VISIT

SPRING BLOOMS LOCAL ARTS & CULTURE CHASING WATERFALLS

VISITLIVCO.COM

SPRING ISSUE 2022

Please note: New York State Guidance on Covid-19 is continually changing.

We know you're eager to visit Livingston County and experience everything our destination has to offer. We also realize that health and safety are the most important priorities. The information and images in this guide may not reflect current guidelines and practices of NYS public health policy. Please check at the time of your visit for requirements that are in place for the health and safety of our guests and our tourism workforce.

The health and safety of our visitors is our top priority. Livingston County's businesses are kept up-to-date with all safety regulations. We look forward to your visit, we're ready to make it a safe and memorable one!

A playlist for your journey.

Open Spotify, click the search button, scan code below, and listen.

We're here to help you!

Explore the hidden gem that is Livingston County, New York — home of Letchworth State Park and westernmost gateway to the Finger Lakes. Make LivCo your basecamp for one-of-a-kind outdoor recreation, shopping, dining, lodging, historical, and cultural experiences — all in the heart of the Genesee River Valley.

Planning your visit to Livingston County? You can find the latest information and resources at visitlivco.com.

CONNECT WITH US!

What better way to showcase Livingston County than through the eyes of our locals? Follow our social media accounts to meet local artists, business owners, students, photographers, yogis, and many more locals who make our region a unique destination to visit. There is no better way to experience Livingston County and the Heart of the Genesee River Valley than through the stories of our locals.



@VISITLIVCO

Tag your pics with #VISITLIVCO for a chance to be featured on our social media channels.

Learn more at VISITLIVCO.COM

LIVINGSTON COUNTY TOURISM

A partner of Livingston County Economic Development



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

Made possible by funds from Livingston County Tourism.

Livingston County Tourism Spring Guide. Copyright © 2022 by Visit LivCo.

Front & Back Cover Photography:

Third Eye Catcher Photography

A Word of Welcome

The LivCo community is committed to being an exciting and safe destination for everyone. We're working to create a more inclusive culture, one where marginalized identities are represented, and celebrated. We are a work in progress, but we are listening, and moving forward with empathy, intention, and arms wide open.





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Explore Responsibly

For those who harbor the soul of an explorer, Livingston County represents a quest more than a vacation.

We hope you will enjoy an immersive experience in a community where respect for nature rewards you with magnificent outdoor adventures, today and for years to come. As you #WanderLivCo we hope that you will explore responsibly and please remember to Leave No Trace.

PLAN AHEAD

Before you pack, check the forecast. You may need to include a refillable water bottle, snacks, umbrella, insect repellent, non-toxic sunscreen, sunglasses and cap, and compass or map.

STAY ON THE TRAIL

Use existing trails and rest sites. Walk in the center of the trail.

RESPECT WILDLIFE

Watch wildlife from a distance and never feed or handle wild animals. Keep an eye out and leash on your pups at all times.

LEAVE WHAT YOU FIND

Preserve the past. Observe rocks, plants and historical artifacts.

PACK IN, PACK OUT

Inspect your rest area for wrappers, trash or spilled food. Pack up all the litter. Strive to leave the site in better condition than when you arrived.

BE COURTEOUS & KIND

Respect other visitors & be trail-friendly maybe even say 'hi' while passing by. Let the sounds of nature prevail - save the music for your car ride.

ENJOY HAPPILY

Last but definitely not least, wherever you go, appreciate the scenery of the Genesee River Valley.

To the land of farms, waterfalls, and outdoor beauty.

VER VALLEY

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THE GEN

It's springtime in the Genesee River Valley!

Spring welcomes you outside as we welcome you to LivCo. Whether you're a first-time visitor to our area or coming back again, we're so glad you're here.

Spring gives us a world revived, where flowers bloom on every corner, breweries put the patio furniture outside, and friends reconnect on a hike in the long hours of afternoon sunlight.

When spring arrives in LivCo, our world transforms under a plush carpet of green. Buds sprout on the trees, flowers bloom, and new life is everywhere you look. Spring brings the return of walking through parks, outdoor dining, and late afternoon sun.

Kick off festival season with a trip to the Peony Festival at Linwood Gardens or head south to Dansville for their annual Dogwood Festival. Spend time supporting local businesses with a stop downtown for dinner outside on a warm spring evening and don't forget to swing by one of our many local breweries or wineries for signature craft beverages sourced from local ingredients and flavors. Once the flowers start to bloom and the weather warms up, you won't want to miss the rushing waterfalls, biking and hiking trails, and village farmers markets that start to reopen. It's a world reborn in LivCo when spring comes around, and you won't want to miss it!

Connection is in the air; to the land and to each other. Whether you're falling in love, planning a wedding, or getting in touch with an old friend, spring is the perfect time to celebrate what brings us together.



To a place to taste, toast and treat yourself.

To a community of makers, dreamers,

and adventurists.

IEAD OUTDOORS

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Why stay inside when the weather is begging you to get out and enjoy it?

If the return of spring makes you want to head outdoors, you're not alone. After long weeks of cold weather, the return of the warm sun and cool breezes can feel almost too good to be true. So why stay inside when the weather is practically begging you to get out and enjoy it? With so many trails to explore in LivCo, cabin fever will be a thing of the past.

