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YOUR COMPLETE GUIDE TO THE PARKS

NEW YORK STATE PARKS



Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

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WELCOME



Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor



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Explore New York State with the FREE official I Love NY app. Thousands of attractions, events, hotels, campgrounds, parks, restaurants, wineries, breweries and more are just a few taps away.



Welcome to the natural splendor of New York's outdoors! Our state park system is the destination of choice for 69 million visitors each year who enjoy the 180 state parks, 35 historic sites, thousands of campsites and cabins, sandy beaches and sparkling pools, golf courses, picnic areas, playgrounds, marinas, a vast network of scenic trails, and more.

Year-round adventure beckons in every corner of the state from the refreshing waters of lake beaches on a summer day to the spectacular colors of a fall foliage hike to a wide variety of winter sports when the snow falls. This year, spending time in the parks is easier than ever with the availability of a single-year Empire Pass card or decal, or multi-year and lifetime Empire Pass options for convenient entry.

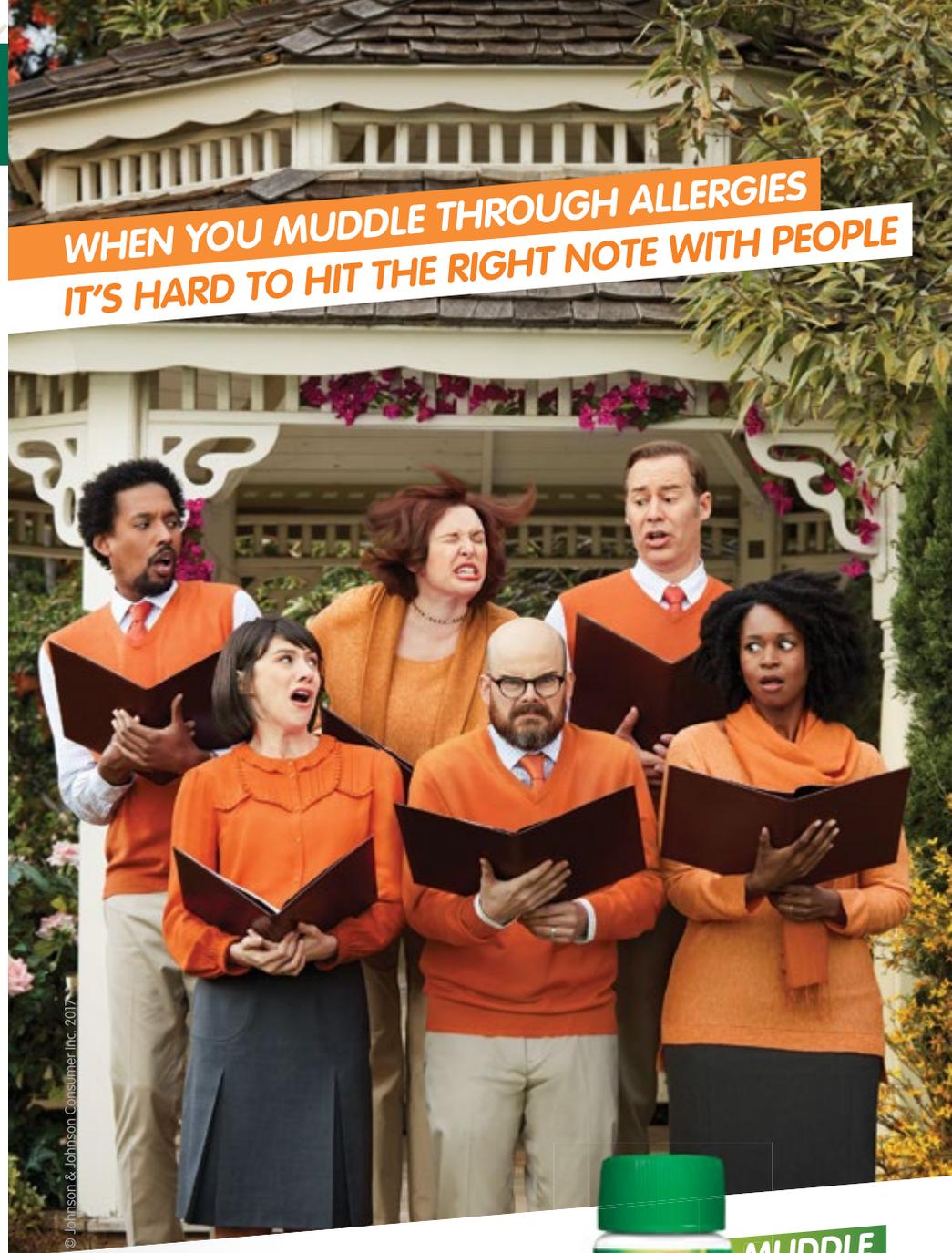
If you're looking for travel ideas, some helpful resources to inspire your next getaway include publications like this guide, and online tools such as websites, apps, maps and virtual tours. You can learn more at **parks.ny.gov** or **iloveny.com**.

So gather family and friends and get outside to experience our state's natural beauty and create special memories that will last a lifetime.

Sincerely,

Andrew M. Cuomo | Governor

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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WHAT'S NEW! WHY PARKS MATTER

“There is nothing so American as
our national parks.”

— Franklin Delano Roosevelt



Mark, Joel & Alex — Support parks, stay healthy!

Take a deep breath in a park and you'll immediately know the value of greenspace.

