

Discover CHEMUNG

FINGER LAKES ~ NEW YORK

INSIDE:

**Follow the Chew-Mung
Trail to the Best Eats**

**Our Favorite Things to
do in Every Season**

**Urban Arts Bring
the Streets to Life**

FIND YOURSELF IN
Mark Twain Country
MarkTwainCountry.com



Cover photograph: View of Chemung River from Tanglewood overlook

© 2023 Brave World Media

Back cover photograph: Kayakers on the Chemung River

© 2023 Yellow House Images

You will notice several QR codes throughout this guide. To use, simply open the camera app on your smart phone and point the phone at the QR code, making sure all four corners are within the box on your screen. Once you correctly scan the QR code, a pop-up banner will appear above it. Tap on the pop-up banner and this will immediately send you to the featured website.

Enjoy your trip!

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Discover **CHEMUNG**

FINGER LAKES ~ NEW YORK

All information is current as of press time. Every effort has been made to maintain the accuracy of all information. Chemung County Tourism and its contributors are not responsible for errors, changes, and omissions.

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For additional travel information, contact:
Chemung County Convention & Visitors Bureau
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www.marktwaincountry.com

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Welcome to CHEMUNG COUNTY!

Welcome to Chemung County, a region filled with scenic views, historic landmarks, and exciting activities for all ages. Chemung County is not only the southern gateway to Finger Lakes Wine Country, New York's largest wine producing region, but it has a fascinating story of its own. With charming small towns, rolling hills, and natural beauty, Chemung County is the perfect vacation destination.

Whether you're looking to explore the great outdoors, soak up some culture and history, or simply relax and unwind, this guide will provide you with all the information you need



“As an organization focused on supporting a broad and inclusive group of entrepreneurs and small business owners across the county and the region, we can attest, first-hand, that the service experiences available to travelers are aimed to complement their stay and encourage repeat visits. We can't wait for you to discover Chemung County.”

– **Ashleigh Madison**,
Executive Director
IncubatorWorks

to plan your trip. So pack your bags, grab your camera, and get ready to discover all that Chemung County has to offer!

SUMMERTIME *and the living is easy*

Summer in Chemung County, New York is a beautiful time of year. It's all about natural beauty, festivals, and picturesque towns. There are endless opportunities for hiking, fishing, shopping and taking in the arts.

The county is also host to a wide range of events, from outdoor concerts to farmers markets, that showcase the area's rich history and culture.



PADDLE BOATS AT ELDRIDGE PARK

YOUR CHEMUNG COUNTY *Summer Itinerary*



Start your day by visiting a local farmer's market in Chemung County, such as **Chamberlain Acres** on Sundays from 11am-3pm or **Wisner Market** on summer Thursdays from 10am-2pm. Grab a bite to eat and explore the stalls, fresh produce, local crafts, and artisanal products. Go to **FingerLakesFarmCountry.com** to see when the farmers markets and agricultural experiences are going on in the area.

Once you've finished exploring the farmer's market, drive down to **Park Station** located in the



heart of Chemung County. Here you can spend some time fishing or boating in the park's 100-acre lake, take a refreshing swim, explore the

hiking trails that wind through the scenic landscapes, or even stay overnight at one of the designated camping areas to take some time to relax and enjoy the natural surroundings.

Afterwards, drive back to Elmira to enjoy dinner and drinks at **Rye Bar and Restaurant**. Modern bistro fare, events and live music make the experience one to remember.



Wrap up your day by heading to the **Elmira Drive-In**, located on Route 352. Catch a movie under the stars and indulge in a bag of popcorn while you enjoy your double feature. Check the drive-in's schedule in advance for the movie times on your desired date.



Find the best farm markets in Chemung County ↗



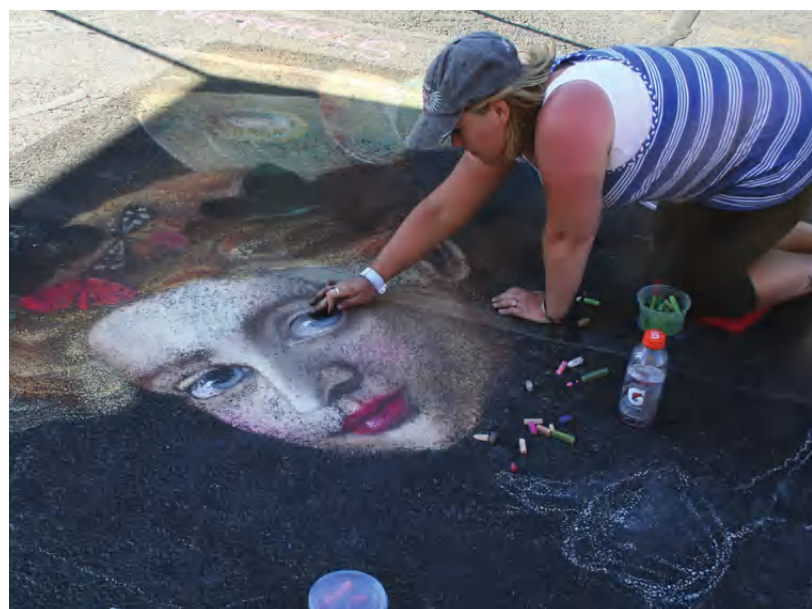
VINTAGE FUN!

A must-see while in Chemung County is **Eldridge Park** and its iconic carousel and dragon paddle boats. Dating from the turn of the century, this enchanting park offers a picturesque escape, inviting visitors to unwind amidst its greenery and scenic lake. The crown jewel of Eldridge

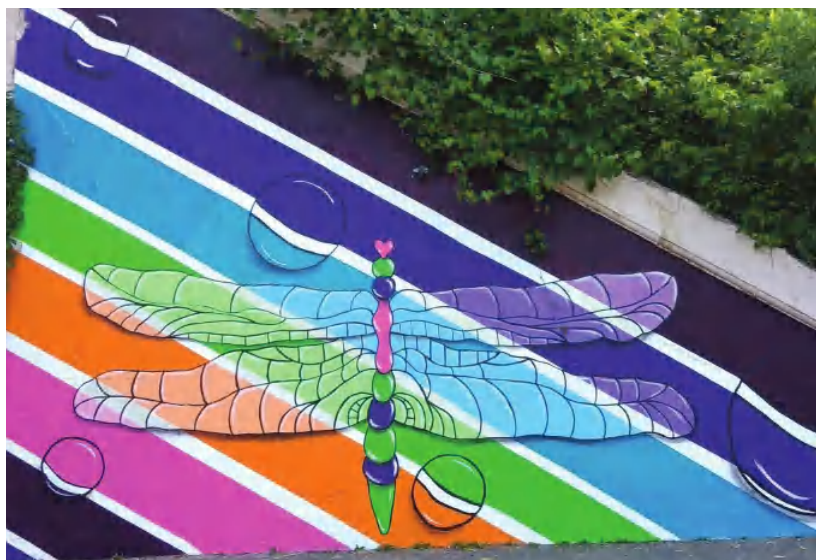


Park is its restored 1890's carousel, that has delighted generations of children and kids at heart. With its intricately hand-carved wooden animals and whimsical music, the carousel provides a nostalgic ride that transports riders to a bygone era.