Like winter, getting outside in the spring requires a little planning. Ice and snow have given way to mud and new life, so prepare to get a little dirty. Mud is to be expected and most rivers and creeks will be higher than normal. Plan accordingly for a great adventure!

GENESEE VALLEY GREENWAY

An outdoor space connecting people to the natural world and providing a vegetated buffer between human and natural habitats.

Winding south from Rochester for 90 miles, the Genesee Valley Greenway puts the best of the Genesee River Valley on display. The route follows old canal trails and railroad beds, creating a level surface that's perfect for hiking, biking, running, horseback riding, fishing, or any other kind of adventuring. Spend hours exploring the woods as well as wetland, river valleys, steep gorges, rolling hills, and historic villages.

You can hike a portion of the Greenway in a day, or plan to conquer the entire thing in an exciting new Trail Otter challenge (see below for more information)!

LETCHWORTH STATE PARK

Nestled between the Allegany foothills and the Finger Lakes with panoramic views that are unequaled anywhere on the east coast.

Nothing compares to the dynamic beauty of Letchworth! The Grand Canyon of the East transforms with the seasons and springtime brings roaring changes to this gorge. The additional water from the snowmelt and seasonal rain raises the river levels and turns the waterfalls into powerful displays of nature.

While many trails close in the winter, they re-open again in the spring, giving you 66 miles of majestic woodland to explore. Along the way, you'll see signs of new life everywhere, from the buds on the trees to the early spring blooms and fresh green shoots. Camping opens in April, so you can stay the night if one day isn't enough time.



If you're seeking an adventure that pushes you to the limit, gear up for one of these challenges from local outdoors outfitter Trail Otter. You can find more information on their website, or stop in and ask their staff about the challenges!



💋 Genesee Valley Greenway

Hike 50 Challenge

The Genesee Valley Greenway stretches for 90 miles but to win this challenge, you just need to hike 50 miles! (Sounds easy, right?) You can start north and work your way south towards the villages in LivCo, or reverse the direction. This challenge is shorter than Letchworth and covers more ground with a wider variety of habitats, so you're sure to see something incredible along the way.





2 Letchworth State Park

Hiked 'Em All Challenge

With 66 miles of trails, it can be hard to pick just one to start with, so don't! Win this challenge by conquering every trail that Letchworth State Park has to offer, and along the way, you'll be rewarded with stunning views, glimpses of an intimate natural world, and an unrivaled sense of accomplishment.

3 Genesee Valley Greenway Biked It All Challenge

Biked It All Challenge

Biking fans know how satisfying it is to pump out the miles, so lace up your shoes and get ready to ride the entire Greenway. The direction you take is up to you, all that matters is completing the 90 miles! This challenge is a great opportunity for people who enjoy bike-packing (combine biking long distances with backpacks and supplies for overnight stays).



MUST-SEE EVENT BLUEBELL

HIKE

MUST PRE-REGISTER TO ATTEND

Geneseo, New York



Wadsworth Photography

MAY 07

Brange Restart

hird Eye Catcher Photography

Vibrant palettes have replaced the monochromatic blanket of snow.

One of the best parts about spring's arrival is the colors returning to our rolling hills and woodlands. Head outside and experience the vibrant palettes of green, yellow, blue, and red that make up the landscape of LivCo.

If you're looking to immerse yourself in the blooms of spring, here's where to take your camera and snap some insta-worthy selfies.

PALMITER'S GARDEN NURSERY

Location: Avon, New York Visit: All Season Long

No one welcomes the return of spring more than Palmiter's Garden Nursery. This garden, nursery, flower hybrid incubator holds one of the first signs of the warming weather when their green perennial sprouts poke up.

The show starts with the Hellebore bloom but really picks up in later spring when the peonies start to blossom. Palmiter's is home to over 50 varietals of peonies, some over 45 years old! If you want to see more, just ask for a guided garden tour.

You can simply soak in the sights of their professional garden or load up on annuals, perennials, trees, and other plants for your home. They have common annuals and perennials like lilacs and hydrangeas, but they also have unusual plants like spirea, quince, and viburnum. Have questions about starting your own garden? This is where the experts are.



PEONY FESTIVAL AT LINWOOD GARDENS

Location: Linwood, New York Visit: The Weekends of May 21st and 22nd, May 28th and 29th, and June 4th and 5th

Linwood Gardens is a countryside gem, a lavish early 20th-century garden with pools and fountains overlooking the Genesee River Valley. This privately-owned estate opens every May to the public to celebrate the Peony Festival. Hundreds of Japanese and American tree peonies burst into bloom, transforming this already-stunning land into an otherworldly secret garden. Wander the walled trails, soak in the sights and scents of spring, and let the peace of nature wash over you.

BLUEBELL HIKE

Location: Geneseo, New York Visit: May 7, 2022

Bluebells are a transplant flower to the Genesee River Valley, their beauty has captivated generations of local flower enthusiasts. Once a year, on a private piece of land, the woods transform from lush green to vibrant hues as the bluebells bloom. When the flowers open, the Genesee Valley Conservancy leads guided tours to the field. You'll embark on a 3.5-mile journey through the woods to the place where these tiny flowers transform the forest into a magical wonderland. The free hike takes 1 to 2 hours, and donations are appreciated to help support over 20,000 acres of land under the Genesee Valley Conservancy protection. Please note you need to pre-register for this event at geneseevalleyconservancy.