Health & Wellness Studies show a high correlation between time spent in parks and improved health (and, in my view, happiness). You move more when you're outside, which decreases stress, makes you more fit and reduces the risk of many health issues, such as diabetes, high blood pressure and heart disease. Exercise (which parks inspire) also positively impacts your cholesterol levels. A few years ago, I started bicycling to work every day. A year later, my overall cholesterol went down while my HDL—the “good” cholesterol—went up. The results of a small change in your exercise routine can be amazing! Parks invite this change.

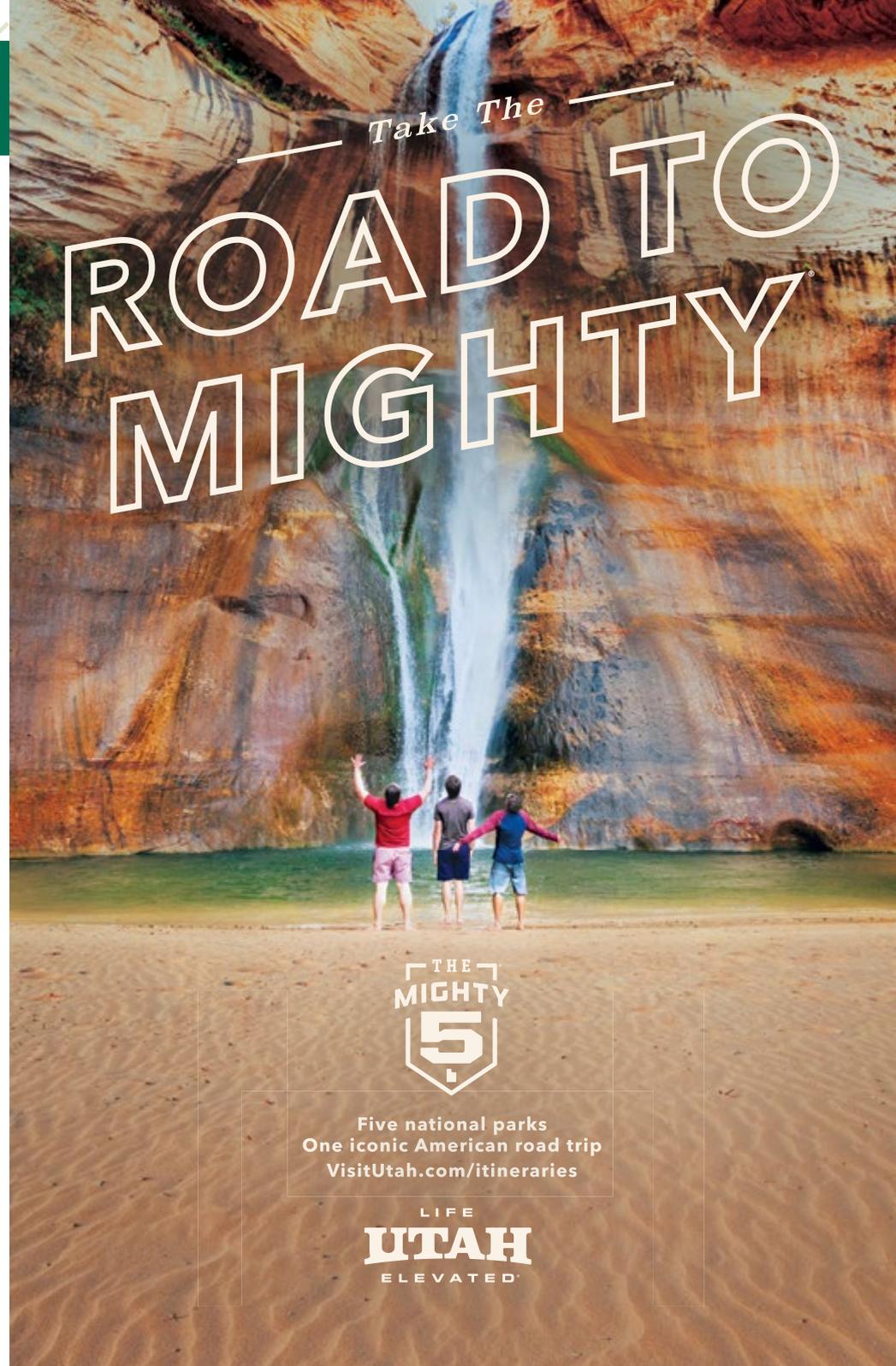
The value of parks is undeniable, so follow FDR's lead and support our public lands. It's the all-American thing to do. (Congress, take note!) You'll save the country money while improving our nation's health—and your own, too. Not a bad combination!

mark@americanparknetwork.com



GET CONNECTED AT YOUR FAVORITE PARKS!

Parks are about enjoying nature, but what if you want to share a great picture or are awaiting an important email? If you're looking to add connectivity to your park, or if you already have Wi-Fi and would like help adding content or generating sponsor revenues, please let us know at wifi@americanparknetwork.com.



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AT A GLANCE



NEW YORK STATE PARKS

The New York State park system is one of state's greatest treasures. Today, the system totals 215 state parks and historic sites encompassing 350,000 acres. From the iconic Niagara Falls to the jaw-dropping gorges of the Finger Lakes to the beautiful Thousand Islands region to the oceanfront beaches of Long Island, New York's parks and historic sites provide year-round, affordable outdoor recreation and education to approximately 69 million visitors each year.

The Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation is responsible for the operation and stewardship of the state parks system, as well as advancing

a statewide parks, historic preservation, recreational and open space mission. The agency is responsible for operating a network of facilities that includes 28 golf courses, 35 swimming pools, 67 beaches, 100 marine and boat launching sites, 18 museums and nature centers, 9,000 campsites, cabins and cottages and more than 2,000 miles of trails.

In fact, New York's state park system has long been recognized as one of the best and most diverse in the nation. Among the fifty states, New York ranks first in the number of operating facilities and first in the total number of campsites. The state is fourth in total acreage and second in total annual visitation.



Experience all the wonders that New York state parks and historic sites have to offer, including soaking up the spray on the amazing Maid of the Mist boat ride.

m anima



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RESERVE A CAMPSITE



Plan the perfect camping trip in New York state parks. Enjoy the crackle of the campfire by the St. Lawrence River or book a cabin at Allegany State Park. Whether you want to spend the night or a week, arranging a stay at a New York state park is easy!

Reservations can be made from one day to nine months in advance by calling toll free **(800) 456-CAMP** or by visiting newyorkstateparks.reserveamerica.com.

If you are planning to camp, and looking for some inspiration, check out the 360° virtual tours of the state park campgrounds at nystateparkstours.com.

WHAT'S INSIDE

The guidebook is divided up into 13 regions throughout the state so users can easily navigate the parks by area. The 11 park regions are: Allegany, Niagara, Genesee, Finger Lakes, Central, Thousand Islands, Saratoga-Capital District, Taconic, Palisades, New York City and Long Island. State land in the Adirondacks and the Catskills is overseen by the Department of Environmental Conservation. For more information, visit www.dec.ny.gov or call **(518) 402-8013**.

ALLEGANY

Hiking through the Allegheny Plateau, boating across Chautauqua Lake or camping along Lake Erie, the Allegany Region has everything to offer its visitors.

NIAGARA

Anchored by Niagara Falls State Park, recreational opportunities at the region's 18 parks abound for visitors of all ages and interests. With Lake Erie and Lake Ontario home to some of the best boating and fishing in the country, these parks put you in the middle of the action.

GENESEE

In addition to the magnificent 14,350-acre Letchworth State Park and its 17-mile Genesee River gorge, the region also features a family-favorite beach along Lake Ontario and several parks and marine parks.

FINGER LAKES

With its scenic waterways, gorges and waterfalls galore, this popular region offers a variety of parks, sites, golf courses and campgrounds that guarantee fun in a beautiful setting.

CENTRAL

As one of the largest regions within the state parks system, the Central Region encompasses a 9,000-square-mile area, from the shores of Lake Ontario in the north, to the Pennsylvania state line in the south.

THOUSAND ISLANDS

Stretching from Lake Ontario north along the St. Lawrence River to Lake Champlain, the Thousand Islands Region includes 30 state parks, one historic site and six boat launches, as well as thou-

sands of great campsites. Located near the Canadian border, the region offers remote getaways.

SARATOGA-CAPITAL

The landmark Saratoga Spa State Park is the centerpiece of a 10-county region that draws visitors to its remarkably diverse parklands, easy water access, nature programs and notable historic sites.

TACONIC

Beautiful vistas, woodland trails, beaches, campgrounds and wonderful historic sites await you on the east side of the Hudson River. The Taconic Region is home to amazing views and recreation.

PALISADES

Bear Mountain State Park, with the Trailside Museums and Zoo, offers miles

of biking and hiking trails and great views. At Harriman State Park, visitors can seek solitude along 200 miles of trails, including a key segment of the Appalachian Trail.

NEW YORK CITY

While New York City is famous for its people, Broadway shows, sports and tourist sites, it is also home to several outstanding state parks. Enjoy the great outdoors in the big city!

LONG ISLAND

From the world-famous Jones Beach to the great golfing at Bethpage State Park, Long Island is gifted with some of the best recreational facilities in the country. Long Island's state parks and historic sites attract nearly 20 million visitors annually.

EMPIRE PASSPORT



Introducing the new family-friendly Empire Pass Card! A new wallet-sized plastic Empire Pass card that can be shared within a household is now available! It's a family-friendly alternative to the traditional window

decal; not assigned to a specific vehicle and now usable by parents, grandparents, caregivers and more. Whether a card or decal, the Empire Pass is the key to all-season enjoyment at most New York state parks and sites, and facilities operated by New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Cardholders can enjoy the forests, beaches, trails, ball fields and more! Several types of Empire Passes are available. Choose from one-year, multi-year, and Lifetime Empire Pass options. Learn more at parks.ny.gov or by calling **(518) 474-0458**.

To order the Empire Pass, please use one of the following methods:

- 1) **In Person:** For fastest service, visit your nearest state park or regional office. Pay by check or money order payable to "NYS Parks." Most facilities will also accept a credit card.
- 2) **Telephone:** Call a NYS Parks regional office or call (518) 474-0458.
- 3) **Online:** Visit parks.ny.gov/admission and pay by credit card.
- 4) **Mail:** Order by mail and download the application at parks.ny.gov/admission

DEC: ADIRONDACKS & CATSKILLS

In two historic and spectacular mountain regions—the Adirondacks and the Catskills—the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) offers 51 public campgrounds with thousands of campsites, miles of hiking and

biking trails and streams, and hundreds of fishing sites, boat launches and wildlife viewing areas. Prepare to get away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. All of these beautiful natural areas are protected and maintained by DEC and are yours to enjoy all year long!



