



FINGER LAKES

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Named for eleven pristine lakes that spread like fingers across the land, this region features natural beauty and captivating attractions. Rivers and streams connect each Finger Lake to Great Lake Ontario, creating a haven for swimming, fishing and boating. Magnificent state parks are ideal for hiking, biking and camping. Scenic wine trails around the lakes showcase some of the nation's premier vineyards. Complementing the scenery are charming towns and vibrant cities. Racing fans come from far and wide to watch NASCAR's biggest names at Watkins Glen International Raceway.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS

New Food & Drink

[Luna Café](#) in Syracuse is a full-service Japanese restaurant and coffee bar in that has partnered with the Central New York Cat Coalition to boost on-site cat adoptions.

[Stone Bend Farm](#) paired up with [Buried Acorn Brewing](#) to create a modern pizza and beer experience at its new FLX Tasting Room, a state of the art 4,200 square foot greenhouse in Newfield, Tompkins County.

A fast casual restaurant, [Lev Kitchen](#) is inspired by Levant cuisine and is set to open this spring in Ithaca.

[Seneca Stag Brewing](#), a unique farm brewery located near Penn Yan in Yates County, was built in a refurbished hay barn.

New Activities

Keep cool with [Visit Ithaca's Waterfalls Challenge](#). Check-in at 22 waterfalls and natural areas around Ithaca using a free digital passport, earning rewards after the 10th and 18th visits.

The new [ExploraDome!](#) at the MOST (Museum of Science & Technology) in Syracuse's Armory Square opens its multi-million dollar theatre and planetarium offering visitors a chance to immerse themselves in space and more, through vibrant colors, out-of-this-world surround sound, and a screen spanning beyond your vision.

SURPRISING FACTS

1. In January 2012, Hammondsport was voted America's Coolest Small Town by readers of *Budget Travel* magazine. In the final round, Hammondsport and Beaufort, NC tied for first place until a high volume of voting crashed their website and *Budget Travel* called a tie between the two cool towns.
2. The first light bulbs were blown by hand in Corning for Thomas Edison's company in the 1890s. Corning developed the automated production of light bulbs, and in 1926 began producing 15,000 bulbs an hour.
3. Keuka Lake, one of the eleven Finger Lakes, is believed to be the only "Y" shaped lake in the US, and one of only a few in the world.
4. Letchworth State Park, the "Grand Canyon of the East" was voted the #1 State Park in the nation by readers of USA TODAY in 2015 and recently launched the nation's first Autism Trail.
5. The region is home to the women's suffrage movement. Famed suffragist Susan B. Anthony lived in Rochester (her home is now a museum and historic landmark) and Elizabeth Cady Stanton called Seneca Falls home. Seneca Falls was also the site of the 1848 Women's Rights Convention. Anthony was famously tried and convicted at the Ontario County Courthouse in 1873. She was fined \$100 plus the costs of the prosecution, but no attempts were made to imprison her. She refused to pay the fine, calling it an "unjust claim." Elizabeth Blackwell graduated from New York's Geneva Medical College, in 1849, becoming the first woman in America to earn the M.D. degree. Geneva Medical College is now Hobart and William Smith Colleges.
6. Pleasant Valley Wine Company is the oldest winery in the region and the first bonded winery in the entire country. Established in 1860, Pleasant Valley Wine Company was also the first winery in the country to win an award in Europe for American Sparkling Wine (way back in 1867) which is why they can still call their sparkling vintages "champagne."

SPORTS & OUTDOORS

Beaches: Pristine lakes throughout the region and Great Lake Ontario offer beautiful sandy beaches ideal for picnicking, swimming and other water sports.

Boating/Fishing: With many rivers, streams and canals connecting each Finger Lake to Great Lake Ontario, the region is a haven for boating, kayaking and sport fishing. The Chemung River is part of a recreational waterway called the Chemung Basin River Trail, which links with a network of water trails that ultimately flow into the Chesapeake Bay.

Several places through the region offer boat rentals such as [Morgan Marine](#) on Keuka Lake, and [Stiver Seneca Marine](#) on Seneca Lake. Several day tour ships give tours of the lakes such as Captain Bill's Seneca Lake Cruises and Ithaca Boat Tours on Cayuga Lake.

