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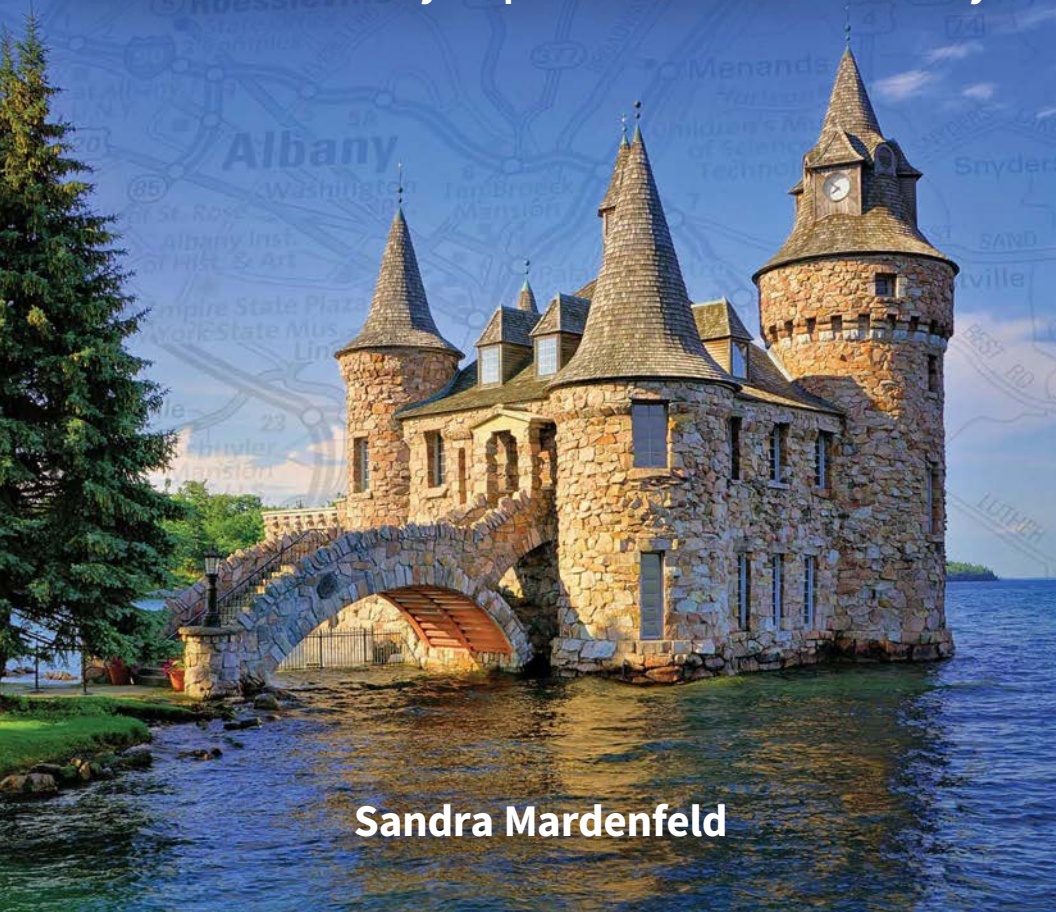
New York

BY THEME



DAY TRIPS

The State's Best Day Trips Outside New York City



Sandra Mardenfeld

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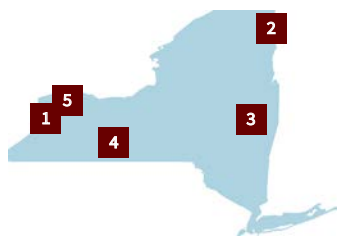
New York Museum of Transportation, Rochester

EARLY IN NEW YORK'S development, transportation became important as industry grew. While rivers and canals initially carried food and raw materials throughout the state, starting in the 1830s railroads connected cities and farms—allowing goods, information, and people to travel more easily. Automobile and airplane innovations followed. Glenn H. Curtiss, for instance, tested his planes—taking off from a frozen lake in Hammondsport—and helped make flying possible for more than just the birds.



