R



Thank you for the great train ride from Montreal to NYC!

- The Casol Family

.. Along the Hudson River [on Amtrak], one of the loveliest train rides in the eastern US. @BennetCornelius



Subject: Terrific Train Ride

Today was my first solo train ride... My trip from Buffalo to NYC was absolutely lovely. Train travel proved to not only be less stressful than alternative methods, but also very beautiful and freeing. Along the way. you get a chance to imagine the stories held in every big city and small town and gaze at the countryside in between; all parts of New York that you would otherwise miss! This is by far the most romantic way to get from point A to point B.

David D

-Enter

Explore the Mohawk Valley and its canal-side communities by taking a day cruise on the Erie Canal... @NewYorkByRail can get you there! @NYSCanalCorp



Midtown Manhattan is very walkable from Amtrak. Last August, I easily walked to Rockefeller Center and then to the Asian Society on Park Ave. By hoofing it, I saw things I might have missed by cab or subway, including the statues at Grand Army Plaza, a open-air bookstore and buying from a food stall outside of Central Park.

Peppa C

Enter



The statue Pomona atop the Pulitzer Fountain in Grand Army Plaza.

Subject: Morning Sunrise

I have found Amtrak a great way for me to travel from my home in Upstate NY to Manhattan for both business and pleasure. You would have to be crazy to drive into New York City. The train is much less stressful and just as fast. I can read along the way, when not enjoying the everchanging scenery and snapping a few photos with my phone.

- Caroline C



Hudson River from train, in the morning, south of Bear Mountain Bridge.



Subject: Winter Delight

Presidents Day, my wife and I boarded an Amtrak train from Poughkeepsie to Albany at 11:55 a.m... I was glued to the frozen, midwinter landscape as the full-moon tide pushed upriver. We saw 30 bald eagles, many just yards from the window. Marinas and riverfront parks were packed up. We felt winter's grip through the glass window as we watched the blowing snow from the warm cafe car.

We reached the stunning Albany train terminal by 1:00 p.m.. An hour later, after hot chocolate, a newspaper and soup, we got on the southbound train back to Poughkeepsie.

In spring, summer and fall, I want to be on the river where I can launch a boat, but in winter, a warm train with a soft seat and a big window is a great way for two people to spend time together.

-- John W

Had a great time Wednesday exploring Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site. Keep a lookout when you're on the train for a story in New York By Rail on Montgomery County (featuring your favorite local kayak business).

- Down By The River Kayak Rentals



NEW YORK -BY RAIL ___

We want to hear about your experiences on the train. We love photos, too! Contact us by email at editor@NewYorkByRail.com, or at:



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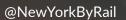
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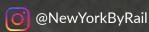


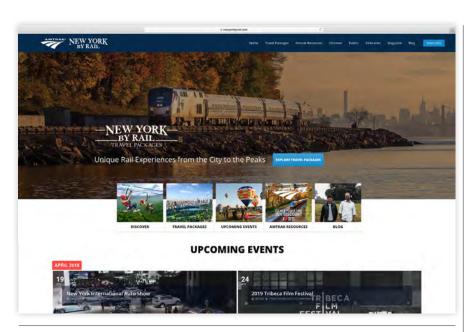
Join the Conversation











Discover

Explore New York, Vermont and Canadian destinations reachable via Amtrak and access timely travel information to help plan your rail getaway. Looking for a pristine sandy beach? An amusement park? A hike to a waterfall? A hip restaurant? A romantic getaway? A casino? You'll find out how to do all of these things, and so much more with NewYorkByRail.com, your detailed source of information on places to



visit and things to do in New York City, the Hudson River Valley, Capital-Saratoga Region, Adirondacks, western New York, eastern Vermont and Canada. NewYorkByRail.com is your gateway to hundreds of hot spots!

For information more visit:

NewYorkByRail.com/Amtrak/Destination Amtrak.com



Upcoming Events

Amtrak takes you to top regional events! Check NewYorkByRail.com regularly for cool happenings all year long.

For information more visit:

NewYorkByRail.com/Upcoming-Events

The Local Guide



THINGS TO DO

The best of each featured destination, landmarks, and more.



FOOD & DRINK

Browse award-winning dining, local hostpots, and all things culinary.



WHERE TO STAY

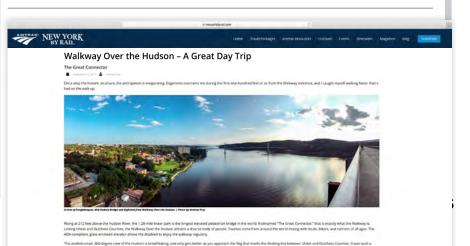
Upscale, boutique and modern lodging across the region.

Blogs

Enjoy first-hand accounts, accompanied by numerous photos and video clips, about our favorite destinations throughout the region. Learn about train-friendly destinations, profiles of train enthusiasts, historical lookbacks, and special Amtrak offers.

For information more visit:

NewYorkByRail.com/Blogs



NEW YORK-BY RAIL



DESTINATIONS

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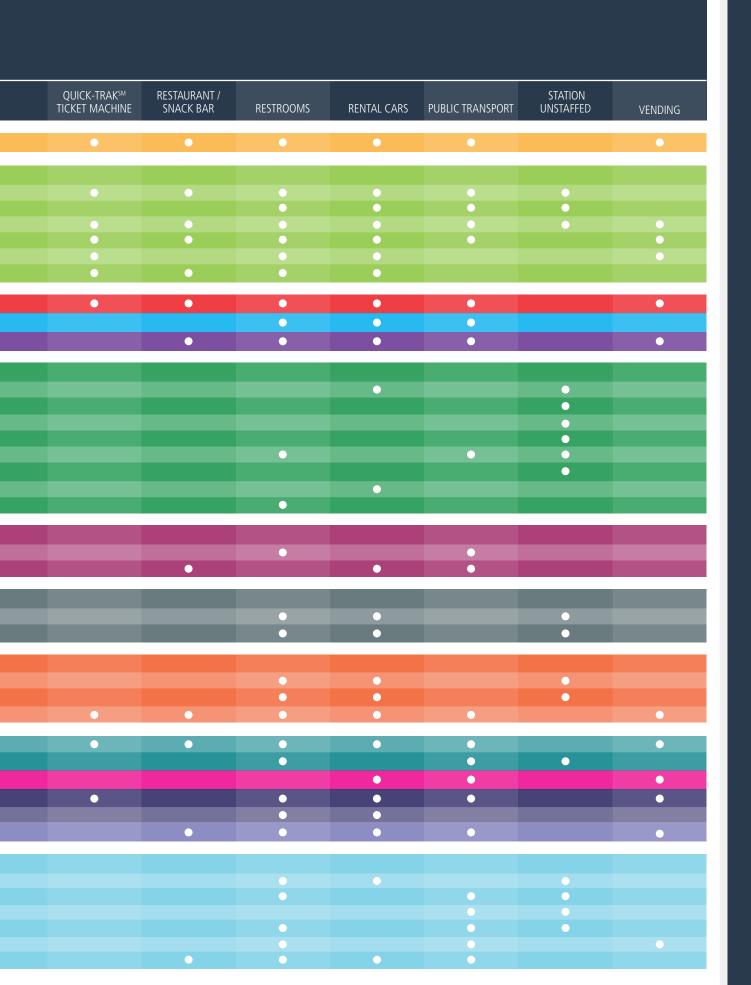
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PA



STATION SERVICES GUIDE

STATION	ATM	BAGGAGE SERVICE	Enclosed Waiting Area	FREE PARKING	PAID PARKING	
New York City-Penn (NYP)	•	•	•		•	
HUDSON RIVER VALLEY						
New Rochelle (NRO)						
Yonkers (YNY)			•		•	
Croton-Harmon (CRT)						
Poughkeepsie (POU)	•		•		•	
Rhinecliff-Kingston (RHI)						
Hudson (HUD)	•	•	•		•	
Albany-Rensselaer (ALB)	•	•	•	•	•	
Schenectady (SDY)		•	•		•	
Saratoga Springs (SAR)	•	•	•		•	
ADIRONDACKS						
Fort Edward-Glens Falls (FED)				•		
Whitehall (WHL)						
Ticonderoga (FTC)			•			
Port Henry (POH)				•		
Westport (Lake Placid) (WSP)					•	
Port Kent (PRK)						
Plattsburgh (PLB)			•			
Rouses Point (RSP)				•		
QC, CANADA						
St. Lambert (SLQ)			•	•		
Montreal (MTR)	•	•	•		•	
VERMONT (West)						
Castleton (CNV)			•	•		
Rutland (Killington Okemo) (RUD)			•	•		
CENTRAL NEW YORK						
Amsterdam (AMS)				•		
Rome (ROM)			•	•		
Utica (UCA)	•	•				
Syracuse (SYR)	•	•	•	•	•	
N Y S Fair (Seasonal) (NYF)			•			
Rochester (ROC)	•	•	•	•		
Buffalo-Depew (BUF)	•		•	•		
Buffalo-Exchange Street (BFX)			•	•	•	
Niagara Falls (NFL)			•	•		
ON, CANADA						
Niagara Falls (NFS)						
St. Catherines (SCA)						
Grimsby (GMS)						
Aldershot (AST) Oakville (OKL)						
Toronto (TWO)	•					
Toronto (TVVO)						







EVERYDAY DISCOUNTS

SENIORS: Travelers, ages 65 and over, receive a 10% discount off the lowest applicable rail fare on most Amtrak trains. A valid government-issued I.D. may be requested as proof of age.

CHILDREN: One child, ages 2 to 12, receives a 50% discount off most Amtrak rail fares to all Amtrak destinations when accompanied by at least one person paying an adult rail fare. One child's discount is permitted per adult traveler.

MILITARY: Active-duty military personnel, their spouses and their dependents receive a 10% discount off most Amtrak rail fares anywhere in the United States. A valid active-duty United States Armed Forces I.D. is required.

GROUP AND CONVENTION TRAVEL: Passengers traveling together in groups of 20 or more are eligible for a group discount. Discount options are offered at Amtrak's discretion. Visit **Amtrak.com** or call 1-800-USA-1GRP.

RAIL PASSENGERS ASSOCIATION (formally NARP): Members receive a 10% discount off most Amtrak rail fares. Reservations must be made at least three days in advance. Visit **RailPassengers.org**.

SEE NEW YORK AND SAVE!

15% discount off the regular (full) adult rail fare, and one child, ages 2 to 12, may receive a 50% discount on Amtrak within New York State on selected service routes and from New York State to Montreal and St. Lambert, Canada.

Purchase tickets at least five days in advance, between May 27, 2019 and May 26, 2020, for travel between June 1, 2019 and May 31, 2020. Blackout dates apply.

This offer is available on the Deals page on Amtrak.com and on the I Love NY website at ILoveNY.com/Travel-Tools/Transportation/Amtrak-Discount.



For terms and conditions on these special offers, go to Amtrak.com



Earn points towards your train travel, hotel rewards, car rentals,

retail and entertainment gift cards and more through the Amtrak Guest Rewards® program. Membership is free. Join today at **Amtrak.com/GuestRewards** or call 1-800-307-5000.

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Amtrak.com

Where Can Amtrak Take You?

THE GREAT NEW YORK STATE FAIR

August 21 - September 2, 2019

Take AMTRAK to Syracuse (SYR) to enjoy the New York State Fair. Use the SEE NEW YORK AND SAVE! 15% discount off one regular (full) adult fare. In addition, one child, ages 2 to 12, may receive a 50% discount on Amtrak within New York State on selected service routes, traveling with an adult. Purchase tickets at least five days in advance. Blackout dates apply. Available on Amtrak.com and ILoveNY.com/traveltools/transportation/amtrak-discount/.



VISIT VERMONT

Ride the Ethan Allen Express and get a 20% discount! Valid for travel through October 31, 2019 on Amtrak between stations in Vermont. This discount applies to the regular (full) adult fare. Each adult may bring one child, ages 2 to 12, at 50% off the regular (full) adult fare. Blackout dates apply. Seats are limited and must be reserved at least three days in advance. This offer is available exclusively through VermontVacation.com.



For complete terms and conditions on these special offers, go to Amtrak.com or NewYorkbyRail.com.

RAILS TO RECOVERY

Take Amtrak to get medical care!



In 2015, when Barry Shannon of Selkirk, New York was diagnosed with neurotropic melanoma, a rare cancer, he began making monthly trips to Sloan Kettering in New York City for treatments. He commuted by car until he discover Amtrak's Rails to Recovery program, which offers two-for-one tickets

on its Empire Service. Now he boards the train at Albany-Rensselear station (ALB) with a caregiver - usually his wife or a friend – gets off at Penn Station (NYP), then takes a subway to whatever doctor's office or hospital he needs to visit.

"It's definitely helpful, just the savings alone, otherwise I wouldn't always be able to bring someone to help me every time," says Shannon, who has balance issues and doesn't walk steadily. He also appreciates the ability to board Amtrak trains earlier than other passengers.

"My doctors use to ask me why my blood pressure was so high when all I did was drive into the city," he says, "On the train, I can sit back, chat or take a nap."

If you or a loved one has a serious illness and must travel for specialized medical care, Amtrak reduces the stress and financial burden through its Rails to Recovery program. In partnership with Voices of Hope, a nonprofit organization based in Albany whose mission is to support families touched by life-altering conditions. Reservations are required and must be made at least three days prior to travel. You must register for the program through one of Voices of Hope's participating partners. Those groups include the American Cancer Society, the American Heart Association, the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Ronald McDonald House of the Capital Region and numerous other foundations dedicated to assisting people with serious illnesses.

"This is a life-saving program," says Sandy Nardoci, Voice of Hope co-founder. "Traveling with a serious illness is a struggle for people, not only physically but also financially. We're grateful to Amtrak. It makes a difference."

VoicesoftheCapitalRegion.org.

Amtrak.com



Take Your Pet on the Train



Bring your dog or cat, up to 20 pounds, on your next Amtrak trip for just \$26.00 or 800 Amtrak Guest Rewards® points per travel segment. Here's how:

- Make a reservation for your pet on Amtrak.com by calling 1-800-USA-RAIL or visiting a staffed Amtrak station. From New York City to destinations in Upstate New York and Vermont, small pets can travel on the Adirondack, Maple Leaf (excluding Canada), Empire Service and Ethan Allen Express.
- Only five pets one per passenger are allowed on a train, first come, first served.
- Duration of travel with a pet is limited to seven hours or less, including transfer times.
- Your pet must travel in a carrier that fits under your seat and counts as one carry-on. It cannot be in checked baggage. It must stay in the carrier for the duration of your trip. **The maximum carrier size is 19" long x 14" wide x 10.5" high.** It should be leak-proof, with good ventilation.
- Pets are only permitted in Coach Class. They cannot ride in sleeping cars, Business Class, café cars or other elsewhere on the train.

- Your pet must be at least eight weeks old, odorless, harmless, quiet and up to date on all vaccines.
- Pets cannot be booked with multi-ride tickets, Thruway Connection Services (coach buses) or unaccompanied minors.
- Service animals trained to perform a task for a person with a disability are not considered pets and are welcome on all Amtrak trains, everywhere passengers are allowed, for no additional fee. The animal must sit under its guardian's seat or at their feet. It may not sit in the aisle, on seats or on beds.
- **Comfort animals** that provide emotional support or relieve anxiety are not permitted onboard unless they can travel as a small pet in an approved carrier. **Note: Animals trained to calm people with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)** are considered service animals.

For complete terms and conditions regarding animals on trains, go to Amtrak.com/pets.

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Amtrak.com

Sample Regional Food & Drink on the Train

Choban

Next time that Chobani yogurt you purchased in Amtrak's café car puts a smile on your face, feel doubly satisfied knowing you're supporting a local New York

State food producer. Founded in 2005 in South Edmeston and headquartered in Norwich, this top-selling Greekstyle yogurt is but one of a number of New York-based products you'll find in the café car.

> Since October 2016. Amtrak has partnered with Taste NY, a program through the state's Department of Agriculture and Markets that creates opportunities for the local farmers and food producers to sell their edibles across the state, including on Amtrak café cars.

Available on the Maple Leaf, Adirondack, Empire Service and Ethan Allen Express, the program allows Amtrak passengers who travel in New York State to eat delicious foods from around the state, such as Always Bagels (Bohemia), KIND bars (Manhattan) and Sweet Sam's Coffee Cakes (Bronx).

Beverages, too! Sample a Brooklyn Defender IPA (Brooklyn), Nine Pin Cider (Albany) or Ommegang Wheat Ale (Cooperstown) in the café car. If you get off the train in Utica (UCA), then take a Thruway bus to Cooperstown, you can visit Brewery Ommegang.

Take Amtrak and literally taste New York! Taste.NY.gov

Take the Train, Then What?

Traveling by train is efficient and relaxing, but the train station is probably not your final destination. It's merely near it. You may be able to walk, but more likely you'll need wheels. Though some public buses stop at Amtrak stations, a taxi, ride-share or rental car are your most likely options. MAMTRAK

Amtrak recently expanded its reach with convenient, affordable Thruway bus connections from its stations in Rochester, Syracuse, Utica, Rutland and Saratoga Springs. Destinations include the National Baseball Hall

of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown; Ithaca, home to renowned Cornell University; Killington and Okemo ski resorts in Vermont; and the resort areas around Lake George.

> If a rental car makes more sense, consider Enterprise, Budget or Hertz. As an Amtrak Guest Rewards® member, you earn bonus Amtrak Guest Rewards® points for every day you rent a car. To reserve a car and get the points, visit Amtrak.com/GuestRewards.

Traveling with Sports Gear *on Amtrak*

Whether you're hiking up or skiing down a mountain, paddling on a river or pedaling beside it, or teeing off at your favorite golf course, New York State is a sports playground. Amtrak stations across the Empire State are the gateways to whatever you play. Taking small items, such as running shoes or skates, on the train is easy, but bigger gear, such as snowboards or wakeboards, requires planning:

Bicycles

The Lakeshore Limited (Trains 48, 49) is the only Amtrak train in New York State that allows bikes on board as checked baggage*. Check your bike train-side for storage inside the baggage car (\$20), which is equipped with bike racks. It must weigh 50 pounds or less, with a maximum tire width of two inches. Sorry, no recumbents, tandems or any bikes that do not meet standard bike dimensions. There is room for only six bikes per train, first come, first served. Passengers are not allowed in baggage cars, so Amtrak personnel must secure your bike in the bike racks. Before handing your bicycle to an Amtrak crew member, please remove oversized seats, saddlebags, handlebar bags or panniers. These items must be consolidated and either checked or carried with you onto the train. This service is only available at select stations and is not available to/from Albany-

Rensselaer (ALB). Advance reservations are required.

While only the Lakeshore Limited allows

regular bikes on board, you may bring a folding bike on other trains as one of your two carryons. It must be smaller than 34" x 15" x 48" when folded, weight 50 pounds or less and have a maximum tire width of two inches. Only true folding bicycles, with frame latches that allow

them to fold up compactly and small tires, may be carried on trains. Please fold up your bike before boarding the train. Please store your folding bike only in luggage storage areas at the end of the car. Do not put it in the overhead racks!

Golf Clubs

Carry them on, depending on the station and the train.

General Sports Equipment

Balls, bats, cleats, fishing rods, helmets, pads, rackets, in-line skates, skateboards, hockey sticks and lacrosse sticks can all be carried on the train if the item is not considered a weapon or hazardous, weighs 50 pounds or less, and dimensionally is not more than 28" x 22" x 14". Bigger than that, you'll need to check it (only on the Lakeshore Limited*).

Ski and Snowboard Gear

Skis/poles and snowboards must be in a bag or hardsided case. You can carry on your snow and water skis, snowboards, boots and ski poles if they weigh 50 pounds or less and are 72" or shorter. Otherwise they need to be

checked (only on the Lakeshore Limited*).

Surfboards and Wakeboards

No carry-ons. Surfboards and wakeboards must be checked in a protective cover or hard-sided case (only on the Lakeshore Limited*).

For baggage fees and complete terms and conditions for sports

equipment on Amtrak

trains, go to Amtrak. com/Special-Items.

*Lakeshore Limited is the only Amtrak train in New York State with a baggage car.

What's Your Line?

Railway companies have historically named specific trains or train services (routes) to raise its profile. Usually, named trains carry prestige for their speed and their limited number of stops between cities. If you're new to train travel in New York and Vermont, here are the named trains you might ride:

Adirondack



A daily service along the Empire Corridor between New York City and Montreal. It takes 10 to 11 hours to cover 381 miles through the Hudson

Valley and the Adirondacks. The train arrives in Montreal or New York City, depending on the direction you're traveling, in time to enjoy dinner.

Empire Service



A service that runs frequently during the day from New York City to Albany, and then west to Niagara Falls, along the 460-mile Empire

Corridor. The name dates back to 1967 when the New York Central Railroad created the service.

Ethan Allen Express



Named for the Revolutionary War hero and one of Vermont's founding fathers, this 241-mile, 5.5-hour service runs between New York

City and Rutland via Albany. It's a great way for skiers and snowboarders to travel to Killington. Between Penn Station and Rensselaer, it operates along the Empire Corridor. In winter, you can also take a Thruway bus from Rutland to Okemo Mountain.

Lakeshore Limited



A scenic, overnight service between Chicago and the Northeast that travels along the Great Lakes and Finger Lakes. It uses the Empire

Corridor in New York. In Albany, it divides, with separate sections heading to New York City and Boston. Amtrak began the service in 1975, though the name dates back to New York Central which pioneered a similar route in 1956.

Maple Leaf



An international service between Penn Station in New York City and Union Station in Toronto that follows the Empire Corridor. The 544-mile

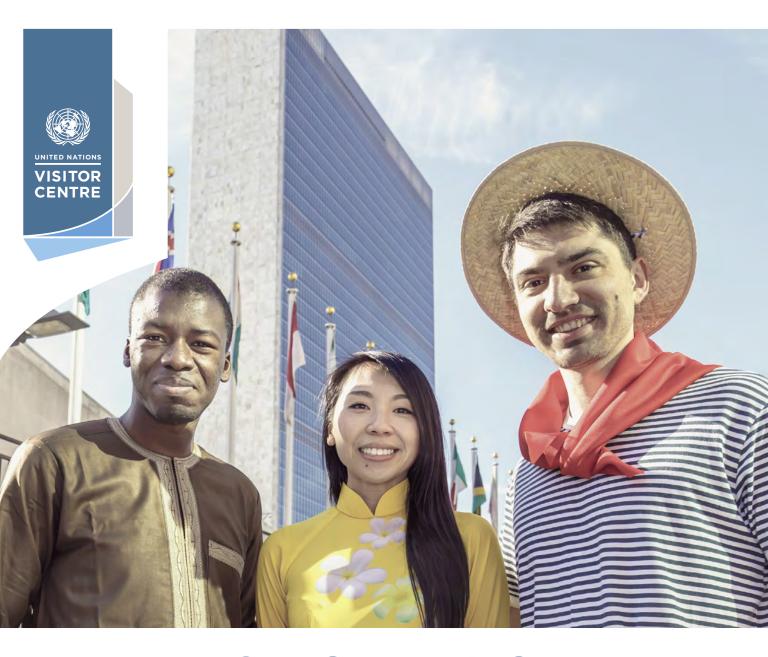
trip, offered daily in both directions, takes 12 hours including two hours for customs and immigration at the U.S.-Canada border.

STUDENTS GET 15% OFF IN NEW YORK STATE!

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New York City



HISTORY

ELLIS ISLAND AND THE STATUE OF LIBERTY

Peruse this former immigration complex's exhibits, including the American Immigrant Wall of Honor. Enjoy a view from the ferry and a tour of NYC's most familiar landmark. *Distance from NYP: 4.3 miles*

▼ STONEWALL INN

Visit the birthplace of the gay rights movement. 2019 marks the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising. Distance from NYP: 1.6 miles



ENTERTAINMENT

MADISON SQUARE GARDEN

Watch the New York Knicks and Rangers, boxing and concerts above Penn Station.

Distance from NYP: 0 mile (It's there!)

RIPLEY'S BELIEVE IT OR NOT! TIMES SQUARE

Collections of odd, freaky artifacts like an albino giraffe, shrunken heads and a portrait crafted entirely from dog hair.

Distance from NYP: 0.5 mile

FOOD & DRINK

GRIMM ARTISANAL ALES

A chic Brooklyn brewery serving specialty and limited-edition ales. Take home growlers, glassware, cans and other memorabilia. Distance from NYP: 5.6 miles

PICCOLA CUCINA OSTERIA

TripAdvisor's 2018 Travelers' Choice winner, this cozy restaurant brings a touch of Sicily to Soho. Its dishes are uniquely crafted by Sicilian native Philip Guardione.

Distance from NYP: 2 miles

MUSEUMS

MUSEUM MILE

Museum-hop eight of NYC's finest collections of art and artifacts from around the globe. Distance from NYP: 3.4 miles

MUSEUM OF ILLUSIONS

Fool your senses with intriguing visual, sensory and educational exhibits.

Distance from NYP: 1.1 miles



ARTS & CULTURE

▼ METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE

One of the world's renowned opera stages where the most talented singers, conductors, composers, musicians and dancers perform. *Distance from NYP: 1.9 miles*



APOLLO THEATER

85th anniversary of Harlem's historic home to jazz, swing, bebop and soul. Distance from NYP: 5.6 miles

FAMILY FUN

FAO SCHWARZ

It's back! The nation's oldest toy store reopens after three years. 20,000-square-feet of kid heaven, now at Rockefeller Center. Distance from NYP: 1.1 miles

GARDENS

NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

Enjoy a walk through 250 acres and more than one million plants. Explore "A World of Plants" inside the historic conservatory. Distance from NYP: 13.5 miles

A New York By Rail Exclusive!

THE B

THE BEST IN THE

BIG APPLE

New York City's top concierges reveal their favorite places to eat, drink, shop and be entertained

New York By Rail surveyed members of the New York City Association of Hotel Concierges to find out what's trending in the city. Here are the current hotspots from those who tell others where to go, exclusively for readers of New York By Rail:

Illustrations by Michael Mantel



WATCH MACY'S THANKSGIVING DAY PARADE AT:

#1 Columbus Circle -

"A big clearing that provides the best view of the balloons. Some restaurants around there also have views so you can avoid the cold."

"One of the few spots where you won't have the limited space of a narrow sidewalk or a building behind you. You also have the added advantage of watching the floats coming down Central Park West and making the turn onto Central Park South." "Since you are closer to the start, the parade ends early so you won't be in the cold for too long."

"Get there early and dress according to the weather report. Don't forget to take care of Mother Nature's needs prior to going. There are no facilities."

HONORABI F MENTIONS

Blue Bird of London

"In the Time Warner Building. It has the best view of the parade as it turns onto Central Park South. It's three stories up, the best height to watch it all. Get an aerial view of Columbus Circle and great prices."

American Museum of Natural History

"Forego the actual parade and watch the balloons get inflated the night before! On Thanksgiving Eve around 5:00 p.m., watch Charlie Brown, SpongeBob and Spiderman come to life!"

Herald Square

"Always stands out as the best place to watch the live performances. You can really feel the full effect of the parade."

50's off Sixth Avenue

"The sidewalks are wider, and access is easier, as several of the buildings have large courtyards. You are not as penned in as you would be further south."

Wayfarer

"A fabulous brunch on Thanksgiving morning with a great view of the parade."

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SIP THE TASTIEST **COCKTAILS AT:**

#1 "The Negroni" – at Dante

"The cocktail of the moment! In the West Village, Dante features every possible combination of the bitter drink one can imagine, plus great Italian cuisine. Try the Negroni Bianco!"

HONORABLE MENTIONS

"The Whiskey Business at Dear Irving, a former speakeasy."

"The Smoking Jacket at The Polo Bar, a sophisticated beverage with the right amount of kick."

> "A Bellini at Harry Cipriani, just a classic place with a classic cocktail."

"Any martini at Bemelman's Bar, an Upper East Side staple."

"Green House Cocktail at Jams Restaurant, made with Dorothy Parker gin, cucumber, kale, celery, citrus and bee pollen."

"Disco Inferno at the Honeywell in Upper West Harlem, one of the many signature drinks at this cozy, laidback basement bar that serves handcrafted cocktails and cool bites inspired by the 1970s." "Any drink at **The Polynesian**, a rooftop tiki bar (They also serve great food)."

> "Attaboy serves creative cocktails built from what you like."

"The Aviary NYC and The Office NYC. These two new spots, by renowned chef Grant Achatz, offer over-the-top, unique cocktails. Reguest a drink reminiscent of a place or emotion, and they'll craft a beverage from a host of ingredients then serve it in a vessel that is all their own."

"Rye Manhattan at Peppi's Cellar (at Nolita). Let Fish make you the best Rye Manhattan on the planet."