The [New York State Fish Hatchery](#) in Bath & Caledonia produce close to 1,000,000 fish each year, specializing in brown trout, rainbow trout, and lake trout. The Caledonia Hatchery is also the oldest hatchery in the Western Hemisphere.

Hiking and Biking: The new 750-mile [Empire State Trail](#) showcases New York's special places, diverse history, and iconic landscapes. The Trail welcomes bicyclists and walkers of all ages and abilities to experience the Empire State's urban centers, village main streets, rural communities, and diverse history, from New York City through the Hudson Valley, west to Buffalo along the Erie Canal, and north to the Champlain Valley and Adirondacks.

Hunting: Private preserves and game farms are found throughout the region. [Finger Lakes National Forest and State](#) lands are open for hunting during the appropriate seasons.

Winter Sports: Downhill ski areas include [Bristol Mountain](#), [Greek Peak](#) and [Labrador Mountain](#) resorts as well as [Brantling](#), [Four Seasons](#), [Hunt Hollow](#), and [Song](#). Many cross-country ski and snowshoe trails are found throughout the region in resorts and parks such as Beaver Lake and Cumming nature centers, Greek Peak Mountain Resort, Letchworth State Park, [Genesee Valley Greenway State Park](#) and [Highland Forest County Park](#). Snowmobiling is also popular in Letchworth State Park and along the 90-mile Genesee Valley Greenway State Park.

State Parks/National Forest: State parks ideal for hiking, biking and camping include [Letchworth State Park](#) which was voted the #1 attraction in New York State in 2017 and the #1 state park in 2015 by USA TODAY. Letchworth boasts 66 miles of hiking trails and three major waterfalls that run through the scenic Genesee River gorge. [Watkins Glen State Park](#) was also voted as the 3rd best state park in the country by USA Today in 2015, with its deep gorges and 19 waterfalls; [Taughannock](#), where the waters drop 400 feet. The 90-mile [Genesee Valley Greenway State Park](#) is a scenic and historic corridor that traverses the region following the route of the 19th century Genesee Valley Canal and the old Pennsylvania Railroad. [Stony Brook State Park](#) offers a stunning gorge trail with several waterfalls for a pleasant and breathtaking hike. Lifeguarded swimming, playground, and camping also offered.

Scenic Byways: The picturesque [Cayuga Lake Scenic Byway](#) runs from Ithaca to the Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge near Seneca Falls. The [Great Lakes Seaway Trail](#) runs through this region, along Lake Ontario, offering many activities from birdwatching to waterskiing. The Seneca Lake Scenic Byway runs 18 miles along the east shore of Seneca Lake. It starts at the intersection of Route 414 and Townline Road in the village of Lodi and runs south along Route 414 to the border of the towns of Hector and Dix on the edge of the village of Watkins Glen in Schuyler County. This stretch of Route 414 offers expansive views of the lake, waterfalls, gorges, the 16,000-acre Finger Lakes National Forest, vineyards, fruit

orchards, wineries, breweries, distilleries, arts and crafts shops, farm stands, restaurants and Native American and Revolutionary War historic sites.

ART, ARCHITECTURE & CULTURE

[Bristol Valley Theatre](#) (Naples). Based in a repurposed church, Bristol Valley Theater has brought theater arts to the Finger Lakes for over fifty years. Their talented actors and actresses come from New York City to bring amazing experiences to the valley town of Naples.

[Clemens Center](#) (Elmira). The restored Vaudeville-era palace features music, dance and theater, including a *Best of Broadway* series.

[Constellation Brands Marvin Sands Performing Arts Center](#) (Canandaigua). Also known as CMAC, this outdoor concert venue brings world class music artists and orchestras, to the Finger Lakes.

[Corning Museum of Glass](#) (Corning). Watch hot glassblowing shows and explore 3,500 years of glass art in the world's largest glass museum. Exhibits range from Egyptian tombs to Tiffany vases and space shuttle windows. The United Nations has named 2022 The Year of the Glass and Corning will host celebratory events on this accolade.

