

VISIT LIVCO

SHOP LOCAL | INDOOR ADVENTURES | COMFORT FOOD



WINTER ISSUE 2022

VISITLIVCO.COM

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!

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.

Livingston County Tourism Winter Issue.
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Front Cover:

Third Eye Catcher Photography

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Lauren Page Wadsworth 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, make LivCo your basecamp for one-of-a-kind outdoor recreation, shopping, dining, lodging, and cultural experiences — all in the heart of the Genesee River Valley.

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

PLAN AHEAD

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

LEAVE WHAT YOU FIND

Preserve the past. Observe rocks, plants and artifacts.

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.

PACK IN, PACK OUT

Inspect your rest area for wrappers, trash or spilled food. Be sure to pack up all the litter you have. 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.

STAY ON THE TRAIL

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



ENJOY HAPPILY

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



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  @VISITLIVCO

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

LEARN MORE AT VISITLIVCO.COM

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.



A playlist for your journey.

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



Wintertime



Photo: Lee Calisher/Philborn/My

**WE LIKE TO SAY
THAT WINTER IS
WHAT YOU MAKE
OF IT HERE IN
LIVCO.**

With the busyness of the holidays upon us, don't fret, there's still time for snowy hikes and chilly nights on the ice rink. Restaurants become warm gathering spots for socializing and enjoying authentic cuisine from local chefs. And travel – whether you're visiting or planning a cozy staycation – is something out of a storybook, with snow-covered trails, trees, and historic homes.



Pro tips: get the right coat, a good set of tires, and cultivate an appreciation for the great outdoors, and you'll look forward to this season each year. So hunker down – but don't become a hermit. There's plenty to do inside and out during the snowier months.

EXPLORE THE OUTDOORS

When the daylight shortens and the temperature drops, the Genesee River Valley transforms into a winter wonderland. Yes, it's cold. But with pristine woodlands and rolling hills, even the warmest blooded among us turns into a winter lover. Travelers come from miles around to enjoy exactly what winter should be, an outdoor playground where adventurers head off on skis, snowshoes, and sleds alike, only to return and warm their fingers in front of a roaring fire.

LETCWORTH STATE PARK

As if being home to one of the nation's greatest state parks wasn't enough, Letchworth State Park is open during the winter, and access is free to the public. Surround yourself with the beauty of cascading waterfalls and deep gorges as you stroll, drive, hike, or partake in winter offerings such as snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, horseback riding, and snow tubing. Extend your visit by staying overnight at one of the many cabins and lodging options open in the winter.

HARRIET HOLLISTER STATE PARK

Located south of Honeoye Lake, this 22-mile park features notable snow coverage and multi-use trails. While you can visit many state parks in the warmer season, Harriet Hollister State Park is known as a winter hub where everyone meets for snowmobiling, snowshoeing, and skiing.

If you're visiting for the first time, we recommend starting by making your way to the scenic view for a jaw-dropping overlook of the Finger Lakes region. Pack a bag with your favorite hot beverage in a canteen and strap your snowshoes on to begin your journey and get a lay of the land. Visit the park's website for a handy map that categorizes trails by activity (Tip: there's a designated snowshoeing trail marked on the map).

After stopping at a picnic site to re-energize, grab your skis and head to your trail of choice (color-coded on the map by difficulty: easy, moderate, difficult). If there's not a lot of snow on the ground in towns nearby, don't let that stop you — the 2,200-foot elevation of the park makes for heavy layers of snow packed across the trails. If you're still hungry for more outdoor exploration (and there's daylight left), wrap up with a hike back to the car!



Letchworth State Park
Lauren Page Wadsworth Photography

IT'S NOT SNOW BAD

**Make the most
out of winter in
the outdoors**

It's easy to stay cooped up inside when it's 20 degrees outside, but you won't want to miss out on the snowy adventures you'll find in LivCo.

Going into hibernation as soon as the first flurries fly is tempting. Although it's nice to enjoy the warmth of the indoors, winter is a beautiful time of year and there are so many activities to enjoy outdoors all winter.

Winter offers opportunities to do things you just can't do in the summer. Maybe try snowshoeing across a lake or grab some friends and go ice fishing, you never know what you'll discover. Here are some of our favorite ways to enjoy the outdoors in the Genesee River Valley.



CHOOSE YOUR ADVENTURE

No winter trip to Western New York is complete without exploring the Genesee River Valley. You'll be dreaming of these winter woods long after you leave! Our winter playground caters to all skill levels, from sledding enthusiasts to snowmobile lovers and long-distance skiers. Even the hot cocoa fans will find themselves putting on mittens and lacing up boots to not miss out on the fun!

WINTER TRAIL RIDING

Horseback riding has a long history in the Finger Lakes, and with good reason – it's the perfect way to get exercise, fresh air, and connect with an animal. Sightsee while you listen to the soft sounds of winter along the horseback riding trails of Livingston County along a trail ride at Letchworth Farm or Nunda Ranch, and appreciate the roots of the land through stories told by riding guides. Reservations for your reconnection with nature can be made online.

ICE FISHING

Surrounding yourself with a community of other ice fishers while sitting on a frozen lake, taking quick breaks for drinks and indulgent snacks, is really the winter version of tailgating. This inexpensive pastime is beginner-friendly and great for family bonding, socializing with your best buds, or taking a restful escape outside. Ice fishing is all about the process, so if you're lucky enough to catch one of the more than 13 species of fish native to Conesus Lake, Hemlock Lake, and the DEC Office Pond, it's cause for a celebration!

HIKING WITH MICROSPIKES

If you're the type who worries about going on winter hikes because of slippery ice and snow, there's an easy solution at hand. With microspikes, your adventure becomes a walk in the park (literally) – and best of all, it doesn't damage nature. Designed as a traction aid, microspikes make every step a safe and fun one, so you can enjoy looking at your surroundings entirely instead of watching where you walk. Buy the traction footwear at your local outfitter or retailer.

FAT TIRE BIKING

There's no need to halt outdoor activities once the temperature drops! With a fat tire bike, you can carry your love for summer rides to the winter. Chances are, many of your preferred trails are accessible in all seasons. Fat tire bikes are designed to traverse snow, allowing for a transformed, smooth ride. Once the snow melts, your fat tire bike remains an essential piece of equipment for riding any type of landscape – think mountains, sandy beaches, and muddy woods.

BRING YOUR PUP ALONG!

Take your furry friend on your winter hike, just be sure to keep your dog safe, warm, and comfortable in the colder months.



WINTER BIRDING AND WILDLIFE WATCHING

Some of the best outdoor winter destinations are also top-ranking for observing birds and wildlife in their natural habitats. Conesus Lake and the Conesus Inlet Fish and Wildlife Management Area are home to Tundra Swans, Canvasback, and Redhead that can be seen from overlooks; then continue your birding and wildlife-watching adventure by taking a short drive to MacKay Wildlife Preserve, which is home to various plants and species of birds.

SLEDDING

Sledding can be a fun winter outing for the whole family, just be sure to get bundled up in warm, waterproof layers before heading to the hills. Get your sledding fix on the gentle hills of the Avon Driving Park, steeper hills at Starr Park in Leicester, or in Letchworth State Park where you can also enjoy hot cocoa and snacks at the trailside lodge. Be sure to check the weather beforehand and grab your favorite sled for your next outing.



Starr Hill
Lauren Page Wadsworth Photography

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

Combining exercise, socialization, and time outside when the weather is cold can be as easy as cross-country skiing! Glide across thick layers of snow and observe the depths of land in the Finger Lakes. Choose your favorite park in the area (we know, how can you choose a favorite?!) and plan for a day of exploration. Several parks have trails perfect for an afternoon out, including Genesee Valley Greenway State Park and Letchworth State Park.