IMPORTANT NUMBERS

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation	(518) 474-0456
New York State Historic Preservation Office	(518) 237-8643
Reserve America	(800) 456-CAMP
REGIONAL OFFICES	
Allegany Region	(716) 354-9101
Central Region	(315) 492-1756
Finger Lakes Region	(607) 387-7041
Genesee Region	(585) 493-3600
Long Island Region	(631) 669-1000
New York City Region	(212) 866-3100
Niagara Region	(716) 278-1770
Palisades Region	(845) 786-2701
Saratoga/Capital District Region	(518) 584-2000
Taconic Region	(845) 889-4100
Thousand Islands Region	(315) 482-2593
Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)	(518) 402-8013
CAMPING RESERVATIONS	
New York State Campground Reservations	(800) 456-2267
BUREAUS & DEPARTMENTS	
Empire Pass	(518) 474-0458
Marine Services (Boating)	(518) 474-0445
Park Police	(518) 474-4029
Snowmobiles	(518) 474-0446



PRESERVATION

THE BUREAU OF HISTORIC SITES

New York is rich with history, and New York's Bureau of Historic Sites has a leading role in safeguarding this extraordinary heritage. The Bureau provides technical support to historic sites and parks and develops policy for the preservation and interpretation of state parks' cultural resources.

Situated on Peebles Island in Waterford, the facility includes the Collections Care Center, where the state historic sites collection of 300,000 to 400,000 objects (and more than 1 million archaeological specimens) is curated, conserved and managed.

While the Bureau of Historic Sites serves in-house facilities, New York's State Historic Preservation Office helps communities identify, evaluate, preserve and revitalize their historic, archaeological and cultural resources.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

The Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) within State Parks consists of dedicated employees who have training and experience in environmental science, natural resource protection and environmental impact analysis.

EMB assists other agency staff and the public in responsible stewardship of natural resources. The bureau assists in protecting outdoor resources such as water and land; plants and animals; the health and safety of patrons and employees; and in ensuring compliance with environmental laws and regulations.

State Parks are an excellent resource for conducting scientific research. To conduct research in state parks, please complete the application for the Scientific Research Permitting System.



NATURAL HERITAGE TRUST

New York is blessed with an abundance of natural, recreational and cultural resources. Now you can help maintain and even strengthen our parklands by donating to your favorite sites through the Natural Heritage Trust (NHT). The NHT was established in 1968 as a public benefit corporation and acts as the official charity of New York State Parks and the Department of Environmental Conservation.

The commitment of donors and friends is invaluable as the state seeks to increase partnerships and private support for these resources. Gifts, grants and contributions raised through the NHT directly support parks, conservation and historic sites throughout the Empire State. From capital projects and site improvements to outdoor programming, recreational events,

land and water conservation, and environmental education, the NHT supports these efforts with contributions of all sizes from individuals, businesses and foundations.

There are many ways to donate and many ways to direct your contributions including: tribute and memorial gifts; employer matching gifts; gifts of stock and securities; and estate gifts. To donate online or to find out more about giving, visit naturalheritagetrust.org or call **(518) 474-2997**.





ALLEGANY REGION

FEATURED PARK

ALLEGANY STATE PARK

Allegany State Park, the largest of New York's state parks with 65,000 acres, has two developed areas, Red House and Quaker, offering beaches, picnic areas, museums and miles of multi-use trails.

For lodging, visitors can choose from the park's campsites, cabins (many winterized), cottages and two group camps. Recreation areas include tennis courts, picnic areas, ball fields and playgrounds.

Rowboats, paddleboats and bicycles are available to rent.

The network of trails include 80 miles of hiking, mountain biking, snowshoeing, 5.6 miles of paved bike trails as well as more than 25 miles of groomed cross-country skiing and 90 miles of groomed snowmobile trails. Activities include guided nature walks and summer recreation programs, bird watching, fishing, hunting, canoeing, kayaking and horseback riding. 2373 ASP, Rte 1, Suite Three, Salamanca 14779 **(716) 354-2182 • 42.03899, -78.84383**



Allegany State Park offers the perfect escape for campers, bikers, swimmers and outdoor enthusiasts of all ages.

IF YOU ONLY HAVE A DAY

Allegany State Park is home to natural rock formations known as Thunder Rocks as well as three fire towers. Hike the five mile trail to the top of Mount Tuscarora to reach the Mount Tuscarora Fire Tower in the Quaker Area.

Another excellent old tower is the Summit Fire Tower. Standing 60 feet tall, this tower has been restored by the state park and is now a popular destination for visitors in the park. Make time to hit the Old Quaker Store Museum. The current museum used to be a camp store in the 1920s. Inside, you will find a rich history of the area, its founders and artifacts.



Camp on the waterfront at Lake Erie State Park.

fishing. 4459, Route 430 Bemus Point 14712 **(716) 386-2722 • 42.17824, -79.40699**

MIDWAY STATE PARK

Originally established in 1898 as a trolley park, Midway State Park is one of the oldest continually operating amusement parks in the nation. The park offers a family friendly atmosphere where visitors can take a nostalgic ride on the vintage carousel, play a game of mini golf, check out the midway, take a spin on the tilt-a-whirl, ride the go-karts and bumper boats or watch their children enjoy themselves on kiddie rides. 4859 Route 430 Bemus Point 14712 • **(716) 386-3165 42.20227, -79.42128**

AROUND THE AREA

LAKE ERIE STATE PARK

Bluffs overlooking Lake Erie provide a breathtaking view for the visitor to Lake Erie State Park. Whether camping in one of the 102 campsites or one of the 10 cabins offered at this park, the magnificent scenery will capture your attention. Day users can enjoy the picnic areas with shelters, playgrounds and hiking trails. 5905 Lake Road Brocton 14716 **(716) 792-9214 • 42.42094, -79.42861**

LONG POINT STATE PARK

Long Point's park and marina are comprised of a day-use area with thickly-wooded areas of beech, maple, spruce, poplar and oak. The park's boat launch offers fishermen easy access to Lake Chautauqua for muskellunge or "muskie"

OUR READER FEEDBACK

"My son and daughter had a great time on the go-karts at Midway State Park."
- Justin Robertson



Explore more State Parks and Historic Sites

For more information and to download the *Oh, Ranger!* NY State Parks app, visit nysparks.com to explore more state parks and historic sites.





