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**CENTRAL NEW YORK**

**Table of Contents**

[General Description](#General_Description)

[New Developments](#New_Developments)

[Surprising Facts](#Suprising_Facts)

[Sports & Outdoors](#Sports_Outdoors)

[Art, Architecture and Culture](#Art_Architecture_Culture)

[History](#History)

[Food & Drink](#Food_Drink)

[Unique Lodging](#Unique_Lodging)

[Other Selected Attractions](#Other_Selected_Attractins)

[Convention Centers and Meeting Spaces](#Convention_Centers)

[Upcoming Events](#Upcoming_Events)

[Transportation](#Transportation)

[Further Information](#Further_Information)

[Counties](#Counties)

[Major Cities & Towns](#Major_Cities_Towns)

[Climate](#Climate)

[Shopping](#Shopping)

# **GENERAL DESCRIPTION**

In New York’s heartland, country roads lead to famous attractions like the [National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum](https://baseballhall.org/), [Howe Caverns](https://howecaverns.com/) and [Turning Stone Resort Casino](https://www.turningstone.com/), as well as hidden gems, from historic inns and art museums to Greater Binghamton’s six antique carousels. A stroll or trolley ride down Main Street is a magical trip in Cooperstown’s vintage American village. Stretching through the heart of the region, the Erie Canal provides many options for recreation, from wildlife cruises to canal side bike paths. Beautiful state parks are ideal for hiking, picnicking and fishing. Enjoy fresh produce from a farmer’s market or sample a new brew at one of the region’s craft breweries, cideries or wineries.

# **NEW DEVELOPMENTS**

**New Attractions**

[**Mustang Valley Sanctuary**](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmustangvalleysanctuary.com%2F&data=05%7C01%7CEric.Scheffel%40esd.ny.gov%7C80625f9904b14007715808da9684b560%7Cf46cb8ea79004d108ceb80e8c1c81ee7%7C0%7C0%7C637987793977735270%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=uXrNCCVkATlobZtnQTqvrzzc0dT4sQdxXP996dOU6N8%3D&reserved=0) **-** Rescue and rehabilitation of wild horses sits on 140 acres where rescued mustangs live. Visitors can enjoy trails, hikes, ponds, and creeks and interact with the horses.

**Fenimore Art Museum** in Cooperstown this autumn presents for new exhibits. There will be shows featuring famed photographer Elliott Erwitt; folk art wood carver Mary Michael Shelley; abstract sculptor Jonathan Kirk; and fantasy painter D. Michael Price. Learn more at [www.fenimoreartmuseum.org](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.fenimoreartmuseum.org%2F&data=05%7C01%7CEric.Scheffel%40esd.ny.gov%7C90505787bd7a4523329b08da97607194%7Cf46cb8ea79004d108ceb80e8c1c81ee7%7C0%7C0%7C637988737752639342%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=HSLLXMbMbz1DksFqWIwNQZErq56qE4obVQRJLf9%2F78o%3D&reserved=0). October-December 31, 2022

[**Mountainside Retreat**](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hawkininvestments.com%2Four-vacation-rentals&data=05%7C01%7CEric.Scheffel%40esd.ny.gov%7C4d4d54a8c74540887e7808da81fb7b8a%7Cf46cb8ea79004d108ceb80e8c1c81ee7%7C0%7C0%7C637965214361561302%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=33YVnnwgSNZ7DcCixu2T8QREVtHV7%2FmQOhmX177KUSs%3D&reserved=0), opening this fall in Schoharie County. Travelers are invited to come enjoy this 3-bedroom 2.5 bath home that spreads out on 5 acres. The natural exposed warm wood beams with high vaulted ceilings finished with lustrous metals will give you all the feels. Take in all of nature's beauty with the home's oversized windows that overlook the valley and mountains or walk outback on the expansive deck and take in some of the most stunning sunsets in central New York.

# **SURPRISING FACTS**

1. Food Network TV star Guy Fieri gave Utica a taste of fame when he featured Utica Greens (made with escarole) and other local dishes on his show *Guy’s Big Bite.*
2. [Otsego Lake](https://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/84981.html) is the “Glimmerglass” lake in James Fenimore Cooper’s novels and *Leatherstocking Tales.* This small lake is the headwaters of the mighty Susquehanna River.
3. Fans of Rod Serling’s *The Twilight Zone,* which now enjoys cult status, flock to Binghamton to see his boyhood home, the bandstand in Recreation Park that inspired an episode of the TV series, and the [Genuis of Rod Serling exhibit at the Forum Theatre](https://broomearenaforum.com/index.php/about/exhibits-displays/).
4. Chittenango is home to the birthplace of legendary author L. Frank Baum. Every June they host [Oz-Stravaganza](https://www.oz-stravaganza.com/welcome) featuring actors from the original movie, current day Oz legacy writers, costume contests, a parade and Oz-themed exhibits. Chittenango has two “Yellow Brick” sidewalks lining their main street.
5. The Village of Sharon Springs and its 547 residents are not only home of the television stars: The Beekman Boys, but its local B&Bs have been featured in Travel and Leisure, The Ellen DeGeneres Show, and Rachael Ray.