Lauren Page Wadsworth Photography

SNOWSHOEING

If you've ever wondered what it would feel like to be weightless as you drift across freshly packed snow, it's time to try snowshoeing. This 4,000-year-old activity makes for a leisurely outing, and our friends at Trail Otter in downtown Leicester can help you find snowshoes for a calorie-burning journey across the terrain – available to rent or buy!

FRESH AIR LOVERS

BELIEVE IN THE PURSUIT OF SUSTAINABILITY

LivCo has an abundance of natural resources, and we take the preservation of these areas seriously. Much of our land has remained unchanged for centuries, and we intend to keep it that way for generations to come. The Genesee Valley Conservancy is a local organization with over 29,000 acres of land in the Genesee Valley Watershed under protection. Visit their website to learn how you can get involved with their efforts.

SCAN TO EXPLORE



FAMILY FRIENDLY

Indoor ADVENTURES

WINTER FUN FOR EVERYONE

Winter is prime time for exploring the best of LivCo, with plenty of adventure and few crowds. Plan a fun-filled getaway of indoor adventures in the Genesee River Valley. You'll leave with memories and stories of one epic family vacation.



SUNRISE BOULDERING

Geneseo, New York

Unleash your kiddo's energy at LivCo's one-and-only climbing gym! Hang for the day with daily pricing or join the bouldering community by purchasing a membership. Need to borrow a pair of special climbing shoes? They've got you covered. Sunrise Bouldering has plenty of gear to rent at affordable prices. Bonus: Nurses, police officers, firefighters, and postal service workers receive a 10% discount on day passes and gear rentals. But wait, there's more! Sunrise Bouldering also features a coffee shop and food trailer, Cosmic Charlie Cafe, which offers espresso, burritos, and other delicious treats as well as a comfortable setting for meeting with friends or coworkers.



Sunrise Bouldering
Wild Big Camp Photography



Star Theatre
Roads Two Travel Photography

STAR THEATRE

Dansville, New York

The sparkle and spontaneity of going to the movies is embodied in legendary local theater, the Star Theatre in Dansville, which celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2021. This theater boasts a classical interior with updated surround sound and visual projections. Plus you can book private showings or events.

GENESEO THEATERS

Geneseo, New York

Spend the night at the movies at the Geneseo Theaters, a locally owned cinema with six theaters. Geneseo Theater's digital projectors complement luxury seating. With unbeatable prices only attainable at a local level, this theater plays the latest box office hits. Adults and kids can see a movie for between \$7 - \$9.25.



MINNEHAN'S FUN CENTER

Lakeville, New York

Travel back in time playing games like Skee-Ball and Air Hockey while the kids jump with excitement over the colorful designs and intriguing sounds of new electronic games. If a video arcade isn't enough to entice 'em, in another room awaits a discovery zone with a giant ball pit and a bounce house. There's a reason Minnehah's Fun Center in Lakeville is the go-to place for family fun year-round – grab all those coins from between the couch cushions to redeem them for game tokens, pack up the car, and head over!



LIVINGSTON LANES

Geneseo, New York

This two-in-one classic bowling alley and pub in Geneseo combines the vibrancy of family bowling with the laid-back atmosphere of a pub. Their wide-ranging menu guarantees that even the pickiest of eaters (we see you, parents) will be satisfied, with items like pretzels, quesadillas, pizza, and jumbo wings. Pricing for bowling is per hour and includes shoe rental. Swing by on a Tuesday for open bowling, when prices are as low as \$3 per game.



MT. MORRIS LANES

Mount Morris, New York

With a reputation built over 50 years, Mt. Morris Lanes is for families and leagues (they even have a youth league for active youngsters). Their competitive pricing, lengthy menu with kids' specials as low as \$4.99, and late-night bowling keep people coming back year after year. Planning to pop confetti for a family member's birthday this season? Mt. Morris Lanes has party packages that include bowling, shoe rentals, a souvenir bowling pin, game punch cards, and more.



RAIDER LANES

Caledonia, New York

Located in downtown Caledonia in an historical building constructed in 1893, Raider Lanes draws crowds for its glow-in-the-dark bowling nights, party packages, bar and grill menu featuring homemade pizza, and special seasonal events. Hang out to play darts and pool, have a couple of drinks, and listen to live music, or bring the whole family for an affordable evening of bowling!



FIND MORE TO DO WITH KIDS

CHECK THINGS OFF YOUR FAMILY BUCKET LIST

Gather 'round parents and guardians. Planning a trip with kids can feel like a full-time job, but we've got your back. Whether you need interactive play, a captivating show, or just some space for the kids to be kids, you'll find it here. Check out all the latest attractions and destinations for kids, including free things to do!



WINTER wellness



Body & Face by Kristin
Third Eye Catcher Photography

DAY SPAS, YOGA STUDIOS, AND WELLNESS CENTERS TO HEAL YOURSELF THIS SEASON



Let's face it, we often don't give ourselves enough rest, relaxation, and time to rejuvenate. When we get caught up in the chaos of life, it can be easy to forget the toll this can take on our bodies. And sometimes, resetting your mental and physical health requires more than a 20-minute meditation session or sweaty HIIT class. Sometimes, making a real change means doing away with long-held habits and shifting your mindset — things that are much easier when you can step away from the grind of daily life and retreat to a place that supports your desire for rejuvenation.

When it comes to self-care, a massage or facial typically come to mind, but what you may not know, is that there are tons of ways to feel better and heal. From taking a new yoga class to trying acupuncture for the first time, if you're interested in treating yourself to something new, we know just the right places.

DAY SPAS

When it comes to treating yourself, the go-to option should 100% be a spa day. It is the ultimate form of rest and relaxation that we could all use from time to time. If you're looking to splurge a little, these spas are going all out when it comes to luxury amenities and services. Trust us when we say you'll leave feeling like a brand new person after a few hours spent at one of these places.

■ **BODY & FACE BY KRISTIN**

Geneseo, New York

Bask in a soothing atmosphere in downtown Geneseo at Body & Face by Kristin where they specialize in professional skin care both basic and advanced as well as healing massage therapy techniques. Offering a variety of services including reflexology, facials, waxing, skin care classes, and more, you'll be able to rejuvenate your body, mind, and spirit. Their services are performed only by licensed professionals that are dedicated to advancing education on health and well-being.

■ **PURE BODY DAY SPA**

Avon, New York

A quaint sanctuary located in the village of Avon, Pure Body Day Spa is dedicated to making every spa experience unique. They offer a number of services from healing massage therapy (including one for moms-to-be), professional skincare, and waxing services to natural nail manicures, pedicures, and heated Vinyasa Yoga classes. Using products that are safe, organic, and all-natural, you'll leave the spa feeling more cleansed, relaxed, and rejuvenated.



