

# About the Finger Lakes

Welcome to the <u>Finger Lakes</u>, a New York Region that encompases 11 pristine lakes that were formed by glaciers. This unique region is known for its incredible winemaking, home to more than 130 wineries that mostly specialize in the Reisling variety. Additionally the area burgeons incredible outdoor experiences with more than 200 waterfalls to explore in natural wonders. History exudes itself in the Finger Lakes as the birthplace of the Women's Suffrage Movement, along with the chosen hometown of Harriet Tubman. The Finger Lakes are filled with incredible picturesque views, moving history, charming towns and unique culinary delights to discover around every turn. The Finger Lakes is extremely accessible by car, Amtrak train or bus or even a quick flight to your next unforgettable vacation.

## Wine Region

Decant this incredibly unique wine region that sommeliers are calling a must visit. While winemaking has run continuously in the region since the 1800's, today's vinifera movement is thanks to Dr. Konstantin Frank. The region is mostly known for its rieslings and world-class whites thanks to the Finger Lakes creating a microclimate that provides ideal growing conditions for the vineyards. Today they are the largest wine producing region in the United States East of California. Along the lakes you can find international winemakers creating really unique dry blends in the region along with a unique form of winemaking called ice wine, thanks to the area's colder winter climate. The region is home to five wine trails including the <u>Cayuga Lake Wine Trail</u>, <u>Seneca Lake Wine trail</u>, <u>Keuka Lake Wine Trail</u>, <u>Canandaigua Lake Wine Trail</u> and <u>Lake Ontario Wine Trail</u>.

# **History**

Step back in time through the Finger Lakes as you experience the slow Americana of pristine lake life. While visiting you can take in the locations that have cultivated who we are as a country today. Start in Auburn, <u>Harriet Tubman</u>'s chosen hometown. Take an insider's guide on the Harriet Tubman National Historic Park and experience abolitionist legacy in the Finger Lakes. In Elmira, you'll find where <u>Mark Twain</u> penned his most famous literary works and his resting site. Hammondsport is home to <u>Glenn H. Curtiss Aviation Museum</u> that outlines the life and accomplishments of Glenn Curtiss, who had the first publicly observed flight in America. The life work of <u>Susan B. Anthony</u> begins in the Finger Lakes, with the first Women's Rights Convention being held in Seneca Falls in 1848. You can also learn more about her work at the National Susan B. Anthony Museum and Home in Rochester, where she was arrested in 1872. While in Rochester, take in the work of abolitionist <u>Fredrick Douglass</u>, the city was his longest home and resting site.

Other major museums to explore: <u>The Strong National Museum of Play</u>, <u>George Eastman Museum</u>, <u>Corning Museum of Glass</u>, <u>The Rockwell Museum</u>, <u>Genesee Country Village & Museum</u>, National Soaring Museum <u>Sciencenter</u>

#### Outdoor Adventure

There is no shortage of stunning views across the Finger Lakes. Thanks to the glacier formations, the area is home to more than 200 waterfalls and gorges that have created unique



outdoor experiences. Take off on a hot air balloon over the "Grand Canyon of the East Coast" <u>Letchworth State Park</u>, or experience <u>Taughannock Falls</u> - three stories taller than Niagra Falls. Walkable gorges like <u>Watkins Glen State Park</u> or Stoneybrook offer a unique up-close look at these natural wonders. Take in the Finger Lakes from the sky with a glider ride in Elmira, <u>America's Soaring Capital</u> or cruise the Finger Lakes with a <u>motorized dinner cruise</u> or sunset sail. There is year round fun to be had in the Finger Lakes with world-class skiing and tubing at places like <u>Greek Peak Resort</u> or <u>Bristol Mountain Adventures</u>.

## Get To Know The Region

While we promote the Finger Lakes Region as a whole, it's our towns and villages that are the heart of our destination. It's these downtowns that you'll find a welcoming charm and ease with quaint shops and locally-owned restaurants that are culinary gems. These lakeside escapes offer grand outdoor adventure steps from your picturesque accommodations with major slices of history and charm - showcasing the region's true Americana. Explore these signature downtowns: <u>Watkins Glen, Corning,Skaneateles, Ithaca, Naples, Penn Yan, Geneseo</u>, and <u>Elmira</u>.

Interested in telling the stories of the Finger Lakes? Reach out to Brianna Francis, PR Strategist at Madden Media, <u>bfrancis@maddenmedia.com</u>.