# **SPORTS & OUTDOORS**

**Hiking and Biking:** Biking options range from quiet canal side bike paths to challenging trails at [Osceola Tug Hill Mountain Biking Center](http://www.uxcski.com/). The [Erie Canalway Trail](https://eriecanalway.org/) (part of the new [Empire State Trail](https://www.ptny.org/explore/empire-state-trail)) traverses Montgomery, Herkimer, Oneida and Madison counties within the region. [The Empire State Trail](https://empiretrail.ny.gov/) 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. For regional rides visit [BikeThruHistory.com](https://www.bikethruhistory.com)

**Fishing:** State parks such as [Chittenango Falls State Park](https://www.iloveny.com/listing/chittenango-falls-state-park/43922/) and [Delta Lake State Park](https://parks.ny.gov/parks/66/details.aspx) offer fishing and boat launches. [Genegantslet Creek](https://www.visitchenango.com/venues/genegantslet-creek/) is one of the premiere trout streams in the region and has excellent fly-fishing. Oneida Lake is also popular for fishing and boating as it is one of the top bass and walleye fisheries in all of New York State. [Stillwater Reservoir](https://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/34382.html) is renowned for bass, and the Fulton Chain of Lakes serves up record lake trout, northern pike and muskies. The West Branch of the Delaware in Deposit delivers fantastic trout fishing. Otsego and Canadarago Lakes freeze over the winter and make for great ice fishing.

**Golf:** The [Otesaga resort’s](https://www.otesaga.com/golf) Leatherstocking Golf Course, on the shore of Otsego Lake is rated one of the most scenic and challenging resort golf courses in the Eastern U.S. Turning Stone Resort’s five courses include three championship courses ranked among the best in the U.S. Greater Binghamton offers 4-star *Golf Digest* rated golf courses and PGA Tour Champions Dick’s Sporting Goods Open. The region boasts three courses designed by legendary golf course designer Robert Trent Jones Sr., the [Arthur Carter-Amsterdam Municipal Golf Course](https://golfmuni.com/) of Amsterdam, [Seven Oaks Golf Club](https://www.sevenoaksgolf.com/), and [Valley View of Utica](https://www.cityofutica.com/visiting/valley-view/index).

**Hunting:** Private preserves and game farms are found throughout the region. State lands are open for hunting during the appropriate seasons. Find information at [Central New York’s regional website](https://www.visitcentralnewyork.com/outdoor-adventure/) and [Department of Environmental Conservation website](http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/7844.html).

**Nature Centers:** [Landis Arboretum](http://landisarboretum.org/), a 200-acre garden in Esperance, has hiking trails, concerts and classes. Nature lovers can take a walk in the tropics at the [Joseph Popp Butterfly Conservatory](https://www.iloveny.com/listing/joseph-l-popp-jr-butterfly-conservatory/10152/) in Oneonta. Trails amid 600 acres at Rogers Environmental Education Center in Sherburne are ideal for birdwatching and hiking. The [Great Swamp Conservancy in Canastota](https://www.greatswampconservancy.org/) is designated as an Important Birding Area by the National Audubon Society. [Binghamton University’s Nature Preserve](https://www.binghamton.edu/nature-preserve/index.html) encompasses 182 acres of land which includes a 20-acre wetland. In Oneida County, Utica Marsh, a unique urban wetland, offers hiking, bird watching, nature study and an elevated observation deck all within walking distance of the [Erie Canalway Trail.](https://www.ptny.org/cycle-the-erie-canal/trail-map) The [Preserve at Animal Adventure](https://theanimaladventurepark.com/Page/home) in Binghamton invites all animal lovers to observe and engage with hundreds of animals in the wide open. Animals include rhinoceros, giraffes, bison and elk.

**State Parks:** Scenic parks include [Chittenango Falls State Park](https://www.iloveny.com/listing/chittenango-falls-state-park/43922/), with hiking, fishing and picnicking beside a 167-foot cascading waterfall; [Delta Lake State Park](https://www.iloveny.com/listing/delta-lake-state-park/1833/) and [Verona Beach State park](https://www.iloveny.com/listing/verona-beach-state-park/44101/), both with sandy beaches, boat launch, fishing, camping and nature trails; and Glimmerglass State Park, with camping, hiking trails and swimming in Otsego Lake. Northern Herkimer County lies within the [Adirondack State Park](https://visitadirondacks.com/about/adirondack-park), with all the outdoor recreation for which the Adirondacks are famous. In Chenango County you’ll find [Bowman Lake State Park](https://www.iloveny.com/listing/bowman-lake-state-park/1426/) - 660 acres, tent & cabin camping in remote hardwood & evergreen forests, with lake swimming, birding & fishing. The Greater Binghamton area offers [Chenango Valley](https://www.iloveny.com/listing/chenango-valley-state-park/1647/) and [Oquaga Creek](https://www.iloveny.com/listing/oquaga-creek-state-park/3006/) state parks featuring outdoor family activities from golf to fishing to hiking. Ride the waters on a single or double kayak from Morse Kayak Rentals in the Cazenovia area.

**Scenic Byways:** Historic Route 20 Scenic Byway, highlighting roadside Americana, leads to charming villages, country inns and farm markets. The [Central Adirondack Trail Scenic Byway](https://www.iloveny.com/things-to-do/tours-excursions/scenic-byways/#:~:text=The%20Central%20Adirondack%20Trail%20passes%20scenic%20Lake%20George%2C,around%20the%20Adirondacks%20highest%20peaks%20and%20picturesque%20waterways.) leads from Rome in Oneida County to Old Forage in Herkimer County, featuring Fort Stanwix National Monument, a [United States National Historic](https://www.iloveny.com/things-to-do/tours-excursions/scenic-byways/#:~:text=The%20Central%20Adirondack%20Trail%20passes%20scenic%20Lake%20George%2C,around%20the%20Adirondacks%20highest%20peaks%20and%20picturesque%20waterways.) Site in Rome, New York, managed by the National Park Service. The current fort is a reconstruction of the historic Fort Stanwix occupying approximately 16 acres of downtown Rome.