URBAN ARTS: BRINGING THE STREETS TO LIFE



Left: “Community And Commerce” By Sam Somo Somostrada **Above top:** “Against The Current” By Tori Burdick **Above middle:** A participant in the Elmira Street Painting Festival **Bottom:** “Dragonfly Love” By Filomena Jack



Street Art has become a vibrant part of the region's cultural and artistic landscape. The county is home to several notable street art installations, including murals, sculptures, and other public art displays.

One of the most prominent street art initiatives in Chemung County is the **Elmira Infinite Canvas program**, which focuses on commissioning large-scale murals which are designed in collaboration with local residents and artists. These murals have helped to beautify the city and foster a sense of community pride and ownership.

Chemung County also hosts the annual **Elmira Street Painting Festival**, which brings together artists from across the region and beyond to create stunning chalk paintings on the streets of downtown.



Follow the Art!
Scan the QR code
to find where
artworks are located
throughout the city.



Filomena Jack is an artist who runs a local indy business and is inspired by cute, bizarre and funny topics which she turns into large murals, portraits of pets, and paintings with lots and lots of flowers.

The surrounding art and cultural centers in Elmira inspired Filomena to make it her home. She further found community in the Community Arts of Elmira and the Arts Council of the Southern Finger Lakes.

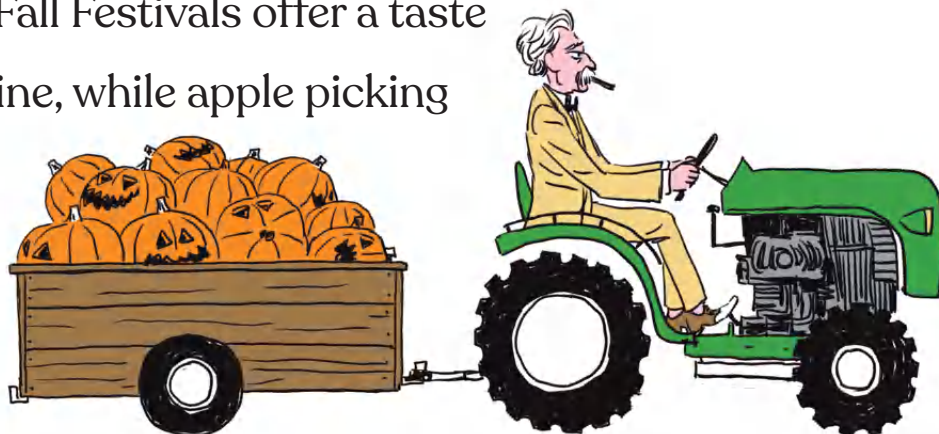
"I am greeted by friendly people everywhere I go and am able to interact with the most talented and creative individuals you could imagine...all in my very own neighborhood. I also interact with non-profit sector professionals who are dedicated and inspiring."

Filomena also enjoys the outdoor experiences offered by local groups such as Elmira Community Cycle.



DISCOVER CHEMUNG *in full color*

Chemung County really showcases the beauty of the autumn season. As the leaves change hue and the weather gets cooler, take a drive along the winding roads that cut through the county's rolling hills and valleys or go for a hike at Tanglewood Nature Center and Mark Twain State Park. Fall Festivals offer a taste of local culture and cuisine, while apple picking and pumpkin patches provide fun for the whole family.



FALL MARKETS ABOUND!

YOUR CHEMUNG COUNTY *Autumn Itinerary*

Autumn in Chemung County is the season for colorful drives, farm visits, thrill-filled activities and festivals. Start your day with a breathtaking hike at **Tanglewood Nature Center** before warming up at the museum and see the 40+ live animal species. Then, mingle with the community at the **Annual Octagon Fair** at Elmira College, a fall fair with vendors, food trucks and activities.



The Annual **Elmira Heights Oktoberfest** takes place the second week of October and offers free kid games, craft & food vendors, vintage & classic cars, live music and more! Stop by **Bell's Coffee & Dry Bar** to warm up with a cup of freshly roasted coffee before heading around the corner to 360 Aurora Event Center where the festivities continue. No fall experience is complete without a visit to the pumpkin patch. **Smithome Farms** has a pumpkin patch, corn maze, hayrides & more!



Next, taste the fall harvest at **Eve's Cidery** in Van Etten for a tasting on the farm. Eve's has been producing world-class, artisanal bottles since 2002. Tastings require a reservation.

End your day with spirits of a different kind at the **Elmira Ghost Walk at Woodlawn Cemetery**, Explore first-hand accounts of history as told by the tenants of Woodlawn Cemetery during this lantern lit tour. Among the notables buried at Woodlawn are Mark Twain and his family. Then head



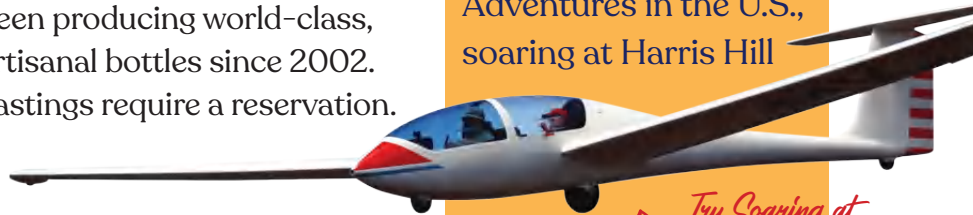
over to Big Flats' **Tagsylvania** featuring 4 different haunted attractions sure to get you in the Halloween mood!

Find out about the best of Fall!