AIRPLANES, RAILROADS, AND AUTOMOBILES

- 1 The Buffalo Transportation Pierce-Arrow Museum, Buffalo12**
See a celebration of the automobile, highlighting the history of Pierce-Arrow, E. R. Thomas, and other Buffalo-made automobiles.
- 2 Champlain Valley Transportation Museum, Plattsburgh12**
This museum is full of antique vehicles and specializes in Lozier cars. There's also a die-cast model car room with more than 750 toys.
- 3 Empire State Aerosciences Museum, Glenville13**
Ride a flight simulator, sit in a plane's cockpit, and learn all about New York's aviation history through exhibits and displays.
- 4 Glenn H. Curtiss Aviation Museum, Hammondsport13**
Glenn Curtiss built bicycles and motorcycles before flying machines. This museum honors his work with a collection of historical vehicles.
- 5 Medina Railroad Museum, Medina13**
Located in an old depot, this museum offers railroad and firefighter exhibits, a huge model-train collection—and train rides too.
- 6 New York Museum of Transportation, Rochester14**
There's so much transportation history to see, with 14 trolley cars, a steam locomotive, horse-drawn vehicles, a trolley ride, and more.
- 7 Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome, Rhinebeck14**
Enjoy a variety of activities, from a museum to biplane rides, plus seasonal air shows. You might even see test flights on their working airfield.
- 8 Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum, Rush15**
Come see this collection of historic trains while you ride on a vintage freight car. You'll also get a behind-the-scenes look at train repair.



1 The Buffalo Transportation Pierce-Arrow Museum

263 Michigan Ave., Buffalo, NY 14203; 716-853-0084
www.pierce-arrow.com

The Pierce-Arrow Motor Company played a huge part in Buffalo's economic growth. Started in the 1870s as the George N. Pierce Company, it made household items such as birdcages. By 1908, the company had changed its name and was making luxury cars. The museum honors Buffalo's automotive history and the vehicle innovations Pierce-Arrow created. Besides many antique vehicles, the museum houses the Frank Lloyd Wright filling station, designed by the architect in 1927 but never built—the museum constructed it using the original plans as an installation in 2002 to complement its 80-plus bicycle, car, and motorcycle collection.

2 Champlain Valley Transportation Museum

12 Museum Way, Plattsburgh, NY 12903; 518-566-7575
www.cvtmuseum.com

A love of vehicles led a group of auto and history buffs to found this museum in 2000. But the museum offers more than just cars (although there are plenty of those); it looks at transportation's economic and social impact on the world as well as the region. A knowledgeable guide tells you about the cars, trucks, trains, motorcycles, and more on display and allows visitors to touch or board some of the collection. The museum specializes in Lozier vehicles—luxury cars once built in Plattsburgh. There's a fun model car room with more than 750 die-cast versions of autos, boats, trucks, and airplanes too.



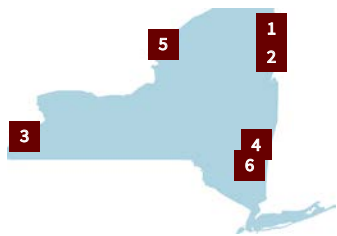
Hudson-Athens Lighthouse

NEW YORK STATE, with its rich maritime history, provides a wonderful place to explore lighthouses. Constructed at strategic points, warning vessels of dangerous areas or entry points to rivers and harbors, these romantic beacons feature varied architecture and pristine views. While a few are privately owned, some are open to the public—allowing visitors to climb all the way to the light tower. Others have become museums, offering opportunities to learn about the eras when lighthouses were necessary. Some continue to guide ships even in this modern age.