POPPIES MEMORIAL

Location: Groveland, New York Visit: All Season Long

You might spot these poppies out of nowhere while driving through Groveland, New York. As a memorial to Livingston County Veterans, this permanent art installation is a must-stop while exploring the Genesee River Valley.

When this Livingston County Veterans Memorial was conceived, it wasn't enough to just have seasonal blooms - each of the 250 metal poppies is hand-welded by a local veteran, with a dog tag dedicated to each soldier. This memorial is a lasting reminder of gratitude, family, and service and the dynamic flowers are the perfect backdrop to capture a photo of the whole family.

LIVONIA BLOOMS

Location: Livonia, New York Visit: All Season Long

Check out the newest mural in the Village of Livonia. Created by renowned muralist, Shawn Dunwoody, "Livonia Blooms" is the picture-perfect spot to capture photos with your friends and family. Bring your kids to enjoy larger-than-life sunflowers, lilacs, and more.

This mural is a part of the Inspirations Trail, a 90-mile self-guided public art trail through the nine villages of Livingston County. Explore more at inspirationstrail.com.





MUST-SEE EVENT

GENESEO AIRSHOW

I

"GREATEST SHOW ON TURF"

• National Warplane Museum



National Warplane Museum // Lauren Page Wadsworth Photography

As seen on: Samantha Brown's Places to Love

For over 20 years, Samantha Brown has traversed continents, experienced culture, and tasted adventure, applying her singular brand of warmth and inclusion along the way. Places to Love is all about seeking the little-known spots and haunts where innovators and disruptors are creating a brand new travel experience.

Hosted on PBS, Samantha Brown's "Places to Love" is an Emmy awardwinning show that highlights incredible destinations and the people that make them great. We were honored to show Samantha around the Genesee River Valley. Check out where she went and the stories she shared.

Service and





5 HEART OF THE GENESEE RIVER VALLEY

🕨 Autism Nature Trail

At Letchworth State Park, you can hit pause on real life and let the dynamic beauty of the gorge take you away. As of 2021, Letchworth State Park is home to the Autism Nature Trail, or ANT for short. This first-of-its-kind trail experience is specifically designed for people on the autism spectrum, and people with varying physical and cognitive ability levels. The ANT is an accessible one-mile trail with eight interactive stations offering a range of immersive nature experiences.





😕 Boriken Restaurant

Boriken showcases the best of Puerto Rico with authentic dishes, family-size portions, and flavors you can't get anywhere else. The restaurant is run by Melanie Alvarez Santiago, who moved to Livingston County from Puerto Rico in 2017. Santiago does things the traditional way in her kitchen, bringing you delicious recipes that have been in her family for generations.

🙆 Shawn Dunwoody Murals

Art is what brings our communities together, and no murals are as well-known around here as those by Shawn Dunwoody. An artist and mural painter, his colorful yet poignant murals can be found throughout Upstate New York, including the Villages of Avon, Livonia, and Mount Morris.



Abbey of the Genesee

The Abbey of the Genesee is a place of quiet contemplation and hard work; an active monastery with 24 monks in residence. These monks follow a life of scripture, prayer, and manual labor, and they welcome visitors in their reflective space. As a visitor, you can enjoy the fruits of their labor at their bakery, home to their signature Monk's Bread as well as biscotti, cheese crisps, and more.





6 Genesee Country Village & Museum

History is brought to life at the Genesee Country Village and Museum, the largest living history museum in New York. The GCVM encapsulates life for Western New Yorkers from the settlers of the 1700s through the electric homes of the 1900s. Visitors can explore the village with over 60 buildings and outdoor gardens, talk with villagers, and even participate in activities on certain weekends.

6 Linwood Gardens

Have you dreamed of visiting the secret garden? You can at Linwood Gardens. This privately-owned estate was built in the early 20th century, and its lavish walled gardens, reflective pools, and gentle fountains create an ambiance where time simply stops. Wander the gardens at the Peony Festival or one of their summer events.





MUST-SEE EVENT

0

MAY DAY SIP & STROLL

• Main Street Geneseo



Upper Falls at Letchworth State Park // Third Eye Catcher Photography

Chasing Waterfalls

Of all the seasonal delights spring gives us, one of our favorites is waterfalls.

Sure, you can find waterfalls all year round, but springtime is when they really spring to life. As the sun grows stronger, ice and snowmelt turn lazy streams into raging cascades.

Our babbling brooks, winding creeks, and dry riverbeds fill with water, making its way down, and turning what was once a gentle trickle into a gushing waterfall. Chasing waterfalls is an adventure with twists and turns along the way. From the small to the grand, you'll love the waterfalls of LivCo, and the trails that take you there.



PAPERMILL FALLS

At Papermill Park in Avon Difficulty: Good for All Levels, Handicap Accessible Dogs: Leashed Dogs Welcome

Other waterfalls may have more height, but they don't have more grandeur than Papermill Falls. From the hills above, water pours down over shelves and cracks across the 30-foot-wide waterfall. The closest viewpoint follows a short trail from the parking lot to the falls, where you can stay at the base or head to the top. The waterfall is also easily viewed from the parking lot or the neighboring bridge, making these falls easily chased by adventurers of all accessibility levels.