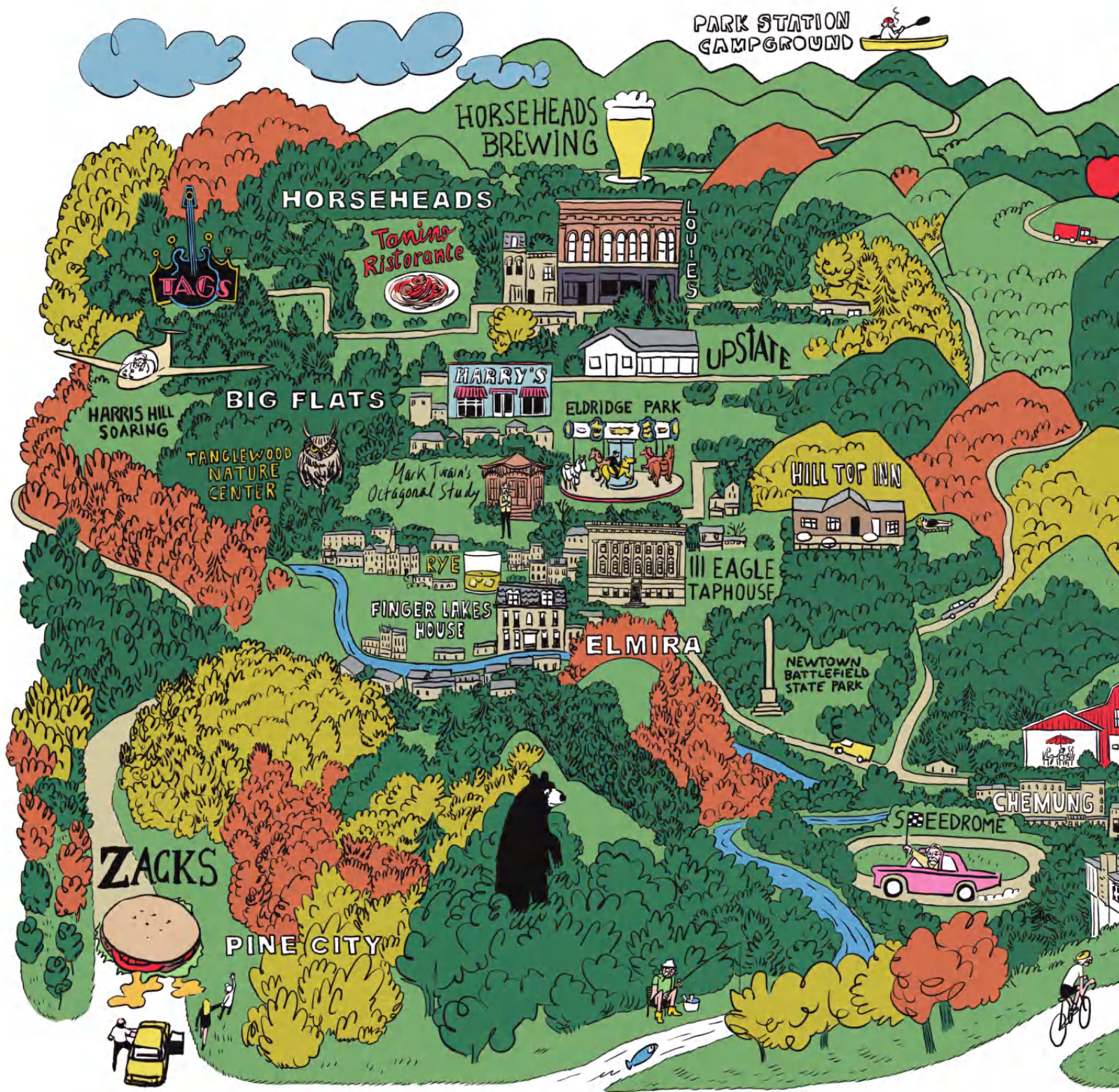
TAKE FLIGHT!

If you're looking for an unforgettable adventure, Harris Hill Soaring is a must. Named the #1 pick on Conde Nast Traveler's list of Best Fall Foliage Adventures in the U.S., soaring at Harris Hill



Try Soaring at Harris Hill

offers a breathtaking way to take in some of New York's most spectacular views. Gliders are motorless planes that are towed in the air before being released to soar silently overhead with a certified pilot, offering a thrilling experience for both fliers and spectators. Be sure to stop at the National Soaring Museum to see the world's largest sailplane collection!



CHEW-MUNG

Eats & Drinks Trail



Embark on a culinary adventure along the **Chew-mung Eats & Drinks Trail**, a journey that showcases the region's diverse flavors and creativity.

To truly dive into the Chemung food scene, head to the local favorites that line the trail.

From farm-to-table restaurants to classic American comfort food,

you'll discover a variety of culinary delights to suit every palate. Whether you're craving a juicy burger, bistro fare, or flavors

from around the world, the food trail offers an eclectic mix of options.

“My hope is to bring great food and a revitalized dining experience that reflects the diverse and vibrant spirit of this community. Through my restaurant, I aim to show that small towns can have big culinary delights.”

– Charlie Hunter,
Owner, Rye Bar



Continue your gastronomic exploration by visiting the charming breweries and cideries scattered throughout the region. Sample award-winning ciders crafted from locally-grown apples, or savor unique craft beers brewed with passion. The Chew-mung Trail offers a true taste of the local culinary scene.

But keep in mind, the Chew-Mung Eats & Drinks Trail is just a small sampling of Chemung's more than 100 restaurants! Scan the QR code on the next page or go to MarkTwainCountry.com to see a full listing of places to eat and drink across the county.



HILLTOP INN



TURTLE LEAF CAFE



RYE BAR & RESTAURANT



LOUIE'S HANOVER SQUARE

See a complete listing of
local Restaurants here



FINGER LAKES HOUSE



CHARLIE'S CAFE

WMC NORTH JAZZ CLUB

Food & Music to Feed the Soul



“We have a really nice NYC-style theme, and our menu is very eclectic. We’re bringing an upscale entertainment and relaxation option to downtown Elmira.”

– Kaylen Knox, Owner

WMC North Restaurant and Jazz Club is a cherished addition to Elmira’s vibrant cultural scene. Founded by Kaylen Knox and his mother Susan, WMC North brings a unique fusion of food, music, art, and



culture to Downtown Elmira. With a rich history of jazz in the area, WMC North serves as a sister club to the renowned

WMC in Brooklyn, owned by their family.

This exciting venture has been embraced by the community, fostering new relationships and partnerships with local food vendors and growers.

WMC North is thrilled to contribute to the city’s growth and development. The restaurant and jazz club create a welcoming space

for residents and visitors alike, offering an exceptional dining experience coupled with live jazz performances. With roots in the area, Kaylen and his family share a love for the Finger Lakes region and are grateful for the community’s trust and support in their endeavors. WMC North represents a harmonious blend of Elmira’s history, culture, and culinary delights, and the team eagerly looks forward to the exciting future ahead.