"Gin Gin Mule at Pegu Club, the recommended starter drink at this upscale, SOHO cocktail institution, hailed as the epicenter of mixology."

"Besos Caliente at Employees Only, a West Village landmark for the cocktail and great American cuisine. They've won numerous awards for their cocktail program. This one will warm your palate."

"Irish Coffee with a Scotch Egg

at Dead Rabbit. On the Seaport waterfront, have a drink in an Irish pub/cocktail lounge that has won more awards than most. Dead Rabbit has an impressive whiskey menu."

"Lantern's Keep, a specialty cocktail bar that offers drinks inspired by the prohibition era."

HIPPEST PLACE TO SHOP:

— #1 *10 Corso Como* – in the Seaport district

"A concept shop imported from Milan with men's and women's cutting-edge fashion, a book shop, art gallery, garden café and restaurant with a hip lounge feel and a buzzy European vibe."

"Uber trendy restaurant and shop from Milan, a cross between Barney's, Jeffrey's and Assouline Book Store. They have amazing coffee table books, candles, fragrance, avant-garde designer clothing and shoes."



HONORABLE MENTIONS

"FAO Schwartz. Recently reopened in Rockefeller Center with the latest toys, the famous BIG piano and a rocket elevator."

"Nordstroms Men's Store, in midtown. Nordstrom's first and flagship store in NYC. The latest men's fashions, barbershop and bar/lounge. Order a cocktail while you're shopping. Look for the women's store, opening this fall – 6 stories, restaurants, a shopping experience!"

"Mackage in SoHo. Men's, women's and kid's outerwear and hand bags."

"Artists and Fleas in Chelsea. Something for everyone, including vintage items, art, jewelry, soap, you name it. It's the perfect place to buy gifts or treat yourself. If you get hungry, you are at Chelsea Market with food options galore."

"The Real Real. The bricks-and-mortar version of the online secondhand and vintage retailer, chock full of Gucci, Hermes, Louis Vuitton, Prada and Cartier.

Brand authenticators are on staff. It's truly an education in what to look for when purchasing luxury goods."

"Acker Merrall & Condit, Astor Wines+Spirits and Sherry Lehman. The bourbon trend is red hot, and New York has some of the best resources to secure a rare bottle. These three have made bourbon hunters very happy."

"Chop Suey Club, on Hester Street, brings Chinese art and design to NYC."

"November 19 Shop in Hell's Kitchen, for creative houseware and vintage clothing."

"PIQ. The cutest, fun, little knickknacks."

"Tictail Market. New Lower East Side location on Orchard Street. An ever-evolving selection of clothing and accessories from up-and-coming designers."

"Fivestory, in a gorgeous townhouse on the Upper East Side. A curated selection of established designers in a comfortable setting, by a well-connected millennial socialite."

"Dover Street Market on Lexington at 30th Street. A fantastic gallery-like space with high-end streetwear and designers that offer in-store experiences."

"C21 Edition in Century 21 off Church Street, downtown. Week-long, single-label events in a two-story space. Who knew you could get a discount and brand-name labels?"

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WHERE TO GO AT 2 A.M.:

—— #1 The Box -

- "The shows go usually until sunrise and gets naughtier as the night goes on."
- "A burlesque show with more than you bargained for."
- "For fun and craziness."
- "Unique, great crowd. An NYC staple."
- "Hottest party in NYC."
- "This place is an absolute after-hour spot. The show will leave you speechless. New York is all about being different, and this place will definitely surprise you."

- HONORABLE MENTIONS -

- "L'Express. On Park Avenue South in Gramercy Park, classic French bistro fare in a Parisian Cafe setting. It's buzzy with a great late-night vibe, and the steak frites are not to be missed."
- "Empanada Mama. Open 24-hours. Many delicious Empandas and great Sangria."
- "Lavo Niteclub. A young, vibrant scene with electronic and pop music."
- "Peculier Pub. A casual pub with in the West Village with an awesome selection of brews from all over the world. Pay as you go. Cash only."
 - "The 18th Room. A lesser-known speakeasy with amazing cocktails and a great atmosphere.
 - "Haswell Green for sing-along live music. Yell out your request."
- "Terra Blues. Live blues music on Fridays and Saturdays. A Greenwich Village gem."
- "Sarge's Delicatessen in Murray Hill. Expansive deli menu including some of the best corn beef in the city. Everything is delicious and fresh!"
- "Nurse Bettie on the Lower East Side. Great music, killer cocktails and maybe a burlesque show."
 - "Bembe in Williamsburg, for live drummers and DJs spinning Brazilian beats and World music."
- "Odessa in Alphabet City, for pirogies, disco fries and chocolate chip pancakes."
- "Sing Sing. A popular karaoke bar with private rooms."
- "Insomnia Cookies. Warm cookies delivered wherever you are for instant pleasure."
- "Hide-Chan Ramen on East 52nd Street. Nothing beats the cold-weather blues like some fresh, hot ramen."
 - "Crimson Tide in the Lipstick Building. Finish off with a highly crafted cocktail at this Michelin-starred establishment."



For a limited time, Amtrake ticket holders can enjoy up to 15% off the Best Available Rate exclusively at these six Hilton Worldwide Hotels in New York City.



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and ask for plan code RM or RM1 or book online at **www.highgate-nyc.com/amtrak**.



WATCH THE NEW YORK CITY MARATHON AT:

- #1 Central Park

"Easy to get to and near the finish line."

"Picturesque, close to the finish line."

"Loeb Boathouse, inside Central Park. There's nothing like being inside the park and feeling the energy of the runners while having quiet from the outside streets."

"The finish line in Central Park, because you don't have to wake up so early."

HONORABLE MENTIONS

"2nd Avenue and the 59th Street Bridge. The runners cross the quiet bridge, then the impact of the cheering crowds, the bands and music greeting them."

"Central Park South. The runners go through here before entering Central Park to the finish line. You get a good view of the marathon and, since it's the last stretch of the race, you don't need to get up early to see it."

"By the Ritz Carlton or Plaza Hotel, because it is near the end of the course"

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"Running it!"

"Greenpoint, Brooklyn near the Pulaski Bridge. Half-way point. Lots of viewing space."

"Outside of Manhattan. Select a spot with the added appeal of shopping or dining when you've grown tired of watching the runners. You gain a perspective of another borough and an energy that might not otherwise be available if you were to visit that neighborhood on any other Sunday. Take the subway, as opposed to a taxi, and carry some form or encouragement for the runners like a sign or a banner. You'll be a local within 10 minutes of standing shoulder to shoulder in that neighborhood."

"Park Slope in Brooklyn. People dance, play music, cook on the sidewalk, and you'll see the most creative motivational posters. Bonus points if you have a friend with a rooftop along the route."

"1st Avenue at 60th/61st Street. As the runners come off the downhill from the Ed Koch Queensboro Bridge on the final stretch uptown."

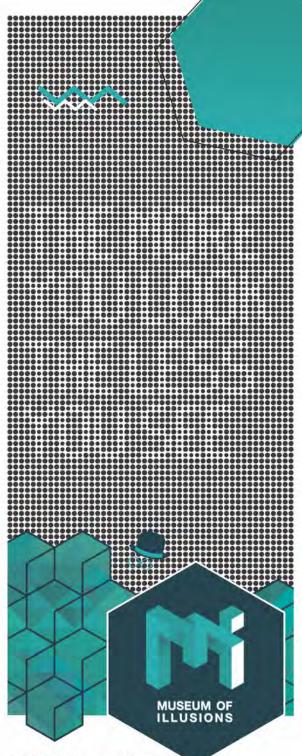
"110th Street at 5th Avenue for that final stretch into Central Park and the finish line."

"4th Avenue in Brooklyn. You can have a beer and enjoy the race at the beginning when people are super energetic."

"Marcus Garvey Park in Harlem. This is mile 21 where people need support the most. As a seven-time marathon finisher, support towards the end of the race is what the runners need."

Founded in 1987, the New York City Association of Hotel Concierges® is a not-for-profit organization modeled after Union Internationale des Concierges d'Hôtels (Les Clefs d'Or International), the international professional organization of hotel concierges, and Les Clefs d'Or USA, its U.S. chapter. Its 200 members are professional lobby-level concierges throughout the New York metropolitan area, representing over 24,000 hotel rooms. nycahc.org

For more information on these and other things to do in New York City, go to NewYorkByRail.com. To travel there by train, go to Amtrak.com for tickets and schedules.



77 Eighth Avenue, New York newyork@museumofillusions.us

Monday to Thursday 9 am - 10 pm Friday to Sunday 8 am - 11 pm



y favorite places in Central Park include
The Pond for bird-watching, Turtle Pond
by Belvedere Castle because it teems with
turtles, Loeb Boathouse when I feel like rowing beneath
picturesque Bow Bridge, and Wollman Rink for ice skating. I
gravitate toward my usual haunts with such regularity that I
stopped visiting other areas of the park. One day, I made a
point to explore more of its 840-acres and discovered these
secret gems:

Hallett Nature Sanctuary I started my day at Hallett Nature Sanctuary, a woodland near East 62nd Street. It's tricky to find because it has only one entrance, a rustic wooden gate which opens at 10:00 a.m. I was the first person to enter that morning.

As I hiked down the mulch paths, chirping birds drowned out the sounds of the city. I wandered for a half-hour, enjoying every viewpoint, the higher ones of the cityscape and the lower ones of The Pond. The longer I walked through this peaceful sanctuary, the more I convinced myself that I was in the woods in upstate New York.

Dene Slope Dene Slope, near East 66th Street, is a hillside,

wildflower meadow that blooms white, yellow, pink, magenta and lavender. I'd never seen so many monarch butterflies in Central Park until I found this meadow, which is also a good spot for people-watching.

Swedish Cottage Swedish Cottage is a two-story, 19th century log cabin near West 79th Street at the foot of the Shakespeare Garden. It was built in Sweden for America's Centennial Exposition in 1876 in Philadelphia. A year later, Frederick Law Olmsted, co-designer of Central Park, brought the cottage to its current location. In 1973, the park built a permanent theater inside the cottage. Since then, thousands of families have enjoyed productions, like *Peter Pan* and *Cinderella*, for a nominal fee.

Ravine Walk The Ravine Walk runs through Central Park's North Woods. This secluded path meanders along The Loch, a stream that runs from the Huddlestone Arch near 105th Street to Glen Span, another arch near Lasker Rink. Along the way, there are a half-dozen waterfalls of varying heights, as well as the two impressive stone arches. As I walked, chipmunks ran across the path, and birds chirped from within the thick canopy of trees.

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Conservatory Garden My last stop of the day was the six-acre Conservatory Garden in the northeast corner of the park, which is actually three formal gardens in three different styles - Italian, French and English.

I entered the garden through the ornate, wroughtiron Vanderbilt Gate on Fifth Avenue between 104th and 105th Streets. The majestic gate serves as a visual entryway, perfectly framing the centerpiece fountain in the Italian garden. Behind the fountain, a pergola overgrown with wisteria vines served as a lush backdrop.

I continued north into the French garden, with its circular paths. Several arched trellises led to the center of the garden, with its stately sculpture of three dancing women. Bright blue, pink, yellow, orange and purple blooms lined the pathways. Some of the flowers were only ankle-high, while others towered over me.

In the English garden, a variety of flowers and shrubs grew beside its stone walkways. The fountain at the center of this garden pays tribute to the book, The Secret Garden, written in 1922 by Frances Hodgson Burnett.



The Conservatory Garden was my last stop in Central Park, but only for that day. I had discovered five sanctuaries in the park, all places that I'm eager to return to and share with my friends and family. O

To read Lisa Field's complete story about Central Park's Secret Gems, go to NewYorkByRail.com/Secret-Gems-Of-Central-Park

DO IT BY TRAIN! Take Amtrak to Penn Station (NYP).

For Hallett Conservatory and Dene Slope, walk one block east to the 34th Street Herald Square subway station, then take an uptown N, R or W train to the Fifth Avenue/59th Street station.

For the Swedish Cottage, take an uptown C train to the 81st Street-Museum of Natural History station.

For the Ravine Walk and Conservatory Garden, take an uptown 2 or 3 train to the Central Park North (110th Street) station.



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45 East 45th Street & Madison Avenue adjacent to Grand Central Station





COUTURE CRYSTAL

LAUTREC introduces luxurious, sensual stemware

Artist/designer, Rene Lautrec, has a new, creative venture, LAUTREC Crystal. It's elegant. It is truly the apex of form, function and art.

LAUTREC crystal took three years to develop. What inspired you?

RL: Art is more than a museum piece. It is a functional component of life. Our lives are made richer by art and artistry. I am attracted to items that are organic. What is more organic than enjoying good food and drink with friends and family?

How do you approach the design of your stemware?

RL: The waterdrop shape is key. It is a metaphor for life and a recurring theme in my crystal line. Each piece enhances the dining experience.

What makes LAUTREC Stemware unique?

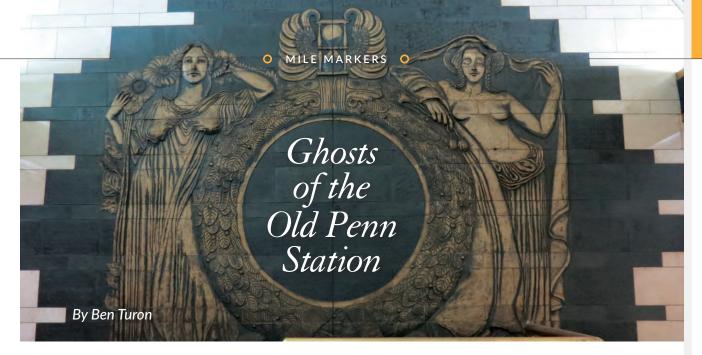
RL: My crystal is lead-free. The form contributes to the strength. The chemistry reflects the light like a diamond. The etching is 24k gold and will never come off. Our achievements are due to the execution of the design. Our artisans are masterful.

What do you consider your signature piece?

RL: Each piece is like my child. Each is unique. I've watched people sample wine with the flavors of the terrior [earth] in the Bordeaux wine glass. Their expressions were inspiring. LAUTREC Stemware makes a statement.

Experience LAUTREC crystal-ware in the world's best hotels, including the Four Seasons, Ritz-Carlton and Mandarin Oriental, fine restaurants, cruise lines and better department stores beginning Summer 2019.

LAUTREC.co



he original Pennsylvania Station may be long gone, but if you know where to look, you can still find ghosts of it in the current station.

The Eagles. The original Penn Station, which opened in 1910, featured four identical groups of sculptured eagles and maidens flanking the clocks over the porticos of the four main entrances. They were the work of famed architec-

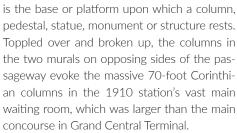
tural sculptor and coin engraver, Adolph Alexander Weinman.

During the demolition of Penn Station during the 1960s, the eagles were saved and transferred across the nation. Two of them are back, facing Seventh Avenue in front of the Two Penn Plaza skyscraper and flanking the entrance to Madison Square Garden.

Ghost Series Murals. The Ghost Series are five bas-relief terra cotta murals by Andrew Leicester and installed on the Long Island Railroad (LIRR) Concourse on Penn Station's lower level. They were installed in the 1990s to evoke memories of the former, demolished station.

The first mural, "Day and Night", depicts two allegorical maidens. It is located at the east end of the LIRR's North Concourse. Along with the eagle sculptures, the maidens made up the sculptural group by Weinman that flanked the clocks over the old station's entrances. During demolition of the old station, the maidens (along with most of the old station's stonework) were dumped in the Jersey Meadowlands, a large wetland in New Jersey. A photograph taken in 1966 by New York Times photographer Eddie Hausner of one of the stone women upside down in the Meadowlands became an iconic image of the loss of the former station.

Nearby, in the 34th Street passage at the east end of the LIRR's North Concourse, is the mural, "Plinth". A plinth



Other Leicester murals include a porcelainon-steel rendering of the blueprints of the

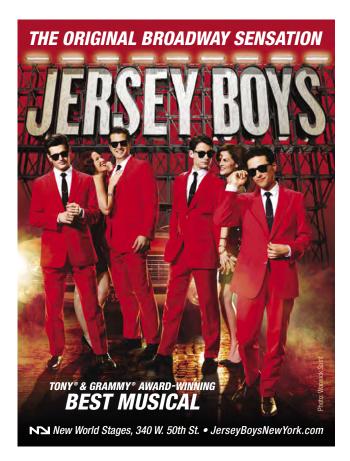
original station and a sculpture reproduction called "Mercury Man", located over a staircase down to the platform for Tracks 20 and 21, midway down the LIRR's North Concourse.

Original Staircases. Below both the "Day and Night" and "Mercury Man" murals, and elsewhere in the station, are staircases with decorative brass and wrought iron railings. These are original from the 1910 station along with a castiron partition at the entrance to the LIRR waiting room and the glass block ceilings that once allowed daylight to reach track level but are now dark.

Such functional pre-demolition relics likely survived due to the need to keep the station open during the demolition and reconstruction, to cut costs and because they are located on the less prominent commuter-level of the station.

More Ghosts. On the upper Amtrak level in Penn Station, the original stainless-steel "Mad Men" clocks are mounted on the ceiling. In images of the original 1910 station, you can see similar large-diameter, double-sided clocks hanging from the ceiling in the main waiting room and train concourses. The current clocks, though from the 1960s, are similar and worthy of preservation. They can be found on the east end of the Amtrak rotunda and in the passageway to the main station entrance on Seventh Avenue. O

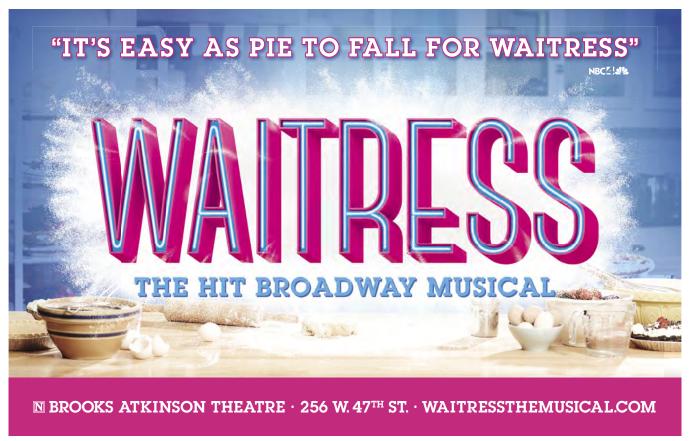






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How the City of Yonkers Won an AMTRAK Stop...

After years of failed efforts

By Phil Pepe, Jr.

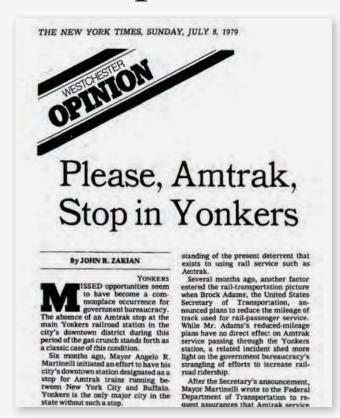
n Amtrak stop for Yonkers, New York? It made good sense. After all, Yonkers is the largest municipality in Westchester County and the fourth largest city in the state, with 200,000 residents. It's perched above the Bronx, with 1.4 million residents, and the Yonkers Main Station on the Hudson River Line is an historic and elegant edifice. Still, it would take the unwavering dedication of a committed mayor, Angelo R. Martinelli, the helpfulness of U.S. Senator, Alfonse M. D'Amato and a chance remark by then Amtrak president, the legendary railroad man, W. Graham Claytor, to make it happen.

Earlier attempts to have the station designated as an Amtrak stop were declined by New York State over concerns about the running time between New York City and upstate New York, especially to Albany. If trains took too long, the thinking went, people would drive rather than take Amtrak.

In the 1970s, I was a new resident in Yonkers, working for the New York State Cooperative Extension. On several occasions, needing to travel to Albany, I elected to go on Amtrak, but my choices were either to travel south to New York City, board Amtrak, then ride north on those same tracks, or take a commuter train to Croton-Harmon and board Amtrak there. There had to be a better way.

In 1981, I ran for a seat on the Yonkers City Council. As a candidate I touted my idea to bring Amtrak to Yonkers. At the





This Westchester Opinion article, written by John R. Zakian, assistant to Mayor Martinelli and published in the New York Times, exemplified Yonkers' aggressive efforts to plead their case through the news media.

time, the Yonkers Main Station was used by one thousand commuters daily. Amtrak seemed a natural addition.

I lost the election but Angelo R. Martinelli, who was running to regain his seat as mayor, won. He liked my ideas and offered me a position as Assistant to the Mayor. He said, "We'll work well together."

Back in office, Mayor Martinelli prioritized commuting conditions. The Yonkers Main Station had fallen into disrepair. The mayor appealed to Metro North President, Peter Stangl, and MTA Chairman, Richard Kiley, arranging a personal tour of the station for both men, and got a promise from

The Yonkers train station, completed in 1911, was designed in Beaux-Arts style by renowned architects, Warren and Wetmore, who also created fascades and interiors for Grand Central Terminal. The exterior of the building is red brick with elaborate dentilled cornices, sculpted brackets, a partial copper roof and light-colored stone trim. This 1940s photograph shows a New York Central train at the station.

In less than two years, a comprehensive renovation to the train station was complete. Handicap-accessible, newly renovated and back to its architectural best, it was again a source of pride in Yonkers and ready to vie for an Amtrak stop. Yet, one challenge remained — how to appeal to Amtrak?

Thanks to their long-time relationship, Senator D'Amato arranged for the mayor and me to meet with Amtrak President W. Graham Claytor and his senior staff in Washington, D.C. Although we had a strong case, history was against us.

On the morning of the meeting, I arrived at the mayor's home at 5:15 a.m. The house was dark. I waited a few minutes, then rang the doorbell. Eventually, the mayor opened the door, dressed in pajamas.

"What the hell are you doing here, Phil?" he asked. "It's five o'clock in morning. You're supposed to pick me up at 7:00 a.m."

"No Mayor, the flight is at 7:00 a.m.!" I replied, urgently. "We have to leave now!"

In short order, the mayor reappeared in a suit, and we were off to LaGuardia Airport. We arrived early in Washington. While waiting for a cab, the mayor spotted a shoeshine stand.

"I'll treat you to a shoeshine," he offered.

I declined. A few minute later, the mayor's shoes shined to a perfect gloss.

As he paid the shoeshine man, he turned to me and said, "Well, we may not win an Amtrak stop, but the president of Amtrak won't be able to say the mayor of Yonkers doesn't have shined shoes."

His statement would prove far more interesting than either of us imagined.

At Amtrak's offices, Claytor welcomed us, wearing a threepiece, dark blue suit, crisp white shirt with monogrammed French cuffs and eye-popping cuff links. He was dressed to sartorial perfection, or so it seemed, until we glanced down at his shoes. His expensive black leather shoes were entirely covered in dirt. He had been inspecting railyards prior to our arrival. We could hardly contain the urge to laugh.





Today, Yonkers train station has features also found in Grand Central Terminal, including triangular lamps over the ticket booths and a vaulted Guastavino tile ceiling.

southern accent, "Welcome Mr. Mayor... but I do not believe you will be successful in getting an Amtrak stop for your fair city."

He went on to say that as a young, married man, he and his wife had lived in southwest Yonkers, on Riverdale Avenue.

"How do you remember that street, Mr. Claytor?" asked the mayor.

"It was a prominent street, two lanes, a primary route, connecting the Bronx to Yonkers," answered the president of Amtrak.

"Well, Mr. Claytor, Riverdale Avenue is now a modern fourlane artery linking the entire upper west side of the Bronx and Manhattan directly to the Yonkers station," said the mayor.

Claytor clearly took note, then ushered us into a meeting room where Amtrak's senior staff had assembled.

"Best wishes, Mr. Mayor," he said, then left.

We began our pitch with the mayor relating his conversation with Claytor about access to Yonkers Main, then made these points:

- The public transportation system nexus and major arterials provided easy access for all of lower Westchester, the upper Bronx and Manhattan, nearly two million residents.
 - Handicap-accessibility.
 - Recently renovations had brought the station back to its historic and architectural best.
 - Yonkers was the only major city in New York State bypassed by Amtrak at the time. Even Rome and Utica had their own stops.
 - Yonkers had more than ample parking.
 - And of key importance, Yonkers is positioned on an S-curve. All approaching trains already slowed

Amtrak Plans a Stop in Yonkers

By ANNE E. RUMSEY

WC

States News Service WASHINGTON IXTY parking spaces and a few signposts are all that stand in the way of new Am-trak rail service at Yonkers, according to Amtrak officials Mayor Nicholas C. Wasicsko of Yon-

Amtrak has given preliminary approval to a new stop at Yonkers, but before the 18 Amtrak trains that roll through the station daily can stop for passengers, a few details must be

worked out. The city must build the parking lot and put up new Amtrak signs, while Amtrak negotiates particulars of scheduling and ticket sales with Metro-North, the commuter railroad that owns the tracks and the station at Yonkers.

Service at the station will probably begin next October, an spokesman said last week.

"We just have to make sure the city will do the things it needs to do, and then we have to negotiate with Metro-North," said David Carol, director of government affairs for the rail line

The city is negotiating with the

Parking Authority, said a mayoral spokesman, Steven Cohn. Yonkers of-ficials said they hoped that the new stop would help revitalize the down-

stop would neip revitalize the down-town neighborhood of the station.

Announcing Amtrak's decision last week, Senator Alfonse M. D'Amato and Representative Joseph J. Dio-Guardi, both Republicane prefetal Guardi, both Republicans, praised Amtrak's decision and predicted quick approval by Metro-North. Mr. D'Amato also said the additional passengers using the station could help neighborhood. The Senator set up the first meetings last year be rail officials and former Mayor

Angelo R. Martinelli of Yonkers.
The new stop "is great news for the residents of Westchester — it will be residents of westchester — it will be a major convenience for area resi-dents," Mr. DioGuardi said. He added that the Yonkers stop would complement the Amtrak station already op-

erating in Croton-on-Hudson.
One critic is the State Department of Transportation, which is worried that the extra stop on the New York to Albany line will cause delays and scheduling problems.

After spending nearly \$100 million to upgrade the tracks and trains three years ago, the Transportation Department is balking at the five-minute stop at Yonkers, fearing it will snarl connecting schedules

"We cut nearly 40 minutes out of

to a crawl there, so a Yonkers stop would not drastically impact running time.

Amtrak's staff was impressed. Earnest discussions began but soon came to a halt when one senior staffer broke the news.

"Mayor, we have pretty much committed to Tarrytown for our new stop."

Tarrytown! We were flabbergasted. Tarrytown was served by only one public bus line, and the station was on a highspeed section of track, meaning all trains would need to brake dramatically in order to stop at the station - a significant loss of running time.

On the bright side, the rest of the meeting focused on what Yonkers had to offer. We left with a commitment by Amtrak to visit Yonkers Main Station and tour Yonkers.

A few weeks later, two Amtrak officials joined us at the station and then for their tour, during which we highlighted the advantages in public transportation routes and the new arterials leading to or near the station. We had made our pitch in Washington and again at home.

We waited. Time passed. We figured hearing nothing meant a lack of interest. Then I received a phone call from Amtrak's Government Affairs officer, Jim Barber.

"Is there a restaurant the Mayor likes near Yonkers City Hall?" he asked.

"Louie's Italian Restaurant on South Broadway," I replied. "Everyone eats there."

"You and Mayor Martinelli, please meet us for lunch on Thursday at noon."

We were on pins and needles. Good news? Lunch and a polite letdown?

On Thursday, we entered Louie's. The two Amtrak officials were already seated in a booth by the window. As we approached they both rose. Jim Barber extended his hand.

"Congratulations, Mr. Mayor!" he said, "You have won an Amtrak stop for your city. Now let's have lunch!"

The mayor was close to tears. He celebrated with his favorite dish, pasta with sauteed broccoli rabe.