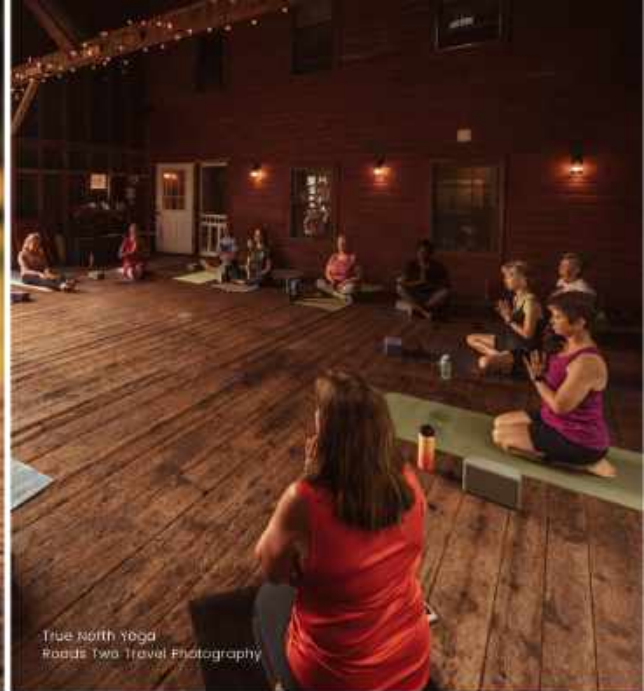
Body & Face by Kristin
Third Eye Catcher Photography



Body & Face by Kristin
Third Eye Catcher Photography



True North Yoga
Roads Two Travel Photography



True North Yoga
Roads Two Travel Photography

YOGA STUDIOS

We know how easy it is to sprint home after a long day of work or classes, throw on some sweatpants, and eat all the carbs. But when you're enjoying time away, add a little Zen to your getaway at one of our yoga studios. Whether you're new to the mat or a daily practitioner, yoga is a great way to keep your body moving. So grab your workout buddy and try one of the many yoga studios LivCo has to offer.

EVERY BODY'S YOGA STUDIO

Dansville, New York

Try out a class at Every Body's Yoga Studio who offers options designed for all levels of students so you can join anytime.

SHAKTI YOGA CENTER

Geneseo, New York

Shakti Yoga Center offers classes, workshops, and retreats for students looking to enliven the body, settle the mind, and generate a connection to self.

YOGA BHOGA YOGA STUDIO

Hemlock, New York

Yoga Bhoga offers many classes to choose from for all levels and abilities focused on alignment and deepening awareness.

SCENT & STONE

Geneseo, New York

Check out this metaphysical specialty gift shop and wellness center that offers yoga, meditation, reiki, Chakra skincare, and Tarot.

TRUE NORTH YOGA

York, New York

True North Yoga studio offers classes in a refurbished turn-of-the-century barn as well as a heated hayloft studio.

RITZ MOUNTAIN YOGA

Livonia, New York

Check out this Conesus Lake community-based yoga and meditation taught by certified Yoga Alliance Instructor.



HEAL & RECHARGE

**OPTIMIZE ENERGY FLOW
TO HEAL IN A SAFE,
EFFECTIVE, AND NON-
INVASIVE WAY**

Recharge in a new way at Geneseo Acupuncture, where they incorporate the philosophy of “Yang Sheng” as part of their holistic healing plan, by nourishing your whole constitution and immune system to promote rapid recovery and build optimal strength.

Geneseo Acupuncture offers services for all parts of the body including massage and Tui Na, cupping, integrated energy therapy, Biofield imaging, wellness training for teams, and guided meditation hikes at Fallbrook Farms.



**COMFORT FOOD
IS A MUST-EAT
DURING THE
WINTER MONTHS**



Winter means it's time for layers – and in the quaint village of Mount Morris, there's more than one good way to achieve that. Right on Main Street is one of Livingston County's most beloved Italian dinner destinations: Questa Lasagna, a charming storefront eatery that serves homemade variations on the layered pasta dish.

“Our name literally means ‘this lasagna,’ in Italian,” said owner, Tim Knowles. “We had seven different kinds of lasagna when we opened in 2010 – it's an incredible food, very versatile and I had bantered about this concept with a chef friend of mine for years.”

Knowles, a Brockport native, trained at the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park and worked as a chef for many years – primarily for hotels and independent restaurants in Rochester and the Finger Lakes – before meeting Brooklyn developer Greg O’Connell, who was buying up properties on Main Street in Mount Morris, revitalizing the entire town to make it a destination for Finger Lakes tourists. A friend then introduced Knowles to the team at Livingston County Economic Development who helped to get the business up and running.

“Mount Morris wasn’t high traffic at the time, compared to something like Monroe Avenue in Rochester,” said Knowles. “But I talked to Greg about his vision to rehab the building, and fortuitously for me, it turned out to be an interesting and successful spot.”

Part of that is due to the fact that Questa Lasagna is located less than one mile from the main entrance of Letchworth Park, which draws tens of thousands of visitors year round. Questa Lasagna opened first, and a tearoom – Wendy’s Pantry & Country Mouse Tea House – and several antique stores soon followed. Knowles was also involved in Zeppo’s Creekside Creamery, which serves up handcrafted ice cream for the hiking masses.

At first, Knowles thought counter service would be most successful. He began by offering blended seating and takeout, in a fast-casual style that was ahead of its time, but soon realized that his guests wanted to stay and enjoy the cuisine in-house. So, he pivoted, eventually purchasing the adjacent building to add more square footage to the dining room.



“They wanted full-service Italian, so we slowly morphed into that,” said Knowles. “Over the years I’ve continued to listen to what people want and apply my approach.”

His approach includes no freezers, no fryers, and a rotating menu of fresh entrees. He’s expanded a bit beyond the original seven lasagnas – but not too far, as the menu is still primarily pasta dishes.

His current must-try suggestion is a shrimp gnocchi entree, made possible by a new gnocchi pasta cutter that Knowles is especially fond of.



LEARN MORE AT QUESTALASAGNA.COM

•••••  [QUESTA_LASAGNA](https://www.instagram.com/QUESTA_LASAGNA)

STAFF FAVS

Everything on Questa's menu is worth ordering, our team especially loves the vegetable lasagna, spinach and artichoke manicotti, and ending the night with panna cotta.

“I use delicious shrimp with these really beautiful tomatoes, and it’s a dish that’s unique to us – really sort of a standout,” he said. “But no matter what you order, everything that comes to your table will have been produced fresh by us.”

He leads a team of anywhere between eight to 12, depending on the day. The pandemic shutdown affected the way Knowles operates the business, so he’s now open just five nights per week for dinner. The space has been redesigned as well – guests who haven’t visited since the pandemic will find more plants adorning the dining room and fewer white tablecloth-draped tables.

“It’s smaller, which is good for me,” said Knowles. “I’m getting older - 68 this year - and this is physically demanding. I’m trying to have a life compromise where I can still do my job and not have it knock me out.” Knowles is certainly not done serving up pasta to the many adventurers and regulars who cross Questa Lasagna’s threshold each year – and he’s proud to be part of revitalizing Mount Morris to its current day bustle.

“As I like to tell people – being in the middle of ‘nowhere’ really means you’re in the middle of everything,” he said. “People come here from all over; a quarter of my guests each summer are from Canada. We may be in this provincial little village but they find their way to us. I’m happy to be here, and I’ll do it as long as I can.”

MORE SPOTS FOR COMFORT FOOD

During the long winter months, we start seeking comfort in something that LivCo does best, food. In this region, the Genesee River Valley is home to locally-owned restaurants that are dedicated to serving us the tastiest foods that will warm us up inside and out. Check out these spots to indulge in comfort food this winter.

COZY KITCHEN

Caledonia, New York

Chef Chris Green's inviting eatery will celebrate 25 years in operation in 2023. Visit for breakfast or lunch, and be sure to try the delicious soup and sandwich specials.

CAFFÉ TAZZA

Dansville, New York

With the tagline 'wood & wine,' this neighborhood spot is equal parts wine bar and Italian restaurant (think wood fired pizzas, craft cocktails and classic pasta dishes). Because it's a neighborhood go-to, 60 cent wing nights and adventurous dinner specials are also on the docket.

RANCHO VIEJO

Geneseo, New York

The brightly hued aesthetic, authentic Mexican cuisine and margaritas are perfect for winter days when you're craving a mini vaca. Visit this local chain's locations in Gates, Geneseo and Batavia.

EURO CAFE

Geneseo, New York

Best friends Krystyna and Margaret run this Polish café and deli, which offers both takeout and seated dining. Favorite dishes include the hearty homemade potato pancakes and pierogies, along with rotating Eastern European soups, spirits and specials.