**Winter Sports:** Downhill ski centers include [Woods Valley](https://www.woodsvalleyskiarea.com/index.asp). Cross-country ski and snowshoe trails abound at State Parks such as Delta Lake, Gilbert Lake and Otsego Lake; nature centers such as [Black River Environmental Improvement Association (BREIA) Trails](http://www.breiax-countryski.org/), near Boonville; and the [Osceola Tug Hill XC Ski Center](http://www.uxcski.com/). [Greenwood Park](https://www.iloveny.com/listing/greenwood-park-campground/4270/) in Greater Binghamton offers terrific groomed cross-country skiing trails. The Greater Binghamton area also offers a family fun event every year, Pond Fest Hockey Tournament located at the Chenango Valley state park, featuring a hockey tournament, a 5k run, and open skate. Snowmobiling is a major winter activity in Central New York with thousands of miles of maintained snowmobile trails. Easy access and well-groomed trails make Pharsalia Woods State Forest in Chenango County a favorite cross-country skiing destination.

# **ART, ARCHITECTURE & CULTURE**

[**Anderson Center for the Performing Arts**](https://www.iloveny.com/listing/anderson-center-for-the-performing-arts/7189/) at Binghamton University (Binghamton). Provides cultural events that enrich both the University and community with over 125 performances annually ranging from student recitals to world-class performances.

[**Arkell Museum**](http://www.arkellmuseum.org/)(Canajoharie). Works by 19th- and 20th-century American painters such as Winslow Homer and Andrew Wyeth. Early-1900s advertising art for Beech-Nut products includes work done by Norman Rockwell.

[**Capitol Arts Complex**](https://www.romecapitol.com/) (Rome). The Capitol is a 1,788-seat movie house which opened December 10, 1928, with an all-movie program including the First National feature*, Lilac Time*. Although the theatre received a Modernistic face-lift in 1939, the auditorium is configured exactly as it was in 1928, and much of the original décor remains and has been restored. Also still in place is the theatre’s 3-manual, 10-rank Möller theatre organ, which has recently been the recipient of major restorative work.

[**Earlville Opera House**](http://www.earlvilleoperahouse.com/)(Earlville). Elegant 1892 theater houses an art gallery, theater, arts café and artisan gift shop. Performances range from opera to alternative music.

[**Fenimore Art Museum**](https://www.fenimoreartmuseum.org/)(Cooperstown). Native American and American art in a beautiful setting on Otsego Lake and one of the best and largest American Folk Art collections in the world.

[**Glimmerglass Festival**](https://glimmerglass.org/)(Cooperstown). Internationally-acclaimed summer (July – August) performances, events and discussions beside Otsego Lake was described by the *London Times* as “the most magical of settings.

[**Griffiss International Sculpture Garden**](https://www.griffissbusinesspark.com/sculpture-garden/) (Rome). A unique outdoor sculpture garden located in an industrial development park on the grounds of the Griffiss Business and Technology Park. All of the public works are created by professional artists associated with the Sculpture Space international program.

[**Hyde Hall**](https://hydehall.org/) (Cooperstown). House museum depicts English country life adapted to 19th-century rural America. *The New Yorker* called it “one of three or four great buildings in America of its time.”

[**The Irish Cultural Center of the Mohawk Valley**](https://www.iccmv.org/) (Utica). The Center conveys the spectrum of Irish culture and history through exhibits and classes in Irish dance, poetry, music, theater and language. It also features a traditional 18th century Irish pub, brought from Ireland, and event space for up to 275 people.

[**Lansing Manor**](https://www.iloveny.com/listing/lansing-manor-museum/2569/)(Blenheim). A country home built in early 1800’s. Restored to its original elegance with period décor, the manor offers a slice of American life from the days before the Civil War.

[**Lorenzo State Historic Site**](https://parks.ny.gov/historic-sites/15/details.aspx) (Cazenovia). Situated in one of Central New York’s earliest settled communities and majestically overlooking Cazenovia Lake, Lorenzo State Historic Site offers an opportunity to discover the historic imprint of one trailblazing family and also enjoy a variety of public programs, exhibitions, open-air concerts and live performances, garden events, horse and carriage competitions, educational series, one room school house programs, walking tours and more!

[**Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute**](https://www.mwpai.org/)(Utica). Housed in a landmark building designed by Philip Johnson, the museum collection numbers approximately 15,000 works of art, the core of which is 19th-century through contemporary American fine arts including original works by Thomas Cole, Jackson Pollock, Salvador Dali and Picasso. Historic Fountain Elms, an 1850 Italianate mansion, showcases the finest in Victorian-era decorative arts.

[**Oneida Community Mansion House**](https://www.oneidacommunity.org/our-history)(Oneida). Oneida Community Mansion House is a National Historic Landmark and former residence of the utopian Oneida Community (1848-1880). The historic site comprises four nineteenth century buildings situated on 33 acres of landscaped lawns and gardens. The Mansion House is open year-round, except major holidays, with regularly scheduled house tours and other public programs. And visitors are always welcome to enjoy the historic property’s beautifully landscaped gardens, grounds and trails.

[**Roberson Museum & Science Center**](https://www.roberson.org/)(Binghamton). The area’s premier destination for community events, interactive exhibitions, and engaging education programs in art, history and science education. In alliance with the Smithsonian Museum, a new exhibit featuring the natural world through the art of photography and the extraordinary talents of photographers of all ages and nationalities will be displayed at the Roberson Museum. Each year, this exhibit draws over 20,000 submissions, and it can only be seen at the Smithsonian and here at the Roberson Museum and Science Center.

[**Stanley Theater**](https://www.thestanley.org/)(Utica). Ornate historic 1928 theater with eclectic “Mexican Baroque” design. Broadway Theater, music and dance productions feature nationally known performers.

