

THOUSAND ISLANDS-SEAWAY

NEW DEVELOPMENTS

Renowned for its spectacular sunset views, the Thousand Islands-Seaway region is a wonderful summer escape. Visitors can get helpful travel recommendations at the newly renovated <u>St. Lawrence Seaway Visitor Center at Eisenhower Lock</u> featuring educational exhibits and interactive activities highlighting the maritime history and story of the area. After a day of exploring, stop by <u>The Boat Yard at French Bay</u> located at French Bay Marina to enjoy a beverage and the fresh catch of the day. To kick off summer, the <u>Thousand Islands Music Festival</u> welcomes guests live music and local food and drinks.

DESCRIPTION

Divers can explore Thousand Islands-Seaway on land and sea where breathtaking scenery ranges over 1,000 islands, the shimmering blue bays of Great Lake Ontario, the sparkling St. Lawrence River and mile after mile of picturesque coastline. This summer destination is home to the famous thousand islands dressing, and guests can find several activities to partake in when visiting.

Cultural and historical attractions stand out including the Frederic Remington Museum located in Ogdensburg. It is dedicated to preserving and exhibiting the works of the famous American artist Frederic Remington, who is known for his depictions of the American West. In Oswego, the Fort Ontario State Historic Site is a star-shaped fortress with interactive displays offering reenactments of the French and Indian War, American Revolution, War of 1812 and Civil War periods with costumed interpreters. Local lighthouses include Tibbetts Point Lighthouse in Cape Vincent with the only original working Fresnel lens on Lake Ontario, and Salmon River Lighthouse in Pulaski, one of only three lighthouses along the Great Lakes Seaway Trail that can be rented overnight, as well as one of only three remaining in U.S. with an original "birdcage" design.

Fishing is an all-season sport in the region, with anglers arriving from around the world for trophy-sized catches and tournaments on Lake Ontario, the Salmon and St. Lawrence Rivers and smaller tributaries, as well as ice-fishing during the winter. Whatever the season, it's tradition to end the day with a Shore Dinner of fried fish, salt potatoes, corn, salad and French toast. Other activities include seasonal hunting on state lands; hiking and biking on Wellesley Island or various land trusts offering thousands of acres interlaced with trails; whitewater rafting and kayaking past waterfowl on pristine rivers and reservoirs; and scuba diving shipwrecks in the crystal clear St. Lawrence River and Eastern Lake Ontario, with gear and training available from local dive shops. <a href="https://www.hunting.org/hunt

Wineries along the <u>Lake Ontario Wine Trail</u> provide tours and tastings, and craft breweries include <u>Cape Vincent Brewing Company</u> and <u>Wood Boat Brewery</u> in Clayton. For something stronger, head to family owned and operated <u>St. Lawrence Spirits</u>, which uses 100% St. Lawrence river water and has been thrice named New York State Distillery of the Year (2019-2021).

Unique accommodations include historic <u>Singer Castle</u> on Dark Island where Lake Ontario meets the St. Lawrence River, and private islands with vacation homes such as <u>Whiskey Island Lodge</u> in Clayton. The region's main attraction may be <u>Boldt Castle</u> that was built by American millionaire and Waldorf Astoria owner George C. Boldt for his wife who sadly passed away before it was complete. Boldt also introduced Thousand Island dressing to the public.

GETTING THERE

- 6 hours from NYC
- 4 hours from Niagara Falls
- 3 hours from Montreal or Toronto
- Accessible from route I-81
- The Thousand Islands, Massena and Ogdensburg International Bridges provide easy access to Ontario Highway 401
- Air Service from <u>Syracuse Hancock International Airport</u>, <u>Watertown International</u> Airport, Ogdensburg International Airport and Massena International Airport.

COUNTIES

Jefferson, Oswego, St. Lawrence

MAJOR CITIES & TOWNS

Alexandria Bay, Canton, Cape Vincent, Clayton, Fulton, Massena, Ogdensburg, Oswego, Potsdam, Pulaski, Sackets Harbor and Watertown

CLIMATE

The diverse climate of New York State has four distinct seasons. Summers in Thousand Islands-Seaway 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.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For more travel ideas and information, visit <u>iloveny.com</u> or the Thousand Islands-Seaway's regional websites at <u>www.seawayregion.com</u> or <u>https://visit1000islands.com</u>.

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