Boriken Restaurant
Third Eye Catcher Photography



Rancho Viejo
Third Eye Catcher Photography



Cooperativa Las Cazuelas
Third Eye Catcher Photography



Borikén Restaurant
Third Eye Catcher Photography



Cooperativa Las Cazuelas
Third Eye Catcher Photography

BORIKÉN RESTAURANT

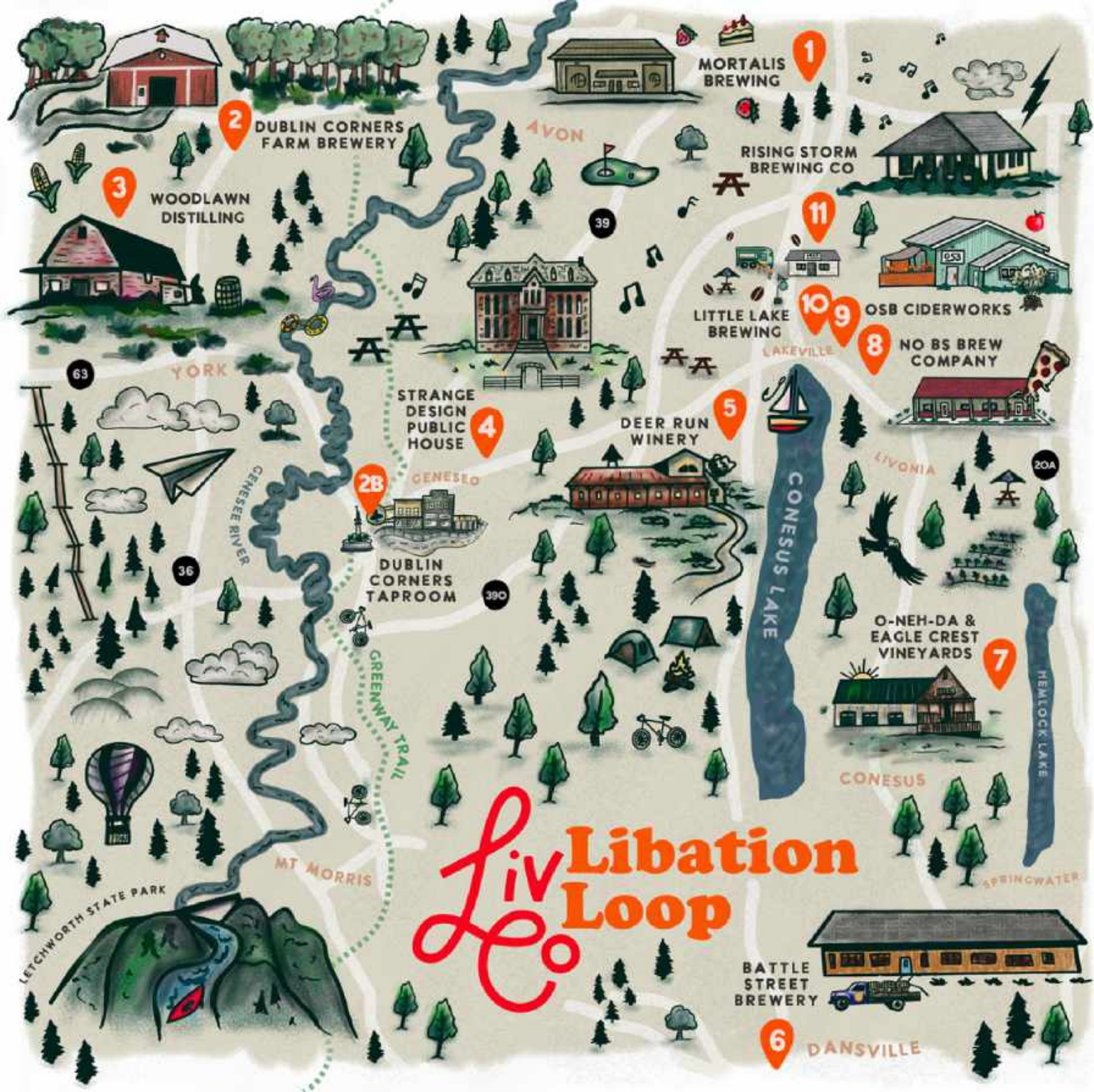
Mount Morris, New York

Visit Borikén for fresh, homemade, authentic Puerto Rican cuisine. Enjoy a taste of the tropics with a variety of small plates meant to be shared with friends including rellenos de paper, ceviche de camarones, stuffed mofongo, and carne frita. Borikén has quickly become a local favorite for hearty eats and tasty cocktails.

COOPERATIVA LAS CAZUELAS

Geneseo, New York

Although not a restaurant, Cooperativa Las Cazuelas is creating comfort food and building a space for entrepreneurial immigrant women. They host Mexican food pop-ups out of St. Michael's Church in Geneseo making tamales, salsa, rice, candied squash, and more. Locals and visitors can buy comforting, homey food without having to make it themselves.



YOUR GUIDE TO CRAFT BEER, WINE, CIDER & SPIRITS IN LIVCO

Livingston County is home to more than a few renowned craft beverage makers, sourcing local ingredients and offering the perfect opportunity to stop, sip and savor time with friends and family. Be sure to check them all out and tag #LivCoLibationLoop and @visitlivco to share your adventures!



SCAN TO EXPLORE

LIVE MUSIC TO WARM YOUR WINTER

UNIQUE VENUES ARE GOING INTIMATE WITH
LIVE BANDS, SONGWRITERS AND DRINKS THAT
WARM FROM THE INSIDE OUT.



Cozy up and unplug at intimate music venues all winter long.

Think small. Low ceilings and bar tops covered in photos. A platform stage in a historic theater. Listeners gathered in a venue, hanging on to every sung word and bottle of beer or glass of wine. Local spaces are creating intimate music experiences. After the holiday commotion, they feel like a warm blanket for the cold, darkest months of the year. Check out these venues to enjoy live music and cozy vibes.

AVON PARK THEATER

Avon, New York

A drive down Genesee Street in Avon takes you through a strip of old-timey buildings established as early as the 1850s – and what makes one of them especially unique is its stature in the community as a longstanding landmark. With its sky-high sign and customized prominent letter board, Avon Park Theater is an eye-catching facade among neighboring businesses. What began as a vintage movie theater in the late 1930s was re-imagined in 2022 to host classic and independent movies, live music, and private events. The theater is an escape from the everyday (perfect in the doldrums of winter!), with seats as comfortable as the couch at home and upscale concession offerings.



GENESEO RIVIERA

Geneseo, New York

This restored vintage theatre, originally built in the early 1900s, served as the go-to spot for entertainment and community happenings in the village of Geneseo for more than 80 years. The current owners thoughtfully remodeled the theatre in 2013 and welcomed the community back to the now multi-purpose concert hall for the arts. 140 luxury chairs line the theatre, and an exclusive balcony of limited chairs sits above the main stage. With a capacity of up to 350 in the seated areas and dance floor, the Riviera Theatre hosts classic Hollywood movies every week, Local Artist Nights featuring bands and singer/songwriters, and theatrical performances with ticket prices as low as \$5. Head to the Riviera Theatre's Facebook page (@GeneseoRiviera) for complete event listings.



Third Eye Catcher Photography



Third Eye Catcher Photography



FANATICS PUB

Lima, New York

Take refuge from the wintery blues with blues music at Fanatics Pub in Lima, which hosts more than 100 shows each year. The pub has brought in Grammy Award and Blues Music Award winners for sold-out shows for more than a decade, and owner Jim Shelly incorporates his love for the community, supporting local sports teams and Camp Good Days. Having previously owned a pizza business, he also has an extensive menu at the pub, bringing folks together over both the table and the smooth sounds of blues. Show tickets range from \$10 to \$45, depending on the band, with performances taking place on average twice a week. Come in from the cold for daily specials like happy hour, trivia night, Wing Wednesday, and Fish Fry Fridays & Saturdays.