CHEMUNG DO / EAT / SHOP / STAY

Antique & Specialty Shops

Antique Revival
26 N. Palmer Road
Big Flats, 607-562-2202

Arnot Mall
3300 Chambers Road
Horseheads, 607-739-8702

Bonjolie's Main Street Bride
819 S. Main Street
Horseheads, 607-739-5321

**Chamberlain Acres
Garden Center & Florist**
824 Broadway Street
Elmira, 607-737-1313

Craft Farm
228 S. Main Street
Elmira, 607-442-0350

Four Sisters Treasures
703 S. Main Street
Horseheads, 607-215-0988

Great Escapes Adventures
3300 Chambers Road
Horseheads, 607-737-5233

Gold, Silver and Diamond Store
2360 Corning Road
Elmira, 607-733-8049

**H. Strauss Men's Clothier &
Haberdashery**
363 W. Church Street
Elmira, 607-733-7475

Haskins Gardens
955 College Street
Elmira, 607-857-0831

Heroes Your Mom Threw Out
Comic Books
130 W. 14th Street
Elmira, 607-737-1347

Horseheads Mill Street Market
117 E. Mill Street
Horseheads, 607-739-2531

Kingsbury's Cyclery
228 W. Water Street
Elmira, 607-733-3465

Millport Landing
2020 Crescent Street
Millport, 607-739-1400

Moonlight Treasures
4268 Main Street
Millport, 607-351-9042

Okultik
201A College Avenue
Elmira, 607-301-0042

Pine City Post
1445 Pennsylvania Avenue
Pine City, 607-857-8071

Plato's Closet
830 County Road 64
Elmira, 607-739-1086

Pookie's Little Britches
1344 College Avenue
Elmira, 607-735-2730

Purple Iris Boutique
705 S. Main Street
Horseheads, 607-426-4701

Ray Jewelers
1100 Clemens Center Parkway
Elmira, 607-734-9400

Second Additions Book Store
112 S. Main Street
Elmira, 607-739-1400

Shoppes at Oldies But Goodies
10 Carpenter Road
Elmira, 607-562-7416

Wild Birds Unlimited
950 County Route 64, Suite 600
Horseheads, 607-739-8157

Wildflower on Main
110 S. Main Street
Horseheads, 607-735-2460

Willow Faith Gift Shop
364 County Road 60
Waverly, 607-877-4035

Witch's Stitches
18 Canal Street
Big Flats, 607-358-4016

Art & Culture

Arnot Art Museum
235 Lake Street
Elmira, 607-734-3697
www.arnotartmuseum.org

**ARTS Council of the Southern
Finger Lakes**
79 W. Market Street
Corning, 607-962-5871
www.earts.org

Chemung Valley History Museum
425 East Water Street
Elmira, 607-734-4167
www.chemungvalleymuseum.org

**Clemens Center for the
Performing Arts**
207 Clemens Center Parkway
Elmira 607-734-8191
www.clemenscenter.org

Community Arts of Elmira
413 Lake Street
Elmira, 607-846-2418
www.communityartsofelmira.com

Corning Museum of Glass
One Museum Way
Corning, 607-937-5371
www.cmog.org

Elmira Civil War Prison Camp
643 Winsor Avenue, Elmira
www.elmiraprisoncamp.com

Elmira Little Theatre, Inc.

607-732-9616

www.elmiralittletheatre.com

Gibson Theater at Elmira College

One Park Place

Elmira, 607-735-1853

John W. Jones Museum

1259 College Avenue

Elmira, 607-846-3030

www.johnwjonesmuseum.org

The L Entertainment Venue

116 Breesport Rd.

Horseheads, 607-382-8354

www.the-l.live

The Rockwell Museum

111 Cedar Street

Corning, 607-937-5386

www.rockwellmuseum.org

Tag's Summer Stage

3037 State Route 352

Big Flats, 607-562-7683

www.tagstickets.com

**The Orchestra of the Southern
Finger Lakes**

Corning, 607-936-2873

www.osfl.org

**Vietnam Veterans of
America Museum**

1200 Davis Street

Elmira, 607-739-2760

Pop and Paint

210 W Water Street

Elmira, 607-738-6884

www.popandpaintny.com

Wings of Eagles Discovery Center

339 Daniel Zenker Drive

Horseheads, 607-358-4247

Aviation & Soaring

Glenn H. Curtiss Museum

8419 Route 54

Hammondsport, 607-569-2160

www.glennhcurtissmuseum.org

Harris Hill Soaring Corp.

51 Soaring Hill Drive

Elmira, 607-734-0641

www.harrishillsoaring.org

Nat'l Soaring Museum/Harris Hill

51 Soaring Hill Drive

Elmira, 607-734-3128

www.soaringmuseum.org

Premier Aviation

236 Sing Sing Road

Horseheads, 607-301-1390

www.premier-aviation.com

Wings of Eagles Discovery Center

339 Daniel Zenker Drive

Horseheads, 607-358-4247

www.wingsofeagles.com

Family Fun

At the Pier Arcade

3300 Chambers Road

Horseheads, 607-739-1236

Bradley Farms

1543 Maple Avenue

Elmira, 607-732-0561

www.bradleyfarmselmira.com

Checkpoint Gaming Lounge

3300 Chambers Road

Horseheads, 607-442-6171

www.checkpointgaminglounge.com

Eldridge Park Carousel

96 Eldridge Park Dr,

Elmira, 607-732-8440

www.eldridgepark.org

Elmira Drive-In Theatre

2431 State Route 352

Elmira, 607-734-8599

www.elmiradrivein.com

Elmira Pioneers Baseball

546 Luce Street

Elmira

www.theelmirapioneers.com

Farmland Animal Park

940 Wyncoop Road

Chemung, 607-529-3371

www.farmlandanimalpark.com

Great Escape Adventures

3300 Chambers Road

Horseheads, 607-873-7108

Harris Hill Amusement Park

557 Harris Hill Road

Elmira, 607-732-1210

www.harrishillamusements.com

Joycrest Skating Rink

1570 Lake Street

Elmira, 607-732-0494

**Tanglewood Nature
Center & Museum**

443 Coleman Avenue

Elmira, 607-732-6060

www.tanglewoodnaturecenter.com

Wings of Eagles Discovery Center

339 Daniel Zenker Drive

Horseheads, 607-358-4247

www.wingsofeagles.com

Golf

DJ's Golf Center

273 County Road 60
Waverly 607-565-2618
www.djsgolfcenter.com

Elmira Country Club

1538 West Church Street
Elmira 607-358-6251
www.elmiracountryclub.com

Mark Twain Golf Course

2275 Corning Road
Elmira 607-737-5770
www.golftwain.com

Soaring Eagles Golf Course

Mark Twain State Park
201 Middle Road
Horseheads 607-739-0551
<https://parks.ny.gov/golf/3/details.aspx>

Willowcreek Golf Club, Inc.

3069 State Route 352
Big Flats 607-562-8898
www.willowcreekgolfclub.com

History & Architecture

Big Flats Historical Society

258 Hibbard Road
Horseheads 607-562-7460
www.bigflatsny.gov

Chemung Valley History Museum

415 E Water Street
Elmira 607-734-4167

Elmira Heights

Historical Museum

266 E. 14th Street
Elmira 607-732-5167

Hanover Square

Historic District

Horseheads

Historic Elmira

www.historicelmira.com
Historic Near Westside Tours
Elmira 607-732-1436

Horseheads Historical Society & Museum

312 W. Broad Street
Horseheads 607-739-3938
www.horseheadshistoricalsociety.com

Near Westside

Neighborhood Assn.

