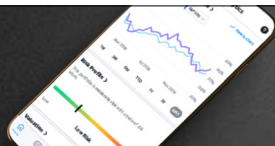


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LIFESTYLE

# Hit the road: Best day trip treasures

By **MICHAEL KAMINER**  
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS | JUL 12, 2019



Cold Spring, NY, USA August 23, 2011 A group of friends ascend the ridge trail of Breakneck ridge near Cold Spring, New York. The trail is considered one of the more challenging on the East Coast (Getty Images)

Hitting the road is a Big Apple summer tradition, and we're lucky to have incredibly diverse destinations within driving distance. Here are some summer road trip hits for 2019:

**Breakneck Ridge, N.Y.** (About 60 miles from NYC) - [hikethehudsonvalley.com/hikes/breakneck-ridge](http://hikethehudsonvalley.com/hikes/breakneck-ridge)

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One of the region's toughest and most scenic hikes, the 5.5-mile Breakneck Ridge trail looks like Middle Earth with plentiful cliffs, craggy rocks, and ever-expanding views. Not feeling outdoorsy? Gawd, then rush to rustic-cool Cold Spring two miles south. Main Street oozes citified charm, like the spiffy new [Cold Spring Cheese Shop](#). Visit the [West Point Foundry Preserve](#), a one-time munitions factory nearby. Dine at [Hudson Hil's](#), a bright cafe/market with killer breakfasts. And sleep in one of [The Pig Hill Inn's](#) nine luxe rooms, set in an 1825 brick mansionette.



Pig Hill Inn's nine luxe rooms occupy a circa-1925 mansionette on a scenic block of Cold Spring, NY. Photo: Pig Hill Inn

**Philadelphia** (about 90 miles from NYC) - [visitphilly.com](http://visitphilly.com)

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We know: every place thinks it's the next Brooklyn, but Fishtown delivers. This northeast-Philly 'hood buzzes with fresh eateries, bars, and galleries. Drop your bags at the six-room [Lokal](#), an "invisible service" hotel

(keypad check-in, remote staff) that feels like the future. Fuel up on bulging burritos at “LA-style street food” mecca [Loco Pez](#). Consume indie rock and craft beer at beloved hangout [Johnny Brenda’s](#). Philadelphia’s got much more, including [Bill Viola’s haunting video art](#) at the [Barnes Foundation](#) and magical choreographed fountains in [Franklin Square](#).



Lokal, a new six-room hotel, feels a lot like Fishtown, the Philadelphia neighborhood where it just opened: Fresh, energetic, and creative. Photo: Heidi's Bridge.

### **Old Westbury, N.Y.** (about 30 miles from NYC) - [villageofoldwestbury.org](http://villageofoldwestbury.org)

This Nassau County village is worth a visit just for [Old Westbury Gardens](#), a historic 200-acre confection of formal gardens, landscaped grounds, ponds and more. Two miles west, you'll find even lusher greenery at the [Clark Botanic Garden](#), a 12-acre “living museum” dedicated to plant life. You can eat greens at nearby [Cafe Baci](#) — the salads are massive — along with expert pizzas and red-sauce classics. Can't bear returning to the concrete jungle? LEED-certified [Viana Hotel & Spa](#), four miles east, calls itself “Long Island's only ‘green-built’ Feng Shui hotel.”



Participants arrive for a dog costume contest for Halloween at the Old Westbury Gardens on September 30, 2012 in Old Westbury, New York. (Bruce Bennett/Getty Images)

**The Catskills, N.Y.** (about 90 miles from NYC) - [www.visitthecatskills.com](http://www.visitthecatskills.com)

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The revitalization of the Borscht Belt continues with the opening of the 1,600-acre [The Kartrite Resort and Indoor Waterpark](#) near the grounds of the long-gone Concord Hotel in Sullivan County. The Concord's famed Tropical Indoor Pool has been replaced by an 80,000-square-foot thrill palace featuring a surf simulator and high-speed water slides. For a more natural thrill, go camping and take a polar bear plunge in the [Peakamoose Blue Hole](#), a freshwater pool in Ulster County's remote Sundown Wild Forest. Dining options include Italian Ciao Bella in Monticello, the Fat Lady Cafe in White Lake and Brew in Rock Hill. Celebrate the 50th anniversary of Woodstock by catching a concert at [Bethel Woods](#), which has booked Santana, Alice Cooper, John Fogerty and Elvis Costello, among others, this season.