O-NEH-DA VINEYARD

Hemlock, New York

Similar to many historically renowned buildings and businesses in LivCo, O-Neh-Da has a past worth researching as one of the oldest operating wineries in the Finger Lakes Region and the oldest authentic producer of premium sacramental wine in the New World. More than 150 years after its establishment, the winery is now a popular destination for tastings and live music, and the vineyard continues to fulfill its original mission of supplying sacramental wine for churches while engaging locals and tourists in current operations. The Tasting Room is open to the public every Saturday and Sunday, and visitors are invited to try the variety of pure, natural wine produced on-site. Warm up inside the welcoming tasting room while sipping wine and listening to live music featured almost every Sunday.



Third Eye Catcher Photography



Third Eye Catcher Photography

JAM OUT TO LIVE MUSIC

SEE WHO IS PLAYING
WHILE YOU'RE IN TOWN

As a hub for artistic creativity, the Genesee River Valley boasts an abundance of local musicians and bands. Grab a drink and listen to a performance at a craft brewery or stop at one of our larger venues for musical acts of all sizes and genres.



SCAN TO EXPLORE



THE BIG "B"

For any music lover, Buzzo's in Genesee is a must-stop. Whether looking for a new guitar to add to your collection, a tune up for a string instrument that has been collecting dust, or Billy Joel's Piano Man on vinyl, you'll find it at Buzzo's (and might even get to meet the legendary namesake himself).





PUTTING DOWN *Roots*

THE BLACK FAMILIES WHO HELPED BUILD LIVCO

Just after the Civil War, more than 20 Black families made their way north from Culpeper, Virginia. They'd heard there might be farms and land to work in a place called Caledonia, just outside Rochester, NY. It was a new beginning – freedom.



Nearly four generations later, more than 15 of those families remain in the Caledonia-Mumford area – and they helped make the community what it is today. Their stories are documented in “A Heritage Shared: African-American Families of Caledonia and Mumford,” a permanent exhibit at the Big Springs Museum in Caledonia.

The exhibit dates back to 1999, when it was put together by the late documentarians Jean Guthrie and Don Pullybank. The duo interviewed every family they could find, compiling their stories into written and visual pieces that make up the exhibit.

Meg Donegan is a member of the Board of Directors at the Big Springs Museum, a position she holds because of the late Guthrie’s passion for documenting history in Livingston County.

“Jean would be so pleased to know it’s still being preserved and appreciated,” she said. “We’ve witnessed crazy connections through this exhibit – people come in and say, ‘oh my gosh, I knew him,’ once we had a Rochester Institute of Technology professor who had two or three connections to families in the exhibit.”

Part of the exhibit has traveled nearby – in 2016, a few panels were brought to the Second Baptist Church in Mumford for its 125th anniversary. It’s the second oldest Black church in Western New York, and was originally established as the Belcoda Baptist Church of Mumford by the Rev. Clayton Coles and his wife, Ellen Wilson Coles, who migrated to the area from Culpeper.

Otherwise, the exhibit lives on the third floor of the Big Springs Museum. Donegan said the board is working to secure funding to update it with next generation’s story, and improve the experience with audio or video interviews.

“These are first hand stories of families during an important time in history, when they had to find a better life somewhere else,” Donegan said. “They made this their home, they became a vital part of the community, and it’s important to have that story preserved for the next generations.”



FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Every February, organizations across the country dedicate the month to celebrating the history and accomplishments of Black Americans. This month is vital to remember and honor Black Americans who have left their mark on history.

On January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, which outlawed slavery in the Confederate states. The anniversary was widely celebrated among Black Americans, from the post-Civil-War era onward, including in Livingston County, where it was usually celebrated in August during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

According to the Livingston County Historian's office, Portage was a popular Emancipation Day picnic spot in the late 1870s. Richard Gay of Nunda, who escaped slavery and served as a cook for General Grant before coming north with the 1st NY Dragoons, was often chosen to speak at the ceremonies. Avon, Caledonia, and nearby Scottsville also hosted large annual affairs through the 1910s.

In 1903, Stella Peterson, one of the first Black women to graduate from the Geneseo Normal School and daughter of well-known Civil War veteran Edward Peterson, read the Emancipation Proclamation at the picnic held at Garbutt, near Scottsville in Monroe County. Garbutt became a popular site for the picnic for several years. By the 1930s, Emancipation Day celebrations had mostly shifted to Rochester, where Livingston County residents continued to join in the festivities.

Juneteenth commemorates June 19, 1865, when enslaved people in Texas, the westernmost region of the Confederacy, finally learned slavery had been abolished and that they were free. Juneteenth became an official New York State holiday in 2020 and a federal holiday in 2021.

Locally, groups collaborate each year in the Livingston County area for Black History Month and Juneteenth events, offering music, food, parades, dance performances, and vigils that celebrate Black heritage and culture.



Keith Walters Photography

Meet Marjorie Shelton Carpenter (pictured above). She's 90 years old, was born in Caledonia, and has lived in the town her entire life. Her family is one of the many African American families featured in the exhibit at Big Springs Museum, which was once a school (that she attended as a kindergartner!) Locals have been known to refer to Marjorie as an unofficial mayor of Caledonia—people love meeting her!

NOTABLE BLACK LIVCO RESIDENTS

Richard Gay (1844 – 1903) was born a slave in North Carolina. In the fall of 1862, during the height of the Civil War, 18-year-old Gay managed to slip past Confederate picket lines and find safety with the 1st New York Dragoons, a regiment originally organized in Livingston County. He stayed with the local regiment for the duration of the war, where he was a cook for Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, who later became the country's 18th president. Gay returned after the war to Livingston County, and spent several years in Mount Morris before relocating to Nunda where he resided for the rest of his life.

Gay found work raising and selling produce, working as a janitor, teaching Sunday school at the Baptist Church and serving as a lay preacher. For many years, he was the principal speaker at the annual Emancipation Day picnic held in Portage. After his death in 1903, his obituary appeared in newspapers across the country, including the New York Times. His funeral was packed with citizens paying their last respects to the man whose positive influence left a void in the community. Gay was buried at Oakwood Cemetery in Nunda.

Author William Melvin Kelley (1937–2017) emerged as a Black author of note after his ground-breaking debut novel, *A Different Drummer*, was published in 1962. Kelley came to SUNY Geneseo during the tumultuous year of 1965 as author-in-residence.

While at Geneseo, Kelley taught courses on creative writing and published his second novel, *A Drop of Patience*. His wife, artist Karen Gibson (now known as Karen "Aiki" Kelley), and newborn daughter, Jesi, accompanied Kelley during his residency. In addition to hosting lectures and book signings for Kelley's new book, Aiki had her first one-woman art show at the college. She has continued working as an artist to the present day.

William Kelley's death and the rise of the Black Lives Matter movement has renewed interest in his books, which are frequently included on recommended reading lists during Black History Month. Journalists have recently credited William Melvin Kelley as the first to use the now ubiquitous term "woke" in print after he titled a 1962 op-ed in the New York Times "If You're Woke You Dig It."