At lunch, the Amtrak officials reviewed their research and



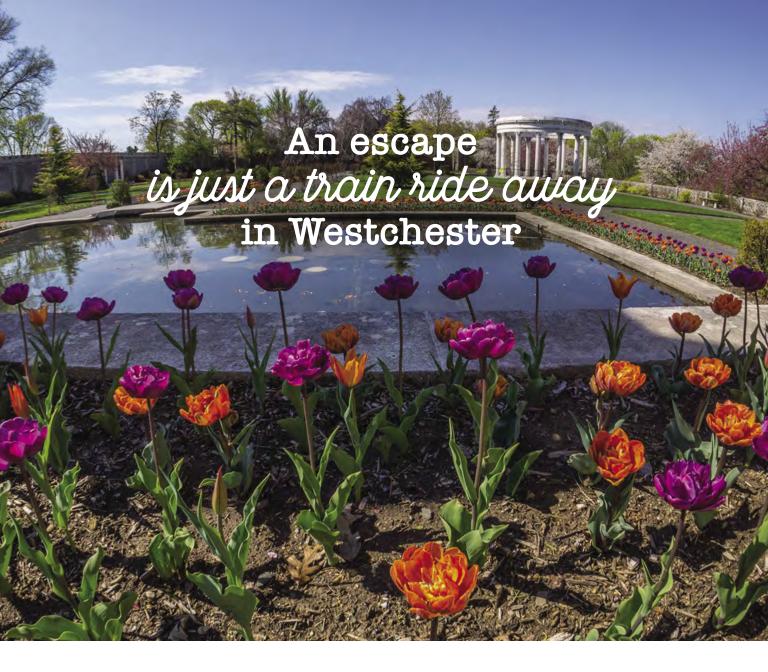
Phil Pepe, Jr. with former Yonkers Mayor Angelo R. Martinelli, on June 28, 2018, at a ceremony in which Yonkers Station was dedicated to Martinelli in an effort spearheaded by Pepe and current Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano.

ridership predictions, which were high. In an understated way, they thanked us for bringing the advantages of Yonkers to the fore, and not Tarrytown.

Finally, after years of failed attempts. We were indebted to Senator D'Amato, and in a different way to W. Graham Claytor for his off-hand remark about living on Riverdale Avenue years prior.

I'm pretty sure the mayor would say that the pasta and broccoli rabe at Louie's that day, was the best he ever had! It had a secret ingredient, the sweetness of a hard won victory.

Now retired, Phil Pepe, Jr. served as Assistant to Yonkers Mayor Angelo R. Martinelli, where he developed and oversaw the mayor's downtown development projects from 1982 to 1986. He then went on be the principal of a public policy and government affairs consulting practice, with clients in manufacturing, rail freight, communications and power generation in the U.S. and Canada.



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THE **GREAT** JACK O'LANTERN BLAZE

On a cool October night, I stand at the entrance to the Great Jack O'Lantern Blaze at Van Cortlandt Manor in Croton-on-Hudson. The Blaze is an annual self-guided tour through the grounds of this 18th-century mansion, with more than 7,000 artisan-carved pumpkins.

The atmosphere of the Blaze is spooky but festive, beginning with a windmill made

entirely of pumpkins. The blades change color as they go around, turning from blue to purple to red to pink.

I walk cross the Pumpkin Zee Bridge. The stanchions of the bridge are completely covered with jack o'lanterns.

Exiting the bridge, I pass a wall of beautiful Celtic knots. Each design is unique and glows with warm, golden light. The knots are a work of art, intricately engraved into pumpkins.

Moving on, I come to another wall of pumpkins arranged to look like stained glass windows.

The next stop has a medieval fantasy theme. Pumpkins are stacked on top of each other. The carvings resemble a flock of owls. A pumpkin wizard stands among the flock, with his wand held high, casting quite a spell!

A magnificent flying unicorn is opposite the wizard, next to a glowing castle guarded by a giant sea serpent. Smaller pumpkins carved like waves surround the serpent, as if it is swimming.

I continue down the path, entering the Zodiacs. I excitedly look for my sign, Libra, which glows a brilliant turquoise.

In the "Pumpkin Planetarium", hundreds of stars carved into pumpkins change from blue to rainbow colors, to the sounds of twinkling, shimmering stars.

Exiting the Planetarium, a moving pumpkin carousel wows me. Skeletal horses float by to eerie amusement park music.





Next, I come to a ginormous spider web on a hillside. The ground is covered with pumpkins, each with a different spider carved into it. Toward the top of the hill, I see larger arachnids, their bodies made up of several pumpkins and their faces that of skeletons. Truly spook-tacular!

Then Lady Liberty stands before me, tall and proud, with her pumpkin torch atop her outstretched arm, illuminating the night sky.

Leaving the Statue of Liberty, I'm swept into the Jurassic Era. Pumpkins form a tyrannosaurus rex, stegosaurus, triceratops, pterodactyl, even a long-necked apatosaurus.

Finally, I reach the manor house, which is decorated with a giant jack o'lantern made of individual pumpkins. The front lawn is covered with pumpkin zombies and hundreds more grinning jack o'lanterns.

Happy Halloween!

To read more about Allyson Macci's visit to the Great Jack O'Lantern Blaze, go to NewYorkByRail.com/Great-Jack-OLantern-Blaze

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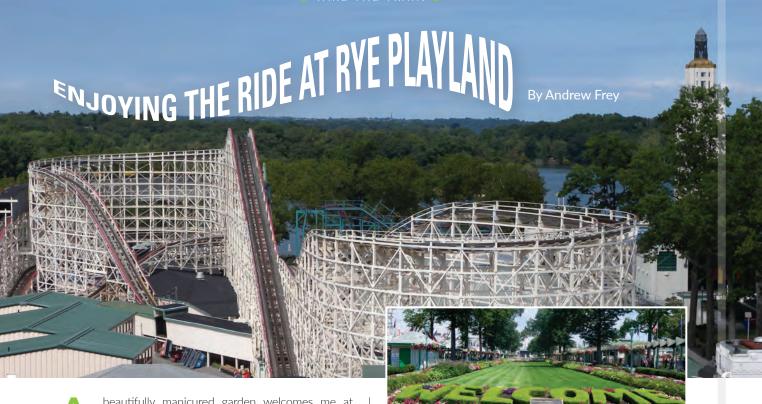
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beautifully manicured garden welcomes me at the gates of Playland in Rye, New York. The scent of popcorn, the roar of the rides and the colorful landscape transport me back to my childhood.

To the left of the entrance is Kiddyland, where children laugh with delight from miniature versions of the rides elsewhere in the park. They fly on the Red Baron plane ride, chug along on the Playland Express train and run excitedly from ride to ride.

To the right, I see go-karts, arcade games and a Carvel ice cream stand. Cone in hand, I make my way toward a dock from which boat rides on Playland Lake depart. Near the shoreline, a child blows out candles to the familiar chorus of "Happy Birthday".

Thrill Rides. After devouring my ice cream, I'm ready for the rides. My first choice is Dragon Coaster. Thrilling people for over 80 years, this landmark, wooden coaster has over 3,400 feet of track, including a 128-foot drop into the mouth of a fire-breathing Dragon!

Other rides at the park include the Crazy Mouse coaster, the Sky Flyer (a giant spinning pendulum), and a vertical 85-foot ride called Double Shot. There's also Derby, one of only two remaining carousels of its kind in the U.S. The horses imitate the motion of real steeple chase steeds!

Beat the Heat. After splashing down the Playland Plunge and Log Flume, I take a leisurely stroll along the Playland Boardwalk, a quarter-mile long, seaside promenade with vast views of Long Island Sound. Along this wide, wooden walkway are comfortable benches, a skating rink and the Westchester County Children's Museum.

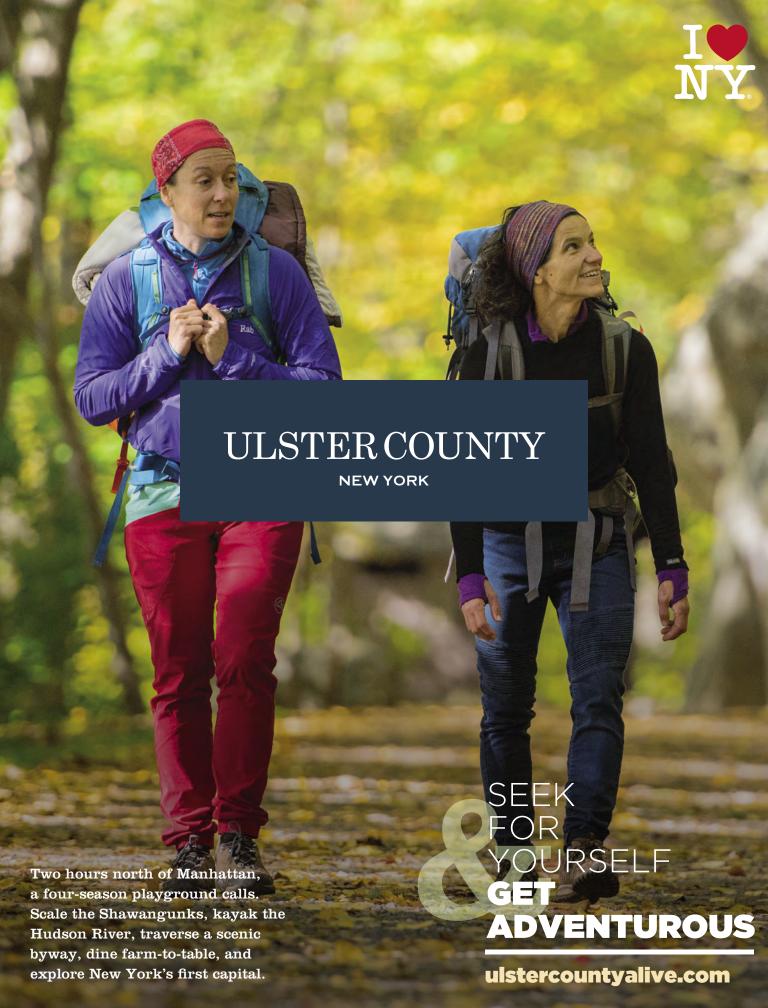
With energy left for one more ride, I head to the Gondola Wheel. Each time I rise to the top of the towering structure, I see the entire park and Long Island Sound.

With its variety of rides, park and waterfront dining, a beach, pool, concerts and Friday fireworks, Playland is unlike any other amusement park. O

To read more about Andrew Frey's visit to Rye Playland, including the history of the park, and for a list of amusement parks throughout New York State, go to NewYorkByRail.com/ Enjoying-the-Ride-at-Rye-Playland.

DO IT BY TRAIN! Take Metro-North to Rye Station (RYE) or Amtrak to New Rochelle Station (NRO). Don't forget to use Amtrak's **SEE NEW YORK AND SAVE!** 15% discount! From RYE: Take Bus 75 or 13 for a 15-minute ride to Playland Park Center Lane.

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Ister County is the perfect getaway from New York City, just 90 miles north and a 1.5-hour Amtrak train ride. This 250,000-acre rural playground has opportunities to bike and hike across the Walkway Over the Hudson or along the county's 350 miles of trails, rock climb at Shawangunk Ridge,

sample farm-to-table restaurants and shop at small-town boutiques. I wanted to experience it all.

Exploring New Paltz. A hidden gem, New Paltz sits at the base of the Mohonk Preserve and Shawangunk Mountains. Strolling down Main Street, I perused the colorful array of unique mom-and-pop shops. One store, Cocoon, sold an eclectic mix of artisanal soaps, jewelry and kitchenware. Another, Heady Teddy's, was a treasure chest of 1960s and 1970s apparel. Street art decorated the outer walls of many local businesses, including an iconic peace symbol towering above Church Street.

I headed to the Wallkill River and Water Street Market. The quirky statues at the street's entrance intrigued me. Picnic and chess tables were sprinkled throughout the area. At Rhino Records, I thumbed through their sizable collection of classic vinyl. Then, at the Antique Center, a massive red barn filled with everything vintage, I lost myself browsing the boundless collection of memorabilia.

Huguenot Street. A walk through this 10-acre National Historic Landmark District transported me back in time. After a tour and watching the reenactments, I understood

what the lives of the founders of New Paltz were like during the 1700's.

Each of the old stone houses was a museum unique to the family that had inhabited it. My favorite was the lavish Deyo House, with its Victorian-era furniture, gold accents and a functioning player piano.

Lake Minnewaska State Park. Looking for a hike, I drove to picturesque Lake Minnewaska State Park. A haven for swimming, paddling, hiking, biking and climbing, my short hike took me to the top of one of the park's immense cliffs for a view of its mountaintop lake.

Determined to go for a bike ride, too, I rented a bike, then pedaled the new River-to-Ridge Trail, a six-mile loop to the Shawangunk Ridge.

The Rail Trail was just as scenic. Riding along the Walkill River, I headed south surrounded by acres of farmland. Along the way, I spotted grazing cattle just as the sun dropped behind the Mohonk Skytop Tower. It was the perfect finale to an adventurous day. O

To read more about Andrew Frey's visit to Southern Ulster County, including more hot spots, go to NewYorkByRail. com/Escape-to-Southern-Ulster-County.

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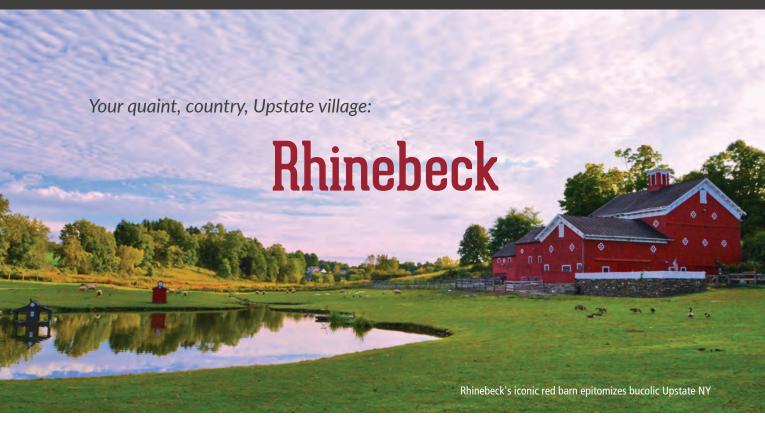




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By Kirsten Bonanza, Executive Director Rhinebeck Area Chamber of Commerce

tepping off the platform at Rhinecliff brings a feeling of lightness and excitement. You are stepping into a different world, one which seems simultaneously sleepy and yet filled with activity. At the station, you are minutes by taxi from Rhinebeck and at the foot of The Rhinecliff. You've arrived upstate, the gateway to a quaint village environment that is sure to delight. Whether you choose to stay in one of the charming B&B's, a hotel or at the oldest running inn in America, in Rhinebeck, you are mere footsteps from the experience you desire.

Walking around the village brings a sense of the past to life. There are beautiful country churches, Victorian homes,

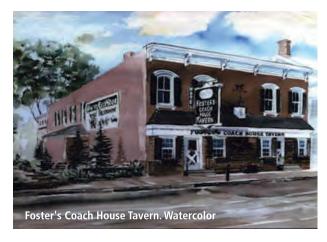
and historical sites. Don't miss the gothic, impressive Church of the Messiah with its lovely stained glass windows and gargoyles galore. The Beekman Arms & Delamater, the oldest continuously running inn in America and a stately white, pillared building, stands at our main intersection with American flags waving in the breeze. You might not know it, but former President Clinton and family have eaten here, and

the famous Hamilton-Burr fight began in its historic tavern.

Health and wellness are paramount to a life well-lived, and the Rhinebeck area businesses will help you meet this essential need. Omega Institute has ongoing life-transforming courses and everything your spiritual side needs to feel deeply rested and connected. Full-service spas offer an array of opportunities for your self-pampering. Check out Izlind Integrated Wellness Center & Institute, Haven Spa, I Kneaded This, and coming the summer of 2019, Mirbeau Inn & Spa.

While the quiet country life might be what draws you to visit. Rhinebeck is nothing if not a vibrant community. You'll know to this is true when you see the Farmers' Market on a Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This well-curated offering from our local farms will whet your appetite while tempting you to bring goodies home. The Dutchess County Fairgrounds hosts

> a variety of events from May to October, bringing in people from all over the country as vendors and participants. What do they all have in common? Why, it's the thought which goes into who vends and shows there that keeps the quality high and leaves these as not to be missed. The same can be said for the local merchants. Porchfest, music on the porches of old Victorian homes, might bring you deeper



into our community both in its love of music and down some more residential streets.

Rhinebeck should not be on your 'bucket list. It's the place you return to again and again. Boutique shops and shopkeepers with a discerning eye. Restaurants that tempt and satisfy your hunger. This is a place where people smile at each other and say hello. In fact, many of our visitors end up becoming residents of the area after falling in love. Step off the train sometime and see what awaits you here.

You'll know when you see us. Rhinebeck has the places that you want to go. The things that you want to do.

The country becons. Can you hear it?

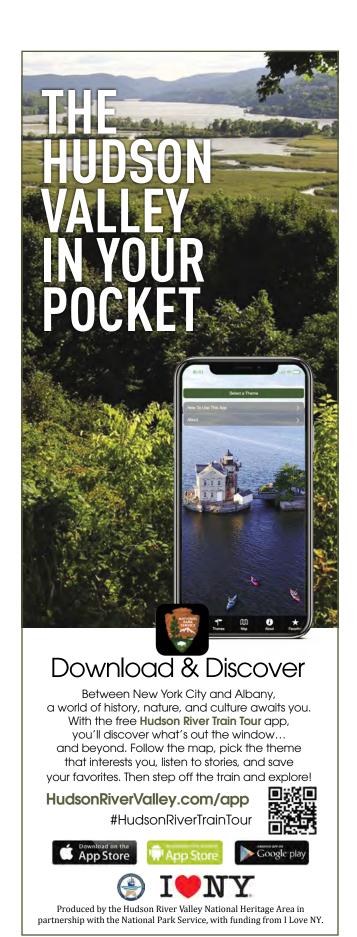
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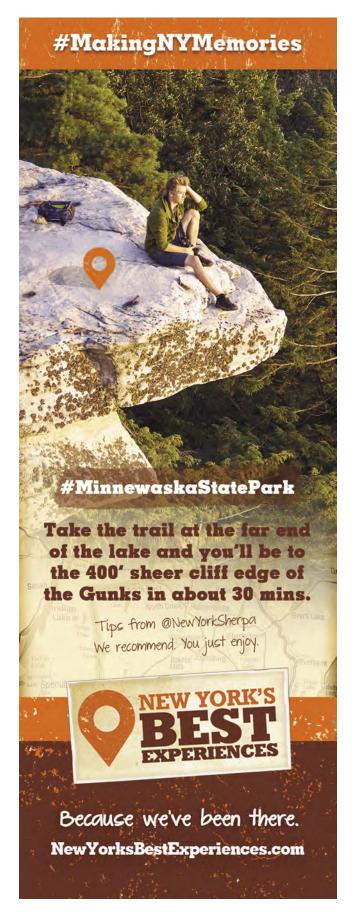




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KASURI

YOHJI YAMAMOTO VIVIENNE WESTWOOD RICK OWENS VIBE HARSLØF BERNHARD WILLHELM COMME DES GARÇONS COMME DES GARÇONS HOMME PLUS BAO BAO ISSEY MIYAKE ISSEY MIYAKE PLEATS PLEASE ISSEY MIYAKE HOMME PLISSÉ ANNTIAN HENRIK VIBSKOV WALTER VAN BEIRENDONCK Y-3



By Andrew Frey

ith its bucolic allure and breathtaking river views from atop Catskill peaks, Columbia County offers natural beauty, history and a plethora of activities. Just a two-hour Amtrak ride from New York City, Columbia County is one of my favorite places for a weekend getaway, especially the city of Hudson.

The FASNY Museum of Firefighting, a short hop from the historic Hudson Station, is home to a premier collection of American firefighting engines, equipment and fine



art. Walking through the doors, I see young families enjoying the countless interactive exhibits. Children and parents, dressed in "turnout gear", climb aboard the museum's Discovery Trucks, fulfilling a fantasy of being a firefighter for a day. Others slide down a fire pole, put out fires with a water cannon and save a victim as part of the Junior Firefighter Challenge Course. I decide to amble through the rows of retired firetrucks, and come across a 1731 Newsham Pumper, the oldest documented fire engine in New York State.

A short trip south from the FASNY Museum is the Hudson River Skywalk. Running alongside the Rip Van Winkle Bridge, the mile-long walkway's three "bump-outs" allow for incredible views of the Hudson River and surrounding Catskill Mountains. It also links two historic sites, the Thomas Cole National Historic Site in Catskill and Frederick Church's Olana in Hudson. Atop the bridge, I enjoy the fresh air with bikers, joggers and others casually walking. The Skywalk is a great place to unwind in the afternoon.

From there, I head toward the Berkshires for a sneak peek at Catamount Mountain Resort's newest zip line. Opening in spring 2019, it's the longest zip flyer in the United States at 5,500 feet long. Zipliners will reach speeds of 55 m.p.h., while descending 1,000 vertical feet, a truly

COLUMBIA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



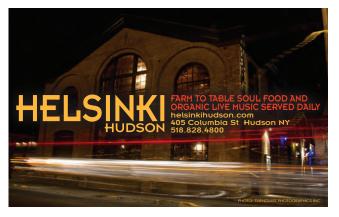


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unique way to experience the Catskills. I will definitely come back for the grand opening!

Returning to Hudson, I step into the barroom at Wm. Farmer and Sons for cocktails and dinner. Inside the grand, 1830s, Mansard-style edifice, the dining area emanates elegance with its stylish, rustic chic



decor. Patrons enjoy seats at the bar, but I cozy up to the brick fireplace at a table. There is something for everyone at Wm. Farmer and Sons, I recommend the duck confit from Fazio Farms, over Jefferson red rice perloo, with radish and an oyster dressing. For a drink, I was impressed by the Artist's Special - shaken bourbon, manzanilla sherry, house-made grenadine and fresh lemon juice served straight up.

Above the barroom are seven boutique guestrooms. I sleep in the Anne Marie Suite. The room is true to its never-want-to-leave description, with a kingsize bed, claw-foot tub and 24-hour butler service.

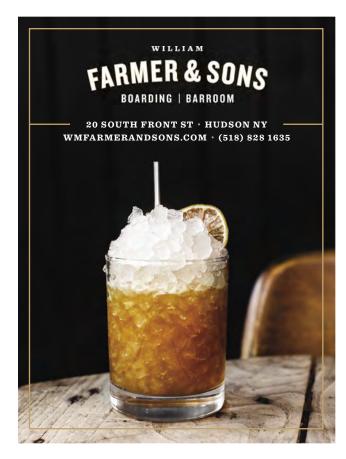
Wm. Farmer and Sons also has guestrooms in two other buildings, the Merchant House and the Annex Suites, both on South Front Street and a short walk from Hudson Station. The Merchant House is an historical building with four unique rooms and suites and a serene, secluded garden. The Annex Suites' rooms, called the Pint and the Half Pint, are ground floor suites, perfect for families in need of a roomier, apartment-like setting.

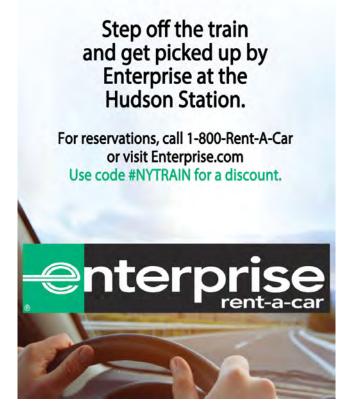
For more things to do in Columbia County, go to NewYorkByRail.com/Columbia-County.

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balance precariously on a mountain bike at the top of a steep hill. The sun is hot, beating down on me. Sweat drips slowly down my neck. Gripping the handlebars, heart pounding in my chest, I stare at the bottom of the slope. It's my first time on a mountain bike.

My instructor, Chris, tells me to lighten my grip. I nod my head. With a deep breath, I tip forward and roll down the hill. Wind rushes past my face. I am

ward and roll down the hill. Wind rushes past my face. I ar flying at the Windham Mountain Bike Park!

The Lesson. Windham Mountain Bike Park is a popular spot. As I walk to the Windham Mountain Bike rental shop, I watch bikers snake their way through a sea of emerald trees. The shop outfits me with knee pads, shin pads, helmet and padded jacket.

My lesson begins outside the rental shop. Chris starts with the basics: turning, braking and changing gears. He teaches me how to ride with my body hovering over the seat to be more balanced. Most importantly, Chris teaches me to lead



with my eyes, explaining where I look is where my bike will go.

When we try going downhill, I become anxious about losing control, but with Chris's encouragement, I can soon navigate a novice slope by myself.

The Practice Course. The bunny slope during ski season serves as the practice course. It's short but designed to mimic the terrain I'll find on the real trails. The edges are

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banked where the trail curves. Chris shows me how to navigate these berms. I take it slow and get down the practice course without any trouble.

Even though I don't ride a mountain bike down the entire mountain my first day, I still enjoy riding the chairlift to the top of it. At the summit, I admire the gorgeous view of the Catskill Mountains, glad for the chance to try mountain biking at Windham Mountain Bike Park, the perfect place to do it! O

To read more about the Windham Mountain Bike Park, go to NewYorkByRail.com/Exploring-Great-Outdoors-Windham-Mountain-Bike-Park.

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For information on taking bikes on Amtrak, go to amtrak.com/bring-your-bicycle-onboard.





Adventure in the Great Northern Catskills

Two-Day Rail / Drive Itinerary













VILLAGE OF CATSKILL Home to **Thomas Cole National** Historic Site and new American Dance Institute's LUMBERYARD performing arts center, the downtown offers an artsy vibe that lends itself well to sipping wine or coffee, and eating some exquisite, only-here cuisine.

VILLAGE OF TANNERSVILLE Stroll Main Street, and stop at the **Hudson-Chatham Winery** for a glass of something delicious. Then, check out vintage goods at the Tannersville Antique and Artisan Center before grabbing yourself a sarsaparilla and a sandwich at the Catskill Mountain Country Store & Restaurant.



WHERE TO STAY-

JESSIE'S HARVEST HOUSE

Rustic Catskill Mountain lodging with locally sourced American-style cuisine and elevated comfort food.



WINDHAM MOUNTAIN BIKE PARK Head here for mountain biking lessons and a truly epic riding trail. Whether you're an occasional or die-hard rider, the bike park offers terrain to meet every level of rider. Nearby mountain bike trail networks include Elm Ridge, a favorite riding spot for locals.

WINDHAM MOUNTAIN COUNTRY CLUB Hit up the links for 18 holes of scenic and challenging greens and fairways. Enjoy lunch or a drink at the club's restaurant, **Mulligan's Pub**. Or, head to **West** Kill Brewing for a cold beer brewed in the heart of the Catskills.



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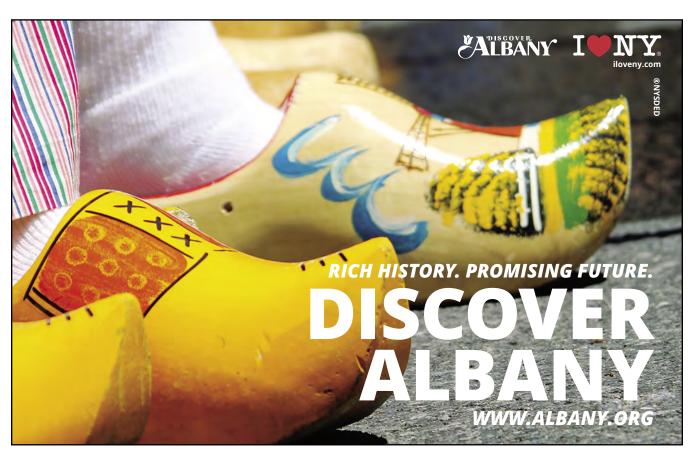


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Albany-Rensselaer



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NEW YORK STATE CAPITOL TOURS

Free one-hour tour of New York's 19th-century capitol building, an architectural marvel, hand-built of solid masonry over a 32-year period. Distance from ALB: 2.5 miles

ARTS & CULTURE

EMPIRE STATE PLAZA ART COLLECTION

92 works by New York artists from the 1960's and 1970's, the most significant collection of modern abstract art on public display that is not in a museum.

Distance from ALB: 2 miles

PARK PLAYHOUSE

Seasonal open-air drama productions and musical performances in Washington Park. Free admission.

Distance from ALB: 3.4 miles

SPORTS & OUTDOORS

SCHODACK ISLAND STATE PARK

A 1,052-acre state park and estuary off the eastern shore of the Hudson River with 8 miles of trails, campsites, paddling and a bird conservation area.

Distance from ALB: 10.8 miles

▼ WILDPLAY ELEMENTS PARK

A treetop obstacle course with log ladders, ziplines and rope swings. Distance from ALB: 17.2 miles



FOOD & DRINK

BROOKVIEW STATION WINERY

An award-winning winery and tasting room at Goold Orchards. Pick your own apples and pumpkins in the fall. Distance from ALB: 9.3 miles

BROWN'S BREWING COMPANY

Popular Troy brewery for its craft beer, full menu and merchandise line. Distance from ALB: 8.8 miles

CENTENNIAL OF PROHIBITION

2020 marks the 100th anniversary of Prohibition. Sample 150+ craft beverages and distilled spirits while learning about the Prohibition era in the Albany area's former speakeasies and historic distilleries.