[Everson Museum of Art](#) (Syracuse). The distinctive I.M. Pei-designed structure houses two centuries of American paintings and sculpture as well as a renowned ceramics collection.

[The Rev Theatre Company](#) (Auburn). Formerly the Finger Lakes Musical Theatre Festival, this summer-long festival celebrates America's most popular art form – musical theater – at the Merry-Go-Round Playhouse and the Cayuga Museum Carriage House Theater.

[George Eastman Museum](#) (Rochester). Tour the mansion and gardens of the founder of the Eastman Kodak Company's home; the museum is the world's oldest photography museum and one of the largest film archives in the U.S.

[Geva Theatre Center](#) (Rochester). The highest attended regional theatre in the northeast outside of New York City; features professional theatre productions, programs and services of a national standard.

[Glorious T Historic District](#) (Montour Falls). Montour Falls boasts over 20 buildings ranging in architectural styles from Craftsman to Victorian to Greek Revival. Dating from mid-to-late 19th century, these buildings make up the historic district known as the Glorious T.

[Johnson Museum of Art](#) (Ithaca) - With stunning views of Cayuga Lake, Cornell University's art museum designed by I.M. Pei is considered a masterpiece.

[Landmark Theater](#) (Syracuse). Built in 1928, this ornate palace wows audiences with its grand staircase, chandeliers, plush furnishings and top performances.

[Livingston Arts Center/New Deal Art Gallery](#) (Mt. Morris). Exhibits include paintings created through a WPA depression-era program.

[Lukacs Pottery Studio](#) (Sodus Point). Visitors can tour the workrooms to see how pottery is created by hand from durable stoneware.

[Memorial Art Gallery](#) (Rochester). Journey through more than 5,000 years of art history, from the relics of antiquity to contemporary works.

[**The Oncenter John H. Mulroy Civic Center Theaters**](#) (Syracuse). Fully staged productions include the Syracuse Opera and touring Broadway shows.

[**Quintus Art Gallery**](#) (Watkins Glen). This art gallery on Seneca Lake in Watkins Glen specializes in collectable fine art. Owners Joe and Kathy Matus are committed to representing recognized artists works because they believe the arts are the spiritual backbone of a culture. Quintus works with private collectors, designers, and corporations.

[**Points of Inspiration**](#) (Southern Finger Lakes). Come explore the Southern Finger Lakes on the Architecture and Scenic Views driving trails. From breathtaking natural vistas to elegant and magnificent architecture, these trails will allow you to experience the Southern Finger Lakes like never. Take a drive and enjoy your Southern Finger Lakes adventure! Geocachers will enjoy the treasures hidden throughout the trails.

[**The Rockwell Museum**](#) (Corning). Visit upstate New York's only Smithsonian Affiliate. The large collection of American Western and Native American art includes classic masters like Russell and Remington.

[**Smith Opera House**](#) (Geneva). On Seneca Lake just southeast of Rochester, the theater is applauded for its great productions and near-perfect acoustics.

[**Syracuse Stage**](#) (Syracuse). Bold new plays, classic musicals and drama are presented in Syracuse University's stunning theatre.

HISTORY

[**American Red Cross, Clara Barton House, Chapter # 1**](#)

Clara Barton established the first American Red Cross in Dansville, NY in 1881. This chapter house functions as both an office and a museum exploring the history of the American Red Cross and the life of Clara Barton, who was both known as the "Angel of the Battlefield" in the Civil War and a staunch fighter for women's rights.

[**Camillus Erie Canal Park**](#) (Camillus). Simms Store Canal Museum is part of this canalside park where visitors can view wildlife along walking and bike paths.

[**Finger Lakes Boating Museum**](#) (Hammondsport). Learn about the wooden vessels that once dotted the Finger Lakes and about the role boats played in turning a rural region into a world-class tourist destination. The museum preserves the rich history of boat building and boating in region.

[**Ganondagan State Historic Site**](#) (Victor). A traditional Seneca longhouse, granary and nature trails mark the site of a major 17th-century Seneca town.

[**Genesee Country Village & Museum**](#) (Mumford). Just outside Rochester, step into the past at one of the nation's largest living history museums.