Local resident Julia A. Wilbur (1815 – 1895), who became deeply involved in the abolitionist and woman suffrage movements, arranged for activist and orator Frederick Douglass and abolitionist John S. Jacobs to appear at an anti-slavery meeting at the Baptist Church in East Avon. Douglass, who escaped slavery in 1838, had risen to national prominence with the publication in 1845 of his first autobiography, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*. An excerpt from Wilbur's diary on February 18, 1849, expresses her apprehension over the reception the men might receive, but the turnout for the event far exceeded her expectations. The East Avon Baptist Church, where Frederick Douglas spoke, was formerly located on the north side of Routes 5 & 20 at the intersection of Tajmahal Park. In 1869, the tireless advocacy of Frederick Douglass and others paid off when the 15th Amendment was passed.

STAY AWHILE

WINTER GETAWAYS

COZY BED & BREAKFASTS




'Tis the season for staycations and winter getaways.

What could be cozier than a winter getaway? LivCo is home to a host of options that offer cozy rooms and comfort food to the winter-weary traveler.

When you visit the Genesee River Valley, you can escape the hustle and bustle of city life with a cozy bed and breakfast stay. Modern amenities like heated floors and rainfall showerheads are balanced with vintage decorations, creating an atmosphere that invites you to linger a little longer by the fire, snuggle up with a good book, or indulge in a warm breakfast. Book a room for a night or two in one of our faves.



Hartford House

 Geneseo, New York

Located on 70 acres of farmland, the spacious Hartford House Bed & Breakfast has four rooms and suites, many of which have recently opened to the public for comfortable stays. Observe wildlife sightings from your window, such as deer, wild turkeys, foxes, and red-tail hawks, and miles of open acreage — a true winter wonderland. After a warm night's rest, enjoy a continental breakfast in the quaint kitchen. When you're ready to trade in your robe and pajamas to brave the cold, bundle up for an outdoor excursion on the farm. It's like your own private park!



Blue Rose Bed & Breakfast
Third Eye Catcher Photography



Hartford House
Third Eye Catcher Photography



Blue Rose Bed & Breakfast
Third Eye Catcher Photography



Blue Rose Bed & Breakfast
Third Eye Catcher Photography



BrickInn
Roads Two Travel Photography



Blue Rose Bed & Breakfast
Third Eye Catcher Photography

BrickInn

📍 Mount Morris, New York

A freshly refurbished home down the road from Letchworth State Park, BrickInn’s romantic, chic ambiance provides a beautiful place for resting. Each room will make you feel at home, from the seasonal winter decor to the ample natural lighting. The breakfast menu spotlights locally sourced options guests have reviewed as “top-notch” and “to die for.” The five large guest rooms are themed after dainty birds and complemented by windows and seating areas overlooking the yard for custom birding experiences.



Blue Rose Bed & Breakfast

📍 Mount Morris, New York

Designed by Architect William C. Walker of Rochester in the late 19th century, Blue Rose Victorian Bed & Breakfast is a Queen Anne Victorian style-building with a steep conical roof and a vibrant blue exterior that stands out amongst the bright white snow. Decorative details add to the home’s characteristic charm, including elegant bedchambers fit for special occasions or an elegant getaway. Numerous cozy fireplaces warm travelers up from the winter cold as they wind down, read a book, and sip a steaming cup of tea at the end of the day.

Each morning, the kitchen fills with the wake-up smells of coffee and freshly baked scones, scents that drift upstairs into guestrooms. Breakfast is candlelit, with three courses including a main course that changes daily. Guests are encouraged to explore the many neighboring attractions like Letchworth State Park, museums, art galleries, restaurants, and cafes.



Allegiance Bed & Breakfast

📍 Mount Morris, New York

Wake up feeling like you're a sought-after American starlet in a holiday movie at the Allegiance Bed & Breakfast. Inspired by the Federalist design of the White House, the elegant environment will leave you refreshed and with a sense of status. The remodeled bedrooms keep their historical feel but add updated amenities – WiFi and streaming, fireplaces, and flatscreen TVs – to keep you occupied when you prefer to escape the cold weather. Neatly draped curtains, plush bedding, and spa tubs make for an intimate, delightful visit with “Gilded Age” vibes (IYKYK).

In the morning, sunlight reflects off the icy-framed windows and pours into the spacious dining room where you may hear occasional music coming from The Parlor's baby grand piano! Guests are invited to play at their leisure.



Temple Hill Bed & Breakfast

📍 Geneseo, New York

Neat, parallel lines of tall trees dressed in white layers of snow lead you to this private home on secluded grounds in the heart of the National Historic Landmark village of Geneseo. Temple Hill Bed & Breakfast contains four private rooms with unique accommodation offerings, including a jacuzzi tub and king beds. If you plan to explore the many stores, coffee shops, and restaurants in Geneseo, NY, this is the stay for you. Temple Hill is a short four blocks from Main Street, where holiday decor and spirit never fall short.





STACEY MRVA
Functional + Fine Art
Springwater, NY

*meet our makers,
creators, and shakers.*

Accessible art that blends functionality with fine craft.

When most people think of art, drawing and painting come to mind. But for artist Stacey Mrva – a professional metal sculptor – art comes in the form of welding, taking a cold, rigid material and transforming it into something with fluid and organic lines.

Welding is both an art and a science that combines trade skills with technology. And few people know that welders play an integral role in objects they see and interact with every day. Welders are critical to American products and industries. From our daily transportation to our buildings and homes, welding touches what we ride in, work in, live in, watch and use.

In a refurbished barn in Springwater, New York, welder Stacey Mrva has spent the last 25 years establishing a vast portfolio of custom pieces for both public and private spaces. The stunning results have included everything from steel furniture and railings to public signage, interior wall art, and lighting — all made of hot rolled steel bent by hand and eye. Mrva's pieces often integrate fabric, copper, concrete and wicker, shaping her signature style which can be tailored to any setting.



Third Eye Catcher Photography



Third Eye Catcher Photography



Are you originally from this area?

I grew up in Fairport, but lived in Rochester for the past 25 years. I had always rented an apartment, and then had studio space in a warehouse. During the pandemic, my husband and I would take country drives for recreation and that's when we first considered moving and began to look at homes. I'm a big hiker and camper and my husband is a big kayaker and fisherman so he had been to Canadice often. We set our house hunt limit to 45 minutes from Rochester, and went from a South Wedge 2BR to a farmhouse with three acres and a barn that converted into an antique shop, just 52 minutes away from the city.

Your website tagline is functional + fine art. Tell us a little bit about what you do, and how those words play into it.

I studied at Syracuse University and received a sculpture degree. My professors always said, "don't make functional things, that's not art," but I found people were more apt to spend money on something artistic that's also functional. It's a cool way to get your artwork out in the public or into people's homes. It's also a way to distinguish me from a fabricator, since I get approached a lot to fix or build things. There's more art to what I do, and fabricators have more skills than I do.

You create custom metalworking pieces for both public and private spaces. Tell me about some of the work you're most proud of, whether local or national.

One of my first big commissions that I still love and visit once in a while is a mixed media piece I did for the Penfield branch of The Summit Federal Credit Union. It's a big light fixture that you can see at night when it's lit, incorporating copper and fabric and steel. The piece I am most proud of would be the sculpture of Blanche Calloway (Cab Calloway's sister) that will be installed at the Otto Henderberg Park in the Swillburg Neighborhood of Rochester in Spring 2023. I was commissioned by the neighborhood association to create a sculpture to honor her, (because she was) the first female band leader in the 1930s.

Is art your full-time gig?

I just left my full-time job in April 2022 – that was kind of the point of the move down here. I was the director of operations for f. Oliver's, I did that for six years. It is a wonderful local woman-led, family owned business, and the business skills and connections I made there put me in a good position to make this move.

So far, what's a common misconception about being a full-time artist?

That it's all just play and I'm having fun in my shop all day long. But like I said, the business skills are a muscle I'm working; reaching out, networking, making connections. I was really happy to go to a recent networking event at the Wadsworth Homestead about making your business a holiday destination. It was great to connect with other business owners.