**Galloway, N.J.** (about 126 miles from NYC) - [visitnj.org/nj/galloway/attractions](http://visitnj.org/nj/galloway/attractions)

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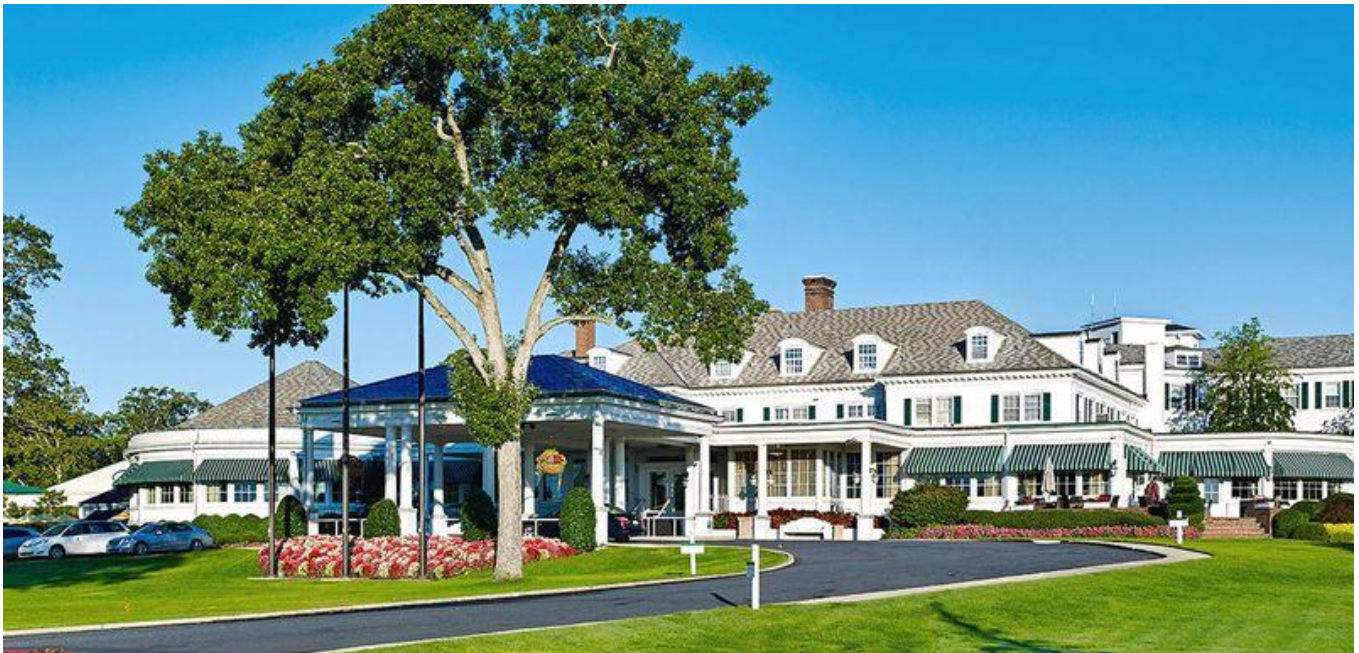
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Eight miles — and light years — from Atlantic City, Galloway feels like a hideaway. Over a century old, the grand [Seaview Hotel](#) just unveiled an \$18 million renovation with airy, elegant rooms. Its 670 acres include golfing and a spa. If you ever leave, you'll find nearby sites like the striking [Absecon Lighthouse](#) and cool newcomers like craft

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[Restaurant & Cafe](#), set in a tiny house. Arrive early, it closes at 2 p.m.



(Seaview Dolce Hotel)

**Madison, Conn.** (about 100 miles from NYC) - [madisonct.org](#)

A beloved beach spot, Madison's becoming better known for its buzzing little downtown. Find crafts from over 180 artisans at nonprofit gallery [Creations](#). Tweet about [The Audubon Shop](#), the state's first natural history and birdwatching shop. Leaf through [R.J. Julia](#), one of the East Coast's greatest bookstores. Walk ten minutes west — and a couple of centuries back — to [the Madison Green Historic District](#), whose structures date to the 17th century. Hungry? [Lobster Landing](#), a century-old shack, serves to-die lobster rolls. Bed down at one of [The Homestead's](#) 10 luxe rooms ooze country-chic charm.



One of New England's most entrancing beach towns, Madison, CT has also been generating buzz for its restaurants and historic sites - and it's less than 100 miles from NYC. Photo: Connecticut Office of Tourism

**Wilmington, Del.** (about 125 miles from NYC) - [visitwilmingtonde.com](http://visitwilmingtonde.com)

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If you thought Wilmington was just an Acela station, surprise: you'll find impressive historical sites, terrific food, and - hello, bargain-hunters - tax-free shopping. [The Inn at Montchanin Village](#) — 28 rooms in 11 historic houses — makes a swish home base. At the regal [Winterthur](#) museum, "*Costuming 'The Crown'*" spotlights 40 outfits from the Netflix series. Marvel at circa-1798 [Old Town Hall](#) and the North Market Street historic district, with 44 architecturally significant buildings. Chow down at James Beard Award-nominated nouveau-Italian

spot [Bardea](#) where pillowy “upside-down” pizza is a signature. End the evening at [The Queen](#), where acts might range from drag to a Guns N’ Roses tribute band.



The Inn at Montchanin Village, part of Small Luxury Hotels of the World, boasts 28 swish rooms in 11 historic houses near downtown Wilmington, DE. Photo: Courtesy Small Luxury Hotels of the World

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[NY Daily News](#)

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