KESHEQUA CREEK

In Sonyea State Forest Difficulty: Low to Medium Dogs: Leashed Dogs Welcome Ready to spend an afternoon chasing falls? Head to the Sonyea State Forest and find Keshequa Creek, a winding gorge trail with multiple falls along the way. This 4-mile trail is fairly level but longer, and you'll want to plan accordingly with snacks and water. The trail is wellmaintained but not marked, so download the trail map before you head out. Spring can be buggy in the gorge and you'll appreciate having bug spray on hand.



In Hemlock-Canadice State Forest Difficulty: Good for All Levels Dogs: Leashed Dogs Welcome

FALL BROOK FALLS

Private Land in Geneseo Difficulty: Medium Dogs: Not allowed

One of the tallest falls in Western New York, Fall Brook Fall's 70foot drop is worth the hike. The 1mile out-and-back trail isn't long, but covers challenging terrain through the gorge, across slippery creek banks, and over wet rocks.

Don't attempt this hike on your

own. Fall Brook Falls is on private property and only accessible with a guided tour from Trail Otter, an outfitter store based in Leicester, New York. The trailhead is just a short drive from their store, and their expert guidance ensures that the giant sycamores, fossils, and other natural wonders along your way won't go unnoticed.

WHILE EXPLORING:

- Bring along a pair of binoculars to spy our avian friends high in the sky as warming weather welcomes the return of many migratory bird species.
- Pack a snack and an extra water bottle and embark on an afternoon of exploration with your dog.
- Grab a blanket and a book and spend some time just relaxing by the falls.

This short trail beckons hikers of all levels to enjoy the fleeting beauty of spring waterfalls. Park your car in a gravel lot where the trailhead starts and explore a mostly-level 1.5-mile out-and-back trail. Your route follows a creek bed to a series of six waterfalls, the tallest of which tumbles down nine feet on its way to Hemlock Lake. Three of the falls are on clearly marked private property, but can be easily enjoyed from the public trail.



GOOD EATS

Something Strange is Brewing...

Something strange is brewing at LivCo's newest craft beer destination.

Strange Design Public House has a name as fascinating as its history. The first part, "strange design" is taken from a Phish song. The second part, "public house" represents the desire of owners Tommy and Kristi Streamer to create a "third space", a gathering place outside of your home open to the public.

Restoring a piece of local history.

The name is only half of the story. Strange Design has the honor of being housed in a 19th century Poor House. Originally built in the mid-1800s, the Livingston County Home, as it was called, was part of a state-run campus that housed disadvantaged people. The building that now holds Strange Design served as the men's dormitory.

The last residents of the County Home moved out in the 1960s and the building was sold and left to disrepair in the 1980s. The start of its second chance came in 2010 when local developer Greg O'Connell purchased the building. O'Connell is a SUNY Geneseo alumni and active investor in small towns. He played a major part in the revitalization of Mount Morris and then turned his eye towards Geneseo.

The building started renovation and restoration in 2018, yet visitors today will see much of the same architecture as the early residents of the County Home did. O'Connell took pains to preserve and restore many original features, including the interior doors and windows.



SCAN TO EXPLORE



EXPLORE THE Livingston Libation Loop

Raise a glass.

Strange Design is a brewery with rotating taps of their latest brews, so you'll be able to try something new no matter how often you stop by. It's also one of eleven stops on the Livingston Libation Loop, a craft beverage trail featuring local breweries, wineries, and cideries.

Strange Design Public House // Road

Stopping by for a drink is a great way to soak up the history and energy of Strange Design, but if you want to see the space at its best, come for brunch.

Chefs Teddy Barnes and Nick Snyder are a dynamic team using their talents to create seasonal and themed specials. The Strange Design menu emulates the mantra "something similar but different" so you'll recognize many traditional menu items along with unique twists. The menu changes seasonally to incorporate as many local ingredients as possible. They have rotating weekly specials, a seasonal menu, and 16 beers on tap, plus other local offerings. They also offer vegetarian and kid's options, making it a truly inclusive third space for everyone.

MAY 08

MUST-SEE EVENT

Million and MILE

Strange Design Public

r Photography

DRAG ME TO BRUNCH

Strange Design Public House

Cheers to Sunday brunch.

Stopping by for a drink is a great way to soak up the history and energy of Strange Design, but if you want to see the space at its best, come for brunch. The menu changes seasonally to incorporate as many local ingredients as possible.

You will enjoy a menu of comfort food and breakfast bites including avocado toast with goat cheese and shaved red onion, a piping hot plate of chicken wings sauced with a maple glaze, a side of hot sauce hollandaise and crumbly blue cheese, a plate of house made corned beef hash with two eggs and white BBQ sauce, and much more. Brunch at Strange Design Public House is a Sunday staple you won't want to miss.



MORE BRUNCH SPOTS YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS:

SCOVILL'S GRILL

Spend Sunday on the Links

Scovill's Grill on the Brae Burn Golf Course offers up fan favorites for brunch, including egg sandwiches, breakfast burgers, and quesadillas. Craving a slice of breakfast pizza? They've got that too.

WHISTLING FARMER PUB

Farm-to-Table All Day Long

The Whistling Farmer Pub in Nunda is a modern farm-to-table gastropub with a brunch menu that includes staple favorites and a list of weekly specials so there's always something new and delicious to try.

GALENE Brunch by the Water

Galene's New American Restaurant has some of the best views of Conesus Lake and an elevated brunch menu. Dig into an egg sandwich, plate of salmon, or a made-from-scratch dessert, all with stunning lake views.