What's the most important lesson you've learned as a full-time artist?

Connection! My biggest accomplishments recently are these benches I've been doing for a few neighborhood associations - the benches were the catalyst for going full-time because they gave me the financial flexibility to do that, and there is the opportunity to do more. There are now 10 benches on South Clinton Avenue in Rochester, and four in Leroy. The surprising thing is seeing the reaction to how I've been able to take these scenes from the community and transform them into a functional piece of art.

What advice would you give to someone else who dreams of being an artist?

You can plan for it just so much, and fear can hold you back. But in the end, when it's something you're truly passionate about, you're gonna find a way to make it work.

Why did you live and operate your business in Livingston County?

We chose Livingston County because we love the Finger Lakes region. We're right near Hemlock and Canadice - the two protected Finger Lakes - so we feel like we live in a state forest. Honestly, I sometimes feel like I'm living on vacation.

What's the best thing about Livingston County?

We love hiking around Canadice, and very often we'll call the Canadice Lake Outfitters and have them drop a canoe to us so we can go fishing. One of our favorite restaurants is The Borikén, a Puerto Rican restaurant in Mount Morris. Milk and Honey in Lima for coffee, where my go-to order is a flat white. Monroe County is great, but Livingston County is a small town feel, one where you can really get to know people.

What's coming up for you in 2023?

The plan is to run welding workshops for women in my barn. As much as I love creating artwork, I love connecting with people and sharing my passion more. It's empowering to get the equipment in people's hands and work in a safe environment with other women. In 2023, we'll probably do classes a few times a month. Next up: I need to expand the barn, maybe hire someone, and get more equipment so I can have classes bigger than four people.



Third Eye Catcher Photography



f Stacey M. Mrva
@staceymrvametal

Third Eye Catcher Photography

SHOP LOCAL THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

DO YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING AT LOCAL
BUSINESSES THIS YEAR AND PUT YOUR
MONEY WHERE YOUR HEART IS.



Shop local and you'll not only conquer your holiday gift list, but also give back to your community.

Small Business Saturday is about giving back to your community, celebrate on November 26th this year. Supporting small businesses is an intentional act — one that the mom-and-pop shops in your neighborhood need you to make. According to the U.S. Small Business Administration, when you spend \$100 at a small business, \$48 stays in the community. Spend the same \$100 at a big-box store or national retailer and only \$14 stays. Why? Because local businesses rely on other local businesses.

Small business owners value face-to-face interactions. Odds are that you won't run into the CEO of a big-box company when you purchase from their store. But when you shop from small, local business owners, you can connect with your community and you will know exactly who you are supporting. Knowing your community members and helping them do what they love creates warmth and belonging for all.

And there are lots of ways to support local. Tell a family member or friend about a small business you love. Get vocal on social — post pictures, tweets, and status updates of yourself shopping. On Small Business Saturday — and every day — support stores in your community. Here are some ways you can support local businesses this year:

1 Your Next Best Gift

Explore Local Boutique Shops

Bring something home that makes that “special trip feeling” last just a little longer. With dozens of local boutique shops and independent retailers, it would be hard not to find something that brings back fond memories of your LivCo getaway. Not sure what to buy? Pick up a gift card for the next time you visit. The revenue from these sales is a huge help to small businesses at this critical time. And, it’s a promise that you’ll continue to be a customer later.



Touch of Oyster
Third Eye Catcher Photography



Nunda Mustard
Third Eye Catcher Photography

2 Made In LivCo

Find Local Products You'll Love

Change up your shopping routine this year and support your favorite Genesee River Valley businesses. Our small-town shops are full of handcrafted goods, locally made products, unique art, and highly personal gifts for anyone on your list! Find products made in LivCo, from flavored mustards to local libations to fresh baked goods, shop diverse gifts all season long.

3 Dine Out With Friends

Indulge in Holiday Eats

Locally owned restaurants and breweries dot our village’s main streets and country backroads, and you never know what you’ll discover when you dine out during the holidays. From authentic Puerto Rican cuisine to handmade pierogies, you’ll get more than a delicious meal in LivCo, you’ll also get a connection to the land and to the locals who call this place home.



Boriken Restaurant
Third Eye Catcher Photography

4 **Support Local Makers** Uncover Uniquely Crafted Goods

Makers and artists past and present have left their mark through painting, sculpting, photography, and more. The local makers of LivCo are creating pieces that reflect our region and our communities. When you shop from local makers and creators you are accessing authentic and unique items that you may not be able to find anywhere else. Explore small galleries, gift shops, and vendor markets this winter.



Orpheus & Elyse
Third Street Artisan Photography



Avon Holiday Spectacular
Roads Two Travel Photography

5 **Celebrate On Main Street** Come Together at Festivals

Supporting local businesses also means supporting special events and downtown festivals. When you visit and support LivCo's downtown events, you breathe life into the area. From holiday celebrations to downtown wine strolls, annual winter events are full of food, festivity, and cheer. Celebrate the holiday season on Main Street with events including the Avon Holiday Spectacular, Winter in the Village in Dansville, and Geneseo ChristmaSing.

6 **Plan A Staycation** Enjoy a Getaway Close to Home

Experiencing your region on a whole new level will make you fall in love with it all over again. Whether you're looking for a cozy bed and breakfast or a comfortable hotel room — we have many options. While exploring your backyard, get lost in the aisles of a bookstore, spend the afternoon hunting for hidden treasures at antique stores, and browse the handmade goods of our talented local makers. Don't forget to refuel at one of our local eateries.



Brickens
Roads Two Travel Photography



PUT YOUR MONEY
Where your heart is

LIVCO

Every time you shop at a local business, you are putting money back into your community. You are not just investing in the business, you are investing in you. Shop local this holiday season! Tag your pics with #SHOPLIVCO for a chance to be featured on our social media.

SCAN TO EXPLORE



MUST-SEE WINTER EVENTS

CELEBRATE THE SEASON WITH ANNUAL TRADITIONS, FESTIVE PARADES, BRIGHT LIGHTS AND MORE.



Festivals and events are our favorite way for locals and visitors to celebrate together during the holidays.

There's nothing we love more than an excuse to celebrate and enjoy the company of our neighbors during the holidays. Immerse yourself in the magic of holiday lights or brave the winter winds to raise a glass in celebration of the New Year, one thing is for sure - you'll find a party here!

The holiday season brings out the best in LivCo with long-standing traditions, annual celebrations and wildly impressive colorful light displays. Embrace the spirit of the season with festive parades, visits from Santa and fantastic holiday shopping.

It's the most wonderful time of the year, and LivCo is full of events and seasonal, family-friendly outings to keep your crew merry while creating treasured memories. We've rounded up some of the most-anticipated family-friendly holiday events worth adding to your calendar this season. Be sure to check them all out!

Avon Holiday Spectacular Avon, New York

Enjoy the Avon Holiday Spectacular in the downtown business district in the Village of Avon. The streets come alive with holiday lights, music, family-friendly activities, and sightings of Santa and his Elves. Businesses and organizations will be offering treats and special discounts. And don't miss the debut of their new synthetic ice skating rink - right on Genesee Street!

Winter in the Village Dansville, New York

Winter in the Village is a holiday festival in the heart of Dansville's historic downtown district featuring activities all day long including ice sculptures, arts and crafts vendors, Santa's appearance, and the Santa parade. Once the sun sets, sign up to attend the Wine and Spirits Walk in the downtown business district.

Christmas in the Village Geneseo, New York

Kick off the holiday season and bring the whole family to Geneseo the first two weekends of December for a number of events including the highly-anticipated return of the Cookie Stroll! This is your chance to shop for gifts, enjoy a sleigh ride, and end the night caroling in the Village Park at ChristmaSing. Make sure to stop by the Bear Fountain to meet Santa!