# **HISTORY**

[**Chittenango Landing Canal Boat Museum**](https://chittenangolanding.org/)(Chittenango). Located in the Old Erie Canal State Historic Park, this site was once a unique 19th Century dry dock complex. Visitors can see three bays and the reconstruction of a general store, boat shop and a mule stable. They offer recreational activities as well as history and science programs and events for all ages.

[**The Bundy Museum of History & Art**](https://www.bundymuseum.org/)

The Bundy Manufacturing Company created time clocks and by the turn of the 20th century, thousands of workers world-wide were clocking in on Bundy Time Recording machines. By 1924, Harlow Bundy’s company had grown to become International Business Machines - IBM. The Harlow E. Bundy House is listed on the National Register. Permanent exhibitions include: the Bundy Clock Exhibit - telling the history of the Bundy Manufacturing Company, the Rod Serling Archive - memorializing one of Binghamton’s most famous residents and Vintage Barbershop Exhibit - preserving what was once an integral part of IBM’s corporate culture.

[**The Farmers’ Museum**](https://www.farmersmuseum.org/)(Cooperstown). Recreated village and farmstead shows what rural American life was like in 1845. Farmers, weavers, blacksmiths and other docents demonstrate 19th-century crafts and traditions. Check the schedule for all events and enjoy the country fair, shops, games and the historic Empire State Carousel.

[**Fort Klock Historic Restoration**](https://fortklockrestoration.org/)(St. Johnsville). This site of the 1780 Battle of Klock’s Field is a National Historic Landmark located east of the village of St. Johnsville and includes the 1750 fortified home of fur-trader Johannes Klock, a 1790’s Dutch barn, blacksmith shop and 1825 schoolhouse.

[**Fort Plain Museum and Historical Park**](https://fortplainmuseum.org/)(Fort Plain). The museum began operation in 1961 after archaeological field work on the Fort Plain hilltop unearthed 18th century period artifacts relating to the fort’s history. In 1975 continued exploration uncovered barracks buildings, a dining hall, officer’s quarters, a small blockhouse and sentry posts. The village of Fort Plain was named after the fort, an important military outpost in the Revolutionary War.

[**Fort Stanwix National Monument**](https://www.nps.gov/fost/index.htm)(Rome). American Revolutionary history created at a full-scale reconstructed timber fort. Learn the stories of people who survived harsh conditions along the Oneida Carrying Place and follow their footprints on the superhighway of the 18th Century.

[**Gerrit Smith Estate National Historic Landmark**](https://www.gerritsmith.org/)(Peterboro).The Gerrit Smith Estate was the lifetime home and office of Gerrit Smith (1797-1874). Driven by his liberal ideas and empowered by his wealth, he was one of the most powerful abolitionists in the United States. Scores of abolitionists received support and renewed commitment to the cause of freedom at Smith’s home and he helped hundreds of African Americans by purchasing their freedom from slavery, arranging safe passage to Canada, helping families establish their lives locally, gifting land, providing educational opportunities and working for human rights.

[**International Boxing Hall of Fame**](http://www.ibhof.com/)(Canastota). Museum honors legends and preserves boxing’s rich heritage. Memorabilia, interactive exhibits and special events include Induction Weekend with a parade and visiting boxing celebrities.

[**Iroquois Indian Museum**](https://www.iroquoismuseum.org/)(Howes Cave). In a modern building designed to evoke the great longhouse of the Iroquois, visitors are introduced to another world view. World class contemporary Iroquois art, Iroquois Performing Arts Amphitheater, major archeology collections and a 45-acre nature park.

[**National Abolition Hall of Fame and Museum**](https://www.nationalabolitionhalloffameandmuseum.org/) (Peterboro). The National Abolition Hall of Fame and Museum honors antislavery abolitionists, their work to end slavery, and the legacy of that struggle, and strives to complete the second and ongoing abolition - the moral conviction to end racism.

[**National Baseball Hall of Fame**](https://baseballhall.org/)(Cooperstown). World-renowned museum reflects American history as it tells the story of our national pastime, from baseball’s beginning in the 19th Century through today. Games are played at historic Doubleday Field, where baseball was “invented.”

[**National Kateri Tekakwitha Shrine & Mohawk Caughnawaga Indian Museum**](https://www.katerishrine.com/st-kateri)(Fonda). The only completely excavated Iroquois Indian Village in the U.S. and the site where Saint Kateri Tekakwitha lived from age 10 to 21. The site was beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1980 and the holy spring where she was baptized still flows today.

[**New York State Museum of Energy**](https://nyrej.com/new-york-state-museum-of-energy-completed) (Utica). Located next to the Utica Zoo and admission-free, this brand new 15,000 sq. ft. facility was designed and financed by the New York Power Authority. Kids can watch a film about electricity and learn about the different stages at various hands-on exhibits.

[**Northeast Classic Car Museum**](https://classiccarmuseum.org/)(Norwich). The Largest Car Museum in the Northeast with more than 200 cars, trucks, and motorcycles on display. They house the world’s largest collection of Franklin Luxury cars and are home to the Staley Collection.

[**Old Fort Johnson**](https://www.oldfortjohnson.org/)(Amsterdam). The original limestone house built by French and Indian War hero Sir William Johnson houses a museum of the cultural, military and industrial past of the Mohawk Valley.

[**Old Stone Fort Museum**](https://theoldstonefort.org/)(Schoharie). You’re sure to be inspired by the chronicles of the people who defended this original Revolutionary War fortification, attacked by the British in 1780.