Distance from ALB: Various

677 PRIME

Fresh-cut steaks, seafood, over 400 wines and luscious desserts in a stylish, upscale steakhouse

Distance from ALB: 1.9 miles

▼ YONO'S RESTAURANT

Fine dining with a global menu emphasizing Indonesian cuisine and a broad wine list. Distance from ALB: 2 miles



ENTERTAINMENT

CROSSGATES MALL

A full-immersion mall with 180 retails shops, bowling, virtual-reality lounge, live music, sports bar, arcade, 2 Hilton-brand hotels, Spa Mirbeau and IMAX movies.

Distance from ALB: 10 miles

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Sandy Nardoci, of Guilderland, New York, is not a medical professional. She's a real estate broker, but her impact on people with serious medical conditions in the greater Albany area is undeniable. Co-founder of Voices of Hope of the Capital Region, a non-profit organization whose mission is to "bring hope and services to children touched by life-altering conditions", Nardoci recently spoke with New York By Rail about this life-saving program:

NYBR: How long has Voices of Hope existed?

SN: Voices of Hope was originally formed in 2000 by several local, caring entrepreneurs and members of the non-profit community in the capital region, but we discontinued meeting after only a few years. In 2009, I was asked to help revive the consortium. This year is our 10th year!

NYBR: What is your role?

SN: I serve as our group's leader, point person, administrator and, since 2013, the liaison between Voices of Hope and Amtrak's Rails to Recovery program. Over the years, I've gotten to know the leaders of our partner-organizations. We work with over 30 nonprofit groups in the region, such as the Double H Ranch, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Make A-Wish North East New York, American

Cancer Society and American Heart Association, to get patients to the treatments they need.

NYBR: How did you connect with Amtrak?

SN: Bill Hollister, a senior manager in government affairs for Amtrak in the Northeast, is based in Rensselaer. He believed in the program from the start and developed the special fare for it. Patients get two-for-one tickets on Amtrak's Empire Service. It started with children, but now anyone with a serious illness can travel with a caregiver for what works out to half the adult rate. It's a life-saving program!

NYBR: Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices, Blake Realtors is a prominent Voices of Hope partner, but it's a normal business. How is it involved?

SN: In 2014, when Voice of Hope partnered with Amtrak and the New York State Department of Transportation, local broker/owner Jason Christiana of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices, Blake Realtors, where I work, helped us create a platform and landing page from which passengers are able to register on-line for the program. Berkshire Hathaway supports and maintains the site, which is critical to the success of our partnership with Amtrak. It's how individuals

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with serious medical conditions and a caregiver get access to Amtrak's Empire Service.

NYBR: How does it work?

SN: The program is totally electronically based through the Voices of Hope website. It automatically links the patient who registers with one of our participating agencies with Amtrak.com. It also automatically sends Voices of Hope and Amtrak a notification. If a customer contacts Voices of Hope or one of the agencies directly, we stop everything to help that person.

NYBR: You're a volunteer. Why do you do this?

SN: We get emails and phone calls all the time expressing gratitude to our Voices of Hope consortium and to Amtrak. I've always been motivated to help people. The opportunity to volunteer is a tremendous gift. I feel extremely privileged to serve our community in this capacity.

NYBR: Voices of Hope has allowed over 2,000 people with serious illnesses to take the train for invaluable medical assessments and treatments, but do you personally use Amtrak?



Bill Hollister, Sandy Nardoci and Jason Christiana

SN: Yes. Three to six times a year to visit my 91-year-old mom and family in Williamsburg, Brooklyn where I grew up. I love riding Amtrak to New York City. It's an easy, quick way to travel. The trains are comfortable and clean, and the ride is scenic and relaxing.

To learn more about Voices of Hope, go to the Amtrak section of this magazine or visit VoicesoftheCapitalRegion.org.





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TASTE OF TROY FOOD TOURS

By Jack Griffith



raving history and an epic food scene, I took ◆ Amtrak to the 200-year-old city of Troy for a Taste of Troy Food Tour. The three-hour, 1.5-mile walking tour through the Central Troy Historic District started at Illium Café, owned by award-winning chef, Marla Ortega. Located in Monument Square's oldest building, the outdoor seating allowed me to experience the liveliness of the city while enjoying the retro music emanating from inside and a Reuben dip sandwich.

The food tour features not only food (of course) but also historical sites. I particularly enjoyed an insider's tour of St. Paul's Episcopal Church with its breathtaking chandeliers and glass mosaics. On the National Register of Historic Places, the Victorian-style church is one of four in the world completely designed by Tiffany & Co.

Dessert at Dutch Udder Craft Ice Cream was the sweetest part of the tour. I tasted three different flavors, all made from New York dairy products. The Philly Vanilla, named best ice cream at the World Dairy Expo in 2017, was the finest ice cream I had ever tasted!

The tour concluded at Troy Waterfront Market, with 80 local vendors. We shopped from among a myriad of homemade food products, including fresh fruit juices, over 50 artisanal pastas and healthy Asian cuisine made from local ingredients.

To read about more stops along Taste of Troy Food Tours, go to NewYorkByRail.com/Taste-of-Troy-Food-Tours.

DO IT BY TRAIN! Take Amtrak to Albany-Rensselaer Station (ALB). Don't forget to use Amtrak's SEE NEW YORK AND SAVE! 15% discount!

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Taste of Trov Food Tours leaves from 275 River Street in Troy. TasteofTroyFoodTours.com













When you travel on Amtrak to the Albany-Rensselaer station, you are in Rensselaer County. Visit Rensselaer County for the love of:

- **1. FARM FRESH:** Locally-sourced, fresh-grown foods and artisan crafts are available at the Troy, Castleton on Hudson and Brunswick farmer's markets.
- 2. **HISTORY**: Explore the industrial revolution at the Burden Iron Works Museum. Stroll through Earl Chapel at Oakwood Cemetery, and visit the homes of Herman Melville and the Knickerbockers. Watch colonial-era, open-hearth cooking at Crailo State Historic Site. Gaze at the extraordinary Tiffany windows at many churches and buildings in Troy. Visit the grave of Samuel Wilson, aka Uncle Sam.
- **3. ARTS:** Enjoy world-renowned and cutting-edge music, intimate settings for plays, countless galleries and artisan shops. Visit the Troy Music Hall, EMPAC, Theater Institute at Sage, Sand Lake Center for the Arts and the Arts Center of the Capital Region.
- 4. CULINARY: Discerning taste buds delight in a wide variety of ethnic offerings throughout the county.
- **5. OUTDOOR RECREATION:** Enjoy the outdoors year-round. Bike, swim, fish, cross-country ski, snowmobile, ice skate and hike across the

- miles of trails in our three state parks, forests and preserves.
- 6. FAMILY FUN: Get hands-on at the Children's Museum of Science & Technology. Take in a Tri-City Valley Cats ballgame at "The Joe".
- 7. FESTIVALS: Throughout summer and fall, check out the many family-friendly, FREE festivals, including Rockin' on the River, River Street Festival, Troy Pig Out and Chowderfest, plus weekly concerts at Powers Park, North and East Greenbush, Brunswick, Schodack, Schaghticoke and Hoosick Falls. Celebrate the end of summer at the 200th Anniversary of the Schaghticoke Fair.
- 8. CRAFT BEVERAGES: Try our local farm breweries, tasting rooms, wineries and specialized craft beers at Brown's Brewing Co., Rare Form Brewing, Brookview Station Winery, The Beer Diviner, Shmaltz Brewing, Hudson Chatham Winery, S&S Farm Brewery, Stable Gate Winery and Emporium Farm Brewery.

For more info and reasons to visit Rensselaer County, visit renscotourism.com



Amtrak.com

SCHENECTADY GETS A NEW STATION

By Kent Patterson



Schenectady Station (SDY) became the fourth and most recent Amtrak station in the Empire State to see major improvements. The new downtown station opened October 16, 2018, after a decade of efforts to replace the austere, drafty, old station, which dated back to 1979.

The new station is steps from most venues, including the historic Proctors Theater. It's also near new Electric City residences, part of continued efforts to revive downtown Schenectady as a place to live, work and play.

Urgency for the new station increased in 2015, when the city won its bid for a Rivers Casino and Resort on the former American Locomotive Company's property. The demolition cost \$5 million in 2017, making way for the new \$23 million station, which is twice the size. Most of the funding came from state and federal sources. Amtrak provided the passenger information display, and the City of Schenectady provided parking improvements.

Schenectady is served by 12 daily Amtrak trains. Amenities include seating with charging ports, a new elevator and enhanced corridor displays showcasing the city's attractions and history. With several restaurants within an easy walk for train passengers, it's worth getting off the train at SDY to see the new station! •

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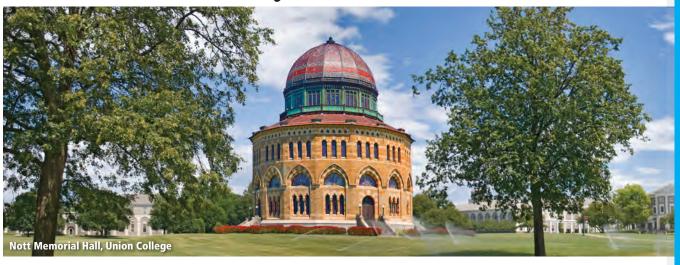
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Schenectady



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Distance from SCH: 0.3 mile

DALEY'S ON YATES

New, urban space serving quality comfort food and specialty cocktails. Distance from SCH: 0.3 mile

FAMILY FUN

VIA ENTERTAINMENT

Bowling, expansive arcade and aquarium, for all ages.

Distance from SCH: 2.6 miles

MUSEUMS

EMPIRE STATE AEROSCIENCES MUSEUM

Collections of restored aircrafts and the state's largest aviation library. Distance from SCH: 3.9 miles

DUDLEY OBSERVATORY

At the Museum of Innovation and Science, solar observations and night sky viewings. *Distance from SCH: 0.8 mile*

ARTS & CULTURE

PROCTORS THEATRE

Broadway shows like *Hamilton*, film festivals and special events at an early 1900s vaudeville theatre. *Distance from SCH: 0.2 mile*

▼ MANDEVILLE GALLERY AT UNION COLLEGE

Over 2,800 works, including objects from Eastern and ancient cultures. Distance from SCH: 1.1 miles



SPORTS & OUTDOORS

▼ MOHAWK-HUDSON BIKE/HIKE TRAIL

The easternmost segment of the NYS Canalway Trail, 86 miles from the Hudson River to Little Falls.

Distance from SCH: 4.9 miles



HISTORY

STOCKADE HISTORIC DISTRICT

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ENTERTAINMENT

RIVERS CASINO & RESORT

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Distance from SCH: 0.8 mile

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Saratoga Springs



MUSEUMS

▼ NATIONAL MUSEUM OF RACING AND HALL OF FAME

Ride through the history of American thoroughbred racing through displays, art, photography and memorabilia.

Distance from SAR: 2.3 miles



NEW YORK STATE MILITARY MUSEUM

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ARTS & CULTURE

OPERA SARATOGA

Summer opera at the Spa Little Theater. For 2019, watch *Ellen West, Hansel and Gretel* and *La Fille du Regiment.*Distance from SAR: 2.5 miles

GARDENS

YADDO GARDENS

A 400-acre estate and artist retreat, open year-round. Take a tour or roam the grounds. Don't miss the rose garden in late June! Distance from SAR: 3.2 miles

FOOD & DRINK

CAFFE LENA

Recently renovated, this 1960s-era coffeehouse and music hotspot serves light bites and hosts world-class performers. Distance from SAR: 1.6 miles

SPA CITY BREW BUS

Tour and taste the region's craft beverage scene, including breweries, distilleries, wineries and cideries. Souvenir glass. Distance from SAR: Arrange for pick up

▼ MRS. LONDON'S BAKERY

Rooted in French culinary tradition, this Parisian-style boutique bakery and cafe offers pastries, bread, coffee and wine. Distance from SAR: 1.5 miles

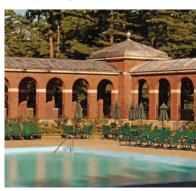


SPAS

▼ ROOSEVELT BATHS AND SPA

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SPORTS & OUTDOORS

SARATOGA POLO

Watch or play this historic, fast-paced equestrian game, Friday and Sunday evenings, July 5 to Sept. 1, 2019. Distance from SAR: 2 miles

1863 CLUB

New for 2019 at Saratoga Race Course. Watch the races from this three-story, climate-controlled clubhouse with dining, luxury suites and private balconies. *Distance from SAR: 2.5 miles*

Go to NewYorkByRail.com/Saratoga-Springs

ATOGA SPRINGS CHAMBER, FAR LEFT: CHRISTINE HINZ, MIDDLE: DAVID CONNELLY

SARATOGA SOJOURN

By Christine Hinz

Eager for a relaxing break from city life without the hassle of car traffic or airport security, I head to Saratoga Springs on Amtrak. Saratoga is a year-round getaway, rich in history, health and... horses! I arrive before noon, ready to take in as much as I can in less than 48 hours.

Horse Racing. I'm a novice track-goer, but I immediately get caught up in the excitement. The grandeur of the Saratoga Race Course transports me to an earlier time. The oldest organized sporting venue in the country, the impressive Queen Anne-style grand-stand and 1 1/8-mile track awe me.



Race fans are eager to offer me betting tips. One gentleman spews a stream of statistics while another bets on his favorite horse names. I focus on the fourth race (my lucky number) and use my birthday in a variety of bets. My biggest wager is \$4.00 on a long-shot, but Lady Luck doesn't shine on me.

Polo. That evening, I head to the polo fields. I don't know much about polo either, but the announcers tell the



crowd what to look for. Horses and riders sprint up and down the field, whacking a ball with their long mallets. At halftime, I join other spectators to "stomp the divot" (tamp down the grass) on the field.

Track Tour. The next morning, I head back to the Saratoga Race Course using Saratoga's bike-share program, for breakfast and a tour of the track. I take



a tram to the "back stretch" (far side of the track). Trainers "pony their horses" (teach them to feel comfortable on the track), while "hot walkers" cool down the thoroughbreds after their workouts. The tour culminates with an up-close view of horses entering the starting gate.

Afterward, I head across the street to the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame, home to an extensive collection of the sport's art, artifacts and memorabilia. I leave with a stronger understanding of this centuries-old sport.

Downtown Saratoga. Saratoga Springs' historic downtown is the big surprise. I'm impressed by the selection of shops, galleries and restaurants. I

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stroll past the row of mansions on North Broadway. These beautifully-maintained homes bear witness to Saratoga's history and grandeur that quietly continues todav.

At picturesque Congress Park, I learn about Saratoga's heyday in the late 1800s and early 1900s, when the mineral springs lured the wealthy. I drink from several of the fountains, imagining the water

curing skin, liver and digestive system ailments. Other highlights include an historic wooden horse carousel from the early 1900s, Saratoga's famed "Spit and Spat" fountain and the Canfield Casino which now houses the Saratoga Springs History Museum.



Saratoga Spa State Park. Using another bike-share, I pedal an easy mile to Saratoga Spa State Park, a national historic landmark with public swimming pools, golf course and Roosevelt Baths and Spa. Franklin D. Roosevelt preserved the mineral springs during his U.S. presidency in the 1930s. They still promise effervescent, aguatic bliss. The park is also home to the National Museum of Dance, the Saratoga Automobile Museum and the Saratoga Performing Arts Center (SPAC).

On my last evening, I stroll around downtown again. A free Shakespeare performance is happening in Congress Park. After sneaking one more sip of mineral water, I realize my visit to Saratoga Springs has indeed rejuvenated me. Was it the mineral water? Regardless, I look forward to my next visit. •

To read more about things to do in Saratoga Springs, go to NewYorkByRail.com/Sojourn-to-Saratoga-Springs.

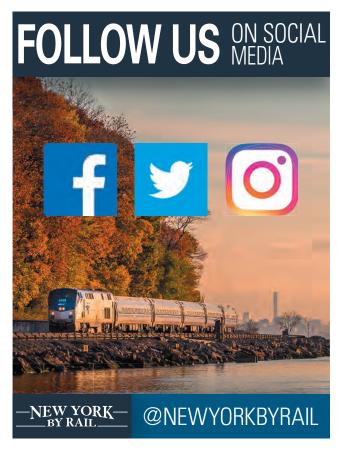
DO IT BY TRAIN! Take Amtrak to Saratoga Springs Station.(SAR). Don't forget to use Amtrak's **SEE NEW** YORK AND SAVE! 15% discount!

From SAR, Enterprise picks you up at the station and takes you to your rental car. Call Enterprise's Saratoga Springs office (518-587-0687). Discount code: NYTRAIN.

Taxis, Uber, and Lyft serve the area. During July and August, a free trolley takes visitors around downtown Saratoga Springs and to the Saratoga Race Course.



Download the official Saratoga Destination Guide at DISCOVERSARATOGA.ORG info@discoversaratoga.org | 518-584-1531



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SOUTHERN SARATOGA COUNTY

pportunity knocks in southern Saratoga County because you really can live, play and work here! Ballston Lake, Ballston Spa, Burnt Hills, Charlton, Clifton Park, Crescent, Halfmoon, Jonesville, Malta, Mechanicville, Milton, Rexford, Round Lake,



Schuylerville, Stillwater, Vischer Ferry, Waterford and nearby Glenville offer a relaxed lifestyle and economic prosperity.

The area has everything, from shopping malls and restaurants to orchards, produce, dairy and horse farms. Our numerous public parks have walking/bicycle trails, scenic byways, kayaking, boating and

fishing. The twin towns of Clifton Park and Halfmoon and nearby Malta have great accommodations, which can be found at *SouthernSaratoga.org*, historic sites and interesting, newly completed trails. The Mohawk Towpath Scenic Byway has a self-guided tour accessible by scanning QR codes at various locations or by keying in 518-649-9990 on your cell phone.

The region is surrounded on three sides by the historic Erie and Champlain canals, where you'll find wonderful waterside events

throughout the year. Ride

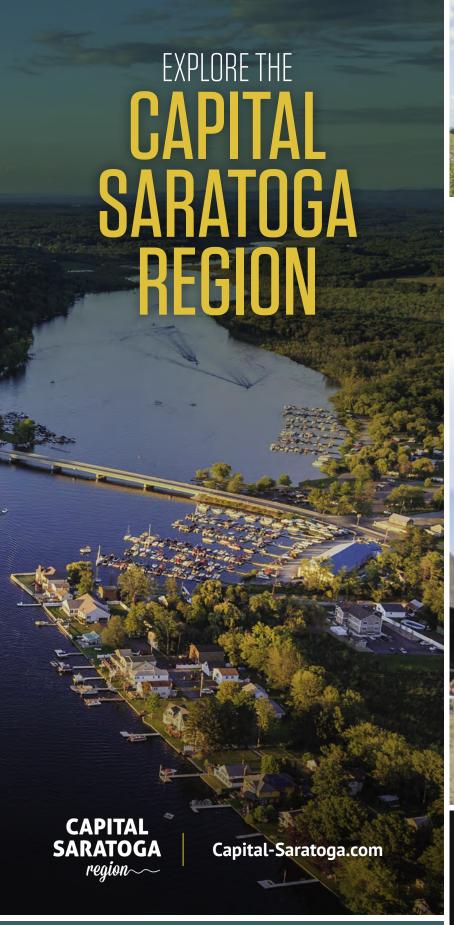


here on Amtrak. Enjoy an overnight stay in one of the area's hotels, and then explore at your leisure, taking in a tour on the canals or visiting one of the nearby farms.

The area has a number of two and four-year colleges. Industry giants, like GE, GlobalFoundries and

Momentive Performance Materials, and many small businesses offer good jobs here, along with opportunities in the arts, sciences, trades and vocational fields.

For more information or to set up your Southern Saratoga County experience, visit *SouthernSaratoga.org*, call 518-371-3763, or stop by the Southern Saratoga Information Center, just north of Exit 9 on I-87 (The Northway), northbound side.





The Getaway Capital awaits, with six counties full of culinary, craft beverage, outdoor, and historic adventures.

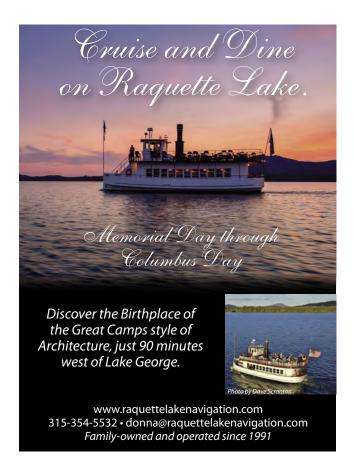
Check out our website for itineraries and tips for traveling to our many exciting destinations.



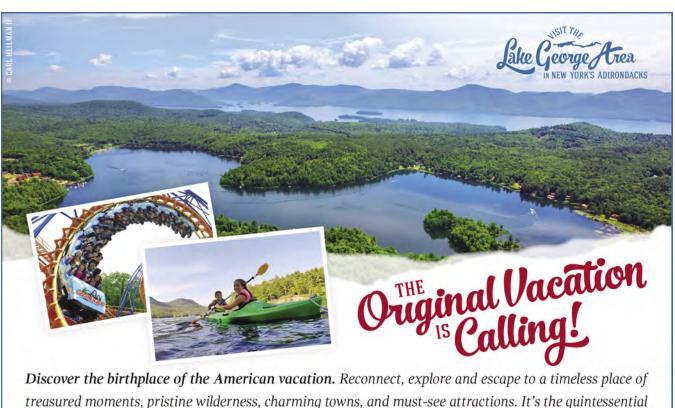




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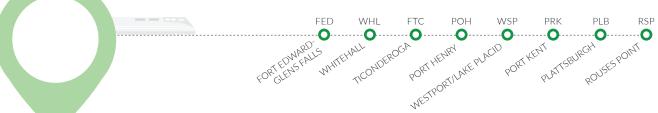






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Adirondacks



FOOD & DRINK

▼ MOHICAN FAMILY DINNER CRUISE

A 1.5-hour cruise on Lake George aboard the oldest, continuously operated steamship in the U.S, built in 1908. Distance from FED: 15.5 miles



ADIRONDACK WINERY

Local, award-winning wines, with a view of Lake George and the Adirondack Mountains, at one of the first micro-wineries in the country.

Distance from FED: 15.7 miles

ELFS FARM WINERY & CIDER HOUSE

A family-owned producer of wine and hard cider. Listen to live music at "Friday Wine Down". Open mic during Sunday brunch with a build-your-own-Bloody Mary bar. Distance from PLB: 4 miles

HISTORY

FORT TICONDEROGA

Restored 18th century fort has diverse collections of military artifacts, weaponry, books and memorabilia. Distance from FTC: 1 mile

CROWN POINT STATE HISTORIC SITE

Ruins from the colonial wars between the British and the French, Crown Point Pier and Champlain Memorial Lighthouse. Distance from POH: 7.1 miles

ARTS & CULTURE

▼ HYDE COLLECTION

One of the Northeast's most notable small art museums, including works by Botticelli, Rembrandt, Picasso and Renoir. Distance from FED: 5.4 miles



DEPOT THEATER

Watch professional storytellers, dancers and singers in the historic Westport train station, built in 1876.

Distance from WSP: 0 miles

SPORTS & OUTDOORS

▼NATURAL STONE BRIDGE AND CAVES PARK

A family-owned, family-friendly cave system, with a natural stone bridge. Choose between a self-guided trail or spelunking with a guide. Distance from FTC: 32.3 miles



LAKE PLACID OLYMPIC CENTER

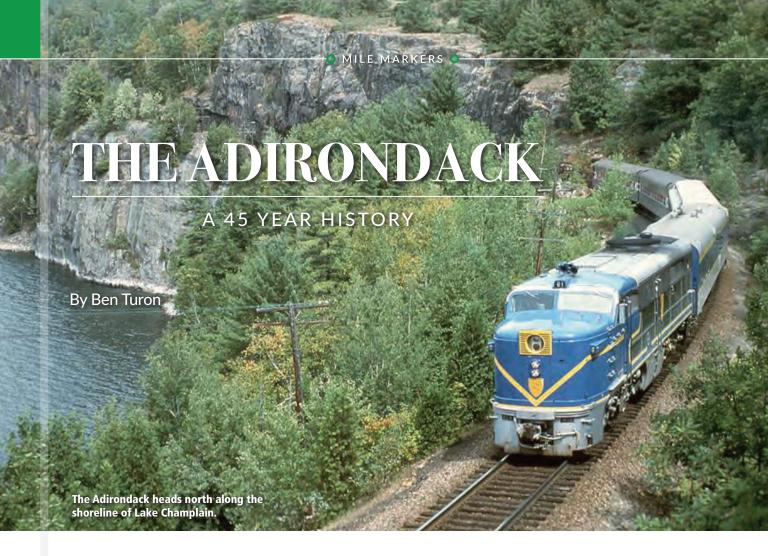
Site of the 1980 "Miracle on Ice" USA-Russia Olympic hockey game, plus speed-skating and figure-skating. Watch competitions and shows or go skating, year-round. Distance from WSP: 34.7 miles

SIX FLAGS GREAT ESCAPE

In Queensbury, kid-friendly amusement park, year-round indoor waterpark, interactive games, lodge and dining.

Distance from FED: 10.4 miles

Go to NewYorkByRail.com/Adirondacks



From Manhattan Island to the Île de Montréal, the Adirondack travels one of the most scenic train routes in the world. Over its 381 miles, this once-daily Amtrak train passes through the scenic Hudson River Valley and along Lake Champlain with Vermont's Green Mountains rising from across the water. It passes by several historic sites,

West Point Military Academy and popular tourist destinations like Saratoga Springs and Ticonderoga.

The Adirondack began its life in 1971 as one of the first state-sponsored Amtrak services, a new addition to the Amtrak's early, barebones, national network. Before Amtrak, the Delaware & Hudson and New York Central railroads operated two New York-Montreal trains, the daylight Laurentian and overnight Montreal Limited. However, like dozens of other trains nationwide, neither made the cut into the pared-down Amtrak system.

The energy crises of the 1970s changed the situation. For the first time since World War II, rail travel looked more favorable. The New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) signed a contract with Amtrak to sponsor a restored New York City-Montreal rail service, using an extension of an existing New York-Albany Empire Service train.

On August 5, 1974, the Adirondack had its first day of service, a ceremonial run that according to the *New York Times*, "was greeted by bands, bunting, flag-waving crowds and

orating politicians". The VIPs included then New York State Transportation Commissioner Raymond T. Schuler and Governor Malcom Wilson, who made a pitch for a \$250 million state rail bond. The bond passed later that year, triggering a major upgrade of the New York-Albany-Niagara Falls "Empire Corridor".

The New York Times continued, "...As the nine-car train made its way north along the Vermont border, towns that had been without passenger service since 1971 turned out in colorful force to welcome the Adirondack back to the Albany-Montreal corridor. The hoopla included... a salute from speedboat enthusiasts on picturesque Lake Champlain... [At Saratoga Springs] about 1,000 people were on hand, including the town's Bethes-

Another difference from today is that the Adirondack ran as a section of a New York-Buffalo Empire Service train, with the Montreal-bound cars coupled and uncoupled at the Albany-Rensselaer station.

74 NEWYORKBYRAIL.COM

da Black Knights Bugle and Drum Corps, folk singers from Cafe Lena, horse players and public officials. Costumed characters from the current production of the musical, Pinocchio, danced on the station platform, and a young man in Revolutionary War dress was symbolic of the nearby Saratoga battlefield... [Plattsburgh] outdid them all with a schoolboy swing band, a display of ancient automobiles at the station and a crowd of 700 to 800 people to welcome back 'The Train'."

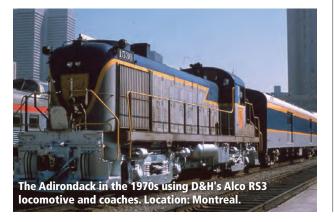
The first incarnation of the Adirondack was unique. Short of cars. Amtrak and the NYSDOT contracted with the Delaware & Hudson Railway (D&H), the freight railroad

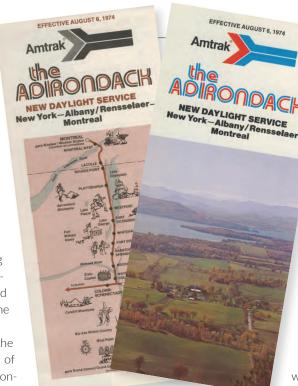
north of Albany, to provide the locomotives and coaches. The railroad also received a \$3.2 million investment from the state to upgrade its tracks, repair locomotives and coaches and reopen several rail stations for passenger service.

Despite being an Amtrak train, the D&H ran the Adirondack as if it were its own train, down to the tablecloths, menus and chinaware which displayed the railroad's logo and blue and yellow corporate colors. It provided the engine crews, conductors, dining car staff and coach "hostesses". In addition to coaches, the D&H offered dining and dome cars first leased from Canadian Pacific and then later provided by Amtrak.

