



THE CATSKILLS

NEW DEVELOPMENTS

The picturesque [Thomas Cole National Historic Site](#), which overlooks the Hudson River and surrounding mountains, has opened a [new exhibition](#), ***Native Prospects: Indigeneity and Landscape Painting***. The exhibition, which runs until October 27 features Cole's 19th-century paintings featuring Native figures, in context with Indigenous artifacts of historic and cultural value, and contemporary artworks by Indigenous artists. A trio of new state-of-the-art [treehouses](#) in White Lake have been added to [The Chatwal Lodge](#), bringing a private and elevated escape immersed in nature. The new accommodations complement the 11 existing suites and cottages on the 18,000-acre property. [Bethel Woods Center for the Arts](#) is also introducing a new camping and glamping experience for the 2024 concert and festival season. The state-of-the-art campground includes various options from basic campsite amenities to luxurious glamping experiences.

DESCRIPTION

The Catskills beckon with the promise of discovery, natural beauty, legendary hospitality and attractions on and off the beaten path. Epic waterfalls, fly-fishing and breathtaking views are easy to come by and close enough to New York City to offer adventure by the day or week. Visitors can enjoy a range of activities from cross-country and Alpine skiing to boutique shopping and dining with farm-to-table cuisine.

The region's vibrant arts and culture heritage is a magnet for artists from around the world who have claimed the Catskills as their home, bringing music, art exhibits and performing arts to the center stage. The Woodstock Music and Art Fair of 1969, at which 500,000 gathered at Max Yasgur's farm in Bethel for "3 Days of Peace & Music," is just one example of what can be relived. At [Bethel Woods Center for the Arts & Museum](#), top stars perform in an outdoor amphitheater on the site of the festival alongside the museum, which celebrates the psychedelic 1960s. [The Borsch Belt Museum](#) will be a tribute to the golden era of Jewish American culture. From the 1950s to the 1970s, the Catskills flourished as a vibrant center for entertainment and leisure. Scheduled to open its doors in 2025, the museum's collection of memorabilia, photographs, and artifacts captures the essence of this era. It pays homage to the famous comedians, musicians, and performers who were emblematic of the time, reflecting their significant influence on the region's cultural landscape

Elsewhere, the [Franklin Stage Company](#) produces classical plays and new works adapted from classic texts that confront and exalt the shared human experience. The [Thomas Cole National Historic Site](#) offers tours of *Cedar Grove*, the 19th century home of the Hudson River School founder with original paintings on display in the studio reconstructed to match Cole's 1840s design.

The nearly 300,000-acre [Catskill Forest Preserve](#) offers adventures on public and private land with hundreds of lakes, streams, mountain trails and accommodations including wilderness campsites, cabins and luxury resorts. When the weather gets chilly, downhill ski areas include [Hunter Mountain](#), [Windham Mountain Club](#), [Belleayre Mountain](#), [Holiday Mountain](#) and [Plattekill Mountain](#), many offering cross-country ski and snowshoe trails. In Prattsville, [Bearpen Mountain Sports](#) has miles of cross-country ski, snowshoe and fat tire bike trails. Winter anglers will find ice-fishing at [Colgate Lake](#), [Green Lake](#) and [North-South Lake](#).

Fly fishing was invented in the Catskills, which is also home to [The Catskill Fly Fishing Center and Museum](#). Anglers may fish legendary trout streams like Willowemoc Creek and the West Branch of the Delaware River, or tuck into private outdoor resorts such as the 3,000-acre [Eldred Preserve](#), or the [West Branch Angler Resort](#) in Hancock, which cater to fishing and hunting enthusiasts. Sample hundreds of miles of multi-use trails leading through spectacular landscapes. Climbing the 35 Catskill high peaks is a lofty goal for many, while the 26-mile [Catskill Scenic Trail](#), with a gentle grade, is ideal for hiking, biking and horseback riding.

Don't forget to stretch your legs and refuel as the Catskills is home to a wide variety of [breweries](#), [wineries](#) and [cideries](#), many found along the New York State designated [Catskills Beverage Trail](#). There also is an abundance of farmers markets and [farm-to-table spots](#), and the homemade pies at [Catskill Mountain Country Store & Restaurant](#) in Windham were voted best in the region by *Hudson Valley* magazine.

GETTING THERE

- 1.5-2.5 hours from NYC
- 6-7 hours from Niagara Falls
- 4-6 hours from Montreal
- Air service via NYC; accessible from Route I-87 (NYS Thruway) and Route 17 (I-86)

COUNTIES

Delaware, Greene, Sullivan and Ulster

MAJOR CITIES & TOWNS

Bethel, Callicoon, Catskill, East Durham, East Meredith, Ellenville, Hancock, Hunter, Liberty, Livingston Manor, Margaretville, Monticello, Mount Tremper, Narrowsburg, Phoenicia, Roscoe, Tannersville, Windham, Woodstock and Kingston

CLIMATE

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

FURTHER INFORMATION

For more travel ideas and information, visit [loveny.com](#) or the Catskills' regional website: [visitthecatskills.com](#).

###