[**Oriskany Battlefield State Historic Site**](https://www.iloveny.com/listing/oriskany-battlefield-state-historic-site/3017/)(Oriskany). Commemorates great men and women who lived and died bravely securing the birth of our nation. New York militiamen with their Oneida allies fought Loyalist forces in bitter pursuit of liberty.

[**Phelps Mansion Museum**](https://phelpsmansion.org/)(Binghamton). Coined by American author Mark Twain, the *Gilded Age in America* lasted from 1870 to 1900. Once referred to as “Mansion Row,” Sherman D. Phelps and his family built their home at 191 Court Street during this era.

[**St. Marianne Cope Garden Shrine**](https://www.saintmarianne.org/) (Utica). Established and dedicated October 22, 2017, by St. Joseph & St. Patrick Church on the childhood home site of St. Marianne Cope, Beloved Mother of Outcasts, canonized by Pope Benedict XVI October 21, 2012. Also known as Mother Marianne Cope of Molokai, she was the first Franciscan woman from North America to be canonized.

[**Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site**](https://www.iloveny.com/listing/schoharie-crossing-state-historic-site/3350/) (Fort Hunter). The only location where visitors can witness all three phases of the Erie Canal construction. The site contains a portion of the original “Clinton's Ditch” canal as well as several features from the enlarged canal such as locks and the remains of the Schoharie Creek Aqueduct. Featuring nature trails, boat launch, Erie Canalway Trail access, special events.

[**Shako:wi Cultural Center**](https://www.iloveny.com/listing/shako%3Awi-cultural-center/11518/) (Oneida). Explore the depths of Oneida tradition and culture. Feel the power of Wampum – a sacred beaded substance, used to fashion belts and gauntlets, with a healing presence meant to sanctify agreements and traditions. Absorb and marvel at the craftsmanship involved in creating lacrosse sticks by hand. These are but some of the relics and mementos that span the Oneida lifetime and that are on display at the center.

[**Shrine of Our Lady of Martyrs**](https://www.ourladyofmartyrsshrine.org/)(Auriesville). Established in 1885, the shrine honors the martyrdom of three Jesuit missionaries and is also the birthplace of Saint Kateri Tekawitha (the “Lily of the Mohawks”). The site includes five chapels, two museums, a visitor center and 400 acres of flowered landscapes and tree-studded slopes and lawns.

# **FOOD & DRINK**

Culturally diverse, Utica was featured in *USA Today* as one of the “Top 10 Cities with International Flair.” Great culinary options brought by immigrants to Utica include Bosnian, Cuban, German, Greek, Italian, Jamaican, Lebanese and Thai. Other local specialties include Chicken Riggies, Tomato Pie and Half-Moon Cookies, as well as the now-famous Utica Greens. The recently opened 225-mile [Upstate Eats Trail](https://www.upstateeatstrail.com/) invites visitors to sample all of New York’s most popular and unique dishes at their own pace across four cities including Binghamton.

[Brooks House of Bar-B-Q](https://brooksbbq.com/) in Oneonta is another icon, known for some of the best barbecue in the Northeast. The Bull’s Head Inn in Schoharie County is a truly unique dining experience with the finest American cuisine in a historic and some say haunted setting. Binghamton (home of the Spiedie) is quickly becoming a “foodie’s paradise” with great new restaurants, brew pubs and coffee shops as well as events like Binghamton and Endicott Restaurant Weeks, The Binghamton Wine & Tapas Tour and Binghamton Martini Walk.

[BrewCentralNY.com](http://www.BrewCentralNY.com) provides a complete overview of the region’s craft beverage history, stellar breweries, distilleries, wineries, hard cideries and unique pubs. Once the hop-growing capital of North America, the region now boasts award-winning breweries and wineries as well as historic cider mills. Saranac Brewery, in Utica, was one of the first craft breweries in the U.S; family owned and operated for 125 years. Tours finish with tasting fine craft beers and soda in the 1888 Tavern.

Along the [Cooperstown Beverage Trail](https://www.schohariecountybeveragetrail.com/), the Bear Pond Winery, Rustic Ridge Winery, Pail Shop Vineyards, Red Shed Brewery, Cooperstown Brewing Company, Brewery Ommegang and the Fly Creek Cider Mill offer tours, tasting and events. Butternuts Beer & Ale brewery, set in an old dairy barn, crafts beers with hops and wheat grown on their own farm and water from the property’s natural spring. The Cooperstown Distillery has won numerous gold medals for its hand-crafted, small batch vodka, gin and bourbon. Located in the village the distillery offers tours and tastings. For safe group travel, [Leatherstocking Trolley](https://www.leatherstockingtrolley.com/) offers tours.

[Meier’s Creek](https://www.meierscreekbrewing.com/), situated on 22 acres of farmland, Meier's Creek looks to their surroundings - rolling hills, beloved trails, abounding waterways, natural beauty - to inspire them. They brew mainstays that can reliably quench your thirst, mixed with continual releases of new, exciting flavors and combinations.

[Schoharie Beverage Trail](https://www.schohariecountybeveragetrail.com/) is a picturesque trail comprising of wineries, cideries, and breweries.

Visit [CNYfresh.com](http://www.CNYfresh.com): The region is home to a large number of farmers markets both in the summer and in the wintertime. This area’s diverse agriculture base has grown over the past decade to include sheep dairies, artisan cheese makers, hop farms, vegetable growers, pumpkin farms, apple orchards and significant Amish communities.

# **UNIQUE LODGING**

[**Amsterdam Castle NY**](https://amsterdamcastle.com/)**,** a boutique style hotel and restaurant in Amsterdam, offers a truly unique hotel guest experience and can host functions and events of any size. This grand hotel was constructed by prolific architect and builder Isaac Perry, born 1827. The historic property dates back to long before 1827 where a magnificent mansion stood in its place in 1736. Mr. Perry designed the famous NYS Capitol Building in Albany among many other notable structures in the Empire State.