Another difference from today is that the Adirondack ran as a section of a New York-Buffalo Empire Service train, with the Montreal-bound cars coupled and uncoupled at the Albany-Rensselaer station.

Now, the Adirondack runs solo as its own train, though locomotives are still switched, and additional New York-





Albany coaches are sometimes added in Albany.

The initial route of the Adirondack was also slightly different. The train skipped Schenectady by running up the D&H line from Albany to Mechanicville before returning to the current route south of Saratoga Springs. With the construction of a new downtown Schenectady Station, using the bond money supported by Governor Wilson on the Adirondack's inaugural run, the train switched to its current route in October 1977.

Amtrak was not entirely happy with the bold approbation of one of its trains by the D&H. In March 1977, Amtrak replaced the D&H trains with

new, state-of-the-art Rohr RTL "Turboliner" trains. With big windows, the new gas-turbine trains provided a great view to passengers of the passing scenery. Later, after the retirement of the Turboliners in the mid-1990s, the current Amfleet equipment became the standard for the Adirondack.

Looking to future, Amtrak hopes to eliminate the lengthy border and customs stop at Rousses Point by opening a new joint USA-Canada preclearance border inspection facility at Montreal Central Station. This will not only be more convenient for passengers but also reduce travel time.

As of 2019 and in one form or another, the Adirondack has run daily for 45 years, thanks to the support of New York State and the dedication of the railroad workers, who have ensured the safety and comfort of generations of passengers making the trip between two great global metropolises through some of prettiest countryside that can be found in the Amtrak system. •





FIND WHAT YOU

IN NEW YORK STATE

From the scenic coastlines of Long Island to the spectacular sprays of Niagara Falls. Whether you're into adventuring for adrenaline, tracing the trails of history, or basking in the sun along the sea, we've got the perfect getaway for you. Check out these itineraries across New York State and discover even more at ILOVENY.com.

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NIAGARA FALLS STATE PARK | NIAGARA FALLS

FROM THE GREAT LAKES TO THE ST. LAWRENCE

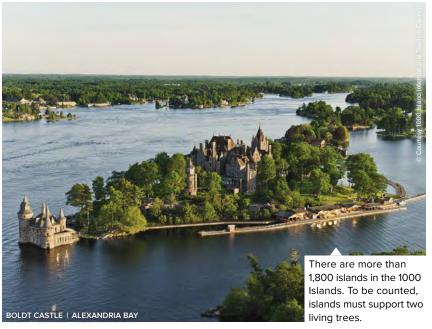


REGIONS:

Chautauqua-Allegheny, Greater Niagara, Finger Lakes, 1000 Islands







DAY 1:

Start your trip off with major belly laughs at the National Comedy Center in Jamestown. Nearby visit the Lucille Ball Desi Arnaz Museum for a behind-the-scenes look at "I Love Lucy" and the people who made the show a phenomenon.

Head up to Dunkirk Lighthouse for a magnificent view of Lake Erie. Stop in a few wineries in Lake Erie Wine Country on the way to Buffalo. Have dinner following the Buffalo Wing Trail to try the classic food in the city where they were invented.

DAY 2:

Spend the morning exploring the Queen City, whether marveling at Frank Lloyd Wright's Martin House Complex or seeing the world-class art collection at Albright-Knox Art Gallery.

Get up close and personal with the powerful sprays in Niagara Falls State Park by taking a Cave of the Winds tour or a cruise on Maid of the Mist!

Witness living history at the Old Fort Niagara State Historic Site, where you can visit 18th-century buildings and observe colonial musket, artillery, crafts and music demonstrations before heading east to Rochester.

DAY 3:

Start your day in Rochester, exploring the Strong Museum, home of the Toy and Video Game Hall of Fame, with the world's largest collection of toys, games, and dolls.

Visit the George Eastman Museum, a historic home that houses the world's oldest museum of photography.

DAY 4:

Introduce yourself to the 1000 Islands region by visiting the Antique Boat Museum, where you can see more than 300 watercrafts.

Get out on the water yourself at the Antique Boat Museum or on an Uncle Sam Boat Tour of Boldt Castle and Millionaire's Row or explore one of the charming riverside villages like Alexandria Bay, Clayton, or Sackets Harbor.

DID YOU KNOW?

Theodore Roosevelt was inaugurated president in Buffalo, at what is now the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural National Historic Site.

The New York State Zoo at Thompson Park is special because it features only animals native to New York like bears, wolves, and otters.

Jell-O was invented in Le Roy when the inventor tried to make a cough remedy. Visit the Jell-O Gallery Museum to learn more!

The oldest continuously operating coaster in the US is the Jack Rabbit, since 1920, at Seabreeze Amusement Park in Rochester.

Guests are invited to stay in Singer Castle's Royal Suite and have a 1000 Island castle all to themselves for a night.



SMALL TOWN CHARM AND CULTURAL GEMS

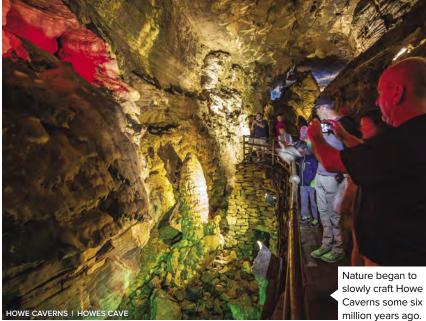


REGIONS:

Finger Lakes, Central NY, Capital-Saratoga







DID YOU KNOW?

Susan B. Anthony, the first woman in the US to vote, was arrested for doing so in Rochester in 1872. Her home is now the National Susan B. Anthony Museum & House.

Author and humorist Mark Twain wrote *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, and *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court* in Elmira. His study and gravesite there still attract many visitors today.

Wizard of Oz author L. Frank Baum was born in Chittenango. The town hosts an annual Oz-Stravaganza and is the home to the All Things Oz Museum. Oz fans will also enjoy the home of his mother-in-law, Matilda Joslyn Gage, in nearby Fayetteville, the only home open to the public where Baum lived.

The Great New York State Fair started in Syracuse in 1841. It was the first state fair and is still one of the largest nationwide.

When it was built between 1817-1825, the 353-mile Erie Canal, running from Albany to Buffalo, was the longest artificial waterway and greatest public works project in North America. An Erie Canal Cruise from Herkimer takes passengers through a still working hundred-year-old lock.

DAY 1:

Start your historic journey in Seneca Falls, the birthplace of Women's Rights. Learn about the movement at Women's Rights National Historical Park, then pay tribute to your idols at the National Women's Hall of Fame.

Stroll along the Cayuga-Seneca Canal, taking in the sights and sounds of the town that inspired Bedford Falls from the classic film, *It's a Wonderful Life*. Don't miss Bailey Bridge, named after the movie's main character, and the *It's A Wonderful Life Museum*.

Head to nearby Auburn to visit Harriet Tubman National Historical Park and the NYS Equal Rights Heritage Center.

Cruise the waters of Skaneateles Lake with Mid-Lakes Navigation Co., Ltd. and have dinner in town.

DAY 2:

Stop by Chittenango Falls State Park for its impressive 167-foot waterfall and the surrounding walking trails.

Continue on to Cooperstown, known for being the home of the National Baseball Hall of Fame, but also home to so much more. Learn about America's pastime, and then about 19th-century rural life at the Farmers' Museum or about American masters at the Fenimore Art Museum.

Take in the views of Otsego Lake at Glimmerglass State Park and enjoy an evening at a nearby craft brewery or cidery along the Cooperstown Beverage Trail.

DAY 3:

Head to Howe Caverns and take a boat ride 156 feet below the surface, admiring ancient rock formations along the way or experience Native American culture through the window of traditional arts and crafts at the Iroquois Indian Museum.

Wrap up your trip in Albany with a tour of the historic New York State Capitol or a visit to the New York State Museum.

WILD ADVENTURE IN THE ADIRONDACKS



REGION:Adirondacks

DAY 1:

Gain a new perspective on nature while wandering above the treetops at The Wild Center, and meet otters, owls, and more at daily animal encounters.

Get even higher by riding the Whiteface Cloudsplitter gondola to the top of Little Whiteface Mountain.

Visit the Lake Placid Winter Olympic Museum and Hall of Fame to learn about the Olympic Games of 1932 and 1980, then try an exhilarating bobsled or skeleton ride at the Olympic Sports Complex!

Enjoy fine dining and world-class luxury in the town of Lake Placid.

DAY 2:

Take in more adventure at Six Flags Great Escape & Splashwater Kingdom, where you can try more than 130 rides.

Cruise pristine Lake George the way people have for more than a century on the Minne Ha Ha with Lake George Steamboat Company.

Explore Natural Stone Bridge and Caves Park, the largest cave entrance in the eastern US, to learn about the geology of the Adirondacks, or mine for gems and fossils.

Spend the rest of the day exploring the picturesque town of Lake George.

DAY 3:

Challenge yourself at Adirondack Extreme Adventure Course, with 15 ziplines and more than 130 obstacles of varying difficulties.

DAY 4:

When Gilded Age hosts invited their well-to-do friends to join them in the Adirondacks, they talked of "vacating" the heat of the city for the cool mountain breezes, and the word "vacation" was born. Some of these spectacular retreats have been preserved for visitors, like the Great Camp Sagamore National Historic Landmark.

Hike some of the 46 high peaks of the Adirondacks, ranging from the relatively easy Cascade Mountain to the very challenging Mt. Emmons.







DID YOU KNOW?

Superfan James Cawley recreated the fully licensed Star Trek Original Series Set Tour in historic downtown Ticonderoga using the original blueprints from the TV sci-fi classic.

Santa's Workshop in North Pole NY, where you can visit Santa, Mrs. Claus, and the reindeer all year long, is considered America's oldest theme park. Even planners from Disney visited when working on Disneyland.

One of America's finest outdoor museums, the Adirondack Experience, brings the history of the Adirondacks to life.

You can skate on the very same ice where, at the 1980 Lake Placid Olympic Games, the US men's ice hockey team performed the "Miracle on Ice" by defeating the Soviet Union, who had won gold the previous four Olympics.

Thomas Jefferson once proclaimed Lake George to be "without comparison, the most beautiful water I ever saw."



THE PATHS THAT SHAPED OUR NATION



REGIONS:Capital-Saratoga, Adirondacks

DAY 1:

Fans of Alexander Hamilton won't want to miss the Schuyler Mansion State Historic Site, the grand Georgian mansion in Albany where he married Elizabeth Schuyler in 1780.

Visit Saratoga National Historical Park, site of the turning point of the American Revolution, where in 1777 the British army surrendered for the first time in world history.

To continue your Revolutionary day, head up to the shores of Lake Champlain to the star-shaped Fort Ticonderoga, active during the French and Indian and Revolutionary wars, where you can see musket- and cannon-firing demos and reenactments.

DAY 2:

Go back in time even more as you head further up Lake Champlain to Ausable Chasm, aka "the Grand Canyon of the Adirondacks," carved about 10,000 years ago by glaciers after the last ice age.

Stop for lunch in the quaint community of Westport, the birthplace of the Adirondack chair.

Visit the Hyde Collection in Glens Falls with artwork spanning 6,000 years, including pieces from da Vinci, Rubens, Whistler, and Homer.

DAY 3:

Spend some time exploring Saratoga Springs' vibrant downtown, with its world-class lodging, dining, and shopping, as well as Congress Park with a carousel and natural springs you can sample.

Catch a thrilling thoroughbred race at Saratoga Race Course.

Check the schedule at Saratoga Performing Arts Center where you can enjoy open-air performances ranging from the New York City Ballet to popular rock acts.







DID YOU KNOW?

Chazy Apple Orchard on the shores of Lake Champlain is the largest McIntosh apple orchard in the world!

The largest freshwater beach in the United States is Plattsburgh City Beach.

The Adirondacks were an important area for the Underground Railroad, as described at North Star Underground Railroad Museum in Keesville.

There are 46 high peaks and approximately 2,800 lakes and ponds in the Adirondacks. For over 100 years, people who hike all the peaks—including the highest peak in New York State, Mt. Marcy—have proudly called themselves 46ers.

The Great Western Staircase, aka "the Million-Dollar Staircase," featured during tours of the New York State Capitol in Albany, is carved with 300 portraits!

Cohoes Falls on the Mohawk River is wider than Niagara Falls by 170 feet.

MOUNTAIN VIEWS AND CASCADING STREAMS



REGION: Catskills







DAY 1:

The scenery in this area has been inspiring artists for almost 200 years, as described at the Thomas Cole National Historic Site, the home and studio of the founder of the Hudson River Arts School.

Take a chairlift to the top of Windham Mountain for a picnic with a view in the warmer months or ski back down in the winter.

Head to the town of Woodstock. Stroll the streets, galleries, and shops and enjoy a streamside meal at one of the many cafes or restaurants.

DAY 2:

The Catskills are known as the birthplace of fly fishing, and you can visit Catskill Fly Fishing Center & Museum to try to catch your own fish in the stream!

Hop in a canoe, kayak, or raft and paddle around Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River in Downsville.

Explore the shops and restaurants of the cozy town of Phoenicia. This summer, the Phoenicia Festival of the Voice celebrates its 10th anniversary.

DAY 3:

Make your last time on the water for the weekend count by tubing on the class II/III rapids of Esopus Creek!

Admire more mountain views while sailing through the trees on the longest and highest zipline in North America at New York Zipline Adventure Tours at Hunter Mountain.

DID YOU KNOW?

The ski trails of Plattekill Mountain become mountain biking trails in the warmer months.

The historic Woodstock Music Festival actually took place in Bethel Woods, which now hosts the amphitheater of the Bethel Woods Center for the Arts and a state-of-the-art museum of the sixties.

Mount Tremper has the World's Largest Kaleidoscope at 56 feet tall and 38 feet in diameter in a transformed farm silo, which features shows with an original, synchronized soundtrack.

Overlook Mountain rewards hikers with views of the surrounding Catskills, the Hudson River, and the Berkshire Mountains.

Woodstock Byrdcliffe Guild is the United States' oldest continuing arts and crafts colony.

The Catskills Forest Preserve includes over a quarter million acres of forever wild land, constitutionally protected by the state.



HISTORIC HOMES AND SCENIC VISTAS



REGION: Hudson Valley







DID YOU KNOW?

The Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site is the only First Lady National Historic Site in the United States.

In 1802 President Thomas Jefferson signed legislation establishing the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and it is the oldest continually occupied military post in America. The West Point Museum is open to the public along with guided tours.

You can tour Kykuit in Sleepy Hollow where four generations of the Rockefellers, the richest family in the early 20th century, lived.

Sunnyside, the home of writer Washington Irving, famous for *Rip Van Winkle* and *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, can be toured in Tarrytown. Every fall in nearby Croton-on-Hudson, the Great Jack O'Lantern Blaze displays over 7,000 carved pumpkins assembled into sculptures.

The oldest winery in the US is Brotherhood Winery in Washingtonville, established in 1839. Tours and tastings are available.

DAY 1:

Take in the scenery of the Hudson River as you stroll along the longest pedestrian bridge in the world at Walkway Over the Hudson State Historic Park.

Visit Hyde Park to tour the Franklin D Roosevelt Home National Historic Site, Library, and Museum to learn about a remarkable 12-year presidency and the United States at the time of the Great Depression and WWII. Don't miss Val-Kill Cottage, the Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site.

Just ten minutes away, tour the Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site, a 50-room mansion from the Gilded Age, with an Italian garden and views of the Hudson.

Cap off your day with world-class dining at the Culinary Institute of America.

DAY 2:

Stay or play at Mohonk Mountain House, a stately 265-room Victorian castle with an award-winning spa, year-round recreation, and stunning vistas.

Walk around the sprawling grounds of Storm King Art Center, an open-air museum with much of the artwork designed for the specific landscapes you'll encounter.

DAY 3:

Hike to the top of ${\color{red}\textbf{Bear Mountain}}$ for more spectacular views and a great workout.

End your trip exploring one of this region's charming small towns like Beacon to view modern artwork in a former factory at Dia:Beacon. In Hudson visit the historic home and estate of Hudson River School artist Frederic Church at Olana State Historic Site. Nearby Rhinebeck and Red Hook, watch WWI flying shows at Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome.

SEASIDE TREASURES



REGION: Long Island

DAY 1:

Live out your Gatsby dreams by touring some of the Gold Coast Mansions of Long Island like OHEKA CASTLE where Taylor Swift sang about blank spaces or Old Westbury Gardens where you can explore more than 200 acres of formal gardens, landscaped grounds, woodlands, ponds, and lakes.

Find picturesque vineyards and a diverse selection of reds, whites, rosés, and sparkling wines in Long Island Wine Country. Many of the vineyards are family-friendly, so bring the kids!

Stroll the charming historic village of Greenport and the marina full of fresh seafood options.

DAY 2:

Make friends at the Long Island Aquarium by signing up for personal encounters with seals, sea lions, penguins, and bugs, or view friends from afar living in the 120,000-gallon shark tank.

Ride horses along white sandy beaches at Deep Hollow Ranch, the oldest working ranch in the United States.

Take in the sunset from the top of Montauk Point Lighthouse.

DAY 3:

Make a splash by learning how to surf on the waters of Long Beach, riding the 20 water slides and other thrilling attractions at Splish Splash Water Park, or dipping your toes in the ocean at one of Long Island's award-winning beaches like Coopers Beach in the Hamptons or Fire Island National Seashore in Ocean Beach.





DID YOU KNOW?

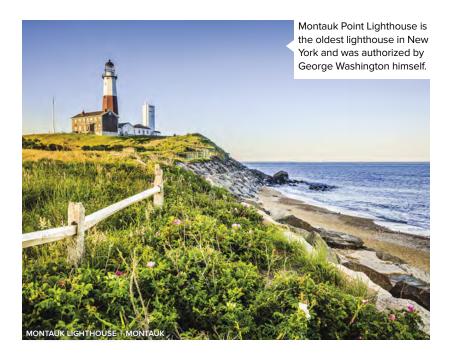
Long Island is home to more than 60 public golf courses, which means everyone from beginners to pros can get a round in.

Visitors can walk on paint splatters left by artist Jackson Pollock himself at Pollock-Krasner House and Study Center.

The Walt Whitman Birthplace State Historic Site & Interpretive Center will be celebrating the poet's 200th birthday in 2019!

Long Island has a storied aerospace history, as the departure point for the first solo transatlantic flight by Charles Lindbergh aboard the Spirit of St. Louis, the place where NASA's lunar modular was manufactured, and much more. Learn about it all at the Cradle of Aviation Museum.

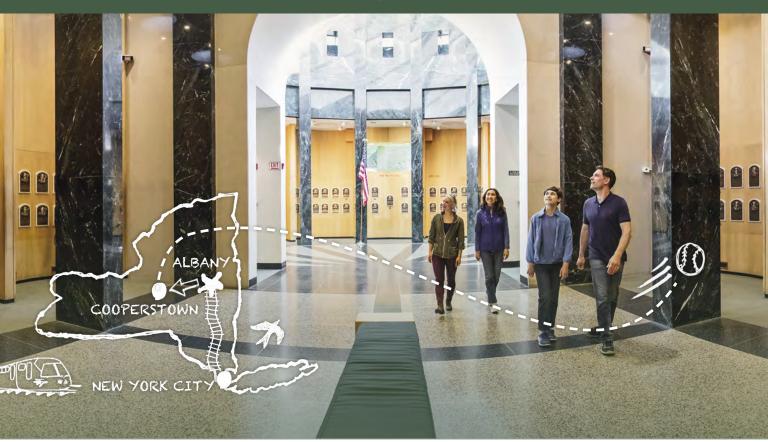
Fire Island's 32 miles along the ocean are even more tranquil because no cars are allowed during the summer. The communities of Cherry Grove and the Pines were two of the first LGBT havens in the United States.





Cach me in

COOPERSTOWN & OTSEGO COUNTY



Celebrate America's favorite pastime in Cooperstown, home of the legendary National Baseball Hall of Fame & Museum. Visit the Plaque Gallery, memorabilia and interactive exhibits year round, or make a July pilgrimage for Induction Weekend. Don't miss Doubleday Field and Cooperstown Bat Company nearby. Cooperstown & Otsego County also offer history, art and culture, outdoor recreation, and a craft beverage trail, making it a grand slam getaway destination.

COPERSTOWN GETAWAY





Getting to Cooperstown

- Take Amtrak from Penn Stationin NYC to the Albany-Rensselaer station.
- **2** Pick up an Enterprise rental car at the station.
- Drive west on I-90, I-88, or on the Route 20 Scenic Byway.

AMS ROM UCA

Central New York



FAMILY FUN

▼ ERIE CANAL CRUISES

Experience the Erie Canal on a yacht, with commentary about historic sites and wildlife.

Distance from UCA: 14.3 miles



ADIRONDACK SCENIC RAILROAD

Scenic train-ride between Utica and Lake Placid. Specials include Beer & Wine, Fall Foliage, Halloween and Haunted History trains.

Distance from UCA: 0 miles

FOOD AND DRINK

BREWERY OMMEGANG

Belgian-style craft brews, including HBO's Game of Thrones-inspired beer. Distance from UCA: 42.5 miles

HISTORY

FORT STANWIX NATIONAL MONUMENT

See reenactments at "the fort that never surrendered", located at a strategic colonial link between the Atlantic Ocean and Lake Ontario.

Distance from ROM: 1 mile

▼ AMSTERDAM CASTLE

Stay at this former armory and private castle, built in 1877, now a luxurious boutique hotel.

Distance from AMS: 2.3 miles



SHOPPING

▼ BEEKMAN 1802 MERCANTILE

Locally made gourmet food products, lotions, soaps, gifts and housewares at the store created by the "Fabulous Beekman Boys" of Cooking Channel fame. Distance from AMS: 29.5 miles



SPORTS & OUTDOORS MOHAWK VALLEY GATEWAY OVERLOOK

Pedestrian bridge and park over the Mohawk River connecting the Erie Canalway Trail to Riverlink Park and downtown Amsterdam.

Distance from AMS: 2.5 miles

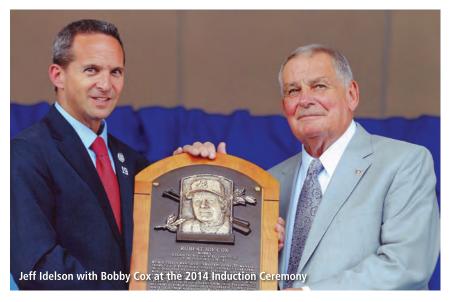
AMSTERDAM-PATTERSONVILLE TRAILWAY

New 5-mile trail between Amsterdam and Pattersonville, the latest addition to the Empire State Trail.

Distance from AMS: 2.3 Miles

Go to NewYorkByRail.com/Central-New-York





New York By Rail publisher, Tom Martinelli, an avid-baseball fan, caught-up with Jeff Idelson, president of the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum (HOF), who is retiring after the 2019 induction ceremony.

NYBR: Do you remember your first day at the HOF?

JI: I became President 12 years ago, on Jackie Robinson Day, April 15, 2008, but I've spent a total of 25 years with the HOF in various capacities. My first day at the HOF was Induction Day 1994, when Phil Rizzuto, Steve Carlton and Leo Durocher were inducted. That day had great meaning because I previously worked with Rizzuto when I was with the New York Yankees.

NYBR: How significant is the HOF as an Upstate New York attraction?

JI: We draw 300,000 visitors annually

and have welcomed 17 million total visitors since opening in 1939. Visitors come from across North America, and our international visitations continue to increase yearly as baseball globalizes. We're a tourism anchor within Central New York.

NYBR: What's new at the HOF?

JI: Am emotional, uplifting 14-minute film, *Generations of the Game*, welcomes visitors entering the museum. Nineteen HOF members narrate the film, weaving together the rich history of the game. The film is shown in our completely renovated grandstand theater which is *the*

theatre in Upstate New York.

Memorial Day Weekend 2019, we'll open a new permanent baseball card exhibit, *Shoebox Treasures*, with over 2,000 cards from the museum's vast collection. It explores the history of baseball cards, the evolution of card design and how and why fans of all ages collect cards. There will also be a section on the "holy grails," cards considered the most valuable.

NYBR: What are the HOF's biggest accomplishments in your 12 years as president?

JI: Keeping the museum relevant, exciting and fresh. We always focus on what interests visitors and trends in cultural tourism. It's important to always be relevant, especially with the younger generations and to the Latino audience.

Digitizing our collections has allowed all baseball fans to access parts of our collection online. We utilize bilingual marketing to reach and embrace Spanish-speaking visitors.

A partnership with La Vida Baseball, a dynamic digital media platform that highlights the great Latino players shaping the game today and their cultures, allows us to reach an English-speaking Latino audience as we never have before.

NYBR: What's your advice to visitors planning to experience the HOF?

JI: Plan to spend three to four hours minimum. Many visitors take one to three days to absorb our entire 50,000 square-foot museum. Consider an individual or family museum membership, which keeps members connected to us the year-round, allows for unlimited visits and helps support a national treasure.

NYBR: How does the HOF work the local community to provide a positive experience for visitors to Cooperstown?

JI: We take our community responsibilities very seriously and want the local community to be our biggest champions, as we all benefit from HOF attendance.

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We work with local government, chambers of commerce, area businesses, tourism agencies and accommodations to ensure HOF visitors have a great experience. Our staff serves on virtually every local civic organization to constantly promote the charm of Cooperstown - beautiful scenery, great restaurants, hotels and, most importantly, the community's warm hospitality — well beyond the museum.

We work with area B&B's to market "VIP Experience" packages during shoulder and winter seasons. The program allows their guests to experience the HOF in deeper and more meaningful ways. We promote the region's antique markets, agritourism, other destinations and Main Street, showcasing Cooperstown as a multi-day destination with plenty to do beyond baseball.

NYBR: What community activities do you arrange for Major League Baseball players visiting the HOF?

JI: We provide an orientation program for incoming HOF members to give them a sense of all that Cooperstown and the region offers. Once they become a Hall of Famer, they return often to the area. Doing so gives them a sense of all that our region has to offer.

With more than 75 living Hall of Famers representing the museum, many return early in the week ahead of Hall of Fame Weekend to golf,



fish on Otsego Lake, experience the Glimmerglass Opera or even go blueberry picking. They love coming to Cooperstown to see their fellow Hall of Famers, residents they have befriended. and to enjoy all there is to do.

NYBR: Which Hall of Famers have a particular fondness for Cooperstown?

JI: Phil Niekro loves Cooperstown so much that I've joked he should pay taxes here. I was shoveling my driveway one December morning, and all of a sudden, he's standing in my driveway asking if I have another shovel. He seems to spend as much time in our village as his home in Atlanta!

Phil Rizzuto and his wife, Cora, felt very comfortable calling Cooperstown

their second home. Phil would leave his golf clubs at The Otesaga Resort Hotel, as he enjoyed playing the Leatherstocking Golf Course. Phil was one of the first to let the HOF know he was coming to the induction ceremonies every year.

NYBR: Tell us about the Class of 2019, headlined by New York Yankees great Mariano Rivera?

JI: The Class of 2019 has all the ingredients to be an all-time, top-drawing induction among local and big-drawing markets. This class has a great relationship with fans. When fan favorites make it into the HOF, they want to be there Hall of Fame Weekend to say thank you.

The Class of 2019 is star-studded, highlighted by Yankees' great Mariano Rivera, who is still incredibly popular. Roy Halladay, who played in Philadelphia and

Toronto, is being inducted posthumously. Mike Mussina played in Baltimore and New York. Lee Smith and Harold Baines represent both sides of Chicago. Edgar Martinez is incredibly popular in Seattle, where he still lives. We saw how well Mariners fans traveled for Ken. Griffey, Jr. in 2016. This induction class has the chance of being one of the top three biggest inductions in history.



Jeff Idelson at the Class of 2019 introductory press conference, January 23, 2019. Left to right: Edgar Martinez, Mike Mussina and Mariano Rivera.

NYBR: What impact would a big draw for the Class of 2019 have on the HOF

beyond that one weekend?

JI: Not everybody can make it to Induction Weekend. The afterglow goes on and on. We've seen a direct correlation between 45.000+ in attendance at four of the past five inductions and HOF attendance around 300,000 annually. Nearly all of the Hall of Famers return every year after being inducted, to welcome the new class and spend time among the fans.

NYBR: What do you enjoy about living in Cooperstown?

JI: Cooperstown is a great place to raise children, who benefit from a terrific school system and a close-knit community. People who live here are genuine. For a town of 1,800 to have a halfdozen great restaurants; the championship Leatherstocking Golf Course; Glimmerglass Opera; the Clark Sports Center, one of the world's great sports facilities; the HOF; Farmers' Museum; the Fenimore Art Museum; and so much more, is unique. Yet, you have the smallness and familiarity of a comfortable, small community. It's been a great way to spend the last quarter century.

