



Ithaca/ Tompkins County Convention & Visitors Bureau

Waterfalls & Wine, a true Ithaca Experience!

Hidden waterfalls, unique views, unexpected beauty. Centrally located in the Finger Lakes region of New York State, these are the things you'll discover when visiting Ithaca. Pack comfy shoes and a keen sense of curiosity, and we'll show you the way.

DAY ONE

Begin your Ithaca adventure reveling in the sound of roaring waters of **Buttermilk Falls** as it descends in a series of plunging cascades and rapids that converge into a beautiful basin.

Next, tour the extensive gardens and arboretum of the **Cornell Botanic Gardens**. Experience living displays of botanical diversity on your own or with a guide. Be sure to save some time for the gift shop at the Nevins Center, full of nature inspired treasures.

Showcasing a panoramic view of Ithaca and Cayuga Lake, the **Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art** on the Cornell University campus offers a collection spanning six millennia and encompassing most world cultures.

With views of the hotel's herb and flower gardens, and offering outdoor dining during the sunny days, **The Bistro at La Tourelle** offers a warm, relaxing crossroad, where the good life meets good food. The menu features regionally inspired, farm-to-table cuisine that when seasons allow, feature fresh herbs and produce from the hotel's very own gardens. Family owned and operated by the Wiggins Family, Jessica Wiggins will greet your group and talk about the history of La Tourelle and where the food you are enjoying comes from!

Enhance your appreciation and knowledge of birds at the **Cornell Lab of Ornithology**. Birding is best enjoyed with a group!

Sample wine at Ithaca's own **Six Mile Creek Vineyard** in a hilltop tasting room overlooking a picturesque pond and vineyards. Be sure to sip some of their spirits made exclusively from wine grapes. *(groups under 40 ppl only)*

Relax over dinner at the **Coltivare**, a downtown restaurant that is home to our community college's culinary arts program. The professionally staffed restaurant supports four related degree programs, offering its students hands on learning as well as sourcing much of its produce from the college's [TC3 Farm](#) in Dryden, NY. Serving seasonal New American fare locally sourced and inventively prepared, they let the flavors of the Finger Lakes shine through.

Rest your head in one of Ithaca's group friendly hotels! **Let Visit Ithaca help coordinate a block of rooms for your group's overnight stay in Ithaca!**

A division of the Tompkins Chamber

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DAY TWO

Take a photo at 150ft **Ithaca Falls**, right in the heart of the city. At 175ft wide, the falls are one of the region's mightiest.

Visit the **Ithaca Children's Garden**, an award-winning, 3-acre public garden that is shaping the future of gardening and children's environments. Home to one of the country's only adventure playgrounds, with approaches rooted in permaculture and play-work, tour the Hands-on-Nature Anarchy Zone, the larger than life turtle, Gaia, the Kitchen Garden, recycled bottle "greenhouse", strawbale troll house, and other points of authentic hands-on engagement for children and the child in all of us. Get your hands "dirty" and make an art, culinary, or gardening project, or enjoy other specially tailored group options. Whether a "Listen and learn" or "learn-by-doing" group, you won't be disappointed!

Meet the "kids" at a **Lively Run Dairy**, a working goat dairy farm, learn how high-quality goat cheese is made, and of course stay for the tasting!

Enjoy a scenic ride through the countryside with a stop at one of the most outstanding views in the region. At 215ft, the cascading **Taughannock Falls** is three stories taller than Niagara Falls. Take time for pictures at the **Taughannock Falls Overlook** and marvel at how the steep-walled gorge formation was carved by ice, thousands of years ago.

Give your group time on their own for lunch and shopping on the **Downtown Ithaca Commons**, one of the few surviving pedestrian malls left in the U.S. Experience the centerpiece of a Nationally Registered Historic District as you browse the area's most diverse shopping and eclectic dining, from upscale bistros to casual cafes. While downtown, be sure to take in some local history at the **Tompkins Center for History & Culture**.

Discover views only seen from the water aboard **Discover Cayuga Lake's MV Teal**. While enjoying the scenic beauty, your group will be lead through a private tasting of a variety of wines from Cayuga Lake's wineries, lead by local sommelier Laura Winter Falk of **Experience! The Finger Lakes**. This is a brand-new option being offered in lieu of winery visits as many wineries are no longer taking large groups post pandemic.

Don't forget to grab a scoop at local favorite, **Purity Ice Cream**. Ithaca is the birthplace of the ice cream sundae, after all!

This sample itinerary is meant to give you an idea of the group experience Ithaca can offer. Contact Visit Ithaca and have a custom 1, 2, or 3 night itinerary created just for your group!