NIAGARA REGION

FEATURED PARK

NIAGARA FALLS STATE PARK

Niagara Falls State Park, the oldest state park in the nation, is where fun is measured in gallons per second. Find out why millions of visitors are drawn to this magnificent natural wonder every year, enjoying access to the heritage, geology and beauty of this special place.

Visitors can witness the intensity of the falls from mere inches away at the Cave of the Winds tour, cruise the powerful churning waters at the base of the falls on a Maid of the Mist boat ride, learn more about the region's natural history at the Niagara Gorge Discovery Center (featuring free *Oh, Ranger! Wi-Fi™*), meet the legends and marvel at the myths at the Niagara Adventure Theater, enjoy jaw-dropping views from the Observation Tower and take a break on the Niagara Scenic Trolley. P.O. Box 1132, Niagara Falls 14303 (716) 278-1796 • 43.08152, -79.06421



See stunning views of the American Falls from Prospect Point.

IF YOU ONLY HAVE A DAY

If strolling alongside the falls and hearing the rush of the mighty Niagara River isn't close enough, get face to face at the Cave of the Winds! Stand on the Hurricane Deck and you are within feet of the base of the pounding falls or, if you choose to stay a little dryer, observe from the series of decks that wind their way around the gorge!

Visitors can journey to the heart of one of North America's most powerful waterfalls and hear crashing waves, see breathtaking views and soak up every drop of powerful spray aboard the iconic Maid of the Mist boat tour. The legendary tour is the only way to experience this amazing natural wonder from here in the United States.

AROUND THE AREA

BEAVER ISLAND STATE PARK

Beaver Island State Park is located along the upper Niagara River. The park has a sandy beach for swimming, adjacent marina, fishing access, multiple canoe/kayak launches, bike and nature trails, nature center, playgrounds, picnic areas, athletic fields, horseshoe pits, an 18-hole championship golf course and an 18-hole championship disc golf course. 2136 West Oakfield Road, Grand Island 14072 (716) 773-3271 • 42.96703, -78.95985

BUFFALO HARBOR STATE PARK

The newest state park in the system, Buffalo Harbor State Park is the first state park in the city of Buffalo.

Boasting beautiful views of Lake Erie, the park is home to a 1,000-slip marina, a restaurant, boat launches, personal watercraft launches, fish cleaning station, restrooms,

and a beach for strolling and sunbathing. 1111 Fuhrmann Blvd., Buffalo, 14203 (716) 828-0027 • 42.846002, -78.861752

DARWIN MARTIN HOUSE STATE HISTORIC SITE

Completed in 1905, the Darwin D. Martin House Complex is a Frank Lloyd Wright masterpiece. This beautiful seminal Prairie House is a rare Wright design that will leave you with a sense of wonder.

Tour the house and complex and learn about the architect, his unique vision and impact on the world of American design. 125 Jewett Parkway, Buffalo 14214 (716) 856-3858 • 42.93604, -78.84649

EARL W. BRYDGES ART PARK

Earl W. Brydges Artpark presents the finest in performing and visual arts programs, including Broadway musicals, classical, jazz

and pop concerts. There are also art exhibits, workshops, demonstrations and tours of the park's geological and historic sites and nature trails. 450 South 4th Street, Lewiston 14092 (716) 754-7766 • 43.16825, -79.04505

FOUR MILE CREEK STATE PARK

Four Mile Creek State Park is located just north of the mighty Niagara Falls. The 275 campsites include many prime sites located near the shores of Lake Ontario and offering spectacular panoramic views. The park has hiking trails and nearby parks offer a swimming beach and pool. 1055 Lake Road, Youngstown 14174 (716) 745-3802 • 43.27195, -78.99618

GOLDEN HILL STATE PARK

Golden Hill State Park features Thirty Mile Lighthouse, available for rental year-round, with stunning views of Lake Ontario. The park

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Old Fort Niagara offers living history events, historical exhibits and education.

has camping, fishing, boating, hiking, picnicking, nature walks and tours of the lighthouse site. 9691 Lower Lake Road, Barker 14012
(716) 795-3885 • 43.36603, -78.47310

OLD FORT NIAGARA STATE HISTORIC SITE

On a bluff above Lake Ontario, Old Fort Niagara has dominated the entrance to the Niagara River since 1726. Over its 300 year

history, the fort played an important role in the control of the Great Lakes Region by France, Canada, Great Britain, the United States and the Iroquois. The site has original military architecture and fortifications from the 18th and 19th centuries, as well as living history events and programs, historical exhibits and collections, archaeology and education. 1 Scott Ave., Youngstown 14174
(716) 745-7611 • 43.26175, -79.06279