NYBR: What are some of your favorite things to do in the area?

JI: Strolling the streets and enjoying all the beauty and splendor of Cooperstown are what I enjoy most. As an avid runner, I like the many routes





Jeff Idelson with Hall of Famer Jim Thome at The Otesaga Resort Hotel overlooking Otsego Lake

Cooperstown offers. I love golfing and benefit from three unique golf courses within 10 miles of the center of town. The Clark Sports Center is a great workout facility. And I love having ample opportunities to eat at excellent restaurants in the village.

NYBR: Do you ever ride Amtrak?

JI: I occasionally take Amtrak to New York City. Parking in Rensselaer is easy. I enjoy the scenic ride through the Catskills. I know I'm going to have a smooth ride. No potholes on the tracks! Amtrak allows me to maximize my time and get work done comfortably, using the train's WIFI.

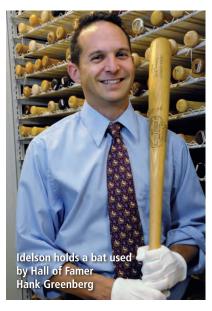
NYBR: What do you plan to do after your retirement from the HOF this summer?

JI: I'm staying involved in the game at the amateur level, something dear to my heart. Jean Fruth and I have developed "Grassroots Baseball", a program dedicated to celebrating the amateur game around the globe, with a focus on growing participation at the youngest levels. We are launching it this summer along historic Route 66. The Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation will supply equipment and a number of Hall of Famers, including Jim Thome, Johnny Bench and George Brett, who will provide inspiration and instruction. Jean,

one of 45 Sony Artisans of Imagery, and I will publish a coffee-table book, Grassroots Baseball: Route 66, after the tour concludes, the second book in the Grassroots Baseball series.

I also look forward spending time on Amtrak, seeing part of the country. I love train travel, which was part of baseball's early roots. Can you imagine yourself being on a train with Babe Ruth, having a beer and fighting over a hot dog?

To read New York By Rail's entire interview with Jeff Idelson, go to NewYorkByRail. com/National-Baseball-Hall-Of-Fame-President-Interview



Amtrak.com

GLASSBLOWING AT HOWE CAVERNS

By Alexandra Shea

Howe Caverns is known for its tours of one of the only mineral caves in the world, but the excitement no longer ends there. Howe Caverns now brings the fiery art of glassblowing to the Capital District. Intrigued by the opportunity to create my own one-of-a-kind work of glass art, I visited

Howe Glassworks Studio for a hands-on glassblowing workshop.

I was completely unfamiliar with glassblowing but was assured that didn't matter. The studio offers a multitude of workshops, year-round. From bowls and vases to unique decorative pieces and ornaments, you can choose from a multitude of creations and breathe it to life with the help of a professional instructor. I opted for a ruffle-edged bowl.

Using a stainless-steel pipe as my instrument, I heated the end of the pipe to 2,300 degrees (F), the same temperature as the lava in an active volcano. Next, I dipped the

pipe into glowing, liquefied glass. Then I added colors and continued to heat the piece in the volcano-like furnace. Then, using gravity and rotation, the ball of molten glass opened up to become a beautiful ruffle-edged bowl. After letting it cool for 12 hours, I took it home on the train! O

To learn more about glassblowing at Howe Caverns, go to NewYorkByRail.com/Howe-Glassworks-Glassblowing-at-

Howe-Caverns.

DO IT BY TRAIN! Take Amtrak to Albany-Rensselaer Station (ALB) or Schenectady Station (SDY). Don't forget to use Amtrak's SEE NEW YORK AND SAVE! 15% discount!

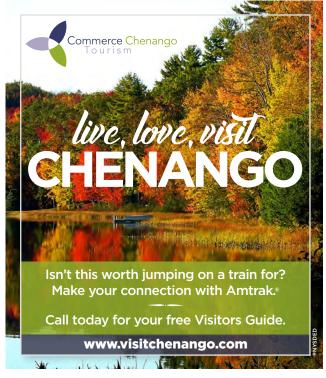
At ALB, walk to your Enterprise rental a car. At SDY, Enterprise picks you up and takes you to your car. For reservations, call Enterprise at ALB (518-427-3893), or SDY (518-374-7890). Discount code: NYTRAIN.

Howe Caverns provides ground transportation from ALB or SDY if you stay at the Howe Caverns Motel. Howecaverns.com









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he sun breaks through the clouds and shines onto the tree-lined waterway ahead. It's a perfect day for a cruise on the Erie Canal on Gems Along the Mohawk's Lil' Diamond III. A daytrip on this storied channel is a journey through history. Captain Jerry Gertz narrates tales of the canal and points out landmarks, like historic Fort Herkimer Church, one of the oldest surviving churches in New York State, and birds, like herons and bald eagles.

A group of boats pass us, flying the flag of "America's Great Loop", a 6,000-mile water circuit that includes the Erie Canal. They toot their horns as they go by.

I head to the lower deck of the 100-passenger Lil' Diamond III. Designed and built in 2012 by Gertz, the boat has a fully-stocked bar and snack stand. After ordering a cocktail in a souvenir cup, I head to the bow for one of the highlights of our tour, Lock 18 in Jacksonburg.

As we pull into the lock, deckhands moor the boat to the walls and signal to the lockmaster. Slowly the centuryold gate closes behind us as water forces its way through a small opening. Kids gather on the deck to watch our 15-minute descent inside the lock. We drop 20 feet and





then get released into the waterway again.

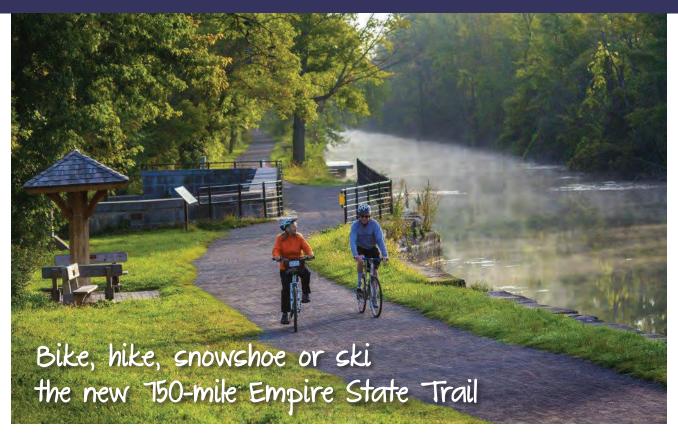
Rising back up is just as exciting on the return trip. Shortly after leaving Lock 18 again, I am back at the Gems Along the Mohawk dock in Herkimer. It was a 90-minute cruise through the scenic Mohawk Valley, but it sailed by. O

To read more about day-cruising on the Erie Canal and the history of the canal in the Mohawk Valley, go to NewYorkByRail. com/Make-Lasting-Memories-on-the-Erie-Canal.

DO IT BY TRAIN! Take Amtrak from Penn Station to Amsterdam Station (AMS). Don't forget to use Amtrak's SEE **NEW YORK AND SAVE!** 15% discount!

Enterprise picks you up at AMS and takes you to your rental car. Call Enterprise in Amsterdam (518-843-8535) to reserve a car. Discount code: NYTRAIN.

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES



S & TRAILS NEW YORK



Whether you love history, cycling for miles, finding local cuisine or being on the water, the Erie Canal and Canalway Trail have the destinations for you. Step off the train and spend a day - or a lifetime -discovering New York State's 524 miles of canals and more than 350 miles of trails. Let Amtrak be your method of escape, then charter a boat, cycle the trail or visit a museum within the 200+ communities that stretch from Albany to Buffalo.

There's more! Due for completion in 2020, the Empire State Trail will provide a continuous route from New York City to Canada and from Albany to Buffalo, the longest multi-use recreational path in the country. Most of it already exists. The new Empire State Trail will connect the existing Erie Canalway, Champlain Valley and Hudson River Valley trails, creating a multi-use, year-round path to New York State's natural, historic and cultural splendors.

Take the train! Access to the Empire State Trail is close to most Amtrak stations across the state.





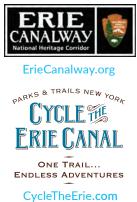
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ALONG THE ERIE CANAL



TRAIL FACTS

- The trail primarily follows the canal's former towpath and rail corridors. Where an off-road route is not feasible, the trail follows public roadways.
- The trail is mostly level with a hard surface (asphalt or stonedust) and is ADA-compliant.
- Trail activities include bicycling, hiking, wildlife watching, and snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. Horseback riding and snowmobiling are also available on some trail sections.
- Find attractions, lodging, camping, dining and shopping near the trail via mobile websites.
- Trip planning, guidebooks, supported bike tours and other programs are available.













Syracuse



SPORTS & OUTDOORS BEAVER LAKE NATURE CENTER

Nine miles of scenic trails and 400 annual programs that explore the rich mix of habitats. Home to 200+ species of birds and 800+ types of plants.

Distance from SYR: 17 miles



SYRACUSE PEDAL TOURS

Pub crawl, sightsee and get a little exercise on a 15-person pedal-powered "party bike". Distance from SYR: 2.1 miles

CARRIER DOME

49,000-seat stadium, home to Syracuse University football, basketball and lacrosse. Distance from SYR: 4 miles

ONONDAGA LAKE PARK

A 7.5-mile-long lakeside recreation area with trails, fishing pier, bocce, shuffleboard, picnic areas, Wegmans Playground, a skate park and The Salt Museum.

Distance from SYR: 2.9 miles

FOOD & DRINK

APIZZA REGIONALE

Delicious antipasti, seasonal pastas and pizzas made with their fresh, homemade mozzarella, ricotta and sausage. *Distance from SYR: 2.4 miles*

GLAZED AND CONFUSED

A small-batch donut shop that makes all of their donuts from scratch and fresh to order. *Distance from SYR: 2.3 miles*

▼EMPIRE BREWING COMPANY

Handcrafted ales and lagers in the heart of downtown Syracuse. Or visit their farm brewery, the largest in the East, in Cazenovia. *Distance from SYR: 2.6 miles (downtown taproom)*



SHOPPING DESTINY USA

2.4 million square feet of indoor entertainment, with 260 retailers, restaurants, go-karts, laser-tag, WonderWorks and a ropes course. *Distance from SYR: 0.5 mile*



CNY REGIONAL MARKET

A hive of farm-to-table foods and dining, artisan goods, boutiques, concerts and events. Distance from SYR: 0.3 mile

HISTORY

ARMORY SQUARE

Settled in 1804, an historic district known for unique shopping, upscale dining and vibrant nightlife.

Distance from SYR: 2.6 miles

MUSEUMS

EVERSON MUSEUM OF ART

11,000 pieces of American art, including paintings, sculpture, video, graphics, plus ceramics from around the world. *Distance from SYR: 3.3 miles*

Go to NewYorkByRail.com/Syracuse

A FANTASTIC DAY AT THE NEW YORK STATE FAIR



hen my friend, llyse, and I arrived at the New York State Fair, there was no doubt where we wanted to go first, the rollercoaster. Moments later, as we climbed higher and higher up the narrow track, we could see across the entire fair, then we plummeted down, right and left. It was a wild ride, and the perfect introduction to one of the biggest family parties in the Empire State.

As the adrenaline subsided, we watched others whip, spin, swing and tilt to their collective delight on the other rides around us. What a contrast to the calm, relaxing train ride to the fair!

Earlier that morning, Ilyse and I had met on the train. I boarded in Albany, and she in Rhinecliff. We talked for a while, then Ilyse pulled out her book while I enjoyed the view of the Mohawk River from the large window by my seat.

From Syracuse Station (SYR), we hopped on a Centro Bus. What a hassle-free way to go! The fair attracts over 1 million people in just 13 days, but without the has-

sle of driving and parking, the crowds comfortably filled the fairgrounds around us.

As we got off the coaster, a concert was beginning at the Chevy Court Pavilion. The New York State Fair has hosted a number of big-name entertainers over the years, including Bon Jovi, Rod Stewart and Bruno Mars. The band, Jukin' Bone, an early 1970s rock band from the Syracuse area, was into its second song by the time we found a seat.

We listened to one set, then decided to find something to eat. Part of the fun of going to a fair is the fare. As we entered the Dairy Products Building, a girl handed us free chocolate milk. Then we saw it, an incredible sculpture made

> entirely out of butter under a temperature-controlled glass dome that slowly circled, round and round.

> We wanted to see the animals, too. The goats with their goofy expressions were especially endearing. We also watched sheep being shorn and a farmer milk a cow.

As we departed the animal pavilions, a parade was about to start. Three more dairy princesses and a Native American princess waved



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Amtrak.com

at us. Tractors, military men and a brigade of bagpipers entertained us. At one point, Blues Brothers-look-alikes pranced and sang along the avenue.

As the parade petered out, we hopped on a Centro Bus to our hotel, The Embassy Suites by Hilton Syracuse Destiny USA. A complimentary glass of wine awaited us after we checked in. After relaxing for an hour, we walked across the parking lot to shop at the Destiny USA, a destination unto itself packed with boutiques, restaurants and family-friendly entertainment. What a fun, full day! O

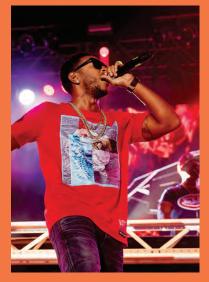
For more info about taking Amtrak to Syracuse to enjoy the New York State Fair, go to NewYorkByRail.com/New-York-State-Fair.

TOP 10 THINGS TO DO AT THE NEW YORK **STATE FAIR**

In no particular order, here are New York By Rail's must-do's at the fair:

- **1.** Eat local Syracuse foods, Dinosaur Bar-B-Que and Gianelli Sausage (Opposite Dairy Products Building).
- 2. Visit the Dairy Cow Birthing Center (Near Youth Building).
- 3. Listen to a free concert (Chevy Court).
- **4.** Indulge in a \$1 baked or sweet potato (Horticulture Building).
- **5.** Taste unique New York treats (Taste NY Marketplace).
- **6.** Sidle up to the Milk Bar for Building).
- **7.** See a mammoth sand sculpture get built (Exposition Center).
- 8. Walk through the History of the NYS Fair Exhibit (Grange Building).
- **9.** Tour the historic trains (behind the Horticulture Building).
- 10. Ride the 1,400-foot Broadway Skyliner (Midway)





DON'T MISS THE MUSIC!

Each year, the New York State Fair features a wide range of live musical performances, from country to nostalgic to pop. There are two concerts per day at Chevy Court, four per day at Experience Stage and other performances throughout the fairgrounds. Concerts are included with admission. This year's line-up includes:

- Bad Company (August 21)
- Dropkick Murphy's (August 25)
- Midland (August 26)
- Why Don't We (August 29) For the complete concert line up, including a number of bigname artists, go to nysfair.ny.gov.

PLAN YOUR CAREFREE. **CAR-FREE TRIP** TO THE FAIR

Going to the New York State Fair on Amtrak is easy and relaxing because you don't need to deal with traffic or parking. Here's a

- **1.** Take Amtrak to Syracuse Station (SYR), then hop on a Centro Bus to the fair. Uber, Lyft and taxis also take you
- **2.** Eat lunch inside one of the food pavilions or at one of the many concessions.
- **3.** Enjoy the rides and
- 4. Watch a parade or a cooking or agricultural demonstration.
- **5.** Tour the barns to see the blue-ribbon animals.
- 6. Eat dinner.
- 7. Watch a concert.
- 8. Take Centro Bus to the **Embassy Suites Destiny USA**
- **9.** The next morning, return to the fair, or shop and enjoy the entertainment at Destiny
- 10. From the fair, take a Centro Bus to SYR to catch your train home. From Destiny USA, take the free hotel shuttle to SYR,

TAKE AMTRAK TO THE NEW YORK STATE FAIR using the SEE NEW YORK AND SAVE! 15% discount off one regular (full) adult fare. In addition, one child, ages 2 to 12, may receive a 50% discount on Amtrak within New York State on selected service routes, traveling with an adult. Purchase tickets at least five days in advance. The 2019 New York State Fair is August 21 to September 2. Blackout dates apply. Available on Amtrak.com and ILoveNY.com/travel-tools/transportation/amtrak-discount/.













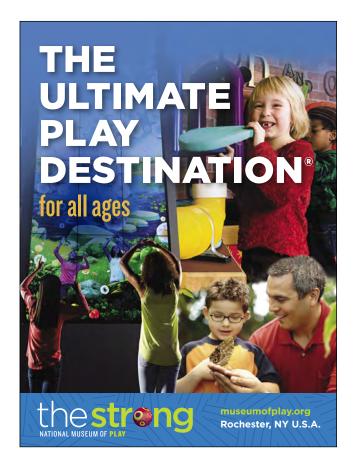
Rochester, N.Y. The perfect base.

Make Rochester the base for your next western New York getaway. Located on the southern shore of Lake Ontario and alongside the historic Erie Canal, experience world-class arts, history, golf and entertainment. All while being 45 minutes from Finger Lakes wine country.

VISIT ROCHESTER

For more information, go to www.visitrochester.com









Rochester



ARTS & CULTURE

▼GEVA THEATRE CENTER

Rochester's leading professional, live theatre, with new monthly productions. Distance from ROC: 1.1 miles



IMAGE CITY PHOTOGRAPHY GALLERY

Located in the heart of ARTWalk and featuring shows by regional photographic artists. Distance from ROC: 1.6 miles

MUSEUMS

STRONG MUSEUM OF PLAY

Interactive exhibits, including the world's largest collection of toys, dolls and games. Distance from ROC: 1 mile

GEORGE EASTMAN MUSEUM

The world's oldest photography museum and one of the oldest film archives. Distance from ROC: 1.9 miles

FOOD & DRINK

BLACK BUTTON DISTILLING

Farm-distillery using all-natural ingredients sourced in New York State. Taste its smallbatch whiskeys, gins, bourbons and Apple Pie moonshine.

Distance from ROC: 1.6 miles

GOOD LUCK

Homemade pastas, smokehouse dishes and vegetables reflecting the region. Named one of the Best Bars in America by Esquire in 2016.

Distance from ROC: 1.6 miles

V SWAN MARKET

An authentic German deli. Eat a homemade brat with a beer at one of the lively communal tables, or take it home. Distance from ROC: 2.2 miles





FAMILY FUN

▲ SENECA PARK ZOO

See amphibians, birds, fish, invertebrates, reptiles and mammals, including African elephants, lions and giraffes, at a 20-acre zoo dedicated to wildlife conservation. Distance from ROC: 3.5 miles

SPORTS & OUTDOORS

GENESEE RIVERWAY TRAIL

Walk, hike or bike throughout the heart of Rochester on this scenic trail along the Genesee River.

Distance from ROC: 2.8 miles

HISTORY

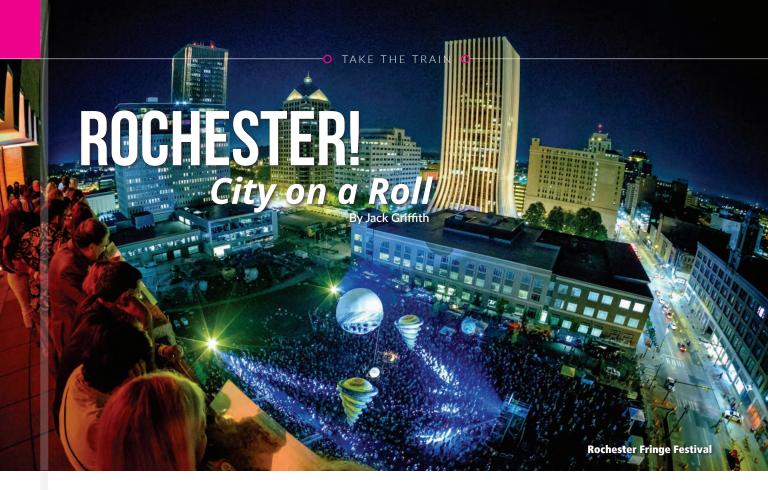
MOUNT HOPE CEMETERY

196-acre arboretum and Victorian cemetery with 350,000 graves. A veritable museum of funerary sculpture and mausoleums, and a peaceful place to stroll.

Distance from ROC: 3.3 miles

Go to NewYorkByRail.com/Rochester





estled against the shore of Lake Ontario is Rochester, largely undiscovered, though it's the third largest city in New York State. This cultural hub, ranked by the National Center for Art Research among the top 20 "most arts-vibrant cities" in the county, has galleries galore, plus The Strong National Museum of Play, the George Eastman Museum and the Memorial Art Gallery.

Learning. The Strong is always a big draw for kids and kids at heart. Dedicated to the history and exploration of play, it houses the National Toy Hall of Fame and the World Video Game Hall of Fame. There's also the Rochester Museum & Science Center, with interactive exhibits such as Adventure Zone, which simulates taking you to the bottom of Lake Ontario. Or unravel the complicated mysteries of outer space at the Strasenburgh Planetarium. On Saturday nights, the planetarium has laser shows and free telescope-viewings.

For history buffs, the National Susan B. Anthony Museum & House was Anthony's home during her years as an abolitionist and leader of the women's suffrage movement during the 1800s. The police arrested her here for trying to vote in the 1872 U.S. Presidential election. 2020 marks not only her 200th birthday (on February 15th) but also the 100th anniversary of the passing of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote. 2020 marks the 75th anniversary of the opening of the Susan B. Anthony House and Museum.

The Genesee Country Village & Museum, New York's largest living history museum, is another time-warp worth walking through. It's a fully-functioning 19th century village!

Wining and Dining. Rochester may be the front door to the Finger Lakes' wine region, but you don't need to leave the city to taste delightful wines. Casa Larga Vineyards and Winery has been making Italian-inspired wines in Rochester since 1978. The city's first urban winery, Living Roots, has recently opened, too.

Rochester's food and drink scene is booming with new restaurants, breweries, distilleries and coffee roasters. Genesee Brewery, the oldest brewery in the state, is in Roches-



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ter, as well as Rohrbach Brewing, Swiftwater Brewing, ROC Brewing, Three Heads Brewing and CB Craft Brewers.

In the Public Market District, you will find Black Button Distilling, the first small batch distillery to open in Rochester since prohibition. Black Button uses all-natural, 90% New York-sourced ingredients for its award-winning Straight Bourbon Whiskey, Citrus Forward Gin and Bespoke Bourbon Cream.



Arriving. Over the last few years, downtown Rochester has received over \$922 million in upgrades, including the impressive \$44 million, 9,500-square-foot Amtrak Station. Known as the Louise M. Slaughter Rochester Station, Slaughter, a former New York State Representative and resident of Rochester, helped raise money to complete the station's renovations. The new station - with its classic brick exterior, round-arch windows that flood the station with natural light and massive clock - took 15 years to plan and complete before it reopened in October 2017.

Celebrating. With 140+ annual festivals. Rochester could easily be nicknamed the Festival City, though its moniker is

the Flower City. Signature events include the annual Rochester Lilac Festival, home to the largest display of lilacs in North America: the Rochester International Jazz Festival, one of the top jazz festivals in the country; and the Key-Bank Rochester Fringe Festival, the third largest fringe festival in the country.

Recreating. One of the unique features of downtown Rochester is High Falls, a 96-foot waterfall on the Genesee River. Couple High Falls with the more than 12,000 acres of parkland in Monroe County, the Lake Ontario shoreline, hiking and biking paths along the Erie Canal and paddling on the Genesee River, and there is no shortage of natural wonders and outdoor recreational opportunities in Rochester.

Rochester also provides great entertainment for sports fans at a fraction of the cost. It's home to the American Hockey League's Rochester Americans and the National Lacrosse League's Rochester Knighthawks. In the summer, baseball fans can watch the Rochester Red Wings, the top minor league affiliate of the Minnesota Twins.

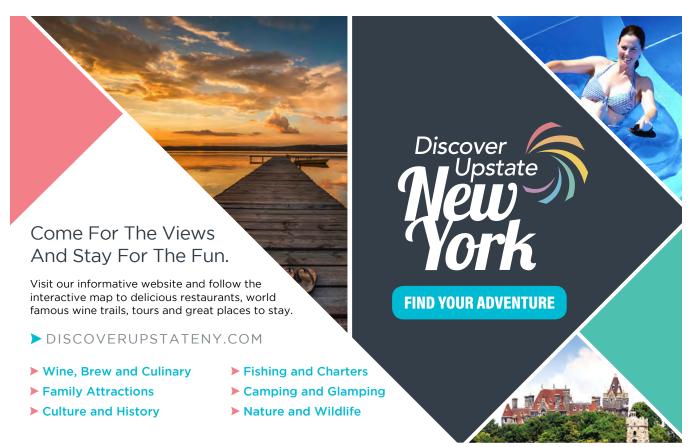
Rochester is an undiscovered treasure that has something for everyone!

DO IT BY TRAIN! Take Amtrak to Rochester Station (ROC). Don't forget to use Amtrak's **SEE NEW YORK AND SAVE!** 15% discount!

Lyft, Uber, taxis or Regional Transit Center buses are available to connect to downtown attractions. Or Enterprise picks you up at ROC and takes you to your rental car. For Enterprise reservations or to arrange a pick-up, call Enterprise at their downtown Rochester location (585-423-2220). Discount code: NYTRAIN. Discount code: NYTRAIN.









BUF BFX BUFFALO DEPEND BUFFALO EXCHANCE

Buffalo



FOOD & DRINK

TED'S HOT DOGS

Serving up gourmet wieners and other fun fare.

Distance from BFX: 1.1 miles

CHEF'S RESTAURANT

A neighborhood icon since the 1920's with an expansive menu of Italian dishes, from its signature Spaghetti Parmesan to Pasta Broccoli.

Distance from BFX: 0.6 mile

BACCHUS WINE BAR & RESTAURANT

Unique American specialties combined with a lengthy wine list in a chic setting. Distance from BFX: 0.9 mile

▼ BIG DITCH BREWING COMPANY

A large taproom offering comfort foods, small dishes and their house-brewed beer. Distance from BFX: 0.8 mile



SPORTS & OUTDOORS

▼ NEW ERA FIELD

Cheer for the NFL's Buffalo Bills at their home stadium in Orchard Park. Distance from BFX: 12.8 miles



HARBORCENTER

Watch the NHL's Buffalo Sabres, or go skating during public skating, open youth hockey and open adult hockey sessions. Distance from BFX: 0.2 mile

FAMILY FUN

BUFFALO EXPLORE & MORE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

Series of play-based exhibits that teach kids about local innovations, history and culture. Distance from BFX: 0.3 mile

ARTS & CULTURE CEPA GALLERY

Contemporary photo and visual arts center, with open-access darkroom and digital photo lab. Distance from BFX: 0.9 mile

SHEA'S PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Broadway shows and other performances for the whole family in a fully restore, Tiffany-designed, historic landmark. *Distance from BFX: 1 mile*

HISTORY

▼ DARWIN D. MARTIN HOUSE

Thousands of plants bloom for the first time after a 25-year, \$50 million restoration of this National Historic Landmark designed by Frank Lloyd Wright.

Distance from BFX: 5.3 miles



GARDENSBUFFALO AND ERIE CANAL BOTANICAL GARDENS

Year-round displays of horticultural treasures, including a medicinal garden and a healing garden. Flora-themed activities and workshops for all ages.

Distance from BFX: 5.7 miles

Go to NewYorkByRail.com/Buffalo







104 NEWYORKBYRAIL.COM Amtrak.com

Niagara Falls



SHOPPING

FASHION OUTLETS OF NIAGARA FALLS USA

Over 200 designer brands at affordable prices at one of the country's largest indoor outlet malls.

Distance from NFL: 4.6 miles

FAMILY FUN

MAID OF THE MIST

Boat ride through raging currents, thunderous water and swirling mist to the base of Niagara Falls. Waterproof poncho included. Distance from NFL: 2.3 miles

ESCAPE NIAGARA

Use clues, break codes and find hidden artifacts to unlock the cure for the "Z" virus or to solve Al Capone's crime.

Distance from NFL: 2.8 miles

▼ NIAGARA FALLS STATE PARK
Full Niagara Falls immersion, including an
Adventure Theater, aquarium, Cave of the
Winds, hiking trails and an observation tower.
Distance from NFL: 2.2 miles



FOOD & DRINK

▼ OLD FALLS STREET

Three blocks of entertainment, food and festivals, just steps from the Falls. Distance from NFL: 1.9 miles



THIRD STREET RETREAT EATERY & PUB

Cozy cafe, serving home-cooked meals. Play pool or darts, or watch a game. Distance from NFL: 1.9 miles

BAKERY RESTAURANT & LOUNGE

A Niagara Falls favorite with an Old World-atmosphere but new, fresh recipes. *Distance from NFL: 2.5 miles*

SPORT & OUTDOORS

BIKE THE FALLS TOURS

See the famous waterfalls, Three Sisters Islands, Goat Island, Niagara Gorge and other scenic spots with the area's original bike tour company.