353 Davis Street
Elmira 607-733-4924
www.nwnainc.com

Newtown Battlefield/ Sullivan's Monument

455 Oneida Road
Elmira 607-732-6067
<https://parks.ny.gov/parks/newtownbattlefield/details.aspx>

Steele Memorial Library

101 E. Church Street
Elmira 607-733-9137
<https://cclld.lib.ny.us/>

Woodlawn National Cemetery

1825 Davis Street
Elmira 607-732-5411

Zimmerman House

601 N. Pine Street
Horseheads 607-739-1926
www.horseheadshistoricalsociety.com

Lodging - Hotels

Best Western Plus

Horseheads Inn & Suites

2761 Corning Road
Horseheads 607-398-2346

Candlewood Suites

198 Colonial Drive
Horseheads 607-873-7676

Clarion Inn

760 East Water Street
Elmira 607-734-4211

Country Inn & Suites

105 East Mall Road
Horseheads 607-739-9205

Courtyard by Marriott

202 Colonial Drive
Horseheads 607-795-5900

EconoLodge

871 County Route 64
Elmira 607-739-2000

Fairfield Inn & Suites

1600 County Route 64
Elmira 607-398-2400

Hampton Inn Elmira/Horseheads

51 Arnot Road
Horseheads 607-795-3333

Quality Inn

2666 Corning Road
Horseheads 607-739-3681

Bed & Breakfasts/ Guest Houses

Castle on Glen

320 Glen Avenue
Elmira 607-272-4576

Enchanted Cottage on Glen

323 Glen Avenue
Elmira 607-272-4576

Rufus Tanner House B & B

60 Sagetown Road
Pine City 607-732-0213

Campgrounds

Chemung County Fairgrounds

170 Fairview Road
Horseheads 607-737-2843

Newtown Battlefield/Sullivan's Monument

455 Oneida Road
Elmira 607-732-6067

Park Station

2 West Beaver Pond Road
Erin 607-739-9164

Outdoor Recreation

Catharine Valley Trail

www.traillink.com/trail/catharine-valley-trail/

City of Elmira Parks & Recreation

www.cityofelmira.net

Chemung County Parks & Recreation

www.chemungcountyny.gov

Eldridge Park Carousel

Elmira 607-732-8440
www.eldridgepark.org

Friends of the Chemung River Watershed

Elmira 607-846-2242
www.chemungriverfriends.org

Harris Hill Park

www.chemungcountyny.gov/691/Park-Facilities

Lackawanna Rail Trail

www.traillink.com/trail/lackawanna-rail-trail/

Newtown Battlefield State Park

455 Oneida Road
Elmira 607-732-6067

Park Station

1 Beaver Pond Road
Erin 607-739-9164
www.chemungcountyny.gov

Tanglewood Nature Center & Museum

443 Coleman Avenue
Elmira 607-732-6060
www.tanglewoodnaturecenter.com

Town of Big Flats Parks

www.bigflatsny.gov

Village of Elmira Heights Parks & Recreation

www.elmiraheightsvillage.com

Village of Horseheads Parks & Recreation

www.horseheads.org/parksrec

Racing & Sports

Chemung Speedrome

209 Wyncoop Creek Road
Chemung 607-734-1987

Denim Axe

162 E. 14th Street
Elmira Heights
www.denimaxe.com

Elmira Pioneers

546 Luce Street
Elmira 607-734-2690
www.theelmirapioneers.com

First Arena

155 N. Main Street
Elmira 607-734-7825
www.firstarena.net

Greek Peak Mountain Resort

2000 NYS Route 392
Cortland 607-835-6300
www.greekpeakmtnresort.com

Tioga Downs Casino & Racetrack

2384 West River Road
Nichols 888-649-8464
www.tiogadowns.com

Watkins Glen International

2790 County Route 16
Watkins Glen 886-461-7223
www.theglen.com

Spas / Massage

A New You Professional Massage & Body Wellness Center

Wellsburg 607-425-5292

Body Balance

Horseheads 607-368-0610

Exhale Massage Therapy

Elmira 607-259-0939

Guided Healing

Therapeutic Massage

Elmira 607-215-3511

His Hands Massage Therapy

Elmira Heights 607-873-7666

Live Well Upstate:

Massage Therapy &

Natural Medicine

Elmira 607-733-3373

Massage-by-Karen

Elmira 607-742-2628

Namaste Spa & Wellness Center

Wellsburg 607-333-4778

Robert Williams

Therapeutic Massage

Horseheads 607-427-0849

Xin Spa

Horseheads 607-338-0101

Your Wellness Matters

Elmira 607-481-5714

WINTER WONDERS

Chill out & get cozy

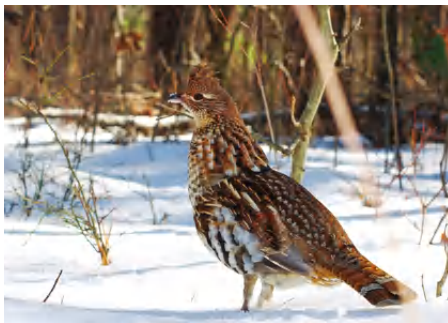
As snowflakes blanket Chemung County, it transforms into a winter wonderland, offering a host of activities. Outdoor enthusiasts can experience the peaceful serenity of cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. For those seeking to cozy up indoors, the Clemens Center in Elmira offers a variety of performances, including theater shows and concerts, perfect for a night of entertainment. The holiday season brings festive markets and events, like the Downtown Elmira Holiday Parade adding warmth and joy to the chilly months.



YOUR CHEMUNG COUNTY *Winter Itinerary*

During the winter months, travelers have an opportunity to take in the beauty of nature, as well as stay warm in some of our most beloved art and entertainment venues.

Outdoor lovers can enjoy trekking through The **Catharine Valley Trail**, which offers 9 miles of multi-use trail for snowshoeing and cross-country skiing, as well as hiking and biking in the warmer months.



Warm up with a cup at **Elmira Tea and Coffee House** or **Downtown Grind** before leisurely taking in the arts at **Arnot Museum of Art**. And if you're traveling in December, pick up some local art pieces of your own at the museum's Annual Holiday Market.

Escape the cold at the end of the day with a show at the **Clemens Center**, the region's premier performing arts center. Their winter performances offer a wonderful Broadway series and



other family-friendly shows to choose from, including performances by the **Orchestra of the Southern Finger Lakes**.

To join the community in some holiday-themed fun, don't miss out on the **Annual Elmira Tree Lighting**, in Downtown Elmira.



Wrap up the night by sampling local and regional wine and beer at **Patrick's Elmira** or get caught up on sports over beer and wings at **Roundin' Third** sports bar.

Find out what's coming to the Clemens Center



BRIGHT NIGHTS!

Take in the lights and holiday scene at **Bradley Farms' Annual Twinkle Town**

display, where you can view over 200 individually lighted scenes

from the comfort of your vehicle as you

drive through the one-mile, two-lane road while listening to their holiday channel on your radio. Bradley Farms generously donates a portion of ticket sales to local charity. With its captivating lights, joyful atmosphere, and commitment to making a positive impact, Twinkle Town truly embodies the spirit of the season!