WHIRLPOOL STATE PARK

Whirlpool State Park has many overlooks with spectacular views of the swirling waters of the rapids, the whirlpool and the Niagara River Escarpment. The lower level is accessible by walking the steps that descend into the gorge featuring several nature trails and access for fishing. Robert Moses Parkway and Findley Blvd., Niagara Falls 14303
(716) 284-4691 • 43.11964, -79.06230



MORE PARKS IN THE NIAGARA REGION

Big Six Mile Creek Marina

3219 Whitehaven Rd.
Grand Island 14072
(716) 773-3270
43.02319, -79.01098

Buckhorn Island State Park

Baseline Rd.
Grand Island 14072
(716) 773-3271
43.05637, -78.98332

De Veaux Woods State Park

3180 De Veaux Woods Drive
Niagara Falls 14303
(716) 284-4691
43.11921, -79.05742

Devil's Hole State Park

Robert Moses Parkway, Niagara Falls 14305
(716) 284-5778
43.27195, -78.99618

Evangola State Park

10191 Old Lake Shore Road, Irving 14081 • (716) 549-1802
42.60147, -79.08261

Fort Niagara State Park

Route 18F, Youngstown 14174
(716) 745-7273 • 43.26328, -79.05388

Joseph Davis State Park

4143 Lower River Road, Lewiston 14092 • (716) 745-7273
43.20736, -79.03152

Knox Farm State Park

437 Buffalo Road, East Aurora 14052
(716) 549-1802
42.76859, -78.64953

Reservoir State Park

Witmer Rd, Niagara Falls 14305
(716) 284-4691
43.13003, -79.01091

Wilson-Tuscarora State Park

3371 Lake Road, Wilson 14172
(716) 751-6361
43.30704, -78.85293

Woodlawn Beach State Park

S-3580 Lakeshore Rd, Blasdell 14219
(716) 826-1930
42.79015, -78.85025

Explore more State Parks and Historic Sites

For more information and to download the *Oh, Ranger!* NY State Parks app, visit nysparks.com to explore more state parks and historic sites.



GENESEE REGION

FEATURED PARK

LETCHWORTH STATE PARK

Letchworth State Park, the "Grand Canyon of the East," is where a 17-mile stretch of the Genesee River roars through the park's scenic gorge with three major waterfalls and cliffs as high as 600 feet, surrounded by lush forests.

Recently named Best State Park in the Nation, Letchworth's new nature center is a must-see. Be sure to check it out!

Walk the seven-mile gorge trail with jaw-dropping views at the overlooks or take the trail to the water's edge.

In addition to trails, several hundred campsites and cabins, other ame-

nities and activities include a pool, playground, athletic fields, festivals, cultural events, history and performing arts programs, guided walks, whitewater rafting, kayaking and hot-air ballooning. 1 Letchworth State Park, Castile 14427 • **(585) 493-3600 • 42.57014, -78.05117**

IF YOU ONLY HAVE A DAY

Take one of the best hikes in the park that packs the most punch: the Gorge Trail. Seven miles in length, the trail is an amazing day hike, passing by Upper, Lower and Middle Falls. At times, the trail requires hikers to climb 127 stairs up the gorge. Stop at the Falls Picnic area to eat before powering to the top.



Letchworth State Park is renowned for its cliffs, waterfalls and lush forests.



Learn about Letchworth State Park's flora and fauna at Humphrey Nature Center.

Right above Upper Falls is the Erie Railroad High Bridge, which makes for a great photo of the entire area. At night, Middle Falls is illuminated and a sight not to be missed. It is considered the most impressive of the three falls and has the highest drop at 107 feet.

Letchworth State Park is the perfect getaway at any time of the year. With activities for the whole family, it will be a trip everyone will remember!

AROUND THE AREA

DARIEN LAKES STATE PARK

Darien Lakes State Park's terrain is hilly with woodlands, streams and 12-acre Harlow Lake. The park has 154 campsites, a sandy beach, playgrounds, disc golf, fishing, hiking and horseback riding trails, picnic areas and a rustic bridge over the lake channel to Picnic Island. 10475 Harlow Road, Darien Center 14040 • (585) 547-9242 42.90313, -78.43293

HAMLIN BEACH STATE PARK

Hamlin Beach State Park's clear water, sandy beaches and 264 tent and trailer campsites bring thousands of visitors to the park each year. The Yanty Creek Marsh area at the east end of the park has a mile-long, self-guided nature trail.

In addition, there are 10 miles of hiking and biking trails and snowmobile and cross-country skiing trails. Visitors can launch car-top boats, fish for salmon and trout and enjoy the picnic facilities for a nice break during the summertime. 1 Camp Road, Hamlin 14464 (585) 964-2462 • 43.35523, -77.94675



MORE PARKS IN THE GENESEE REGION

Conesus Lake Boat Launch
1 Letchworth State Park, Castile
14427
(585) 493-3600
42.77572, -77.71082

Genesee Valley Greenway
c/o Letchworth State Park
Castile 14427
(585) 493-3600
42.740181, -77.882413

Oak Orchard State Marine Park
c/o Lakeside Beach State Park
Route 18, Waterport 14571
(585) 682-4888
43.36823, -78.19581

Irondequoit Bay State Marine Park
Culver Rd., Rochester 14622
c/o Hamlin Beach State Park
(585) 964-2462
43.23423, -77.53733

Lakeside Beach State Park
Route 18, Waterport 14571
(585) 682-4888
43.36465, -78.23471

Silver Lake State Park
c/o Letchworth State Park, Castile
14427
(585) 493-3600
42.68357, -78.05249

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FINGER LAKES REGION

FEATURED PARK

ROBERT H. TREMAN STATE PARK

Situated just outside of Ithaca in the stunning Finger Lakes Region, Robert H. Treman State Park captures the beauty of the region. Refresh yourself with a jump into the water and take some time to soak in the scenery.