LIGHTHOUSES

- 1 Bluff Point Lighthouse, Valcour Island 72**
 High up on Valcour Island in Lake Champlain, this lighthouse helped ships navigate a narrow and dangerous passage for almost 60 years.
- 2 Champlain Memorial Lighthouse, Lake Champlain 72**
 Climb up and see a panoramic view of Lake Champlain at this lighthouse, which serves as a memorial for the explorer Samuel de Champlain.
- 3 Dunkirk Historical Lighthouse and Veterans Park Museum, Chautauqua-Allegheny 72**
 This still-operating lighthouse, part of the Great Lakes Seaway Trail, is open for tours and includes a museum and a gift shop.
- 4 Hudson–Athens Lighthouse, Catskills 73**
 Operated by the U.S. Coast Guard, this quaint redbrick lighthouse offers tours from July to October every second Saturday.
- 5 Rock Island Lighthouse, St. Lawrence River 73**
 Visit the lighthouse and the island’s buildings—including the keeper’s house—by boarding a shuttle boat.
- 6 Rondout Lighthouse, Kingston. 73**
 One of seven on the Hudson River, this lighthouse is only accessible by boat. Tour guides take you around the first floor and the observation deck.
- 7 Saugerties Lighthouse Trail, Saugerties. 74**
 Walk the half-mile trail, much of it through wooden boardwalks, to the Saugerties Lighthouse, where guests can stay overnight.
- 8 Stony Point Lighthouse/Battlefield Historic State Site, Hudson 74**
 The oldest lighthouse on the Hudson River is part of a larger historic site where George Washington once led a nighttime assault.
- 9 Tibbetts Point Lighthouse, Cape Vincent 75**
 At the entrance of the St. Lawrence River, this lighthouse features a 69-foot tower, a museum, a gift shop, and a nearby hostel.



1 Bluff Point Lighthouse

Valcour Island, Plattsburgh, NY 12903; 518-561-0340
www.clintoncountyhistorical.com/bluff-point-lighthouse

This lighthouse, also known as the Valcour Island Light, is in Lake Champlain on Valcour Island. One of the last lighthouses on the lake to be manned, it was active from 1874 to 1930 and guided maritime traffic through the channel between Valcour Island and the New York shore. In 2004, the lighthouse was reactivated. Learn about the only lighthouse on the lake that's listed on the National Register of Historic Places by taking a tour (Sundays in July and August only) to see the building, its Fresnel lens, and the view from the lantern room. You'll hear all about the lighthouse and the keeper's family life, as well as the history and geology of the island; the island also has several hiking trails. It's accessible by boat only.

2 Champlain Memorial Lighthouse

21 Grandview Dr., Crown Point, NY 12928; 518-597-3603
www.historiclakes.org/crown_pt/champlainlight.htm

Named to honor the French explorer, this neoclassical-style lighthouse, with eight Doric columns, was constructed on the base of an earlier limestone tower, the Crown Point Lighthouse, as a memorial to Samuel de Champlain. Completed in 1912, it was deactivated in the mid-1920s, having served as a lighthouse for only a little more than a decade. Now part of the Crown Point State Historic Site, which contains the ruins of Fort St. Frederic, a museum, and walking paths, the lighthouse also features sculptures, including *La France*, a bronze bust by Auguste Rodin. The grounds are open year-round; the museum has a seasonal schedule.

3 Dunkirk Historical Lighthouse and Veterans Park Museum

1 Lighthouse Point Dr. N., Dunkirk, NY 14048; 716-366-5050
www.dunkirklighthouse.com

The 27-mile reach of the light shows the power of its 61-foot Fresnel lens—only 70 of which are still used in the United States. The



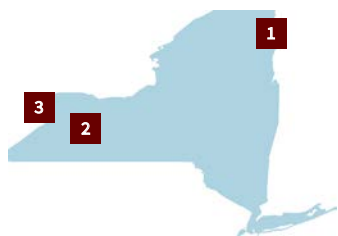
Ausable Chasm Waterfall

THE WORLD IS FULL of amazing things—but nothing surpasses what nature has given us. All of the phenomenal locations in this section took millions of years to develop, starting with receding glaciers and the subsequent flow of water across the land. Eventually nature configured the local terrain in beautiful ways—carving out gorges and canyons, falls and woodlands, craggy mountains, and waterways. What wonderful places to explore!