[**Glenn H. Curtiss Museum**](#) (Hammondsport). Family-friendly interactive displays honor the Father of Naval Aviation, who held the first US Pilot's License #1. Exhibits highlight Curtis's early aviation experiments.

[Harriet Tubman National Historical Park](#) (Auburn). Tour the home of the conductor on the Underground Railroad known as The Moses of Her People. Tubman championed education and women's rights. This year is Harriet Tubman's bicentennial and events will occur across the state to celebrate her life's work and legacy.

[Heritage Village of the Southern Finger Lakes](#) (Corning). A collection of historic buildings offering a glimpse into the way early settlers lived and a chance to take workshops using historic methods for hearth cooking, blacksmithing, and more. Includes the Benjamin Patterson Inn and Tavern which is the oldest building in Corning.

[National Soaring Museum](#) (Elmira). Hands-on aviation exhibits tell the history of motorless flight. Highlights include the world's largest collection of sailplanes and gliders, flight simulators, and an active soaring field at Harris Hill, the Soaring Capital of America.

[The National Warplane Museum and Geneseo Airshow](#) (Geneseo)
The National Warplane Museum is a warbird and military history museum located on the grounds of the Geneseo Airport in Geneseo, New York. Founded in 1994, the museum restores, flies, and displays vintage military aircraft from the Second World War and Korean War eras.

[Seward House Museum](#) (Auburn). Tour the home of the former NYS Governor who served as US Secretary of State under Abraham Lincoln and promoted the purchase of Alaska.

[Sodus Bay Lighthouse](#) (Sodus Point). The historic Sodus Bay Lighthouse is a three-story stone block structure. The first floor is dedicated to Maritime and Regional history. The tower is about 50 feet high and visitors are invited to climb the 52 circular steps into the lens room to see the beautiful vista East along the Lake Ontario shoreline. Built in 1870, the beautiful, historic lighthouse was used to guide ships on Lake Ontario to safe harbor in Sodus Bay. Use of the light was discontinued in 1901, having been made redundant by an outer light on the bay's west pier.

[Sonnenberg Gardens & Mansion State Historic Park](#) (Canandaigua). Tour one of America's most extensively preserved estates from the Victorian era—with nine formal gardens decorated with marble statues, fountains and reflecting pools, and a crystal palace-like greenhouse.

[National Susan B. Anthony House & Museum](#) (Rochester). Shares the story of the famed suffragist and her lifelong work to gain voting rights for women and equal rights for all.

[Women's Rights National Historical Park](#) (Seneca Falls). Explore the site of the first Women's Rights Convention (1848), Elizabeth Cady Stanton's home, and Wesleyan Chapel.

FOOD & DRINK

The Finger Lakes is one of the country's top wine producing regions known for its Rieslings, Gewurztraminer and Ice Wine. Many wineries are included on [wine trails](#) surrounding Seneca, Cayuga, Canandaigua and Keuka lakes and the southern shore of Lake Ontario with regularly scheduled events, trail-wide tasting passports, locavore restaurants and scenic views, a true Finger Lakes wine and food experience can be found here. [The Finger Lakes Wine Festival](#) offers the largest showcase of New York State wines with over 80 wineries paired with regional artisans, music, and culinary classes all in one beautiful location. [The Finger Lakes Cheese Alliance](#) is made up of 12 family farms and producers throughout the Finger Lakes region. They produce a full selection of artisanal cheeses from Gouda, Colby, Cheddar, Mozzarella, Swiss, Brie and Jack to unique cheeses like Irish washed-rind cheese, a variety of goat cheeses and Kefir cheese. The difference in farm-fresh cheese is palatable, with most of

the creameries producing their cheeses from raw milks and in small batches, making them more flavorful and creamier. Many of the creameries have production facilities, farm stores and tasting rooms right on their farms and welcomes visitors to stop by and experience the process firsthand. The Finger Lakes Cheese Alliance also hosts the Finger Lakes Cheese Festival the last Saturday of every July.