CRICKET'S COFFEE

Dine Downtown with Friends

If you believe brunch is an all-day affair, Cricket's Coffee in downtown Geneseo is the place for you. You can order brunch all day, every day, with options ranging from smoothies and overnight oats to decadent toasts, egg sandwiches, and even toasted PB&Js. Best of all, they have vegan, glutenfree, and dairy-free options.

Embracing Farmstead Hospitality

There's a different pace of life in the countryside, governed by changing seasons instead of ticking clocks. The springtime is the perfect chance to embrace a slower style of life.

Our local farmsteads welcome you to slow down, take time for yourself, and reconnect with nature. Whether you're stopping to stay overnight or just making a quick detour along the way, our farmsteads will welcome you into a rural way of life.



Unwind at Charlton Farm.

Charlton Farm, located in Avon, New York, was built in 1894 by J. Foster Warner, the renowned architect who built the George Eastman House in Rochester, New York. The farm sits on 30 acres of pristine countryside that are open for your exploration. Guests of this B&B are welcome to explore the working farm and interact with the many animals that live there, including alpacas, sheep, chickens and bunnies. A springtime stay here puts you in the midst of a world reborn, with new life around every corner.

Book the Great Oak room for your stay, the largest room featuring its own private bathroom with a soaking tub combo shower, a private fireplace, a king size bed, a walk-in closet, and beautiful views of the grounds.

Once you arrive, get lost wandering the farm, let the hours drift lazily by from the front porch, and relax into the simple pace of life. Borrow a canoe or a bike for a different pace of exploration and end the day watching the stars out at the firepit.









SCAN TO EXPLORE MORE PLACES TO STAY

Lauren Page Wadsworth Photography

Try your hand at horseback riding at Nunda Ranch.

Equestrianism is a way of life in LivCo, and you can embrace that at Nunda Ranch. This 50-acre ranch lets you live your best cowboy life with riding lessons, trail rides, and even horse leasing!

Just five miles away from Letchworth State Park, the ranch has sweeping views of the surrounding countryside. If a day isn't enough time to spend with the horses, you can rent their luxurious guest house or the authentic ranch hand cabin.

Shop farm fresh products & goods straight from the source.

The Genesee River Valley is home to a variety of farm fresh products and goods sourced from the land. Embrace your rural roots and enjoy a farmstead lifestyle with a stop at one of our local farm stands, u-picks, or farmers markets in the region. Enjoy everything from locally roasted coffee to body scrubs, candles and more.

FIRE CREEK FARMS

Livonia, New York

Owned by husband and wife, Kylie and Jake Stevens, Fire Creek Farms raises pigs, cows, chickens, turkeys, and bees in addition to growing hay, soybeans, and wheat. They focus on using green, environmentally sustainable growing methods, natural fertilizers, beneficial insects, and honeybees.

Stop by their on-site Fire Creek Farms Store to pick up locally sourced products, fresh eggs and produce, meats, and their custom-made kitchen items including cutting boards and coffee mugs.

PROMETHEUS FARMS

Livonia, New York

Located on a hill above Conesus Lake, Prometheus Farms is an organic farm market offering home-grown produce and plants. You can shop around or stop in the onsite café for homemade baked goods and locally roasted coffee. On your way out, don't forget to stop by the goats and say hi!

KB WHITE FARMS

Conesus, New York

Tucked on 16.5 acres of pristine hillside land, KB White Farms is run by a family of five who traded the city life for the simplicity of rural living. Well, if you consider owning horses, goats, chickens, ducks, and turkeys while managing a garden and creating products a simple life!

They make self-care and home goods including soaps, balms, teas, lotions, body scrubs, candles and more. What started as a family hobby quickly grew into the business of providing products with safe, wholesome ingredients that come directly from the farm.



Geneseo Farmers Market // Keith Walters Photography



meet our local

makers, creators, & shakers

ANNA PROUTY

Geek Chic Floral Boutique

Spring brings the return of fresh blooms and colorful bouquets, but for Anna Prouty, flowers are a yearround project.

Anna is the owner of Geek Chic Floral Boutique located in downtown Avon and she makes bouquets unlike anything you've ever seen before. These flowers hold their beauty for years, never wilt, and won't trigger any allergies.

How? Anna is a faux flower florist who specializes in wood and paper arrangements. She creates custom wedding bouquets, event arrangements, and home centerpieces that are as long-lasting as they are beautiful.

Previously an accountant, Anna got her start in floral arrangements when her husband gifted her a wood bouquet. A self-described "sentimental junkie", Anna was touched by the romantic notion of preserving her wedding bouquet forever, and knew she needed to do the same for others.

Her flowers are made from a variety of paper and wood products, including sola wood which creates a realistic look and petal texture.



// Roads Two Travel Photography



Anna includes her bridal couples in every step of the creation process, for a truly one-of-a-kind bouquet that you won't get anywhere else. There's no need to stick to the ordinary, Anna loves creating themed and unusual bouquets, incorporating your favorite books, movies, or TV shows in creative ways.

If that isn't enough, you can go beyond a bridal bouquet and use Anna's flowers for every part of your wedding, including the corsage, ceremony décor and reception. Best of all, once the party's over your flowers will live on, no pressing or drying necessary.

"The flowers never die, so it is very important to me that the couple truly loves what I create for them."