NATURAL WONDERS

- 1 Ausable Chasm**90
Tour the “Grand Canyon of the Adirondacks,” so dubbed because water carved its jagged landscape to produce unique rock formations.
- 2 Letchworth State Park, *Castile***90
The Genesee River winds through the “Grand Canyon of the East” over three waterfalls. There are trails for hiking, horseback riding, snowmobiling, and skiing.
- 3 Niagara Falls State Park**91
Watch the falls, explore the ruins of a power plant station, hike the Niagara Gorge—this park offers many ways to experience Mother Nature.



1 Ausable Chasm

2144 NY 9, Ausable Chasm, NY 12911; 518-834-7454
www.ausablechasm.com

Marvel at the power of water when you visit this 500-million-year-old canyon, and see rock formations such as the Elephant's Head and Hyde's Cave. Choose from many adventures. The classic tour contains a 1-mile hike followed by a scenic raft float on the Ausable River, past cliffs and around the Whirlpool Basin, among other sights. For the daring, the Adventure Trail offers a guided *via ferrata* (climbing) course with cable bridges, a cargo net climb, and edge walks. All tours cover the geography and history of the region. There's also rock climbing, rappelling, and a lantern tour, where you'll roast marshmallows deep within the chasm. Mountain bikers will find 15 miles of wooded trails to explore (bike rentals available). A café and gift shop are located at the visitors center; a campground with cabins and RV hookups is also available.

2 Letchworth State Park

1 Letchworth State Park, Castile, NY 14427; 585-493-3600
www.parks.ny.gov/parks/79

The Genesee River courses through a deep gorge and over three signature waterfalls in this nearly 15,000-acre park. Named for William Pryor Letchworth, an iron magnate and philanthropist, the park provides 66 miles of hiking trails—plus opportunities for horseback riding, biking, snowmobiling, and cross-country skiing. Glen Iris, Letchworth's one-time home, is now a restaurant and inn. Don't miss Inspiration Point, the best place to view the river, the 600-foot canyon walls, and two waterfalls—a sight that makes you understand the park's nickname, “the Grand Canyon of the East.” A large selection of programming is available, from guided tours, a lecture series, whitewater rafting, and a nature center (with a butterfly garden, and bird and bee observation). The visitor center, located by the Mount Morris Dam, provides restrooms, a shop, food, and picnic areas. On-site cabins, camping, and RV sites are also available.



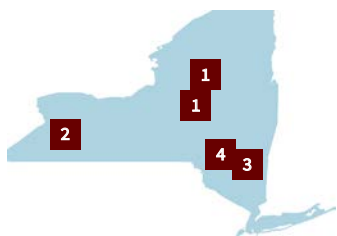
A vintage locomotive at the Delaware & Ulster Railroad Depot

FALL LEAF-PEEPING season begins in late September and lasts through October, although color changes depend on elevation, weather, and temperature. While the Adirondacks and Catskills especially color the mountains with rich reds, ambers, and oranges, all of New York State offers vibrant views. Come November, it's time to think about Santa Claus and the perennial tale of the Polar Express. Train tours sell out quickly, so make your reservations early.



SEASONAL ACTIVITIES

- 1 Adirondack Scenic Railroad, *Utica and Thendara Stations*120**
This historic railroad goes to several destinations. If you're in the holiday mood, there are Haunted History Evenings, the Polar Express, and more.
- 2 Arcade & Attica Railroad, *Arcade*.120**
Board vintage trains to visit a historic depot, say hello to Santa, or enjoy the beauty of fall's leaves—plus theme tours.
- 3 Catskill Mountain Railroad, *Kingston*.121**
The popular Polar Express tickets go on sale in June. The railroad also offers holiday tours for Halloween and Easter.
- 4 Delaware & Ulster Railroad's Silver Sleigh, *Arkville*.121**
Hear the legend of how a steamliner rescued Old St. Nick one snowy Christmas Eve as you eat cookies and drink hot cocoa.