Explore Canandaigua's [New York Kitchen](#), where chefs create fine cuisine with farm-fresh produce, artisan cheeses, wines and beers--all from New York State. Taste regional specialties like Rochester's garbage plates, and don't miss the original [Dinosaur Bar-B-Que](#) in Syracuse. The [Steuben Burger Trail's](#) Top 10 Fan Favorite Burger Joints include long-standing go-to burger joints, restaurants with a nostalgic feel and great food, as well as brand new establishments garnering a lot of attention for their creative flavorful cuisine.

Finger Lakes is also a haven for craft breweries. A visit to the [Finger Lakes Beer Trail](#) showcases the growing craft beer industry with over 75 microbreweries and brewpubs located along the Trail and dozens more planned to open soon. The [Craft Your Adventure Beverage Trail](#) consists of 32 craft breweries, cideries and distilleries stretching through Chemung, Steuben, Schuyler, and Yates counties. Download the app for the trail [here](#).

The [ROC/FLX Craft Beverage Trail](#) extends from Rochester to the western shores of Canandaigua Lake in the Finger Lakes and brings together the best of the areas craft beverage experiences. Breweries, distilleries, wineries, and cideries are all stops along the self-guided trail where one can taste a variety of different, locally produced craft beverages. Some also produce non-alcoholic juices for those who prefer a non-alcoholic craft beverage.

The [Livingston Libation Loop](#) is a craft beverage trail featuring eight stops across Livingston County. It is an easy way to sample products from some of the area's craft breweries, cideries and wineries.

The [Finger Lakes Beer Festival](#) makes its yearly return to the garages at The Glen. In the spirit of Halloween weekend, the newly popular Boos and Brews kicks off a weekend featuring over 40 New York State breweries, distilleries and cideries. Fans are also treated to a 32-team cornhole tournament and stein holding competition. *Must Be 21 and Older

The Finger Lakes are known as a haven for food enthusiasts, but one locally made treat rises above the rest: grape pie. Made with a filling created by carefully peeling and baking grapes, this sweet treat is a Finger Lakes specialty. Naples is considered the Grape Pie Capital of the World and each September celebrates the [Naples Grape Festival](#). There are several places one can find a grape pie in Naples, where families have been handing down recipes for generations.

Sometimes a new store can reshape the feel of the street it is on, but it's not often that a whole street comes together to shape a city as a foodie destination. That's the case of [Linden Street](#) in downtown Geneva where several, food-themed businesses have been established ranging from a café with delicious waffles, a wine bar with worldly offerings, a restaurant known for artisan local food, a cidery, a high-end craft cocktail bar and nationally renowned dining experiences.

UNIQUE LODGING

A host of unique places to stay includes the in [Avon Inn](#) Avon; the [Allegiance B&B](#) in Mount Morris; the four historic properties that make up [Inns of Aurora](#) found along Cayuga Lake; [The Inn at Glenora Wine Cellars](#) in Dundee; [Geneva on the Lake](#) in Geneva; [Hope Lake Lodge & Indoor Waterpark](#), in Cortland; [La Tourelle Hotel, Bistro & Spa](#) in Ithaca and associated on site [Firelight Camps](#) glamping complex in Ithaca; a historic octagonal home transformed into an elegant B&B known as [Black Sheep Inn and Spa](#) in Hammondsport; the historic [1867 Parkview Inn](#) in Owego, the oldest continually operated business in

the village; [Mountain Horse Farm B&B](#) and Wellness Retreat in Naples; [Belhurst Castle](#) in Geneva; [Finger Lakes Water Adventure's house boat](#), in Waterloo; [Seneca Sol Glamping](#) in Burdett; [The Farm Sanctuary](#) in Watkins Glen; [The Pumpelly House](#) in Owego; [Watkins Glen Harbor Hotel](#), in Watkins Glen; The [Woodcliff Hotel & Spa](#) in Fairport; and the new [Natluxe & Stars](#), an outdoor glamping experience resort in Watkins Glen. Listed on Conde Nast's Hotel Hot List of 2021, [The Lake House on Canandaigua](#) features 124 guest rooms and suites, a timber frame barn for events, a pool and year-round hot tub, a wellness center, and boardwalk perfect for admiring the panoramic views of Canandaigua Lake. The hotel's signature restaurant, Rose Tavern draws its inspiration from the land and vibrant local communities that define the area. Guests may opt for sea plane transportation from NYC's East River to Canandaigua.