Distance from NFL: 1.9 miles

ARTS & CULTURE

NIAGARA ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTER

The largest multi-arts center in Upstate New York, with 3 public galleries, 3 theatres, 60 artist studios, private galleries and a radio station. Distance from NFL: 1.2 miles

THE RAPIDS THEATRE

An indoor concert venue and events center in a vintage movie house.

Distance from NFL: 0.4 mile

HISTORY

NIAGARA FALLS UNDERGROUND RAILROAD HERITAGE CENTER

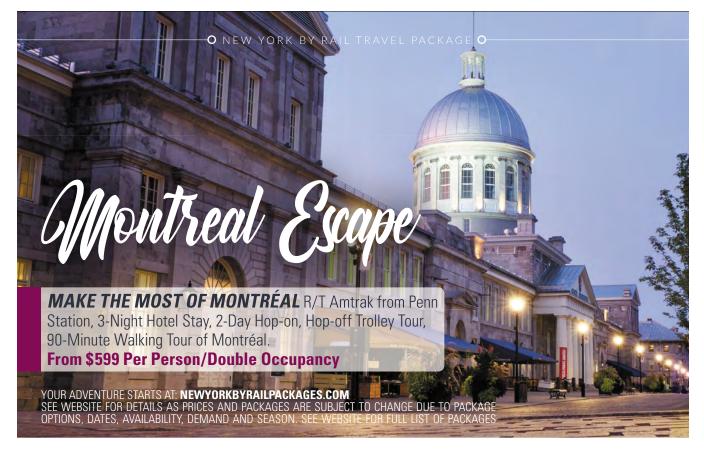
Real-life stories of the Underground Railroad and the abolitionists prior to the Civil War. *Distance from NFL: 207 feet*

▼ LEWISTON

Historic town dating back to French and British colonial times, with beautiful views of the Niagara River and Lake Ontario. Distance from NFL: 5.5 miles

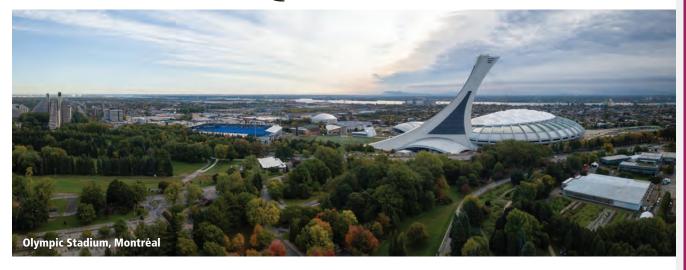






NEWYORKBYRAIL.COM Amtrak.com

Montréal, Quebec



FAMILY FUN

▼ THE BIOSPHERE

Architectural masterpiece and former pavilion for the 1967 World Fair housing interactive exhibits about environmental issues. Distance from MTR: 3.6 miles



MONTRÉAL TOWER

The tallest inclined tower in the world, offering a 360-degree panorama of the city, Olympic Stadium, Biodôme. Distance from MTR: 5.9 miles

MONTREAL BIODÔME

Replicas of four ecosystems found throughout the Americas in a velodrome constructed for the 1976 Olympic Games. Distance from MTR: 5.8 miles

SPORTS & OUTDOORS

MOUNT ROYAL

Lush urban park with seasonal activities, art exhibits, scenic overlooks and discovery walks. Distance from MTR: 1.3 miles

HISTORY

OLD MONTREAL

Home to colonial mansions, historic basilicas and the Old Port of Montreal, with a science museum, beach and aerial adventure course.

Distance from MTR: 1.2 miles

MUSEUMS

POINTE-À-CALLIÈRES MUSEUM

A national historic complex on the site where the city was founded. Architectural ruins plus exhibits spanning prehistoric times to present.

Distance from MTR: 1 mile

▼ NOTRE-DAME BASILICA

Take a guided tour of this Gothic Revival masterpiece in the Old Montréal historic district.

Distance from MTR: 0.8 miles



FOOD & DRINK

▼ REUBEN'S DELI & STEAKHOUSE

A casual eatery and the place for Montréal-style smoked meats and steaks. Distance from MTR: 0.3 miles



RESTAURANT TANDEM

French BYOB in the heart of the Villeray district, offering elegantly presented, fixed-price fare.

Distance from MTR: 4.7 miles

ST-VIATEUR BAGEL SHOP

A neighborhood favorite for 60+ years, famous for its variety of hand-rolled, wood oven-baked bagels. Open 24 hours. Distance from MTR: 2.7 miles

SPAS

BOTA BOTA SPA

Relax with diverse body and facial treatments on this river ferry turned upscale "floating spa". Distance from MTR: 1 mile

Go to NewYorkByRail.com/Montreal



NOTRE-DAME BASILICA OF MONTRÉAL

110 Notre-Dame Street West





Jam with the Tam-Tams on Mount Royal



Every Sunday during the summer, at the foot of Mount Royal. hippies, groups of friends and families enjoy the sounds of the

Dance or bring your own tam-tam to the party. Everyone is welcome!

Get Lazy at the Clock Tower Beach

Relax beside the St. Lawrence River, with the Jacques Cartier Bridge for a backdrop. Spend time sunbathing on a lawn chair or under an beach umbrella at this sandy strip in Old Port Montréal.

While you cannot swim, there is a boardwalk, snack bar, cool-off station with mist showers and a lot of carefree Montréal attitude!



www.oldportofmontreal.com

Party Outside in Subzero Temperatures



The must see winter festival. Montréal en Lumière, offers a multitude of free activities for everyone.

During the festival, the Quartier des Spectacles and its Place des Festival, located in the heart of Montréal's city center, becomes a winter destination.

Axe Throwing at its Best

Visit one of Montréal's axe throwing sites, for a unique experience in a casual atmosphere.

Find your inner lumberjack at this one-of-a-kind activity.



108 NEWYORKBYRAIL.COM



On a beautiful August evening, foodies climb the stairs to the Culinary Lab inside the Society of Technology building in Montreal's Quartier des Spectacles. If they're fortunate, they find an empty table on the restaurant's outdoor terrace, one of the most popular spots in the city to enjoy summer's gifts.

Surrounded by trees, bushes and flowers, the terrace transports you to a lush oasis, setting the stage for an extraordinary culinary experience that celebrates Mother Nature's bounties. It's a meal that would have been hard to find in Montreal a few years ago.

Chef Renaud refers to La Ferme de Quatre-Temps (The Farm of Four Seasons), an agricultural project that seeks to develop a more ecological and nourishing food system in Quebec. One way is working with independentlyowned restaurants in Montreal. The city is blessed with over 7.000 restaurants, serving vastly diverse cuisines.

Before La Ferme de Quatre-Temps, Montreal's chefs had a reputation as hard-to-approach among regional food growers. Farmers outside of the metropolitan area rarely sold directly to restaurants. Chefs relied on hot-house produce and ingredients shipped from long distances. The result was decent cuisine but lacking a distinguishing local flavor that sophisticated gourmands had come to expect.

"We've developed a better understanding of each other's challenges," Renaud says of the relationship he has





with growers. "We have a dialogue now that results in a collaborative process which benefits everyone."

Chef Renaud is almost giddy as he talks about the richness of the heirloom tomatoes, the eggplants and peppers he now works with. Fresh flowers are a common ingredient. He and other chefs now order whole animals rather than specific cuts from suppliers.

"My whole approach to cooking has changed," he says. "Rather than following a recipe, I listen to what [an ingredient] tells me. I let it lead the way, based on its unique flavor that often differs from week to week." O

To read more about Montreal's food scene, including the influence of female chefs and recommended places to dine, go to NewYorkByRail.com/Montreal-Food-Scene.

DO IT BY TRAIN! Take Amtrak to Montreal (MTR). Montreal is a walkable city, use the Bixi bike-share program or take the Metro (subway). Lyft and Uber available throughout the city.

POINTE-À-CALLIÈRE



Discover Montreal's history and archaeology through permanent exhibits including an immersive multimedia show, interactive exhibits in the city's ruins, and a multisensory and contemplative experience in North America's first collector sewer.

Montreal, Archaeology and History Complex 350, place Royale, Montreal, QC H2Y 3Y5 514 872-9150 | pacmusee.qc.ca Place d'Armes Station

OBSERVATOIRE 360



Nestled in the heart of Montreal's business district, on the 46th floor of an emblematic tower, Observatoire Place Ville Marie offers breathtaking view of our metropolis and its main attractions. Live a unique experience more than 185 meters above the ground. Its inspiring space, its 360° panoramic view, its incomparable oversized windows, its spacious terrace on the 44th floor that vibrates to the rhythm of Montreal's 4 seasons and its central location makes Observatoire Place Ville Marie a must. Enjoy a gourmet stop at les Enfants Terribles, the highest restaurant in Montréal!

1, Place Ville Marie, Montréal (QC), H3B 4S6 514 544.8200 | observatoire360.com

PARC OLYMPIQUE



The Montreal Olympic Park is a symbol of Montreal abroad. Its tower is the tallest inclined tower in the world, the Stadium hosts many sporting, commercial and cultural events, the Sports Center is full of activities that will please the entire family and the Esplanade Financière Sun Life is the ideal site for various activities and outdoor shows! The Olympic Park of Montreal is a magnificent urban park to discover!

4141 Pierre-de Coubertin Ave, Montreal, QC H1V 3N7 parcolympique.qc.ca Pie-IX Station

THE MECCA OF HOCKEY



Ask any fan and they'll tell you: Montreal is synonymous with hockey. Experience the roots of that passion firsthand by seeing the Canadiens - winners of a record 24 Stanley Cup Championships. From September through April, 45 games are played at the Bell Centre, located in the heart of downtown.

Throughout the year, fans can visit the temple of hockey and enjoy a guided tour, offered daily, to discover the inner workings of this mythical arena.

1909 Avenue des Canadiens-de-Montréal, Montreal QC, H3C 5L2 canadiens.com | bellcentre.ca Bonaventure / Lucien-L'Allier Station



Ontario, Canada



FOOD & DRINK

▼ DISTILLERY HISTORIC DISTRICT

A national historic site and Toronto's newest center for arts, culture, food and entertainment.

Distance from TWO: 1.2 miles



CANOE RESTAURANT

Inventive Canadian cuisine with exceptional views from the 54th floor.

Distance from TWO: 0.2 mile

SKYLON TOWER & RESTAURANT

Sweeping vistas of Niagara Falls, an arcade and a viewing area and restaurant 775 feet above the falls.

Distance from NFS: 2.4 miles

MUSEUMS

HOCKEY HALL OF FAME

65,000 square feet of hockey artifacts from all levels of play around the world. Distance from TWO: 0.2 mile

NIAGARA DAREDEVIL EXHIBIT

Touch the actual barrels, spheres and "chambers of death" that survived the plunge over Niagara Falls.

Distance from NFS: 2.6 miles

CASA LOMA

A Gothic Revival mansion and garden in midtown Toronto with elaborately decorated rooms and a breathtaking view of the city. Distance from TWO: 3.6 miles

ARTS & CULTURE

THE AGO, ART GALLERY OF TORONTO

95,000 works, including contemporary art, European masterpieces, works by indigenous Canadian peoples, photography and African art.

Distance from TWO: 1.3 miles

▼ GRAFFITI ALLEY

A well-known kilometer's worth of local, urban wall art.

Distance from TWO: 1.4 miles



SPORTS & OUTDOORS

▼ZIPLINE OVER THE FALLS

Soar 2,200 feet across Niagara Falls on the MistRider Zipline! Distance from NFS: 2.4 miles



SCOTIABANK ARENA

Canada's largest indoor sports arena and entertainment center, home to the NHL's Toronto Maple Leafs and NBA's Toronto Raptors. Distance from TWO: 0.6 mile

GARDENS

BUTTERFLY CONSERVATORY

A tropical paradise of trickling waterfalls and thousands of vibrant, colorful butterflies at Niagara Parks Botanical Gardens. *Distance from NFS: 4.4 miles*

SHOPPING

NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE

Historic town with vistas of Lake Ontario, unique boutiques, galleries and fine dining. *Distance from NFS: 13 miles*

Go to NewYorkByRail.com/Ontario





CASTLETON CASTLETON RUTLAND (WILLINGTON)

Vermont



ENTERTAINMENT

▼ THE PICKLE BARREL

Killington's legendary nightclub, with live music by both big-name and emerging artists.

Distance from RUD: 13.2 miles



MUSEUMS

VERMONT MARBLE MUSEUM

World's largest exhibit of marble sculpture and products, including the Hall of U.S. Presidents. Visit a marble quarry. Artist demonstrations. Learn how the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was made. Distance from RUD: 6.3 miles

FOOD & DRINK ROOTS

Reasonably priced, locally grown fare, creatively presented in a restaurant committed to reducing its energy and food-producing footprint. Distance from RUD: 0.3 mile

HOP'N MOOSE BREWING COMPANY

Locally-sourced pub food, including maple wings, paired with handcrafted beers and

Distance from RUD: 0.3 mile

SPORTS & OUTDOORS

KILLINGTON SKI AREA

Ski and snowboard on seven peaks and 212 trails. In summer, hike on the Appalachian Trail or Long Trail to fantastic views of Lake Champlain and mountains in 3 states. Distance from RUD: 16 miles

▼ OKEMO MOUNTAIN RESORT

A winter playground known for its skiing and snowboarding, plus curling, a mountain coaster, snow tubing and an "ice house" (skating rink).

Distances from RUD: 24.8 miles



ARTS & CULTURE ▼ PARAMOUNT THEATRE

Watch touring dance, opera, comedy and music acts in a fully restored 1915-era playhouse.

Distance from RUD: 0.3 mile



FAMILY FUN

GREEN'S SUGARHOUSE

See how syrup is made at this traditional maple sugaring "bush" with a 6th generation farming couple.

Distance from CNV: 6.3 miles

POND HILL RANCH & PRO RODEO

Trail rides and lessons at this working ranch. Watch pro rodeos every Saturday evening, late June through August. Distance from CNV: 4.1 miles

MILKY WAY ORGANIC FARM

Tour a working organic farming to learn where food comes from. Feed a goat. Milk a cow. Pet a rabbit.

Distance from RUD: 8.3 miles

Go to NewYorkByRail.com/Vermont

NEW YORK BY RAIL



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Take Amtrak to enjoy events throughout New York State all year long! Celebrate our history, arts and crafts, craft food and beverages, sports, music, holidays and so much more...

MAY 2019

1 CRAFTS AT LYNDHURST May 4-6 Tarrytown

275 artists, designers and craftspeople from all over the country sell their own creations. Lyndhurst.org/Events/Crafts-at-Lyndhurst Distance from CRT: 16 miles

2 ROCHESTER LILAC FESTIVAL May 10-19 Rochester

1,200 lilac bushes, musical acts, craft beverage expo, parade, kid's rides and races. RochesterEvents.com/Lilac-Festival Distance from ROC: 3.7 miles

3 ALBANY TULIP FESTIVAL May 11-12 Albany

Albany's signature spring event, featuring 100,000 tulips, music, arts and crafts. AlbanyEvents.org

Distance from ALB: 3.2 miles

4 PGA CHAMPIONSHIP May 13-19 Farmingdale

The best golfers in the world compete for the most prestigious title in the sport.

PGA.com/events/pgachampionship
Distance from NYP: 34.2 miles

5 COUNTRY LIVING FAIR May 31-June 2 Rhinebeck

The pages of *Country Living* magazine come to life! Over 200 vendors of antiques, arts, crafts, home and garden items, flowers and specialty foods

Stella Shows.com
Distance from RHI: 2.8 miles

JUNE 2019

6 2019 WORLDPRIDE-STONEWALL 50 June 1-30

New York City

NYC Pride hosts WorldPride on the 50th Anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising and a half-century of LGBTQ+ liberation. 2019-worldpride-stonewall50.nycpride.org Distance from NYP: Various

7 TASTE OF COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL June 7-9

Hunter Mountain

20 artists on two stages during a 3-day country music extravaganza. Headliners include Keith Urban, Rascal Flats, Little Big Town. TasteOfCountryFestival.com

Distance from HUD: 27 miles

8 MONTREAL GRAND PRIX

June 7-9

Montreal

Street parties, driver appearances, F1 exhibits, and the race! Cars travel over 200 m.p.h. at the Gilles Villeneuve Circuit. Formula1.com/en/championship/ races/2018/Canada.html Distance from MTB: 3.2 miles

9 MUSEUM MILE FESTIVAL

June 13

New York City

Free admission to seven of NYC's premiere museums, plus art-in-the-street, entertainment and kid-friendly activities.

MuseumMileFestival.org

Distance from NYP: 3.2 Miles

1 O CLEARWATER'S GREAT HUDSON RIVER REVIVAL

June 15-16

Croton-on-Hudson

Solar-powered stages, live music and vendors. Proceeds support educational programs, environmental and social justice issues and the historic *Clearwater* sloop.

ClearwaterFestival.org

Distance from CRT: 1.1 miles

11 CGI ROCHESTER INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL

June 21-29

Rochester

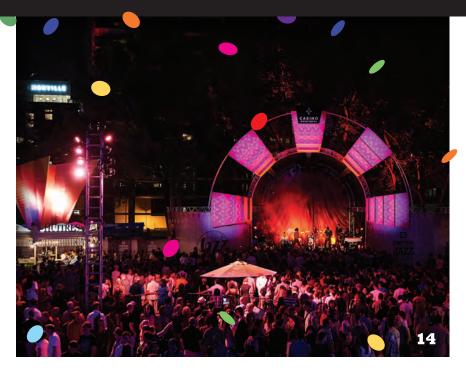
1,500 musicians and 325 concerts at 19 different venues.

RochesterJazz.com
Distance from ROC: 1 mile

STONEWALL



NYC PRIDE · WORLDPRIDE



12 TD TORONTO JAZZ FESTIVAL

June 21-30

Toronto

100+ free performances spread throughout

TorontoJazz.com/Festival-2018 Distance from TWO: 1.8 miles

13 NEW YORK STATE BLUES FESTIVAL June 27-June 29

Svracuse

The 27th annual showcase of regional and national artists with roots in rhythm and blues. NYSBluesFest.com

Distance from SYR: 2.4 miles

14 MONTREAL INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL June 27-July 6

Montreal

The world's largest jazz festival! 10 days of music in its purest form.

MontrealJazzFest.com/En-CA Distance from RSP: 45 8 miles

15 BARD SUMMERSCAPE June 29-August 18

Annandale-on-Hudson

Seven weeks of opera, music, theater, dance, film, cabaret and classical performances at Bard College.

FisherCenter.bard.edu Distance from MTR: 1.2 miles

16 FREIHOFER'S SARATOGA JAZZ FESTIVAL

June 29-30, 2019

Saratoga

Dozens of jazz artists, including Chaka Khan and Jacob Collier, at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center.

Spac.org/Events/Jazz-Festival Distance from SAR: 2.3 miles

JULY 2019

17 MACY'S FOURTH OF JULY FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR

July 4 **New York City**

New York City's annual fireworks show with live performances throughout the city. Social.Macys.com/Fireworks

Distance from NYP: Various

18 FORT TICONDEROGA CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE DAY

July 4-7

Fort Ticonderoga

Reenactments, hands-on activities, boat tours and weapons demonstrations focused on the year 1777, at this strategic stronghold of the American Revolution.

FortTiconderoga.org Distance from FTC: 0.2 mile

19 MAYOR'S CUP FESTIVAL AND REGATTA

July 4-7, 2019 Plattsburgh

Traditional sailboat regatta with boats from the northeast and Quebec, Boat Parade of Lights, BBQ and live music.

MayorsCup.com

Distance from PLB: 9.9 miles

20 PRIDE AT THE FALLS July 5, 2019

Niagara Falls

Free concert by the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, with fireworks and Niagara Falls lit in rainbow colors.

NiagaraFallsUSA.com/Events-Calendar/ Pride-at-the-Falls

Distance from NFL: 2.3 miles

21 BOILERMAKER 15K

July 14

Utica

Nationally renowned 15k running race, with post-race party and live concert.

BoilerMaker.com

Distance from UCA: 2.2 miles

22 SYRACUSE NATIONALS CAR SHOW July 19-21

NYŚ Fairgrounds

Northeast's largest car show. 8,000+ vehicles, including hotrods, customs, classics, rat rods and trucks, 1985 and older.

RightCoastCars.com

Distance from SYR: 4.5 miles

23 NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME INDUCTION CEREMONY July 21

Cooperstown

Watch baseball legends get inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Baseballhall.org

Distance from UCA: 40.4 miles

AUGUST 2019

24 HUDSON RIVER VALLEY RAMBLE August 2019

Regionwide

A month of walks, hikes, bike tours, paddling, environmental education, historic tours, fairs and festivals in a national heritage area.

HudsonRiverRamble.com

Distance from SDY: Various

25 MONSTER ENERGY NASCAR RACE August 4 **Watkins Glen**

90-lap, 220-mile stock car race held annually on Watkins Glen International's track.

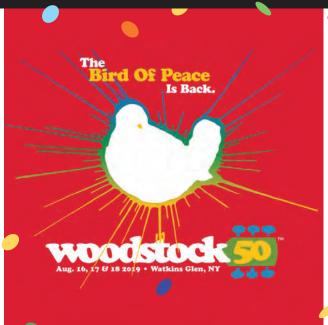
TheGlen.com

Distance from ROC: 84.2 miles Distance from SYR: 87 miles









26 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF WOODSTOCK

August 16-18 Bethel Woods Watkins Glen



BethelWoodsCenter.org/The-Museum/ Woodstock50Anniversary

Distance from POU: 74 miles (Bethel Woods) www.woodstock.com

Distance from SYR: 87 miles (Watkins Glen)

27 DUTCHESS COUNTY FAIR

August 20-25 Rhinebeck

Annual six-day fair, the second largest county fair in New York State.

DutchessFair.com/Dutchess-Fair

Distance from RHI: 2.9 miles

28 THE GREAT NEW YORK STATE FAIR August 21-September 2 Syracuse

13-day celebration of New York's outstanding food, heritage and agriculture, with live entertainment, parades, games and amusement rides for the whole family.

NYSFair.org

Distance from NYF: 0 mile

29 NORTHWEST JAZZ FESTIVAL

August 23-24

Lewiston

The region's premier summer music event with over 30 performances, culinary samplings and wine tastings.

LewistonJazz.com

Distance from BUF: 26 miles

30 150TH TRAVERS STAKES

August 24

Saratoga Springs

150-year-old race with a \$1.25 million purse. 1 ¼ -mile derby for three-year-olds, the oldest major thoroughbred race in America. SaratogaRaceTrack.com

Distance from SAR: 2.5 miles

31 US OPEN TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS August 26-September 8 Flushing

Top tennis pros in the world compete in the only tennis grand slam event in the U.S.

USOpen.org

Distance from NYP: 9.6 miles

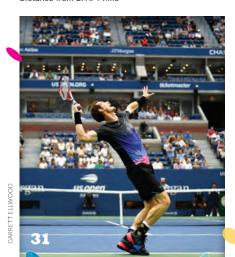
32 NATIONAL BUFFALO WING FESTIVAL August 31-September 1

August 31-3epteniber Buffalo

A finger lickin' extravaganza! For 15 years, this festival has served 4.2 million chicken wings to crowds of over 70,000 wing-lovers.

BuffaloWing.com

Distance from BFX: 1 mile



SEPTEMBER 2019

33 HUDSON VALLEY WINE AND FOOD FEST September 7-8 Rhinebeck

Hundreds of craft beverages from Hudson Valley wineries, cideries, distilleries and breweries, complimented with local specialty foods.

HudsonValleyWineFest.com

Distance from POU: 17.5 miles

34 KEYBANK ROCHESTER FRINGE FESTIVAL

September 10-21

Rochester

300+ theater, dance, comedy and music shows. RochesterFringe.com

Distance from ROC: 0.7 mile

35 47TH ANNUAL ADIRONDACK BALLOON FESTIVAL

September 19-22 Queensbury

100 hot-air balloons paint the sky above a regional craft fair.

AdirondackBalloonFest.org

Distance from FED: 6.3 miles

36 HUDSON VALLEY GARLIC FESTIVAL

September 28-29

Saugerties

Garlic-inspired food and drink, kid's activities and crafts.

Hvgf.com

Distance from RHI: 15.5 miles

37 THE GREAT JACK O'LANTERN BLAZE September-November 2019 Croton-on-Hudson

7,000+ artfully carved pumpkins light up the grounds of historic Van Cortlandt Manor. HudsonValley.org/events/blaze Distance from CRT: 0.8 mile

OCTOBER 2019

38 20TH ANNUAL WOODSTOCK FILM FESTIVAL

October 2-6

Woodstock

Film screenings, celebrity guest panels, awards and parties.

WoodstockFilmFestival.com

Distance from RHI: 18 miles

39 SARATOGA WINE AND FOOD FESTIVAL October 4-5

Saratoga Springs

Fine wine, spirits and dishes from world-famous chefs and classic cars.

SaratogaWineandFood.com

Distance from SAR: 3.6 miles



40 TCS NEW YORK CITY MARATHON

November 3

New York City

World's largest marathon, with top runners from around the globe.

TCSNYCMarathon.org

Distance from NYP: 1.4 miles



41 MACY'S THANKSGIVING DAY PARADE

November 28 New York City

Holiday kick-off parade with immense balloons, Broadway performers and Santa. Social.Macys.com/parade

Distance from NYP: 2.7 miles

42 SINTERKLAAS FESTIVAL DAY November 30. December 7

Rhinebeck

Children's workshops, dance, theatre and music throughout the village. Children's Starlight Parade with two-story puppets carried by hundreds of volunteers.

SinterklaasHudsonvalley.com Distance from POU: 17.5 miles

DECEMBER 2019

43 TROY VICTORIAN STROLL

December 8

Troy

The Northeast's largest, free holiday festival, with 100+ live performances.

VictorianStroll.com

Distance from ALB: 8.7 miles

JANUARY 2020

44 SARANAC LAKE WINTER CARNIVAL January 31-February 9

Saranac Lake

Storm the ice palace. Watch fireworks and a parade. Participate or watch winter sports events. SaranacLakeWinterCarnival.com

Distance from WSP: 42 miles

FEBRUARY 2020

45 SARATOGA CHOWDERFEST

February 1

Saratoga Springs

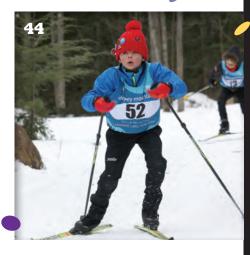
Sample chowders for \$1 each from 80 chefs and caterers, then vote for your favorite!

Music and family activities, too.

DiscoverSaratoga.org/Chowderfest

Distance from SAR: 1.4 miles





46 LAKE GEORGE WINTER CARNIVAL February 1-23, Saturday's and Sunday's Lake George

Cook-offs, races, tournaments, games and more on the ice and around the village.

LakeGeorgeWinterCarnival.com

Distance from FED: 20.3 miles

47 TEATOWN'S HUDSON RIVER EAGLEFEST February 8

Croton-on-Hudson

Live bird-of-prey shows, eagle-watching, children's activities, exhibits by 25+ environmental organizations in heated tents. Teatown.org/Eaglefest

Distance from CRT: 1.2 miles

48 RUTLAND WINTERFEST February 15-23 Rutland

Enjoy art, story walks and evening sledding in downtown Rutland. RutlandRec.com/Winterfest Distance from RUT: 1.4 miles

MARCH 2020

49 NEW YORK CRAFT BREWERS FESTIVAL March 14

Albany

60+ breweries from every region of the state, featuring hard-to-find and award-winning heers

NewYorkCraftBeer.com/Festival

Distance from ALB: 9.6 miles

50 SAINT PATRICK'S DAY IN NYC March 17 New York City

Honor Ireland's famous saint with city-wide parties. Wear green. Eat green food. Drink green beer. Watch a spectacular parade. Timeout.com/NewYork/St-Patricks-Day Distance from NYP: 0.6 mile

Note: All event details and dates are listed as of New York By Rail magazine's publication in Spring 2019 and subject to change.

KEID COKEK

Spring Flings Flings

RHINEBECK ANTIQUE CAR SHOW

May 3-5

Rhinebeck

Peruse hundreds of vendors, countless hot rods, custom cars, and 60 antiques and classics. RhinebeckCarShow.com

Distance from RHI: 2.9 miles

ROCHESTER LILAC FESTIVAL

May 10-19

Rochester

Enjoy magnificent gardens, musical gems, exciting exhibits and exhilarating special events. RochesterEvents.com/Lilac-Festival

Distance from ROC: 2.6 miles

BASILICA FARM & FLEA SPRING MARKET

May 11-12

Hudson

The largest flea market in the region, featuring diverse regional vendors of vintage and recycled wares, locally-sourced agriculture and handmade products.