Though most of her orders are special requests, Anna owns Geek Chic Floral Boutique in Avon where visitors can stop by and see her incredible work for themselves. If you were skeptical about the beauty of paper flowers before, you won't be once you see the magic Anna works.


LivCo Walls

NINE VILLAGES. NINE MURALS. NINE FESTIVALS.

LivCo Walls Mural Festival will bring worldclass artists to create nine high-quality murals — one in each village of Livingston County during the month of July. The murals will be unveiled over the course of three weekends with festivals in each village.



Lauren Page

Livonia Bloc

VISI



This year, a new kind of festival is coming to Livingston County.

Everyone wants to live somewhere beautiful. When art meets public space, the end result is more than a mural, it's an inviting gathering space for locals and visitors alike.

At the intersection of art and community, the LivCo Walls Mural Festival celebrates the people and spaces that make our communities great. Over the course of three weeks, from July 9th to July 23rd, nine world-class artists will converge in LivCo to create stunning murals in nine villages.

Each mural will be painted by a skilled muralist who was competitively selected to work in LivCo and has a matter of weeks to turn their vision into a reality.

Each of these villages has a vibrant, beating heart that welcomes residents and visitors alike to wander the walkable streets, visit family-owned businesses, and enjoy a sense of life without all the hustle and bustle. These murals are more than intricately designed works of art, they provide a vibrant backdrop and a sense of pride for our communities.

The purpose of art is to bring people together, so over the course of the mural festival, there will also be events and celebrations! Enjoy food, drinks, dancing, and laughter as we gather to celebrate the best of what it means to be a community.

FOLLOW THE ART

DISCOVER MILES OF ART ON THE INSPIRATIONS TRAIL.

The Livingston County Inspirations Trail started in 2020 as a way to promote public art in the downtown districts of our nine villages.

The Inspirations Trail was created as a 90mile self-guided art tour through the nine downtowns district of Livingston County. The mission of the trail is to use art to inspire and encourage locals and visitors to discover new businesses and destinations. Artists will create sustainable public art pieces that can be enjoyed for years to come.

From downtown villages to inspiring views — this is a trail of Inspiration. Murals, sculptures, storefront displays — we challenge you to find them all! Find out more about the trail at inspirationstrail.com.



IVAN ROQUE

💡 From Miami, Florida

💿 ivanjroque

Painting in the Village of Avon

Ivan J. Roque is a Cuban-American artist from Miami, Florida with a passion for the concepts of birth, death, time, renewal and social dynamics. He has a Bachelor's of Art degree in Visual Arts and is primarily a spray paint and acrylic artist that has been doing murals internationally since 2010.

TIM PARSLEY

From Fort Wayne, Indiana timparsley Painting in the Village of Caledonia

Tim Parsley is a public artist, educator, and professor of studio art at the University of Saint Francis teaching courses in mural painting and public art. He has created numerous large-scale murals, nationally and internationally and utilizes references from American history in his work.





ARLIN GRAFF

- 💡 From São Paulo, Brazil
- 🖸 arlin_graff
- Painting in the Village of Dansville

Arlin Graff is Brazilian, with a very distinct style that gives life to his abstract creations which seem to be emerging from a digital work. Graff's work represents a type of deconstructionism, inspired by his childhood and his art can be found all over the globe, from Brazil to France.



KEY DETAIL

From Minsk, Belarus 💡 keydetail 💿 Painting in the Village of Geneseo 🔪

Internationally renowned KEY DETAIL is a husband-wife team. Andrei Krautsou and Julia Yu-Baba are mural artists who also work with paintings and illustrations, creating mural art for more than twenty years. They travel with their two young children, Max and Andy.

KACY JACKSON

- 💡 From Louisville, Kentucky
- O theartofkacy
- / Painting in the Village of Leicester

A Louisville native, Kacy Jackson is best known for his brightly colored murals around Louisville, Kentucky, including one of legendary boxer Muhammad Ali. He launched his own business, The Art of Kacy, in 2017.

ABIGAIL PENFOLD

From East Aurora, New York abigailleepenfold Painting in the Village of Lima

Abigail Penfold is a working artist/painter from East Aurora, New York who primarily uses acrylics and oils. She received a B.F.A. concentrating in painting and drawing from SUNY Plattsburgh and spent many years in California working for a trompe l'oeil mural painter while developing her own murals and canvas pieces.





JUSTIN SUAREZ

From Rochester, New York
aerosolkingdom

Painting in the Village of Livonia

Born on a family farm in upstate New York, Justin Suarez is an artist who brings together the rural and the urban. Celebrating wildlife, he paints flora and fauna flawlessly over concrete and brick. With over 18 years of experience, he is able to capture the majesty of the natural world through his explosive graphics and remarkable technique.

OUIZI

From Detroit, Michigan **9** 0uizi Painting in the Village of Mount Morris

Louise Jones aka 0uizi (née Chen), was born and raised in Santa Monica, California and is best known for her large-scale floral mural installations, often depicting site-specific plants and animals. Her techniques are informed by her education in drawing and printmaking, as well as an early introduction to Georgia O'Keeffe.





MATTHEW MEDERER

- **P** From Chicago, Illinois
- o cooldiscorich
 - Painting in the Village of Nunda

A self-taught artist, Matthew Mederer, has been pushing boundaries and promoting original ideas through his artwork for over 20 years. His depth and breadth of styles, ranging from graffiti to realism, has helped him realize an original body of work with a signature style combining realism and optical illusions.