OTHER SELECTED ATTRACTIONS

[AWA Communications Museum](#) (Bloomfield). The Antique Wireless Association Communications Museum exhibits the evolution of wireless communication technology from the first telegraph and first patented cellular phone to radio transmitter stations and television cameras.

[Bristol Mountain Zipline and Aerial Adventure Park](#) (Canandaigua). Seasonal, tree top obstacle course and year-round zipline canopy tours traversing over 5,000 feet via seven different ziplines.

[Buttermilk Falls State Park](#) (Ithaca). Buttermilk Creek descends more than 500 feet in a series of ten cascades and rapids through a ¾-mile gorge. There's a swimming hole at the base of the falls as well as hiking trails and a campground.

[Del Lago Resort & Casino](#) (Waterloo). Slot machines and table games along with eight dining options. Attend special events and live entertainment at The Vine, a concert hall that seats 1,800 people.

[Finger Lakes Casino & Racetrack](#) (Farmington). Gaming and Thoroughbred horseracing with some of the world's top jockeys and horses.

[Greek Peak Mountain Resort](#) (Cortland). Four-season fun includes downhill skiing and boarding in New York's famous Snow Belt, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, snow tubing and Hope Lake Lodge's spa and indoor waterpark.

[Harris Hill Soaring Center](#) (Elmira). Flights over the scenic lakes and countryside in sailplanes with FAA-certified pilots.

[Hill Cumorah Historic Sites & Visitor Center](#) (Palmyra). Tours of historic sites include the family farm of Joseph Smith, an 1830 log home, a chapel and an 1820 print shop.

[Mount Morris Dam](#) (Mount Morris). The largest dam of its type east of the Mississippi River, offering free ranger-led tours inside the dam, daily April through October. Informational visitor center and onsite hiking trails and picnic areas.

[Museum of Science and Technology](#) (Syracuse). Hands-on exhibits, over 300 displays, a planetarium and an IMAX theater.

[New York State Fair](#) (Syracuse). Held annually since the 1800s, the giant 12-day fair features a circus, horse show, parade, celebrity entertainment, and hundreds of exhibits and competitions highlighting art, crafts, cooking, farming, technology and wine.

[New York Kitchen](#) (Canandaigua). Wine tasting, culinary classes, demonstrations by renowned guest chefs, and a gourmet restaurant highlight New York State produce, specialty foods, beers and wines.

[Roseland Wake Park](#) (Canandaigua). The only full-sized cable Wakeboarding Park in the Northeast, riders are pulled in a continuous, 2,100-foot loop over waves, ramps, and rails on beautiful Maur Lake.

[Seabreeze Amusement Park](#) (Rochester). Family amusement and water park with over 75 attractions, rides and slides, shows and games.

[The Strong National Museum of Play](#) (Rochester). The Strong is the ultimate play destination for all ages! Experience two floors of interactive exhibit spaces. Discover the world's largest collection of toys, dolls, games, and electronic games. Explore the National Toy Hall of Fame and World Video Game Hall of Fame, walk among hundreds of stunning butterflies, and more.

[Taughannock Falls](#) (Trumansburg). One of the highest in the Northeast, the 215-foot waterfall drops into a rock amphitheater with walls 400 feet high, an easy $\frac{3}{4}$ mile trail with interpretive signs leads to the falls.

[Tioga Downs Casino & Racetrack](#) (Nichols). Casino gaming and live racing in some of the top harness stake races in the country, combine with concerts, dining and a sports bar to make Tioga a premier entertainment destination.

[Watkins Glen International Raceway](#) (Watkins Glen). Fans come from far and wide to see world-class auto racing with classic cars and NASCAR's biggest names. The US Vintage Grand Prix, held in September, is the largest vintage racing event in the country. The three-day celebration of racing history includes a festival in the village.

[Watkins Glen State Park](#) (Watkins Glen). The hiking trail offers thrilling views as it winds over and under 19 waterfalls and between 200-foot cliffs. The park is ideal for camping, swimming, and picnicking.