BasilicaHudson.org/FarmAndFlea Distance from HUD: 0.2 mile

NICKEL CITY CON

May 17-19 **Buffalo**

Upstate New York's largest pop culture and comic book convention. The world's greatest super heroes, movie and television characters, even the villains in one spot.

Distance from BFX: 0.7 mile

LAKE GEORGE ELVIS FESTIVAL

May 29-June 2 Lake George

Honoring Elvis Presley's music and life. LakeGeorgeElvisFest.com

Distance from FED: 14.3 miles

TASTE OF COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL

June 7-9

Hunter Mountain

20+ artists on two stages during a three-day extravaganza for country music lovers. This year's headliners include Eric Church, Florida Georgia Line and Sam Hunt.

TasteOfCountryFestival.com

Distance from HUD: 26.6 miles



Summer Celebrations 2019

SARATOGA BALLOON & BBQ FESTIVAL

June 21-23

Ballston Spa

Hot-air balloon rides, art, crafts, live music, beer and food.

BalloonandBBQ.com

Distance from SAR: 6.7 miles

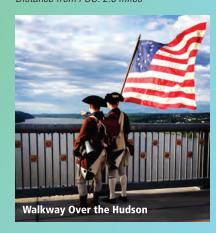
POWERHOUSE THEATER

Late June-July **Poughkeepsie**

Top actors and their apprentices present 25+ new pieces at Vassar College.

Powerhouse. Vassar.edu

Distance from POU: 2.6 miles



TROY PIG OUT

July 1

Head to Riverfront Park for a full day of culinary competitions. Taste the area's best BBQ. DowntoenTroy.org/Troy-Pig-Out Distance from ALB: 8.6 miles

MUNSON-WILLIAMS-PROCTOR ARTS FESTIVAL

July 2-7

Utica

Free festival with sidewalk galleries, live music and classic cars.

MWPAI.ora

Distance from UCA: 1.3 miles

WALKWAY OVER THE HUDSON 4TH OF **JULY FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR**

July 4

Poughkeepsie

Enjoy a spectacular view of Poughkeepsie and fireworks atop the world's longest elevated pedestrian bridge.

Walkway.org

Distance from POU: 1.1 miles

July 6-August 24 Cooperstown

Listen to operas and musicals at a lakeside theater. Glimmerglass.org

Distance from UCA: 32.3 miles

HUDSON VALLEY HOT AIR BALLOON FESTIVAL

July 12-14 Rhinebeck

At the Dutchess County Fairgrounds, an annual event that includes hayrides, food, tap tent, corn hole, live music, Majestic Moon Flow and hot-air balloon rides. DCRCOC.org/BalloonFestHV.org Distance from RHI: 2.9 miles

TASTE OF BUFFALO

July 13-14 Buffalo

Fun by the forkful! The largest two-day food festival in the U.S. Sample a range of international fare from India, Poland, Italy, Asia, the Caribbean, Ireland...plus wines, music and cooking demos.

TasteOfBuffalo.com

Distance from BFX: 0.8 mile

CANAL FEST OF THE TONAWANDAS

July 14-21 Tonawanda

Entertainment, rides, games and food along the Erie Canal.

CanalFest.org

Distance from NFL: 12.7 miles

NEW YORK CITY BALLET AT SPAC

July 16-20

Saratoga Springs

Coppélia, an evening of Balanchine and Tschaikovsky and four SPAC premieres by 21st century choreographers. SPAC.org/Event/New-York-City-Ballet-7 Distance from SAR: 2.6 miles

CLINTON COUNTY FAIR

July 16-21 Plattsburgh

CCFairNY.com

Distance from PLB: 5 miles

SARATOGA COUNTY FAIR

July 24-29 Ballston Spa

SaratogaCountyFair.org

Distance from SAR: 6.6 miles

PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA AT SPAC

July 31-August 17 Saratoga Springs

Live orchestra accompanying Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets, Disney-Pixar's Up and Charlie Chaplin's City Lights. SPAC.org/Event/The-Philadelphia-Orchestra-13

Distance from SAR: 2.6 miles



ULSTER COUNTY FAIR

July 30-August 4 New Paltz

UlsterCountyFair.com
Distance from POU: 14.5 miles

OSHEAGA MUSIC & ARTS FESTIVAL

August 2-4 Montréal

Showcasing local and national emerging talents alongside some of the biggest names.

Osheaga.com

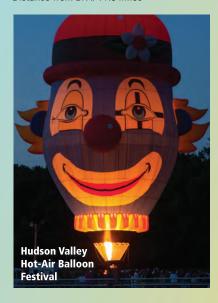
Distance from MTR: 4.2 miles

ERIE COUNTY FAIR

August 7-18 Hamburg

ECFair.org

Distance from BFX: 11.9 miles



ΔΙΤΔΜΩΝΤ ΕΔΙ

August 13-18 Altamount

AltamountFair.com

Distance from SDY: 10.3 miles

ESSEX COUNTY FAIR

August 15-19 Westport

EssexCountyFair.org

Distance from WSP: 0.2 mile

WATERFORD TUGROAT ROUNDUP

September 6-8 Waterford

Family-oriented festival along the "Waterford Wall", the eastern gateway to the Erie Canal. Boat rides, music, food, vendors and fireworks.

TugboatRoundup.com

Distance from ALB: 12.9 miles

WOODSTOCK ART FESTIVAL

September 8-9 Woodstock

Artwork on display on the village green with live music, food and drink.

WoodstockVT.com/Events/Woodstock-Art-Festival

Distance from RUT: 31.4 miles

DACILICA COUNDOCADE

September 13-15 Hudson

Immersive, collaborative weekend featuring innovative and genre-pushing musicians, visual artists and writers.
BasilicaHudson.org/soundscape
Distance from HUD: 0.2 mile



Fall Festivals

SARATOGA AUTO AUCTION

September 20-21 **Saratoga Springs**

Consign, register to bid or peruse 350+ vehicles at this premiere auction. SaratogaAutoAuction.org Distance from SAR: 2.4 miles

OKTOBERFEST WEEKENDS

September 21-October 13 **Hunter Mountain**

Beer (of course), food,, authentic German entertainment, free craft activities for kids and an aerial show. Free admission. HunterMtn.com/Summer/Festivals/ Oktoberfest

Distance from HUD: 27.2 miles

POP MONTREAL

September 25-29 Montreal

Annual international music festival featuring 400+ bands in 50+ venues across the city. PopMontreal.com/En

Distance from MTR: 2.7 miles

MONTREAL ZOMBIE WALK

October 2019* Montreal

A gathering of the "undead"! Join thousands for this free parade in a horrible and fun atmosphere.

MontrealZombieWalk.com/En/Home Distance from MTR: 0.2 mile

ART IN THE PARK

October 2019*

Rutland

In its 58th year, the Chaffee Art Center's fine arts and crafts festivals.

ChaffeeArtCenter.org

Distance from RUT station: 0.7 mile

GOOLD ORCHARD'S ANNUAL APPLE FESTIVAL & CRAFT SHOW

October 1 Caselton

Annual apple festival with live music, crafts, hay wagon and New York Wine tent.

Distance from ALB: 9.3 miles

WARWICK APPLEFEST

October 6

Warwick

200+ craft vendors, music on several stages, kid's carnival, farmer's market and apple pie baking contest (with slices for sale).

Distance from ALB: 39.3 miles



IMAGEOUT: ROCHESTER LGBT FILM FESTIVAL

October 10-20 Rochester

Film festival promoting LGBTQ+ awareness and acceptance.

ImageOut.org

Distance from ROC: 1.6 miles

NEW YORK CITY WINE AND FOOD FESTIVAL

October 10-13 **New York City**

NYCWFF.org

Distance from NYP: Various

ADIRONDACK BREWERY OKTOBERFEST

October 19 Lake George

Featuring New York State breweries, a Bier Garden, non-stop polka music and authentic German food.

LakeGeorgeOktoberfest.com Distance from FTC: 1.7 miles

TICONDEROGA MAZE AT MOONLIGHT

October 26

Ticonderoga

Navigate six-acres of towering corn stalks at night, finding clues connected to Fort Ticonderoga's story.

Distance from FTC: 1.7 mile

HUDSON VALLEY TRAIN & HOBBY SHOW

November 2019*

Poughkeepsie

Train show with model exhibits, slot cars, die cast and the ever popular "White Elephant" table where all sorts of bargains can be found. HydeParkStation.com/HVRRSShow.html Distance from POU: 0.4 mile

YOFIFEST: YONKERS FILM FESTIVAL

November 2019*

Yonkers

Film screenings, panel discussions and parties. YoFiFest.com

Distance from YNY: 171 feet

SYRACUSE WINE AND CHOCOLATE FESTIVAL

November 30

Syracuse

Unlimited samplings of wines and distilled beverages paired with tasty treats, chocolates, cheeses and sweets.

WineAndChocolateFestivals.com/Events/ Syracuse

Distance from SYR: 4.4 miles

72ND ANNUAL TROY TURKEY TROT

November 28

Troy

5K and 10K running races with over a century of tradition.

TroyTurkeyTrot.com

Distance from ALB: 8.3 miles

TORONTO CHRISTMAS MARKET

November-December*

Toronto

Five weeks of events celebrating the sounds, sights and scents of Christmas. Inspired by the European Christkindlmarkt. TOChristmasMarket.com

Distance from TOR: 1.2 miles

120 NEWYORKBYRAIL.COM

Winter Happenings



OUTDOOR ICE SKATING AT EMPIRE STATE PLAZA

December 2019-March 2020* **Empire State Plaza**

Under brilliant sunshine or glowing starlight, enjoy outdoor ice skating at Empire State Plaza. EmpireStatePlaza.NY.gov/lce-Rink

Distance from ALB: 1.9 miles

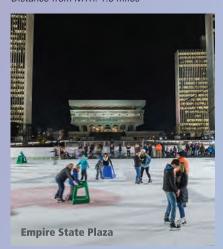
MONTREAL EN FETES

December 19-31 Montreal

Magical holiday moments in Old Montreal and Old Port, including performances, art, winter activities, and culminating in a fantastic New Year's Eve party.

MontrealEnFetes.com

Distance from MTR: 1.9 miles



ICE BIKING AT CANALSIDE BUFFALO

Saturdays & Sundays. November 28-March 17 **Buffalo**

Experience this unique sport on the large open-air ice rink. It's as easy as riding a bike! CanalsideBuffalo.com

Distance from BFX: 0.4 mile

CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR STARRING THE RADIO CITY ROCKETTES

December* **New York City**

A New York City institution, the annual Spectacular is a sparkling way to get in the Christmas spirit!

Rockettes.com/Christmas

Distance from NYP: 1.1 miles

January 28

Schenectady

Restaurants in downtown Schenectady serve a variety of soups to visitors strolling through town. Albany.com/event/schenectady-soup-stroll-113692/

Distance from SDY: 0.2 mile

LUMAGINATION AT BUFFALO BOTANICAL GARDENS

January-February* Buffalo

The Buffalo Botanical Gardens transform into a magical world with state-of-the-art lighting and sound technology.

BuffaloGardens.com/Products/Lumagination- 2019 Distance from BFX: 5.7 miles

LUNAR NEW YEAR PARADE AND FESTIVAL

February 9 **New York City**

Chinatown's annual street party with stunning visuals, treats and performances.

NYCgo.com/Events/Lunar-New-Year-Parade-

Distance from NYP: 3.4 Miles

SYRACUSE WINTERFEST

February* **Syracuse**

Dozens of displays, parties and competitive events. There's even a hot wing crawl! SyracuseWinterfest.com Distance from SYR: 2.4 miles

THE COSMOS NEW YEAR MARKET

February* Brooklyn

Eat, shop and celebrate the work of local East, Southeast, and South Asian women artists, brands and small businesses.

JoinTheCosmos.com

Distance from NYP: 5.7 miles

CENTRAL NEW YORK WINTER BOAT SHOW

February* Syracuse

Showcasing more than 500 all-new models of powerboats and sailboats, including cruisers, sport boats, pontoon boats, personal watercraft and docks.

NYCgo.com/Events/Lunar-New-Year-Parade-

Distance from SYR: 3.9 miles

THE ALBANY WINE FESTIVAL

February* **Albany**

The largest wine sampling event in the Capital region, with food, spices and candies. AlbanyWinefest.com

Distance from ALB: 1.9 miles



ANIRANNACK RREWERV BARREL FESTIVAL

March 7 Lake George

Enjoy exclusive barrel-aged beer, cider, wine, and more from throughout the Northeast, across the country and Europe.

BarrelFestLG.com

Distance from FED: 19 miles

12TH ANNUAL CAPITAL REGION WINE Festivai

March* Schenectady

Sample red, white and sparkling wines from 20+ vineyards and a live auction. Proctors.org/Event/11th-Annual-Capital-Region-Wine-Festival/

Distance from SDY: 0.5 mile

SOUTHERN VERMONT WINTER HOMEBREW FFSTIVAL

March* Bennington

The area's top beer, cider, mead, braggot and wine makers compete to be crowned "Best Home Brewery."

WingsandWinterHomeBrewFestival.weebly.com Distance from RUT: 55 miles (via Vermont Shires Bus Connection)



VERMONT RREWERS FESTIVAL

March* Killington

Sample from over 50 breweries at one of the premier beer festivals in the world, held in a picturesque mountain setting.

VermontBrewers.com/Festivals/Vermont-Brewers-Festival-Killington

Distance from RUT: 16 miles

GREAT LIPSTATE BOAT SHOW

March* Queensbury

The latest boats, technologies and more. TheGreatUpStateBoatShow.com Distance from FED: 7.9 miles

ADIRONDACK MAPLE WEEKEND

March* Lake Placid

Taste products and enjoy demonstrations by local maple producers.
LakePlacid.com/Events/Adirondack-Maple-Weekend
Distance from WSP: 34.3 miles

Spring Flings 2020

THE MACY'S FLOWER SHOW

Late March - Early April 2020* New York City

A two-week, floral-filled exhibition with jaw dropping arrangements decorated to theme. Macys.com/Social/Flower-Show Distance from NYP: 0.2 mile

NYC CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL

April* New York City

Sample 150 craft beers from 75 breweries from all over New York. Distance from NYP: 0.6 mile



SMORGASBURG

Late April-Early May* Brooklyn

The largest, weekly, open-air food market in America with 100+ local vendors.

Smorgasburg.com

Distance from NYP: 6.7 miles

TRIRECA FILM FESTIVAL

Late April-Early May* New York City

Renowned film festival showcasing independent movies. Q&A sessions with cast and crew. TribecaFilm.com/Festival

Distance from NYP: 2.5 miles

23RD ANNUAL TAP NEW YORK

Late April* Hunter Mountain

Features hundreds of beers from 120+ breweries in New York State. Tap-NY.com

Distance from HUD: 26.5 miles

*Exact date(s) unavailable at publication time. Check NewYorkByRail.com or an event's website to find out more.



Go to NewYorkByRail.com/Upcoming-Events for these and many more events to do by train! Don't forget Amtrak's **SEE NEW YORK AND SAVE!** 15% discount. For tickets and schedules, go to Amtrak.com.

ANNOUCING NEW 2019 RAIL **PACKAGES**

NEW YORK— BY RAIL

TRAVEL PACKAGES

Unique Rail Experiences from the City to the Peaks

OVER 14 NEW YORK AND CANADIAN DESTINATIONS AND MULTI-STOP TOURS

Choose from overnight getaways or multi-stop tours, New York By Rail has something for everyone!

MONTREAL, QC, CANADA

NIAGARA FALLS, NY

FINGER LAKES SYRACUSE ROCHESTER

ADIRONDACKS OLAKE PLACID **OLAKE GEORGE**

ALBANY-RENSSELAER

ORHINEBECK OPOUGHKEEPSIE •WESTCHESTER

NEW YORK CITY



HUDSON RIVER VALLEY











Packages from the big apple to the diverse Hudson River Valley

NEW YORK CITY new york

New York City needs no introduction. It sounds cliche but this city has it all and more. "Dine shop and explore" in one of the most popular cities in the world. New York is made up of five neighborhoods, each with its own culture, vibe and historical significance. Whether you are a first time New York visitor or a Manhattan veteran, New York by Rail Travel Packages has something for you. Broadway shows, observation decks, historical tours and an amazing selection of museums all await you. Let us plan the perfect getaway for both groups and individuals.

BROADWAY EXPERIENCE PACKAGE (may be customized)

3 Day/2 Night Package Includes:

- Roundtrip Amtrak Rail from Albany (Ask for your departure station)
- Two-night hotel stay (one night or more nights available)
- Mid-orchestra or mezzanine ticket to a Broadway show
- All taxes

Travel Packages from: \$599 pp/dbl*





DISCOVER **NEW YORK**

bright lights & big city experience

3 Day/2 Night Package Includes:

- Roundtrip Amtrak Rail from Albany (Ask for your departure station)
- · Two-night hotel stay (one night or more nights available)
- Mid-orchestra or mezzanine ticket to a Broadway show
- Full Day Tour of NYC including Staten Island Ferry Cruise

Travel Packages from:

\$669 pp/dbl*



HUDSON VALLEY new york

Westchester • Poughkeepsie • Rhinebeck & More

KYKUIT

explore the 100-year-old historical residence and art museum

2 Day/1 Night Package Includes:

- Round trip Amtrak from Penn Station
- Round trip station transfers
- One night hotel stay at the Doubletree by Hilton Tarrytown
- Grand Tour of Kykuit the Rockefeller Estate
- All taxes



Travel Packages from: \$269 pp/dbl*

CULINARY INSTITUTE OF AMERICA

3 Day/2 Night Package Includes:

- Roundtrip Amtrak Rail from Penn Station (Ask for your departure station)
- Two-night hotel stay at the Holiday Inn Express or Hampton Inn & Suites Poughkeepsie
- All transfers throughout from Amtrak station to hotel and to CIA
- Cooking Class at CIA
- All taxes



Travel Packages from: \$609 pp/dbl*

GET AWAY TO RHINEBECK

3 Day/2 Night Package Includes:

- Roundtrip Amtrak Rail
- Two-night Stay at the Beekman Arms Delamater Inn
- Private Rhinebeck walking & tasting tour
- Continental breakfast at the Inn
- All Taxes and service charges

Travel Packages from:

\$579 pp/dbl*

HUDSON VALLEY FOOD AND WINE FESTIVAL

September 6-8, 2019

Travel Packages from: \$579 pp/dbl*

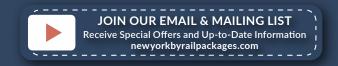
Celebrate the bounty of the Empire State at this annual expo of wine, distilled spirits and farm-to-table specialty foods. Try hundreds of beverages as you learn more about them from the vintners, master distillers and brewers who created them. Watch a cooking demonstration or take a seminar from some of the region's top chefs. A Rhinebeck Area Favorite!

*Pricing varies by departure date, show dates and hotel property. Price shown based on a 4-star property in Midtown Manhattan during the months of June-August. Prices typically increase during peak times in September, October and holiday season. Prices decrease from mid December through March. We always search out the best value hotel for your chosen travel dates









History abounds in quintessential Saratoga and the refined Lake George region

SARATOGA SPRINGS new york

Saratoga treasures its rich history of sparkling mineral waters and luxurious spas that have provided respite and relaxation for hundreds of years. The Victorian grandeur that is quintessentially Saratoga includes a list of over 1,000 buildings on the National Register of Historic Places... this lovely city offers something for everyone. Saratoga is all about racing! World-class thoroughbred horse racing, exciting harness racing and, polo events are signature events that have brought visitors here for generations. Downtown Saratoga has quaint shops, exquisite dining and entertainment along with a charming Victorian pedestrian setting provide hours of relaxation.



Experiences & Events

Saratoga Race Track National Museum of Dance & Hall of Fame Saratoga Automobile Museum Saratoga Springs Food Tours Saratoga Lake Cruise

Accommodations

Pavilion Grand Hotel Saratoga Hilton



Pavilion Grand Hotel

Saratoga Springs' Finest Hotel: Old World Glamour, Modern Sophistication, Downtown **Excitement**

RIDE YOUR WAY TO SARATOGA

one of new york state's bucket-list destinations



4 Day/3 Night Package Includes:

- Round-trip Amtrak fare from Penn Station
- 3-night hotel stay at the Pavilion Grand Hotel
- Admission to the National Dance Museum and Saratoga Auto Museum
- All Taxes

Travel Packages from: \$699 pp/dbl*

LAKE GEORGE new york

Imagine relaxing under the stars from the deck of an old-fashioned paddle-wheeler while reminiscing about the glorious view you hiked to earlier that day. Or maybe you spent the afternoon at a sandy beach after an adrenaline-packed morning at an amusement park. You must be in Lake George! Urbanites have spent their vacations here since the mid-1800's spurred by William H.H. Murray's Adventures in the Wilderness, a combination guidebook and collection of short stories about this region of the Adirondacks. Murray took the train to Lake George for its fresh air, clear water and majestic, wildlife-laden forests.



Experiences & Events

Lake George Steamboat Co. Fort William Henry Museum

Accommodations

Fort William Henry Hotel Best Western Lake George Hampton Inn & Suites Lake George



Travel Packages from: \$489 pp/dbl*

GETAWAY TO LAKE GEORGE

the original vacation destination

Package Includes:

- Round-trip Amtrak
- 3-night hotel stay
- Lake George cruise and admission to the Fort William Henry Museum
- · All taxes

LAKE GEORGE **EXPERIENCE**

vacationers have been flocking here since the mid-1800's

Package Includes:

- Round-trip Amtrak
- 2-night hotel stay
- Lake George cruise
- All taxes



Travel Packages from: \$359 pp/dbl*

^{*} Package prices above are based on travel in periods of May. Prices typically increase in summer and fall foliage season. Prices are per person double occupancy and based on availability. Please call us or contact via our website with dates and we can offer the most up to date pricing.





We bring you the most romantic getaways in North America by rail!

NIAGARA FALLS new york

Niagara Falls, one of the natural wonders of the world, is just a scenic train ride away. On the border of New York State and Ontario where Lake Erie drains into the Niagara River, this dramatic hydraulic phenomenon is actually three massive cascades – American Falls, Bridal Veil Falls and Horseshoe Falls – at the end of Niagara Gorge. Vacationers have traveled to these famous waterfalls for over a century. Now it's your turn! Cruise close enough by boat to be engulfed by their roar. See them from above from the observation tour, and then walk beside them to feel the force of the winds they create. It's a trip of a lifetime.



Experiences & Events

Maid of the Mist Cruise
Niagara Area Public and
Private Tours
Aquarium of Niagara Falls
Niagara Helicopter Tours
Niagara Jet Boat Adventures
Seneca Niagara Resort & Casino

Accommodations

Sheraton Niagara Falls Wyndham Garden Inn Niagara Quality Hotel & Suites at the Falls Seneca Hotel and Casino



Montréal seduces visitors with a harmonious pairing of the historic and the new. From season to season, day and night, Montréal pulses with activity. Known for its many festivals, the city hosts a diverse array of events, exhibitions and gatherings for the thousands of culture, nature and thrill seekers. While masterful chefs continue to elevate Montréal's reputation as a gourmet destination, creative artists and artisans draw admirers in droves to the haute couture ateliers, arts galleries and charming boutiques that line the city streets. Montreal has something for everyone and this charming bilingual city is ready to host you.



Experiences & Events

Place Ville Marie Observatory Montreal Guided Cruise Old Montreal Walking Tours Montreal Hop on Hop Off Tours Private Tours Daytrip to Quebec City Montreal Biodome Admission

Accommodations

Hotel Bonaventure Fairmont Queen Elizabeth Best Western Ville Marie Le Saint Sulpice Many More!

NIAGARA FALLS ESCAPE

take a life-list trip to niagara falls, no passport needed!

Package Includes:

- Round-trip Amtrak
- · 3-night hotel stay
- Maid of the Mist
- Admission to Cave of the Winds and the Observation Tour
- All taxes

Note: If crossing into Canada, each traveler must have a valid passport.

Travel Packages from: \$489 adult* / \$275 child*



MONTRÉAL ESCAPE

take a scenic train ride north to canada's largest city, with its charming french flare

4 Day/3 Night Package Includes:

- Round-trip Amtrak fare from Penn Station to Montreal Station (MTR)
- 3-night hotel stay
- 2-day hop-on, hop-off trolley tour
- 90-minute walking tour of Old Montreal
- All taxes

Note: If crossing into Canada, each traveler must have a valid passport.

Travel Packages from: \$599 pp/lbl/*



^{*} Package prices listed are per person double occupancy and will vary by date and/or hotel. Some weekend surcharges may apply. Prices listed based on May travel dates and are subject to change. Please contact us by phone or via our website with travel dates to receive up to date pricing.







Check out our action-packed, multi-stop tours, that may be customized!



MULTI-STOP TOUR ADIRONDACK EXPLORER

9 Day/8 Night (may be customized))

Rhinebeck - Saratoga - Lake George - Montréal

Ride the Adirondack from New York to Montreal with an eclectic selection of stops to explore. Rhinebeck is your first stop and is known as one of America's best gourmet towns. After the sophistication of Rhinebeck, you are off to Saratoga and its world renowned racing. Next stop is Lake George where people have been vacationing for over a hundred years. Finally, you will cross the border to the sensational city of Montreal in the Canadian province of Quebec. This is a truly diverse travel package where each destination is uniquely its own.

Day 1 - Depart for Rhinebeck

Day 2 - Explore Rhinebeck with a culinary walking tour

Day 3 - Depart for Saratoga

Day 4 - Take in some racing plus your choice of museum admission

Day 5 - Off to Lake George

Day 6 - Enjoy a lake cruise

Day 7 - Cross the border to Montreal

Day 8 - Tour of Montreal

Day 9 - Relax and take the train back home

9 Day/8 Night Package Includes:

- · Roundtrip Amtrak Rail
- · Eight-night hotel accommodations
- Station transfers in Rhinebeck, Saratoga and Lake George
- Museum Admission in Saratoga
- Lake cruise in Lake George
- · Montreal Tour, Culinary Tour in Rhinebeck
- All hotel taxes

*Some breakfasts may be included depending upon the hotel property chosen.



May Package From:

\$1,369 pp/dbl*

September Packages From:

\$1,669 pp/dbl*



ADDITIONAL DESTINATIONS & SERVICES

New York by Rail Travel Packages are operated by North American Traveler (NAT) who provides customized travel packages throughout the USA and Canada. NAT can provide travel packages to other great destinations throughout New York State, Vermont and Eastern Canada. This brochure has featured destinations, but we would be happy to package many others along with festivals and special events.

Other Destinations

BEACON

new york • experience wine and culinary options

ROCKING HORSE RANCH RESORT

new york . family fun resort

- COOPERSTOWN new york . baseball hall of fame
- ROCHESTER new york . closest city to the finger lakes region
- LAKE PLACID new york • explore the olympic village
- NIAGARA FALLS ontario, canada • the canadian side of the falls is full of options
- QUÉBEC CITY québec, canada • featuring old québec, the only walled city north of mexico



Franklin D. Roosevelt Estate



Baseball Hall of Fame



Lake Placid, NY / Olympic Training Facility

Visit our website to check in as we add more packages to great destinations. newyorkbyrailpackages.com

^{*} Package prices listed are per person double occupancy and will vary by date and/or hotel. Prices listed based on May travel dates and are subject to change. Please contact us by phone or via our website with travel dates to receive up to date pricing. ® I LOVE NEW YORK is a registered trademark and service mark of the New York State Department of Economic Development; used with permission.





From an Amtrak Train Along the Hudson By James Crews

I saw a bald eagle perched on a log, the beacon of his white head alerting me to his presence in the estuary where he stood with the writhing silver body of a fish gripped tight in talons that would not release until his catch had exhausted itself. He watched from a distance, undisturbed as a much larger silver body slid by on the tracks, and he seemed to meet my gaze for an instantboth of us hunting in our own ways for something bright to bring home.

James Crews wrote this poem in 2018 while riding on Amtrak from Albany to New York City. "I've been seeing more of the Hudson River now that I'm a visiting prof at SUNY-Albany," he said. His work has appeared in *Ploughshares, Poet Lore, The New Republic* and *The (London) Times Literary Supplement*. His first collection of poetry, *The Book of What Stays*, won the 2010 Prairie Schooner Book Prize and a Foreword Magazine Book of the Year Award. His second collection, *Telling My Father*, won the Cowles Prize. He takes Amtrak to travel to readings and for other occasions.

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