Avon Holiday Spectacular
Rebecca Travel Photography

FIND MORE EVENTS ALL SEASON.

Trying to figure out how you want to spend your day can be hard, so we're making it easier. Scan the QR code for even more events happening in the Genesee River Valley. From live music to holiday activities, we hope you'll discover something new on your journey through LivCo. Be sure to check them all out and tag #VisitLivCo and @visitlivco to share your adventures!



Winter Weekend ITINERARY

YOU'RE THE MAIN CHARACTER.

As the snow starts to fall and the cold weather of Upstate New York sets in, there is still a lot to do in the Genesee River Valley to stay warm and kick off the holiday season and beyond.

A winter vacation will help you forget all about the cold...or inspire you to embrace it. Spend a long weekend in Western New York to experience quiet, serene moments, savory food and beverages, and a renewed appreciation for small-town life. We've rounded up some of your best bets:



THURSDAY

Avon Inn is your home away from home for start of this getaway. Let your inner glam embrace the Hollywood film-esque feel of the architecture and atmosphere. Slide into a warm coat and prepare to enjoy the icy season with free skating in the village at the **Avon Driving Park**. As the rink echoes with the sharp sounds of skates gliding across the ice, and snowflakes fall gently around you a la snowglobe while you lace up, remember – you’re the main character, and this weekend’s plot is all about you.



Now that you’ve worked up an appetite, it’s time for a meal. There are a few casual and tasty bites right up the road from the Avon Driving Park, all within a few minutes of each other – whether you’re in the mood for a burger & fries, chili, or pizza. **Avondale Pub** serves signature sammies like a grilled ham and swiss, Reuben, and tuna melt. Another irresistible option is **Duffy’s**, whose menu includes affordable, flavorful burgers. If you’re looking for something else, throw a mini pizza party with a pie from **Livingston County Pizza Company**. (BONUS: They have a gluten-free menu.)

FRIDAY

Awaken your mind and body for a full day of hiking, good food, and public art. Now is the appropriate time to snap on your Apple Watch, because you're heading to **Genesee Valley Greenway State Park** for a hike. This outdoor recreation corridor stretches 90 miles of endless inspiration. Choose your preferred stretch of trails for wildlife watching and getting your body moving.

To keep your mind sharp for the rest of the day, stop for some lunch and coffee at **Milk & Honey**, a cafe in Lima. Their five-star service, seasonal lattes, and homemade bakery items (including gluten-free options) are guaranteed to be a highlight of the trip. If you can't get enough of their tasty treats, purchase a few extras for the road!

It's art o'clock, so get your phone ready for lots of Insta-worthy shots! From Avon and Lima to Caledonia, Geneseo, and Livonia, expect to see buildings decorated with colorful murals by well-known artists. Some must-sees are **Avon in Full Color by Shawn Dunwoody** (located on the side of the Avon Fire Department), **Horse County by Ivan Roque** (79 Genesee Street, Avon), **Farmer's Spectrum by Abigail Penfold** (1883 Rochester Street, Lima), **Trout Culture by Tim Parsley** (3103 Main Street, Caledonia), **Wisdom by KEY DETAIL** (125 Main Street, Geneseo), and **First Flight by Justin Suarez** (16 Commercial Street, Livonia).

The fun doesn't stop after your hike and public mural quest – but it's certainly time to wind down. Swing over to **Woodlawn Distilling**, the newest distillery in the region, for craft liquor. Established in 2021 with a



grand opening in the fall of 2022, Woodlawn Distilling has American-style gin, classic vodka, spicy vodka, traditional moonshine, corn-based whiskey, and coffee liquor.

Finally, indulge in Eastern European cuisine at **Euro Café** in Geneseo to wrap up the day. The café's menu features pierogis, salads, polish sausage, smoked kielbasa, and more. Don't forget to finish dinner with one (and one to-go) of the delectable dessert options. Fun fact: The café was founded by two besties!



SATURDAY

You know what they say: “two is better than one,” so why not apply that to your stay? Since there are numerous highly rated hotels, inns, and bed & breakfasts in the area, we suggest hopping to another local favorite, **Blue Rose Bed & Breakfast**, for your third night. This five-star historic home has the scenic perks of being down the road from Letchworth State Park.

Everybody loves diner food, and **Brian's USA Diner** does it up right, from buttery pancakes and crispy home fries to loaded omelets and a rotation of delectable daily specials – all paired with bottomless diner coffee.

Next, it's time to hit the slopes at **Swain Resort**. It's a close drive and one of the most renowned resorts in New York State, known for its focus on community. No skis? No problem! They offer rentals on-site for skis, boots, helmets, and poles. Whether you're a beginner testing the slopes or a pro in the game, the perfect path for you exists at Swain Resort, with 11 beginner trails, 13 intermediate, and 11 advanced.

Waiting for you after skiing is a three-page list of drinks at **Battle Street Brewery**, featuring flights, wines, spirits, and 12 craft beers on tap. After drinks, head to **Questa Lasagna** for dinner, just a 15-minute drive from the brewery. Questa Lasagna prides itself on being a restaurant with home-cooked, authentic Italian cuisine using only fresh ingredients. (And while you're still the main character of this weekend, the bruschetta at Questa Lasagna might steal the show briefly.)





Strange Design Public House
Roads Two Travel Photography

SUNDAY

Although the weekend is coming to a close, the experiences aren't over yet! Grab your stretchy pants and #letsbrunch. What did you expect we would suggest on a Sunday morning? Bowling? Well, actually, yes. We'll get to that in a bit. Before bowling, it's necessary to sip mimosas. **Strange Design Public House** is a restaurant and brewery in Geneseo, with a warm, inviting atmosphere. Their brunch menu sports classics like corned beef hash and unique dishes for your sweet tooth like Fruity Pebble french toast. Take a bite, sip your mimosa – and repeat. Live music is often playing in the brewery so you can enjoy some tunes alongside brunch.

And then, bowling! There are several hot bowling spots in LivCo, but one of our favorites is **Livingston Lanes**. Pay per hour as low as \$24.95 a lane, or come during open bowling for only \$4.75. Bowl a strike with or without the gutters (no judgment here) and end your trip on an accomplished high.

The weekend may be done, but remember, the main character can – and should – always come back for a sequel.



GETTING HERE AND AROUND LIVCO

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 LivCo, traffic jams are practically non-existent (although you might end up 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 is less than 30 minutes north of Geneseo (the seat of Livingston County), while Buffalo is about 70 minutes west, and Syracuse is about 90 minutes to the east. Rochester, Syracuse, and Buffalo each have an airport, bus, and train station.

Biking

Biking is a popular mode of transportation in the Genesee River Valley, thanks to our extended trail systems and smooth country roads.

Parking

Public parking is located throughout our nine villages and is usually free. Look for Department of Transportation signs for more information.

Walking

Our villages are easily walkable! If you're staying in one of our nine villages, you're within walking distance of shopping, restaurants, breweries, and much more.

Rideshare & Taxis

Need a ride home from dinner? We have Uber and Lyft drivers available, as well as standard taxi services.



Driving to Livingston County

Albany, NY	4 Hours
Boston, MA	7 Hours
Cleveland, OH	4 Hours
Erie, PA	2 ½ Hours
Hartford, CT	6 Hours
Montpelier, VT	6 ½ Hours
New York City, NY	5 Hours
Niagara Falls, NY	1 ½ Hours
Pittsburgh, PA	5 Hours
Toronto, Canada	3 Hours

Airports Near By

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



SCAN FOR TIPS & RESOURCES
 FOR PLANNING YOUR VISIT

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

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PASS IT ALONG FOR SOMEONE ELSE TO ENJOY.**



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