ANNIVERSARIES AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Anniversaries

Celebrate the [bicentennial of Harriet Tubman's birth](#), which runs through Underground Railroad Month in September. New York State was Tubman's chosen home, and numerous events and commemorations are being planned, including activities around the traveling exhibit titled "Harriet Tubman - The Journey to Freedom." A 9-foot tall, 2,200-pound sculpture depicts Tubman's travels as she fought to free enslaved people and will make stops in White Plains, Auburn, Rochester and Kingston. In addition, the U.S. National Park Service has launched a new trip planning tool within their app "Travel with Tubman" which highlights significant sites in her life. The app is free.

The [Finger Lakes Trail](#), stretching more than 950 miles, turns 60 this year. To celebrate, hikers are encouraged to log 60 trail miles as part of the [FL60 Challenge](#).

The [Glenn H. Curtiss Museum](#) celebrates the 120th anniversary of its namesake's foray into motorcycles with a year-long exhibition opening in August. Dubbed the "Father of Naval Aviation," Curtiss was an accomplished bicycle racer and early motorcycle pioneer. The exhibit represents the largest collection of Curtiss motorcycles and other brands produced in Hammondsport, Steuben County between 1902 and 1912 at the Curtiss facility.

The United Nations has declared 2022 "The Year of Glass," making a visit to the [Corning Museum of Glass](#) a must-do activity. The museum's popular [Hot Glass Demos](#) celebrate 25 years of artistry this year.

Events

June 16 – 18: The [New York State Blues Festival](#) is one of the largest free blues festivals in the USA. The three-day music weekend celebrates its 30th anniversary this year inside the New York State Fairgrounds in Onondaga County.

June 23-25: [Syracuse Jazz Fest](#) in its 36th year returns to its downtown Syracuse home in Clinton Square. Twenty Syracuse-based jazz groups and more than 135 local jazz artists will perform at 20 different clubs, bars, restaurants and hotel lounges in downtown Syracuse and admission is free.

July 9: In Pompey, N.Y. , join the New York State Brewers Association for their summer beer & music festival hosted by Heritage Hill. Tastings from 50 plus NY breweries, LIVE music all day, food trucks & Heritage Hill BBQ, Experiential exhibits, and fireworks in the evening! Visit [www.britevibesfestival](http://www.britevibesfestival.com) for tickets and information.

August 22 – 26: The Seneca Lake Wine Trail's [Gone to the Dogs](#) event features visits and sampling at 14 different wineries for you, plus dog biscuits and a commemorative bandana for your canine companion.

August 24 – September 5: The much anticipated [Great New York State Fair](#) returns with rides and games, entertainment, music acts, favorite fair snacks and foods and concerts.

CONVENTION CENTERS AND MEETING SPACES

Rochester

Conveniently located in the heart of Rochester, New York, the [Joseph A. Floreano Rochester Riverside Convention Center](#) enjoys a scenic setting on the Genesee River plus enclosed walkway connections to major hotels and parking garages. Award winner year after year of the Facilities and Destinations Prime Site Award, RRCC is a leader in overseeing their own food and beverage service with an Executive Chef and Pastry Chef. With 100,000 square feet of flexible exhibit and meeting facilities, 25 meeting rooms and banquet facilities for up to 3,500.

Syracuse

The [Oncenter](#), located in downtown Syracuse, features the Convention Center which includes a 65,000 sq. ft. multi-purpose exhibit hall, 15,000 sq. ft. grand ballroom, ten breakout meeting rooms, and a 1,000 space parking garage. There is also a covered underground walkway to the Oncenter War Memorial Arena, a 7,000 seat multi-functional venue perfect for large assemblies and sporting events. The adjacent Civic Center features three performance-ready theaters – the largest of which seats 2,117. These venues are ideal for on stage presentations, meetings and workshops.

Ontario County

[The Gell Center](#) The Center offers a chance to have a meeting in a tree house or in the Gleason Lodge, located on a secluded hill side with stunning views of the surrounding area.

[Canandaigua Lady](#) Meet while cruising Canandaigua Lake on a 19th century paddlewheel boat.