Meet two locals helping create public art.

Public art enriches communities and beautifies villages. We aim to include locals in the creation of beautiful art through an educational apprentice program this summer.

In addition to the nine world-class muralists visiting Livingston County this summer, we are excited to incorporate apprentices in the LivCo Walls Mural Festival! The Apprentice Program offers aspiring artists the chance to garner valuable experience installing large-scale murals with our festival muralists. Apprentices will learn how to scale a mural design to fit a building, learn about different mediums, and expand their artist network! All nine muralists will work with apprentices including two of our local apprentices below.



ERIN SWEENEY

Erin Sweeney grew up on Conesus Lake and now lives in Geneseo where she runs a small framing business. Erin is an acrylic painter and collage artist in the early stages of building her art career. Erin applied to be an apprentice because she loves Geneseo, wants to see it elevated through art, and learn from an experienced muralist.

BILL WHITE

Owner of the Caledonia studio, the Village Gallery, Bill White has been a professional painter for 60 years. Bill spent over 40 years as a Professor at Hollins University teaching Drawing and Painting and Modern Art History. Bill will apprentice in Caledonia on a mural just steps away from his studio.



Sidewalk Showcase

90 MILES OF ART. INSPIRATION AT EVERY TURN.

As part of the Inspiration Trail, the Sidewalk Showcase will be a self-guided art tour through our nine downtown districts showcasing more than 100 works of art. The pieces are designed by local artists and created on wooden boards using different mediums incorporating inspirational words or phrases. The art will be displayed in storefront windows throughout the summer.

Fall in love with Nells Barns

ROMANCE IN THE VALLEY

43 | HEART OF THE GENESEE RIVER VALLEY

Lauren Page Wadsworth Photography

What better backdrop for your big day than a world bursting into bloom?

If you're looking for an elegantly rustic wedding venue, consider a Wells Barn. Perfect for the couple seeking a historic yet unpretentious place to celebrate, a Wells Barn wedding is the ideal venue in the countryside.

Get married in a one-of-a-kind piece of history.

A Wells Barn signifies a barn built by John Wells, a 19th-century barn builder. Born in nearby Scottsville, Wells trademarked a revolutionary way of building barns that removed the need for any inside structural support and instead created a country cathedral.

While a Wells Barn may look much like any other on the outside, inside the ceilings soar high uninterrupted, supported by giant arches. What appears as nothing more than a historic barn is revealed to be a country cathedral; with arched ceiling supports, a wide-open interior space, and plenty of room for dancing, dinner, and merriment. Wells' design created a layout like no other, a wide-open space that makes a celebration of any size feel like a grand party.

These barns are unique to the Northeast. Most were built around the Genesee River Valley although Wells did travel to the Hudson Valley, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Maine for a few builds. Though Wells and his team built over 200 bars, today just over 40 remain. Driving through the countryside, you can easily identify a Wells Barn by its pointed and slanted roof shape.





AVON CENTURY BARN

Built in 1913, the Avon Century Barn is a quintessential Wells Barn with high ceilings, a cathedral interior space, and sloped roofing. Unless you asked, you'd never know your stunning venue was once a functional livestock barn.

The structure has remained unchanged but the inside has been renovated and restored, with glistening chandeliers, decorative lights strung from the ceiling, and dramatic drapings to create a magical space. The open layout provides options to make every couple's dream come true. Outside, the impeccably maintained grounds provide the feeling of stepping back in time to when the barn was first raised.

OAK KNOLLS MANOR

Tucked on over 300 acres of pristine country land, the Oak Knolls Manor in Caledonia is everything you've dreamed of in a country escape. The 1890 Wells Barn on the property is a fully rehabbed blank slate that brings elegance and reverence to any wedding. With striking chandeliers, sweeping 36-foot ceilings, and plenty of room for your closest friends and family, Oak Knolls Manor has everything you need to make your dream a reality.

This is the only known 2-part Wells Barn where a smaller barn is connected into a larger one, giving you a multitude of options for layout and event flow. Your day will be easy with an on-site bridal suite with stunning valley views.

Ah, spring, when the air turns warm and the days grow longer once again.

It's the perfect time of the year to get away to somewhere new. In need of a restful weekend away with family and friends? LivCo is where the best memories are made!

Get away from it all in the rolling hills of the Genesee River Valley, where there's plenty of space to let kids be kids and reconnect with old friends. With museums, horseback riding, farm adventures, and more, you'll find all the ideas and inspiration you need to make your next trip the best getaway. Your weekend is booked with a springtime getaway to Livingston County.



THURSDAY

Arrive in York for your first overnight at the **Country Carriage House at the Hillcrest Estate.** Built in the 1870s, the Carriage House is part of the 120-acre Hillcrest Estate. You'll get to stay in the farmhouse chic "mansion in the woods" that blends modern amenities with a slower pace of life. Enjoy a drink on the porch after you settle in, and let the peace of the countryside wash over you.

When you're hungry, head to dinner at **Euro Café** in Geneseo. This Eastern European cafe and deli serves authentic Polish food based on traditional family recipes. Owners Margaret Zdzieszynski and Krystyna Skrzypek offer an expansive menu of dishes including potato pancakes, pierogies, salads, and desserts.



