



## HUDSON VALLEY

### 2026 DEVELOPMENTS

The [Hudson Valley](#), rich in Revolutionary War history and cultural heritage, is emerging as a premier destination to celebrate America 250 with new exhibitions, events and openings that honor the past while looking to the future. On view through 2026, [Disco & the Spirit of '76](#) at the [Orangetown Historical Museum's DePew House](#) explores Rockland County's Revolutionary War past, and America's upcoming 250th, with a companion Spirits of '76 Wine Tasting curated by Joe Printz. In Dutchess County, [RevCon](#) at the [FDR Presidential Library](#) brings Revolutionary War history to life with reenactments, weapons demonstrations and camp displays, while Fishkill Farms hosts the [Revolutionary Cider Celebration](#). Launching ahead of the new year, [Commander in Cheers](#) features a variety of augmented-reality experiences at local pubs, restaurants and inns to learn more about the region's history.

Hudson Valley Shakespeare debuts its new home in June 2026 with the [Samuel H. Scripps Theater Center](#) in Garrison, set on a 98-acre riverside campus emphasizing sustainability. [The Dutchess County Fair](#) celebrates its 180th year in Rhinebeck August 25–30, 2026, and the [Hudson Valley Hot-Air Balloon Festival](#) marks its 35th anniversary Labor Day weekend in LaGrangeville with over 120 flights, “moon glow” displays, fireworks and live music. In hospitality, [Mirbeau Inn & Spa Beacon](#) opens spring 2026, blending Gothic Revival architecture with French-inspired gardens and design.

### DESCRIPTION

Stretching along the Hudson River from just above New York City to Columbia County, the Hudson Valley has long captivated artists, writers and leaders with its scenic beauty, rich history and vibrant culture. Its river towns invite visitors to explore main streets lined with local shops and galleries, enjoy everything from casual bites to fine dining and experience an array of cultural venues and family-friendly attractions. Explore the [Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site](#) and [Presidential Library and Museum](#) in Hyde Park; [Kykuit, the Rockefeller Estate](#), home to four generations of the Rockefeller family in Sleepy Hollow; or [LEGOLAND® New York Resort](#) in Goshen, featuring a year-round themed hotel with daily activities and entertainment for children.

With its proximity to NYC, the visual and performing arts are readily celebrated in the Hudson Valley, with the historic [1869 Bardavon Opera House](#) in Poughkeepsie standing out as the oldest continuously operated theater in the state. Occupying a former Nabisco box-printing factory overlooking the Hudson River, the [Dia Beacon](#) art museum not only helped transform the city of Beacon into an art destination, but also has rave reviews for its collection of works from the 1960s to present day. The renowned [Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival](#) draws

upwards of 30,000 fans through the summer to its home in Garrison. The [iO Arts Center](#) showcases global contemporary artists in a restored 1858 landmark.

The Hudson Valley offers endless outdoor adventure, from miles of hiking and biking trails, including parts of the Appalachian and the [Empire State Trail](#), to kayaking and boating on the Hudson, Long Island Sound, and nearby lakes and streams. The ancient cliffs of the [Shawangunk Mountains](#) draw rock climbers from around the world, with accessibility from the [Mohonk Preserve](#) in Gardiner. And the region is a hotspot for fishing, hunting and even sporting clays, with licenses and details available from New York's [Department of Environmental Conservation](#). Shoppers can ease into their favorite sport at [Sugar Loaf Arts & Craft Village](#) where artists present their work in dozens of shops and galleries within strolling distance of friendly cafés, and [Woodbury Common Premium Outlets](#) in Central Valley with more than 220 stores and the world's largest collection of designer outlets.

Foodies enjoy abundant farm markets, artisanal cheesemakers and award-winning vineyards along the Dutchess and Shawangunk wine trails. The [Culinary Institute of America](#) is a world-recognized culinary school with well-known alumni and restaurants on its campus open to the public for dining.

There's no season like fall in the Hudson Valley with forests painted with reds, yellows and oranges. Halloween is celebrated with the enthusiasm one would expect in the home setting of Washington Irving's classic *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*. Visitors can tour Irving's home [Sunnyside](#); families flock to [The Great Jack O' Lantern Blaze](#) set on an 18<sup>th</sup> century estate with spectacular pumpkin carvings; and those who dare can venture to [Sleepy Hollow Cemetery](#) for an evening lantern tour among gravestones.

## WHERE TO STAY

Visitors should plan to stay awhile with unique lodging options such as the classic [Mohonk Mountain House](#) surrounded by forests in New Paltz and [The Maker Hotel](#) in Hudson where each room celebrates the artisans, artists, craftsmen and builders who "make" the world. The Hotel Kingsley, a 19th-century restored bank building, offers a historic escape located in Kingston's Stockade District. [Pocketbook Hudson](#) will debut late 2025 in a restored 1890s textile factory featuring loft-style rooms, a bathhouse, live-fire restaurant, nightclub and gallery spaces.

## GETTING THERE

The Hudson Valley is convenient to New York City and less than a day by car or rail from the northern reaches of New York State and parts of Canada.

- 30 minutes-2 hours from NYC
- 7 hours from Niagara Falls
- 4-5 hours from Montreal
- [Amtrak](#) to Yonkers, Croton-Harmon, Poughkeepsie, Rhinecliff, Hudson
- [Metro-North Railroad](#)
- [Stewart International Airport](#) in New Windsor
- [Westchester County Airport](#) in White Plains
- Also accessible from NYC airports [JFK International](#) and [LaGuardia Airport](#) in Queens

## COUNTIES

Columbia, Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Ulster (Southeast), Westchester

**MAJOR CITIES & TOWNS**

Beacon, Cold Spring, Hudson, Kingston, Middletown, New Paltz, Newburgh, Nyack, Poughkeepsie, Rhinebeck, Tarrytown

**CLIMATE**

Summers in the Hudson Valley 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 along the riverside and in quaint villages and towns.

**FURTHER INFORMATION**

For more travel ideas and information, visit [iloveny.com](http://iloveny.com) or the Hudson Valley's regional website: [travelhudsonvalley.com](http://travelhudsonvalley.com).

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