Arts, Culture & Entertainment

EXPLORE THE ARTISTIC HEART OF CHEMUNG COUNTY

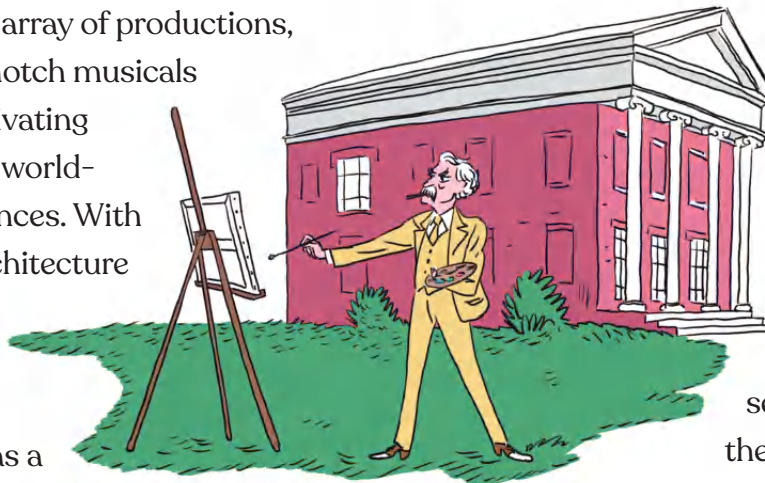


Chemung County boasts a vibrant arts and culture scene that appeals to residents and visitors alike. One of its prominent cultural gems is the **Clemens Center**, renowned for its Broadway shows. This grand theater hosts a diverse array of productions, including top-notch musicals and plays, captivating audiences with world-class performances. With its stunning architecture and superb acoustics, the Clemens Center stands as a cornerstone of the arts scene in Chemung County.

Art enthusiasts in the county love to visit the **Arnot Art Museum**. This esteemed

institution showcases an impressive collection of American and European art, spanning various styles and periods. From classical paintings to contemporary installations, visitors can explore the rich

artistic heritage within its walls. Through rotating exhibitions and educational programs, the Arnot Art Museum fosters a deep appreciation for the arts among locals and serves as a cultural hub for the community.



During the summer months, the Chemung County music scene comes alive with vibrant performances at **TAGS Summer Stage** in Big Flats. This outdoor theater

ARTS, CULTURE & ENTERTAINMENT

experience offers a mix of musical performances under the open sky. For live music enthusiasts, **The L** in Horseheads stands as a premier destination in Chemung County. This dynamic music venue hosts an array of concerts featuring both local and nationally recognized artists, spanning various genres. From intimate acoustic sets to energetic rock



performances, The L offers a space for music lovers to gather and enjoy live performances.

Beyond the realms of traditional arts and music, the **Wings of Eagles Discovery Center** captivates visitors with its fascinating exhibits exploring the world of aviation and aerospace. This unique center boasts an impressive collection of aircraft,



providing an immersive experience that educates and inspires. With interactive displays, flight simulators, and educational programs, the Wings of Eagles Discovery Center celebrates the history and technological advancements in aviation, making it a must-visit cultural destination for all ages in Chemung County.

“The Arnot Art Museum has been a Treasure House in Elmira for 110 years, and we welcome international art scholars as well as travelers visiting the Southern Finger Lakes for our outdoor activities, historic sites and gorgeous scenery. Downtown Elmira is a great place to begin, and we are pleased to roll out the welcome mat.”

– Rick Pirozzolo, Executive Director & Chief Curator



SPRING SOARS

Nature blossoms again

Spring welcomes the return of warmer weather and blooming landscapes, and in Chemung County it also marks the return of gliders overhead. Harris Hill Soaring opens for weekend rides in April and daily rides in mid-June, as weather permits. The season is also a perfect time to explore the Chemung River and Lackawanna Rail Trail for fishing, kayaking, biking and hiking.



YOUR CHEMUNG COUNTY *Spring Itinerary*

Kickstart your day with a delectable breakfast at one of Chemung County's many local cafes – such as **Light's Coffee Shop** or **Turtle Leaf Café**.

Energized and ready for adventure, make your way to the **Mark Twain Golf Course**.



This hidden gem, designed by Donald Ross and hailed as the #1 Best Kept Secret by Golf Digest, promises breathtaking



views and an exhilarating round of golf on its challenging layout.

After your morning tee time, take a short drive to Horseheads to stroll the shops and enjoy a well-deserved lunch at one of several eateries in **Historic Hanover Square**.

*Take the near West side
Historic District Walking Tour* →



With your appetite satisfied, embark on a journey through **Elmira's Near Westside Historic District** where you'll find yourself immersed in the charm of Victorian-era houses. The streets are adorned with these architectural marvels, showcasing vibrant colors and intricate details that will transport you to a bygone era.

As the day draws to a close, treat yourself to a memorable dinner experience at **Hill Top Inn**, where you can



savor a delightful meal while overlooking the Chemung River Valley. For more casual dining or an after-dinner drink, stop by **ILL Eagle Taphouse**, which serves up Finger Lakes wines and beers in a restored historic Court House.



A CUT ABOVE

If you are here for the first weekend of June, join us for the **Town of Erin's Wood Fest!** You

can enjoy wood carving, vendors, quick saw

contests, and games at this New York State Lumberjack Association event. Held every year at the Erin Fire Station. Friday offers live music and chicken BBQ, and an auction on Sunday.



Tracing our Roots

UNCOVER THE HISTORY OF CHEMUNG COUNTY



Chemung County was established on March 29, 1836, and has a storied past that includes a significant role in the American Civil War. Elmira, the county seat, became a vital hub during the war, housing the Elmira Prison Camp. This camp held Confederate prisoners of war, and its operation had a profound impact on the community.

Today, visitors can learn about this chapter of history at the **Elmira Civil War Prison Camp Site**, which exhibits the conditions faced by both Union and Confederate soldiers during this tumultuous period.

Among other influential figures associated with Chemung County, John W. Jones stands tall. Born into slavery in Virginia, Jones escaped to Elmira in 1844 and became an active participant in the Underground Railroad. He assisted countless fugitive slaves on their journey

to freedom and played a pivotal role in their emancipation. Jones' efforts are commemorated at the **John W. Jones Museum**, where visitors can explore exhibits detailing his remarkable life and the stories of those he helped rescue.

Located in the heart of Elmira, the **Chemung Valley History Museum** showcases the region's past through engaging exhibits and artifacts. From the early Native American settlements to the influential role in the American Civil War, visitors can explore the diverse stories that have shaped Chemung County's identity.

Tucked into the rolling hills on the outskirts of Elmira, **Newtown Battlefield State Park** stands as a memorial to the clashes that unfolded during the American Revolution. In August of 1779, the Continental Army



HISTORY IN CHEMUNG COUNTY

engaged in battle with the British regulars, Loyalist rangers and 1000 Native American warriors. The Battle of Newtown was the decisive clash of the American Revolution.