[Bristol Mountain Winter Resort](#) Have your next meeting in the lodge of the ski mountain with the highest vertical drop between the Rockies and the Adirondacks, 1200 feet. Or, meet in the slope-side waffle hut, but you'll have to ski or snowboard to get there!

Sonnenberg Gardens and Mansion State Historic Park Meet at a 50-acre historic estate with 9 formal gardens in varying styles.

New York Kitchen Have your next meeting on the grounds of the New York Kitchen and then explore NY State wine and cuisine with a wine tasting, dinner or cooking class with your entire group.

Watkins Glen

Quintus Gallery An art gallery on Seneca Lake in Watkins Glen specializes in collectable art along with offering unique business and wedding venues.

Watkins Glen Harbor Hotel Watkins Glen Harbor Hotel is a full-service hotel with a business center, 6,000 sq. feet of meeting space and a grand ballroom that can accommodate up to 300 people. The highest technology and equipment is available for any meeting planner's needs. Customized AV needs are available through the hotel using Pro Audio Consulting.

Esses Party Deck at Watkins Glen International Esses Party Deck features a climate controlled indoor environment with an outstanding view of Watkins Glen International's famed Esses. Enjoy the deck top view, multiple closed-circuit televisions and a luxurious setting unlike any other.

TRANSPORTATION

Land:

5-6 hours from NYC

1-3 hours from Niagara Falls

5-6 hours from Montreal

Air:

Elmira-Corning Regional Airport, accessible from route I-88, I-86, and bus service

Rochester International Airport, accessible from route I-90 (NYS Thruway) and bus service

Syracuse International Airport, accessible from route I-90 (NYS Thruway) and bus service

FURTHER INFORMATION

For more travel ideas and information, visit loveny.com or the Finger Lakes' regional website:

www.fingerlakestravelny.com

COUNTIES

Cayuga, Chemung, Cortland, Livingston, Monroe, Onondaga, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Tioga, Tompkins, Wayne, Yates

MAJOR CITIES & TOWNS

Auburn, Canandaigua, Corning, Cortland, Elmira, Geneseo, Geneva, Ithaca, Lyons, Owego, Penn Yan, Rochester, Seneca Falls, Skaneateles, Syracuse, Watkins Glen.

CLIMATE

The diverse climate has four distinct seasons. Summers 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 villages, resorts and ski centers.

SHOPPING

There are a wide variety of shopping experiences in the Finger Lakes. Walk along tree-lined streets to more than 100 visitor-friendly shops, outlets, galleries and hot glass studios in Corning's Gaffer District or the charming antique shops and artisan studios at Historic Owego Marketplace, beside the Susquehanna River. Antique Revival in Big Flats is New York's largest antique store. Main Street shops and galleries offer relaxed browsing in Canandaigua, Hammondsport, Homer, Skaneateles and Watkins Glen, and the Erie Canal villages of Brockport, Fairport, Spencerport, and Pittsford.

[Destiny-USA](#) (Syracuse) is perhaps the most famous shopping and entertainment complex in New York State with over 250 places to shop, dine and play, visited by 26 million guests each year. Favorite stores, factory stores and outlets include Apple, Best Buy, Nordstrom, JC Penney and much more. There are over 17 entertainment venues for a full day of fun for all ages including driving a race car, navigating a mirror maze or climbing the world's largest suspension ropes course.

[Eastview Mall](#) (Victor) has over 100 stores to explore and multiple restaurants offering dining experiences from Asian cuisine to hometown eats. Eastview offers a higher form of shopping and features exclusive stores seldom found elsewhere in the nation.

[MacKenzie-Childs](#) (Aurora) is famous for whimsical furniture and artisan-made ceramics in vibrant colors and patterns. Visit the gardens that inspire the designs and browse the 19-room Victorian farmhouse showroom. Near Penn Yan, the Windmill Farm & Craft Market is a premier tourist attraction, with 200 shops and a weekly attendance of 8,000 to 10,000.

[Waterloo Premium Outlets](#) (Waterloo) offers great savings on fashion, gifts and home furnishings in more than 100 famous-brand stores.

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