Country Carriage House // Hudson Street Studios











FRIDAY

Start your day with a revitalizing yoga session at **True North Farms.** This working produce and cow farm offers yoga sessions in a heated barn, overlooking the property. Let each breath revive you as you move through the poses in a stunning country escape. Owner Molly Cummings ties her classes to the changing of the seasons, creating a welcoming and inclusive space for yogis of all levels. After you've said namaste, grab coffee and breakfast at **Cricket's Coffee Company** in Geneseo. Cricket's believes in all-day brunch, so you can order pancakes or french toast any time of the day. If you're looking for something lighter, try a smoothie or the B.E.S.T breakfast sandwich. When you're done, the walkable streets in the **Village of Geneseo** invite you to stretch your legs. In the afternoon, head to Linwood to **Dublin Corners Farm Brewery.** A "nano" brewery serving up taps of freshly made local brews, Dublin Corners Farm Brewery is the place to kick back and relax with a glass of something cold and tasty. Not a beer fan? They also have hard ciders, local wines and alcohol-free options!

Third Eye Catcher Photography





JUNE 04

TO ELEVAN

MUST-SEE EVENT NYS YOGA FESTIVAL

• Letchworth State Park

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SATURDAY

Fuel up for a day of exploration with breakfast at the **Cozy Kitchen** in Caledonia. Known for their breakfast offerings and comfort food, the Cozy Kitchen has been serving up delicious meals for over 20 years. Choose from breakfast favorites like the sampler or Lumberjack plate or create your own frittata.

When you're full, head south to Dansville. Your accommodations are in the heart of the Village, tucked over the iconic Angie's Ice Cream! The **Sweet Retreat Airbnb** has room for the whole family to comfortably fit and direct access to the **Village of Dansville** Main Street, with food, drinks, and ice cream just steps away. Get your afternoon caffeine fix with a coffee flight from local roasters at **Homegrown Coffee Bar.** This coffee bar serves freshly roasted coffees, flights, lattes, teas, and options for kids along with freshly baked pastries.

Make time to stop at the **Dansville Dogwood Festival!** The blooming dogwoods have been celebrated since the 1960s and nothing says spring like the Dogwood Festival. This week-long event kicks off with a parade and continues with craft shows, a carnival, community BBQ, live music, and lots of beautiful blooms.



Once you've had your fill of festivities, head to **Caffe Tazza** on Main Street. Known for their woodfired pizzas and signature cocktails, the menu at Caffe Tazza is sure to delight and satisfy.

Finish off the night with homemade ice cream at **Angie's Ice Cream.** The vintage ice cream parlor beneath your AirBnB serves up delicious homemade ice cream in a variety of classic and unusual flavors. Try a homemade waffle cone, an ice cream float, or get everything your heart desires with a loaded sundae. They also have cookie dough ice cream pies!





SUNDAY

Start your morning off with a stroll down Dansville Main Street, in the heart of the village, with easily walkable streets filled with art, shopping, and unique delights from locally owned businesses.

After enjoying the village, head out to explore **Stony Brook State Park.** The rugged gorge that cuts through the park is a smaller version of Letchworth State Park where you can hike, explore deep and shallow pools, and even stand under one of the many waterfalls! The North Entrance has a picnic area with tables, grills, and restrooms, making it the perfect place to set up for the day. You can head over to one of the many playfields or start down one of three hiking trails that lead you up, over, and through the gorge, passing waterfalls, pools, and more along the way.

On your way out, stop for a bite at **Scovill's Grill.** Located on the Brae Burn Golf Course, Scovill's offers big city flavors with small-town hospitality. They use locally-raised beef and fresh local ingredients to craft their expansive menu. With classics like bruschetta and Reuben sandwiches paired with out-of-the-box offerings like chicken parm eggrolls and the local favorite chicken french, there's something to satisfy every taste.





Getting Here

Driving to the Genesee River Valley is the preferred transportation method for most visitors to Livingston County. Our roads are calm and scenic vistas draw you from one destination to the next. In Livingston County, traffic jams are practically non-existent (you might be behind a tractor or two), but there are no long lines of cars in sight. Parking is easy throughout all nine downtown villages. But if you choose to travel by another means, we have tips on that too.

On the Western Edge of the Finger Lakes Region, Livingston County is only a short drive from three major upstate New York cities, which are accessible by bus, train, and air travel. Rochester (ROC) is less than 30 minutes north of Geneseo (the seat of Livingston County), while Buffalo (BUF) is about 70 minutes west, and Syracuse (SYR) is about 90 minutes to the east. Rochester, Syracuse, and Buffalo each have an airport, bus, and train station.

Driving to Livingston County

Albany
Boston
Cleveland
Erie, PA
New York City
Niagara Falls, NY
Pittsburg
Toronto

7 Hours 4 Hours 2 ¹/₂ Hours 5 Hours 1 ¹/₂ Hours 5 Hours

3 Hours

4 Hours

Airports Near By

ROC - Rochester, NY (30 Minutes) BUF - Buffalo, NY (70 Minutes) SYR - Syracuse, NY (90 Minutes) KDSV - Dansville Municipal Airport

While every effort is made to provide accurate and up-to-date information, specific details are subject to change. Travelers are advised to confirm the specifics of each listing before making plans.

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OFFICIAL SPRING TRAVEL GUIDE TO LIVINGSTON COUNTY, NY VISITLIVCO.COM