The park features a rugged gorge called Enfield Glen. Winding trails follow the wooded gorge past 12 waterfalls, including the 115-foot Lucifer Falls, where visitors can see a mile-and-a-half down the gorge as it winds its way to the lower park. If you decide to spend the night, choose from tent or RV sites or cabins. Enjoy nine miles of hiking trails, or swim in a stream-fed pool beneath a waterfall. 105 Enfield Falls Rd., Ithaca 14850 (607) 273-3440 • 42.40264, -76.54808

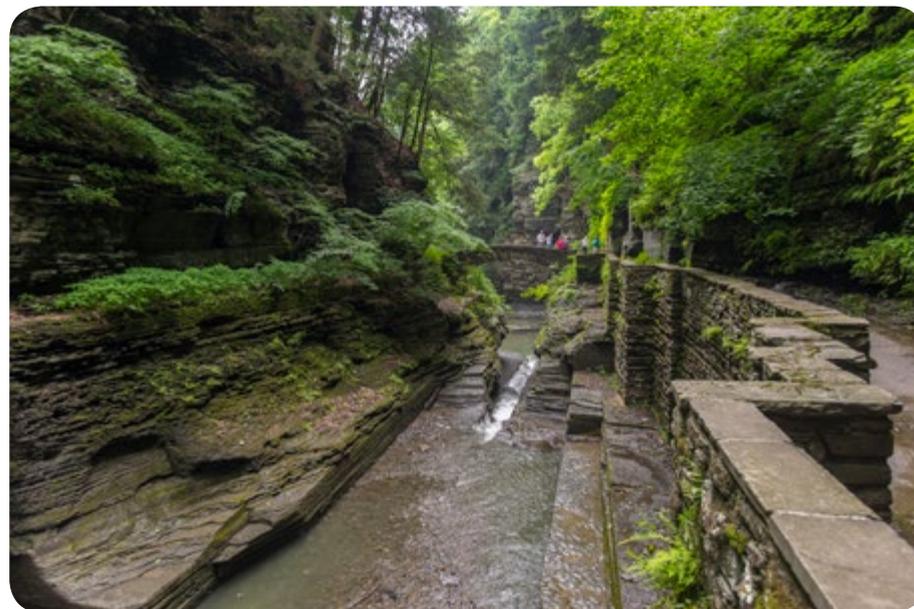
IF YOU ONLY HAVE A DAY

Don't miss the Enfield Glen and the hiking trails. If you're there in summer, enjoy swimming right near the falls. Jump off the diving board and enjoy the cool water. If you hit the park after peak summer season, you'll enjoy the amazing fall foliage during mid to late October.

AROUND THE AREA

BUTTERMILK FALLS STATE PARK

A natural, foaming cascade formed by Buttermilk Creek winds its way down the valley side toward Cayuga Lake. The park is divided into two main areas. The upper park woodland area has a small lake, hiking trails along the gorge and picnicking. The lower park includes a campground, cabins, swimming in



Robert H. Treman State Park captures the beauty of the Finger Lakes Region.

a stream-fed natural pool, picnic areas, ball fields and a playground. The two areas are connected by Buttermilk Gorge and by trails both through the gorge and along its rims. 112 East Buttermilk Falls Rd., Ithaca 14850 **(607) 273-5761 • 42.41776, -76.52342**

FAIR HAVEN BEACH STATE PARK

Fair Haven Beach State Park, located on Lake Ontario has one of the finest public shorefronts in upstate New York, with towering bluffs, sandy beaches and adjoining hilly woodlands.

Visitors here also enjoy swimming and diving boards, biking, hiking, picnicking and camping. Take the whole family along for a fun getaway. 14985 State Park Road P.O. Box 16, Fair Haven 13064 • **(315) 947-5205 43.32997, -76.69701**

GANONDAGAN STATE HISTORIC SITE

Visit this site where thousands of Seneca lived 300 years ago. Tour a full-size replica of a 17th-century Seneca Bark Longhouse, walk miles of self-guided trails. The site's new Seneca Art & Culture Center is now open, telling the story of Iroquois contributions to art, culture and society for more than 2,000 years through specially designed interactive exhibits and historical artifacts. Spectacular annual events, like the Native American Dance and Music Festival in July, are not to be missed. 1488 Victor-Bloomfield Road, Victor 14564 **(585) 924-5848 • 42.96111, -77.41324**

SAMPSON STATE PARK

Encompassing just over 2,000 acres on the eastern shore of Seneca Lake, Sampson State Park is primarily known for its camping and boating. Facilities include courts for tennis, horseshoes, basketball and volleyball,

a swimming beach with nearby playground, a low impact fitness circuit and a scenic lake trail. 6096 Route 96A, Romulus 14541 • **(315) 585-6392 • 42.72914, -76.89172**

SONNENBERG MANSION STATE HISTORIC PARK

Sonnenberg Gardens & Mansion is one of the nation's most extensively preserved country estates from the Victorian era. This 50-acre site features beautiful formal and informal gardens, a historic mansion and a greenhouse complex. The surrounding gardens reflect a variety of styles, including Victorian, Italian, Colonial and Japanese influences. 151 Charlotte Street, Canandaigua 14424 • **(585) 394-4922 • 42.89820, -77.27215**

TAUGHANNOCK FALLS STATE PARK

Plunging 215 feet, Taughannock Falls State Park's namesake waterfall is one of the most outstanding natural attractions of the Northeast. Campsites and cabins overlook Cayuga Lake, with a marina, boat launch and beach nearby. The park offers tours through the Taughannock Gorge and summer concerts along the lakefront. 1740 Taughannock Road, Trumansburg 14886 • **(607) 387-6739 42.53318, -76.61640**

WATKINS GLEN STATE PARK

Watkins Glen State Park is the oldest and most famous of the Finger Lakes State Parks, with a reputation for leaving visitors spellbound. Glen Creek has poured down the glacially steepened valley side for 12,000 years. Descending 400 feet past 200-foot cliffs, it creates 19 glistening waterfalls and cascades, some of which visitors walk behind, on the gorge trail.

