



CAPITAL-SARATOGA

WINTER DEVELOPMENTS

The Capital-Saratoga region has a handful of exciting hospitality developments in store for this winter. [Hotel Brookmere](#) is opening on Jan. 1 as a modern luxury hotel located just minutes from downtown Saratoga Springs. The property will feature contemporary guest rooms designed with natural woods and stone to reflect the area's natural surroundings. The [Arbor Spa](#), open to the public and hotel guests, will pay homage to Saratoga Springs' heritage of healing, with each treatment room designed to reflect the changing seasons. In addition, [Regent Restaurant & Bar](#) will serve chef-driven, regionally-inspired French cuisine to hotel and public guests.

DESCRIPTION

The Capital-Saratoga region offers exciting outdoor winter activities that will get the blood pumping warm, while comforting spas and indoor museums offer a respite from the cold. The region features snowy landscapes perfect for snowshoeing on one of the trails at [Saratoga Spa State Park](#), or snow tubing at [Willard Mountain](#), which offers unlimited slides for two hours. Saratoga Springs, which is renowned for its mineral springs rife with "magic healing powers," is home to a variety of spas, including the historic [Roosevelt Baths and Spa](#), [The Saratoga Day Spa](#), and [Spa Cascada](#).

There is endless holiday merriment in downtown Saratoga Springs, featuring festive events like [Tree Lighting Ceremony](#), [Victorian Streetwalk](#), [Festival of Trees](#), and an exciting two-day [New Year's celebration](#). Broadway will be lined by wreaths and lights, with festive decor adorning the boutiques, unique shops, lively restaurants and bars on the popular street. Albany features its own handful of winter activities both indoors and out, such as skating at the [Empire State Plaza Ice Rink](#). From December through March, the reflecting pools turn into an ice skating rink, a popular destination attracting thousands of visitors each year, offering free skating, a full-service snack bar, and various special events. Inside at the [New York State Museum](#), visitors can delve into the state's natural and cultural diversity, beginning with its past and arriving at its present with exhibits on the Adirondacks, an Iroquois longhouse, two antique fire engines, rock minerals, and more. The nearby [Albany Institute of History & Art](#) is a repository of works capturing the Upper Hudson Valley region from the late 17th century to today. Visitors can explore the Ancient Egypt exhibit at the [Albany Institute of History and Art](#), where unique artifacts are on display like the mummy of Ankhefenmut, a priest and sculptor from the Ptolemaic Period. Alternatively, when in the region, a visit to the [First Peoples exhibit](#) at the [New York State Museum](#) to see a life-size reconstructed longhouse and contemporary Native American artwork is a must.

For outdoor adventuring outside the capital city, [Willard Mountain Ski Area](#) has [nighttime skiing](#) and a [tubing park](#). The serene [Albany Pine Bush Preserve](#) offers more self-reflection amid its 20 miles of trails.

Did you know one of the world's most popular snacks originated in Saratoga Springs? Invented in 1853, the potato chip is cemented in history and guests can stop by [Original Saratoga Chips](#) for a taste of the classic recipe! Guests looking to add some sweetness to their savory Saratoga selection can pick up a traditional holiday-favorite, a Peppermint Pig. Created by candy makers in the 1880s, this festive treat is a hard candy made with sugar and peppermint, poured into an adorable pig-shaped mold. [Saratoga Candy Company](#) offers a wide selection of the famous treat. In Albany, both [Ralph's Tavern](#) and [Scubbers Wings](#) are serving mozzarella sticks with raspberry sauce, an interesting twist on classic pub fare.

WHERE TO STAY

The [Saratoga Arms Hotel](#), located in Saratoga Springs, is a beautifully restored brick hotel that has stood the test of time. The historic hotel combines turn-of-the-century ambience with modern amenities and provides guests with a glimpse into the past while enjoying the luxuries of the present. The [Washington Park Inn](#) in Albany provides a quaint getaway, and the renovated mansion inn is within a short walking distance from the downtown area. In Schenectady, the [Inn at Glen Sanders Mansion](#) is one of the finest hotels in the area nestled by the Mohawk river.

GETTING THERE

- 2-3 hours from NYC
- 5 hours from Niagara Falls
- 3-4 hours from Montreal
- [Albany International Airport](#) accessible from I-87, I-90 (NYS Thruway), I-87 (Adirondack Northway), I-88 and Taconic Parkway

COUNTIES

Albany, Fulton, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Washington

MAJOR CITIES & TOWNS

Albany, Cambridge, Cohoes, Gloversville, Johnstown, Nassau, Rensselaer, Saratoga Springs, Schenectady, Troy, Watervliet, Whitehall

CLIMATE

The diverse climate of New York State has four distinct seasons. Summers in the Capital-Saratoga region are comfortable and warm, with daytime temperatures averaging in the mid-70s to mid-80s (degrees F.) and cooler evenings. The weather is moderately cool and sunny in springtime and autumn, when spectacular fall foliage attracts thousands of visitors. Cold, snowy winters create a wonderland of magnificent scenery in historic cities and villages.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For more travel ideas and information, visit [iloveny.com](#) or Capital-Saratoga's regional website: [capital-saratoga.com](#)

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