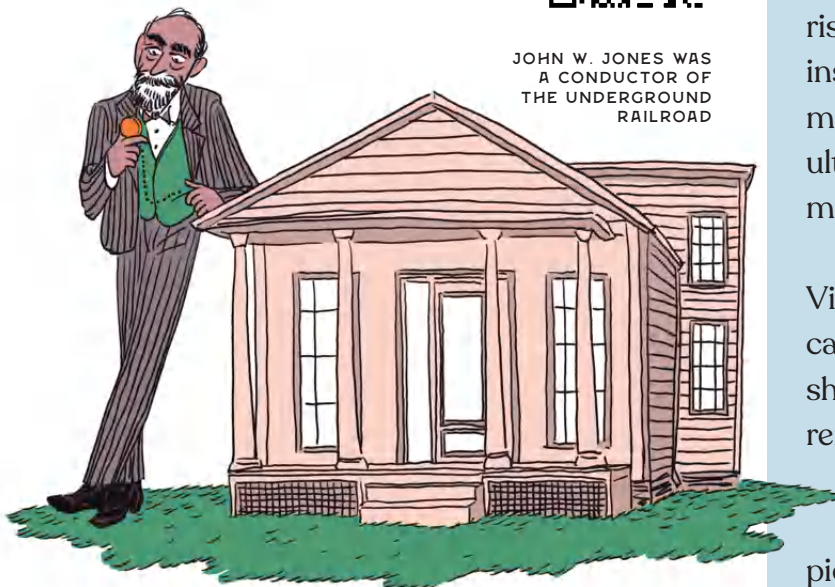


As you explore the region, you'll discover the stories woven into its fabric. Chemung County invites you to step back in time and connect with the extraordinary individuals who have left their mark on its captivating narrative.

Check out the Elmira Historic Driving Tour



JOHN W. JONES WAS
A CONDUCTOR OF
THE UNDERGROUND
RAILROAD



Talima Aaron is the President of the Board of Trustees for the John W. Jones Museum. Ms. Aaron has a deep connection to the area, having lived in Elmira for 50 years and tracing her husband's local roots back to the 1800s, Talima brings a wealth of knowledge and passion to her role.

What is most fascinating about **John W. Jones**, according to Talima, was his ability to navigate the challenging political landscape of his time while staying true to his values. His determination to fight for his abolitionist principles, even at the risk of his own life and freedom, is awe-inspiring. His unwavering convictions made him an influential figure, and he ultimately became the wealthiest Black man in the region.

Visitors to the John W. Jones Museum can expect a rich experience that sheds light on the life and legacy of this remarkable man. Inside the museum, visitors can explore storyboards showcasing Jones' life through pictures and narratives.

Finding Mark Twain

WALK IN A LEGEND'S FOOTSTEPS



Mark Twain's connection with Elmira, NY, began with his marriage to Olivia Langdon in 1870. For over twenty summers, Twain and his family stayed at **Quarry Farm**, where he penned

his most famous works in a unique octagonal study atop East Hill. In Mark Twain Country, his local ties are celebrated in various ways.

The Chemung Valley History Museum features a permanent exhibit dedicated to Mark Twain's life in Elmira, NY. Through a curated collection of artifacts, photographs, and interactive displays, visitors can delve into the lesser-known aspects of Twain's life during his summers spent in Elmira.

Elmira College hosts the **Center for Mark Twain Studies**, a renowned research center and **Mark Twain's Study**, which was relocated to Elmira College in 1952.



Modeled after a Mississippi steamboat pilot house, this study witnessed the creation of

literary classics such as *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, *The Prince and the Pauper*, *A Tramp Abroad*, and



Life on the Mississippi. The Mark Twain Study is open to visitors on weekdays throughout the summer and fall or by appointment.



To pay respects to Twain, a visit to **Woodlawn Cemetery** is a must. His grave, marked by a towering headstone, is a resting place for the author, his wife, and their children. Visitors often leave tributes, including cigars, which were Twain's favorite vice.



Find Mark Twain

Scan the QR code to get more detail about Mark Twain locations in Chemung County.

Mark Your Calendar

ANNUAL EVENTS IN CHEMUNG



*Here's the most
up-to-date
Event info*

SPRING

Harris Hill Amusement
Park Opens

Horseheads St. Patrick's
Day Parade

Watkins Glen
International Season Starts

Weekend Glider Rides Begin

Wisner Market Opens

Hill Top Inn St. Patrick's Day Festivities

Town of Erin's "WoodFest"