1 Adirondack Scenic Railroad

Utica Station, 321 Main St., Utica, NY 13501; 800-819-2291
Thendara Station, 2568 NY 28, Thendara, NY 13472; 800-819-2291
www.adirondackrr.com

Celebrate the seasons with a train ride—see the fall foliage, enjoy time with Santa Claus, watch the *Polar Express* become real, and more. You'll board a vintage train, which chugs over historic tracks—restored by the Adirondack Railway Preservation Society—as the scenic Adirondacks pass by. Some tours have general seating while others, such as the 2-hour Polar Express, offer “Cocoa Class,” aka first class (table seating and service, hot cocoa, and cookies), and coach. You can also bring food and beverages if you like, but not alcohol. Tours go rain or shine and are round-trip, except for the Bike & Rail trip, in which you pedal back. Other fun trains to choose from have beer and wine and princess/superhero themes.

2 Arcade & Attica Railroad

278 Main St., Arcade, NY 14009; 585-492-3100
www.aarailroad.com

Vintage trains can take you to see the fall foliage (weekends in October) and Curriers Station, an antique train depot, or you can board the North Pole Express and visit with Santa Claus at his house, where kids get a gift, toy, and bell and do all sorts of festive holiday activities (November and December). There are lots of fun theme tours to choose from, too, like A&A's murder-mystery train with dinner served during the “intermission”; Civil War Week, with demos and reenactors; or the Great Train Robbery, where you go back in time to the Wild West. Rides last from 90 minutes to about 2.5 hours, depending on the tour you select. Leave yourself time to enjoy the historic station, which features exhibits and fun antiques like old railroad lanterns.



OTHER DAY TRIPS

Antiquing and Flea Markets

Adirondack Mountains Antiques Show (September)

Various locations along NY 28, Indian Lake, NY 12847; 518-648-5112
www.adirondackexperience.com/indian-lake/adirondack-mountains-antiques-show

Antique World (year-round)

11111 Main St., Clarence, NY 14031; 716-759-8483
www.antiqueworldmarket.com

Charlotte Flea Market (year-round)

4419–4421 Lake Ave., Rochester, NY 14612; 585-429-0675
www.charlottefleamarkets.com

City Market (second Sunday of the month, May–October)

Outside of the Everson Museum, 401 Harrison St., Syracuse, NY 13202; 315-481-9960
www.citymarketsyracuse.com

East Aurora Auction & Expo Center (year-round)

11167 Big Tree Road, East Aurora, NY 14052; 716-655-7500
www.eastauroraevents.com

East Avon Flea Market (Sundays April–May)

Henrietta Road, Avon, NY 14414; 585-226-8320
www.eastavonfleamarket.com

Madison-Bouckville Antique Week (August)

NY 20, Bouckville, NY 13310; 800-684-7320
www.madison-bouckville.com

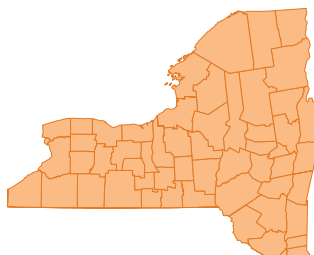
Mower's Flea Market (weekends May–November)

11 Maple Lane, Woodstock, NY 12498; 845-679-6744
www.mowerssaturdayfleamarket.com

The Peddler Flea Market (Saturdays April–October)

656 Elmwood Ave., Buffalo 14222
www.facebook.com/pg/thepeddlerbuffalony

YOUR ALL-IN-ONE GUIDE TO NEW YORK STATE'S BEST OUTINGS



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DESTINATIONS
OUTSIDE NYC**

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You'll Find

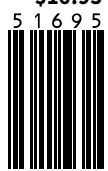
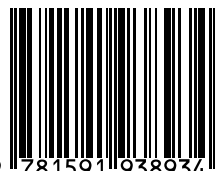
- Gardens, farmers' markets, and vineyards
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AT YOUR FINGERTIPS, YOU'LL ALWAYS
HAVE SOMETHING TO DO!**

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