[**Herkimer KOA Resort**](https://koa.com/campgrounds/herkimer/) in Middleville provides visitors a camping experience right at “Herkimer Diamonds” (quartz crystals) source. Learn how these crystals have been collected for hundreds of thousands of years and go prospecting to gather your own.

[**Hulse Hill Farm**](https://hulsehillfarm.com/) is a B and B near Cooperstown’s Main Street provides guests a quaint country stay and a chance to interact with farm life and animals on site.

The [**American Hotel**](https://www.americanhotelny.com/) in Sharon Springs was built in 1847 to cater to the glitterati of the time who came to town for the healing waters: Oscar Wilde gave porch-side readings; Ulysses S. Grant stayed at the former Pavilion Hotel.

[**Blueberry Brooke Bed & Breakfast**](http://blueberrybrooke.com/), situated on a 40-acre organic blueberry farm in Deansboro, just south of Clinton, is the perfect mix of comfort and elegance invoking the feeling of a European getaway. Located minutes from Hamilton College and Colgate University.

The Oneida Nation opened [The Cove at Sylvan Beach](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furldefense.com%2Fv3%2F__https%3A%2Fgcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com%2F%3Furl%3Dhttps*3A*2F*2Fwww.covesylvanbeach.com*2F%26data%3D04*7C01*7CLisa.Soto*40esd.ny.gov*7C6b8194eb9ceb4d13519f08da0b4123b3*7Cf46cb8ea79004d108ceb80e8c1c81ee7*7C0*7C0*7C637834671657734971*7CUnknown*7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0*3D*7C3000%26sdata%3DA6635Mv6TSYaVR0cDlPaheg*2B7AG2bsJKHN4qHYL5*2BWQ*3D%26reserved%3D0__%3BJSUlJSUlJSUlJSUlJSUlJSUlJQ!!DlCMXiNAtWOc!3GXVZ78-NPJPkcYcMvC0zBAG4e22nuWCukc6RLXygHoAuDDnCEGgyaAv3prmGQSpcdyApavaIZ7XFl4ID7Gr9S0lUSJkJcb4%24&data=04%7C01%7CEric.Scheffel%40esd.ny.gov%7C79802c36ab664ece65bf08da0b4623d3%7Cf46cb8ea79004d108ceb80e8c1c81ee7%7C0%7C0%7C637834693160290425%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=3GcJaP2wz1krJm2oOBvA%2Fz4VJ1KONgyNId2x5WhDFhQ%3D&reserved=0) in May. The $35 million Oneida Lake vacation rental destination features 70 contemporary lakeside cottages, complete with a pontoon boat and dedicated boat slip.

[**Flying Changes B&B**](https://www.thisiscooperstown.com/single-listing?id=46), on a 130-acres horse farm in Oneonta with unique amenities of an exclusive hotel and the grounds of a high-end resort that has a cathedral style library, an indoor soccer arena as well as a stocked bass pond on the grounds which is also bordered by a registered trout/bass river.

The [**Otesaga Resort Hotel**](https://www.otesaga.com/), a magnificent, Federal-style structure on Lake Otsego in Cooperstown, has unique features like a grand portico with 30-foot columns and a firebar. Amenities include an on-site restaurant, an inground pool and a dedicated concierge service. Amsterdam Castle, in Amsterdam, wows guests as they enter its 100-foot long Grand Hall with its 44-foot high ceiling and suits of armor lining the walls. Designed by renowned 19th century Victorian architect Isaac G. Perry in the style of a European castle, this former armory, now a 23-room boutique inn with modern guest rooms and antique-studded public spaces, feels like a cross between a museum and a five-star hotel.

The historic [**DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Utica**](https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/zuanydt-doubletree-utica/), circa 1912, once host to guests such as Judy Garland, Mickey Mantle, FDR and Eleanor Roosevelt, has seen its public areas restored and guest rooms upgraded and modernized, and is is conveniently located in the city center and near the N.Y. State Thruway and Amtrak station.

[**The** **Lodge at Turning Stone Resort**](https://www.turningstone.com/accommodation/the-lodge)is an elegant all-suite hotel that has perfected the art of pampering. This beautiful hideaway offers treasured privacy that superbly complements the Resort’s recreational pleasures. Your sumptuous suite is just mere steps from fun and excitement, yet still a serene world with the award-winning Skana Spa just steps away. The Lodge earned the *Forbes Travel Guide* 4 Star Award for the fourth consecutive year, the 2020 *Condé Nast Johansen’s* Award for Best Country Side Hotel for the second year in a row and the 2020 AAA Four-Star Award.

[**Ye Olde Landmark Tavern**](https://www.iloveny.com/listing/ye-olde-landmark-tavern/8568/) is a six-sided inn built in 1850 in the hamlet of Bouckville. Their historic guest rooms showcase the Landmark’s legacy of gracious hospitality, and their on-site restaurant features a selection of new favorites and dishes that have stood the test of time.

The [**Railroad Inn**,](https://therailroadinn.com/) originally built in 1890, is in Cooperstown, a block from Main Street and within eyeshot of the Cooperstown Distillery. On the National Register of Historic Places, the Inn was remodeled into a 22-room boutique hotel. Families love the loft suites, with a spiral staircase that leads to a space with bunk beds and a TV, while romantics enjoy rooms that open to an outside porch. Traditions at the Glen Resort and Conference Center, in Johnson City near Binghamton, features golf, a pampering spa treatment and luxurious accommodations all in one scenic, historic destination. Traditions also offers a one-of-a-kind Salt Sanctuary on site.