Chemung County Golf Courses Open



Park Station Opens

Farmer Markets

Daily Glider Rides at Harris Hill

Mark Twain Study Open Weekdays

Tag's Summer Stage Concert Series

Public River Paddles

FALL

Big Flats

Community Days

Ghost Walks at
Woodlawn Cemetery

Haunted Happenings at
Tanglewood Nature Center

Phantom Phright Nights at Bradley Farms

Elmira College Octagon Fair

Tagsylvania Haunted Attractions

Hayrides and Corn Maze at
Smithome Farms

Pumpkin Express Train Rides in Horseheads



SUMMER

Alive After 5 Street
Music Festivals

Chemung County Fair

Eldridge Park Opens

Elmira Pioneer Baseball

Twain Country Tours

Elmira Pride Celebration

"Elmira Blooms" Garden Tour

Elmira Street Painting Festival

Juneteenth Freedom Day

Finger Lakes Wine
Festival at Watkins
Glen International

Elmira Mural Fest

Southern Tier
Jazz Festival



WINTER

Snowshoeing at Tanglewood
and Park Station

Hill Top Inn Wreath Lighting

Downtown Elmira Holiday Parade

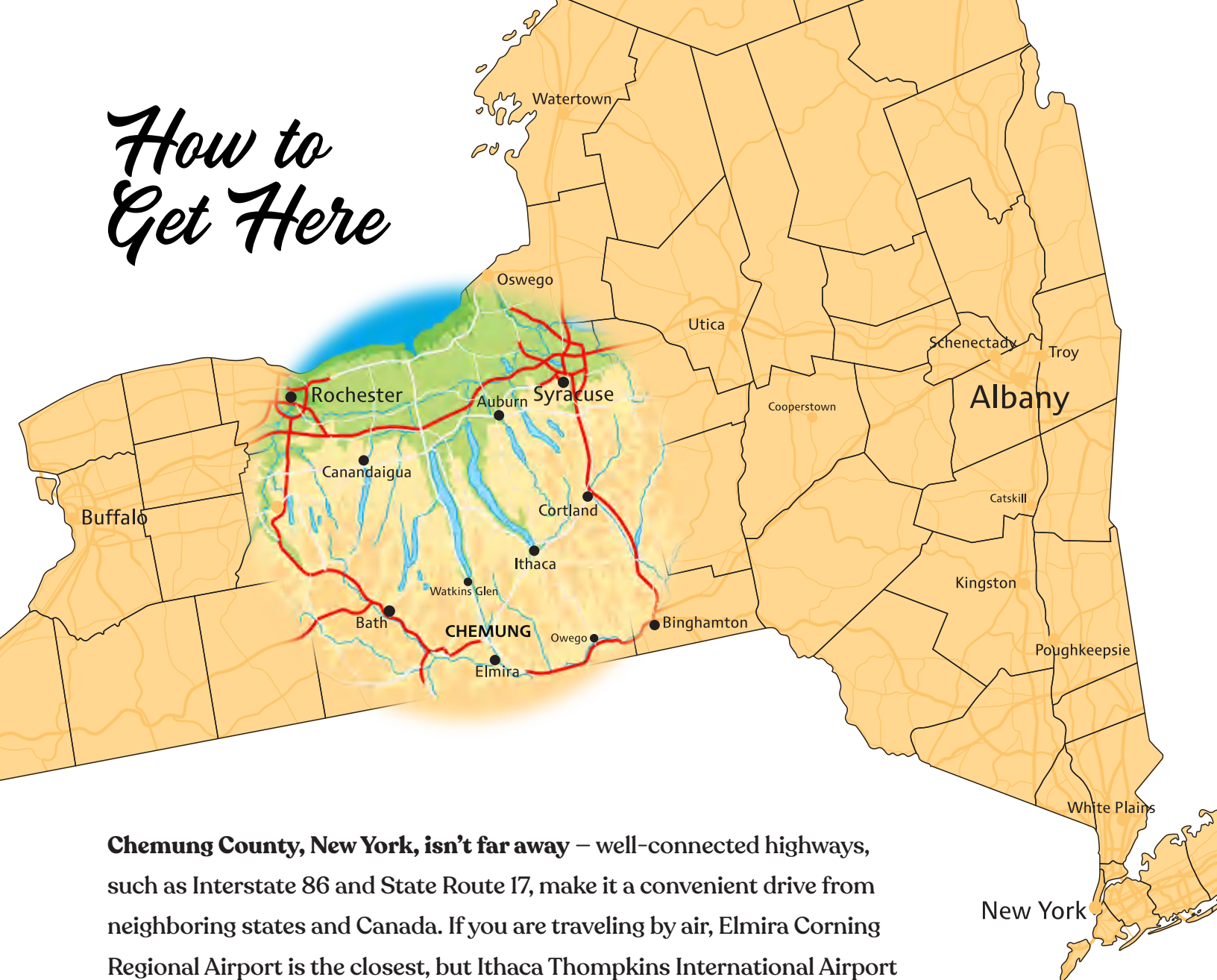
Homes for the Holidays Tour

Holly Days in Historic Hanover Square

Winter Handmade Market at
Chamberlain Acres

Bradley Farms Twinkle Town Light Display

How to Get Here



Chemung County, New York, isn't far away – well-connected highways, such as Interstate 86 and State Route 17, make it a convenient drive from neighboring states and Canada. If you are traveling by air, Elmira Corning Regional Airport is the closest, but Ithaca Thompkins International Airport offers flights from several cities, including New York City.

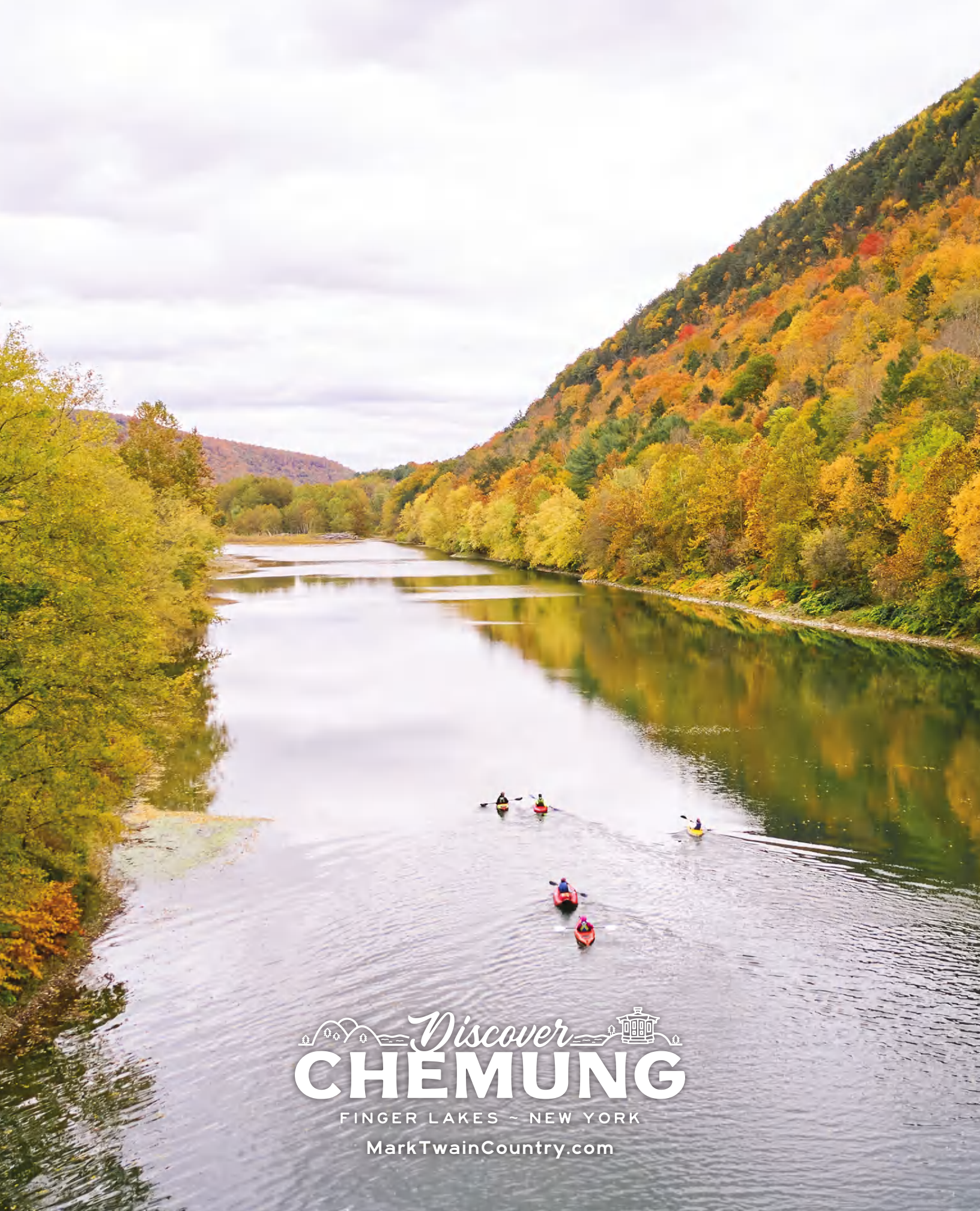
Driving distances to Chemung County

New York City – 4 hours
Philadelphia – 4 hours
Toronto – 4.5 hours
Montreal – 6 hours
Washington, DC – 5 hours
Cleveland, OH – 4.5 hours





THE CLEMENS CENTER
PHOTO: @SMALLTOWN360



Discover
CHEMUNG

FINGER LAKES ~ NEW YORK

MarkTwainCountry.com