Elegantly appointed with warm colors and charming decor, the [**Colgate Inn**](https://www.innatcolgate.com/) in Hamilton offers 40 rooms and suites with unique blends of historic appeal and modern amenities. The Tavern, their on-site restaurant, serves farm-to-tavern cuisine for lunch and dinner daily, plus brunch on the weekend.

[**Traditions at the Glen Resort & Spa**](https://traditionshotelandspa.com/) Traditions at the Glen is at the intersection of history, charm and elegance. Enjoy every modern pleasure and convenience while staying at a historic mansion that is irrevocably tied to some of the greatest names in U.S. politics, sports and business. Elegant rooms and suites, an 18-hole championship golf course, and a full-service spa await you.

# **OTHER SELECTED ATTRACTIONS**

[**Airborne Adventures Ballooning**](http://www.flyairborne.com/)(Munnsville). Hot-air balloon flights above the scenic countryside with an FAA-certified, commercial balloon pilot.

[**Animal Adventure Park**](https://theanimaladventurepark.com/Page/home)(Harpursville). A unique animal encounter in a rural sector of Broome County. Featuring giraffes, wolves, kangaroos, and much more, this local zoo allows for children and adults of all ages to interact with a wide range of animals from all over the world. Animal Adventure keepers host talks, events, and tours to allow for an educational, and fun, experience for everyone. Pet, feed, and ride the animals at Animal Adventure Park.

[**Blenheim-Gilboa Power Project Visitors Center**](https://www.iloveny.com/listing/blenheim-gilboa-power-project-nyspa-visitor-center-and-lansing-manor/1400/)(North Blenheim). State-of-the-art electricity exhibits, adjacent to historic Lansing Manor and the 2.5-mile Bluebird Trail.

[**Brewery Ommegang**](https://www.ommegang.com/)(Cooperstown). Belgian-style microbrewery on a 135-acre farm, on the banks of the Susquehanna River with year-round tours, tastings, events. Recently underwent a $2 million expansion to their café and bar.

[**Broome County Carousels**](https://www.gobroomecounty.com/community/carousels)(Binghamton). Six antique carousels designed from 1920 to 1934 by Allan Herschell; located in several Binghamton area sites.

[**Burbine Forest Disc Golf Course**](https://udisc.com/courses/burbine-forest-dgc-JU9P)(Charleston, NY). Eighteen-hole wooded disc golf course travels through mature pine and hardwoods of The Thomas Burbine Memorial Forest with one open water carry hole. Hiking the course is a beautiful 2-mile loop trail.

[**Catskill Mountain Balloon**](https://www.otesaga.com/)(Oneonta). Hot-air balloon rides above the scenic countryside with FAA-certified balloon pilots. Flights depart at sunrise and 2 hours before sunset, year-round.

[**Erie Canal Cruises**](https://eriecanalcruises.com/)(Herkimer). 90-minute, fully narrated, lock-thru cruises aboard one of the *Lil’ Diamond* vessels docked beside Gems Along the Mohawk and Waterfront Grille at the Herkimer Marina.

[**Howe Caverns**](https://howecaverns.com/)(Howes Cave). Rated a Top 5 Northeast Family Attraction by Disney’s *Family Fun*. Take an elevator ride down to amazing rock formations and boat tour on an underground river. Year-round temperature is 52 degrees.

[**Howe High Adventures**](https://howecaverns.com/high-adventure-pricing-2021/)(Howes Cave). This above-ground world invites you to challenge yourself with fun, healthy, outdoor activities such as a zip-line, ropes course, 26-foot rock wall, air jumper or experience the Northeast’s longest course for New York State’s first H2OGO Course.

[**John S. Dyson NYS Energy Zone**](https://www.triviuminteractive.com/project/john-s-dyson-new-york-energy-zone) (Utica). Discover the dynamic world of electricity, past, present, and future, and New York State’s part in it. Interactive exhibits, activities, movies and videos meet you at every turn. Learn about NYS’s exciting electric history, its great electric companies and the important work at NYPA’s Frederick R. Clark Energy Control Center in nearby Marcy. Open 7 days a week 10am to 4pm. Free admission.

[**Point Place Casino**](https://www.pointplacecasino.com/)(Bridgeport). This smoke-free, 65,000 square foot gaming and dining facility features a modern Las Vegas-style gaming floor with nearly 500 popular slot machines and 20 classic table games. Point Place Casino also offers several dining and cocktail lounge options: Burgers of Madison County, Wicked Good Pizza, Opals Confectionary, The Fireside Lounge, featuring a beautiful custom-built fireplace, and Paddle Bar with live entertainment every weekend.

[**Riverlink Park**](http://riverlinkparkmarina.com/)(Amsterdam). Riverlink Park and Mohawk Valley Gateway Overlook - A pedestrian bridge located over the Mohawk River and Erie Canal with breathtaking views connecting to the waterfront park linked to downtown Amsterdam. Open-air stage, children’s playground, restaurant, 9/11 memorial, 300 feet of transient boat docking. Free concerts during July and August.

[**Robot City Games**](https://www.robotcitygames.com/) is the biggest and best arcade in New York State with over 100 games and pinball ranging from 1974 to today! A giant video game store with thousands of games spanning the entire history of video games!

[**Secret Caverns**](https://howecaverns.com/)(Howes Cave). Geological wonders include a 100-foot underground waterfall and amazing rock formations.

[**Sylvan Beach Amusement Park**](https://www.sylvanbeachamusementpark.com/)(Sylvan Beach). Great rides and entertainment beside Oneida Lake, popular for its two miles of sandy beaches, fishing and boating.

[**Turning Stone Resort Casino**](https://www.turningstone.com/)(Verona). AAA Four Diamond Award luxury accommodations in four distinctive hotels; Vegas-style gaming, five golf courses, two spas, fine dining, celebrity concerts, dance clubs, entertainment complex and sportsplex dome.

[**Utica Zoo**](https://www.uticazoo.org/)(Utica). Celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2014. Situated in the middle of Utica’s Frederick Olmstead designed city park system, Utica zoo features animals from around the world and is open year-round.

[**Vernon Downs Casino Hotel**](https://www.vernondowns.com/)(Vernon). An all-suite hotel that is home to the Miracle Mile harness racetrack, celebrity entertainment, over 770 gaming machines and four restaurants.

[**Wolf Mountain Nature Center**](https://www.thewolfmountainnaturecenter.org/) (Smyrna). Located in the Town of Smyrna, Wolf Mountain is situated on 60+ acres. Learn about, appreciate, and admire the majestic Gray Wolf, and his cousins; the Arctic Fox, and Eastern Coyote. Educational tours are available.

# **CONVENTION CENTERS**

[The Otesaga Resort](https://www.otesaga.com/), whose name is derived from the Iroquois word for “a place of meetings,” is ideal for meetings and conferences for groups as large as 350; with over 12,000 square-feet of meeting space.

[Turning Stone Resort Casino](https://www.turningstone.com/), in Verona, features luxury accommodations with more than 700 guest rooms among four distinctive hotels and 100,000 square feet of meeting space.

[Vernon Downs Casino Hotel](https://www.vernondowns.com/), Vernon, an all-suite property, offers 16,000 square feet of meeting space, state-of-the-art technology for meetings and conferences and an outdoor terrace with scenic views for social and networking events.

[The DoubleTree by Hilton Binghamton](https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/bgmwsdt-doubletree-binghamton/) and Holiday Inn Binghamton both offer excellent meeting and conference space.

[White Eagle Conference Center](http://whiteagle.com/) is situated on 140 acres adjacent to Lake Moraine in Hamilton, NY. The executive retreat nature of the facility provides a relaxing atmosphere in which reflection, creativity, open communication and teamwork are encouraged.

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Cooperstown Winter Carnival** - Details being developed but dates are Feb 2-5, 2023. Check out [website](https://www.cooperstownwintercarnival.com/) for more information.

# **TRANSPORTATION**

**Land:**

3-5 hours from NYC

4-5 hours from Niagara Falls

4-5 hours from Montreal

Amtrak train services – based on available schedules

**Air:**

Greater Binghamton Airport; accessible from I-81, I-88, Route 17 and bus services

Oneida County Airport; accessible from I-90 (NYS Thruway)

# **FURTHER INFORMATION**

For more travel ideas and information, visit [iloveny.com](http://www.iloveny.com) or Central New York’s regional website: [www.visitcentralnewyork.com](http://www.visitcentralnewyork.com)

**COUNTIES**Broome, Chenango, Southern Herkimer, Madison, Montgomery, Oneida, Otsego, Schoharie

# **MAJOR CITIES & TOWNS**

Amsterdam, Binghamton, Canastota, Canajoharie, Cazenovia, Cherry Valley, Chittenango, Cobleskill, Cooperstown, Hamilton, Herkimer, Johnson City, Little Falls, Ilion, Norwich, Oneonta, Rome, Sharon Springs, Sylvan Beach, Utica, Verona, Vestal.

**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**

[Alpin Haus, Amsterdam](https://www.alpinhaus.com/skishop/), NY, started as a ski shop with one full time employee and a handful of helpers. Today, Alpin Haus is one of the leading outdoor recreational retailers in the Northeast. Since the first store opened, it has become the place to go for recreational vehicles, snowmobiles, personal watercrafts, ski and snowboard clothing, boats, pools, spas and patio furniture.

[Binghamton’s Antique Row](https://www.iloveny.com/listing/antique-row/7208/) has many unique shops and antique galleries.

[Clinton, New York](https://www.townofclinton.com/), home of Hamilton College, is a picturesque small town with dozens of unique shops and boutiques situated around the Village Green within easy walking distance. Enjoy annual shopping strolls, art walks and a bustling weekly Farmer’s Market every Thursday. Be sure to include a visit to Clinton Cider Mill for fresh pressed cider and warm cider donuts!

[Fly Creek Cider Mill and Orchard](https://www.flycreekcidermill.com/), a huge marketplace just outside Cooperstown, features delicious New York products with over 40 daily tastings: pies, maple syrup, cheese, honey, wine and fresh-picked produce. Take a self-guided tour of the cider mill and its working 1856 waterwheel.

[Gems Along the Mohawk](http://gemsalongthemohawk.com/), beside the Erie Canal in Herkimer, is a large tourist information and retail center that promotes products made in Central New York and is host to Erie Canal Cruises where you can experience history on the waterway that changed everything in 1825.

[Ideuma Creek Alpaca Farm](http://www.icalpacas.com/), in Unadilla, offers tours and a gift shop with locally made alpaca-fleece items such as super-soft sweaters, blankets and teddy bears.

The [Madison-Bouckville](https://www.madison-bouckville.com/) area, along the Route 20 NY Scenic Byway, features more than 10 country antique shops and hosts the largest outdoor antique event in the state - Madison-Bouckville Antique Week - every August.

[Oneonta](https://www.oneonta.ny.us/), a college town on the banks of the Susquehanna River, has historic architecture, a relaxed pace and easy parking. Main Street, with red brick sidewalks with turn-of-the-century street lamps, is lined with art and antique galleries, boutique shopping and bistro-style coffee shops and dining.

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