The park boasts beautiful wooded camp-

sites with one loop offering 54 electric sites and three loops with playgrounds. Enjoy a dip in the Olympic-sized pool. The nearby lakes and creeks are ideal for fishing. Catherine Creek is renowned for the annual spring run of rainbow trout.

Hikers can walk the winding paths of the gorge on the 3-mile Watkins Glen Gorge Trail and Indian Trail Loop or explore the nearby Catharine Valley Trail by bicycle. Route 14, Watkins Glen 14891 **(607) 535-4511 • 42.37589, -76.87107**

MORE PARKS IN THE FINGER LAKES REGION

Allan H. Treman State Marine Park 805 Taughannock Blvd. Ithaca 14850 (607) 272-1460 42.44505, -76.51415	Fillmore Glen State Park 1686 St. Rte. 38, Moravia 13118 (315) 497-0130 42.70013, -76.42016	Newtown Battlefield State Park 451 Oneida Road Elmira 14901 (607) 732-6067 42.05086, -76.74697
Bonavista State Park Golf Course 7194 Country Road 132, Ovid 14521 (607) 869-5482 42.67319, -76.86772	Harriet Hollister Spencer State Recreation Area Canadice Hill Rd., Canadice 14437 (585) 335-8111 42.69442, -77.52579	Pinnacle State Park Golf Course 1904 Pinnacle Road Addison 14801 (607) 359-2767 42.09741, -77.21455
Canandaigua Lake State Marine Park 620 South Main Street Canandaigua 14424 (585) 394-9420 42.87738, -77.27408	Honeoye Lake Boat Launch State Park 6150 East Lake Rd., Honeoye 14471 (585) 335-8111 42.7255, -77.50164	Seneca Lake State Park 100 Waterloo/Geneva Rd. Geneva 14456 (315) 789-2331 42.87558, -76.96353
Catherine Valley Trail c/o Watkins Glen State Park P.O. Box 304, Watkins Glen 14891 (607) 535-4511 42.28659, -76.84575	Indian Hills Golf Course 1959 Indian Hills Road Painted Post 14870 (607) 523-8060 42.09524, -77.15061	Springbrook Greens Golf Course 817 Old State Road Sterling 13156 (315) 947-6115 43.32143, -76.67612
Cayuga Lake State Park 2678 Lower Lake Road Seneca Falls 13148 (315) 568-5163 42.89608, -76.75336	Keuka Lake State Park 3560 Pepper Road, Bluff Point 14478 (315) 536-3666 42.59058, -77.13028	Stony Brook State Park 10820 Route 36 South Dansville 14437 (585) 335-8111 42.52641, -77.69653
Chimney Bluffs State Park 7700 Garner Road, Wolcott 14590 (315) 947-5205 43.28001, -76.92251	Lodi Point State Park Lower Lake Rd. Lodi 14860 (315) 585-6392 42.61879, -76.87521	Two Rivers State Park Recreation Area West Pine/Banzoff Rd. Waverly 14892 (607) 273-3440 42.02014, -76.54347
Deans Cove Boat Launch 2678 Lower Lake Rd, Seneca Falls 13148 (315) 568-5163 42.74374, -76.76995	Long Point State Park 2063 Lake Rd. Aurora 13026 (315) 497-0130 42.71654, -76.70702	

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CENTRAL REGION

FEATURED PARK

GREEN LAKES STATE PARK

Green Lakes State Park has two beautiful glacial lakes dating back to the Ice Age. The lakes are surrounded by campsites and cabins situated in the lush forests, for maximum privacy.

The park has over 20 miles of prized hiking trails that circle the lakes, where you can stop for a quiet picnic, and the bathhouse offers multiple amenities adjacent to the popular beach. There is an interpretive nature center that provides educational programs during the season.

For golf enthusiasts, there is a scenic (and challenging) 18-hole Robert

Trent Jones championship golf course. Following a round of golf or a hike, enjoy lunch on the clubhouse terrace overlooking the lakes and course. 7900 Green Lakes Road, Fayetteville 13066
(315) 637-6111 • 43.03923, -75.96618

IF YOU ONLY HAVE A DAY

If you are taking a day trip, be sure to explore Green Lake and Round Lake. Although Green Lake offers a vibrant color for which it gets its name, the body of water has a secret below the surface. Green Lake is one of the most unique lakes in the world because it is meromictic, which means there is no seasonal mixing of the lake.



Welcome the beauty of the seasons at Green Lakes State Park.

Don't miss the Green Lake and Round Lake trails, which loop around the shores of both lakes. To get a closer look, hike over to the sandy Dead Man's Point. Observe the calcium reefs and dramatic drop off into the lake.

Visitors can rent boats to get an even better look at the rest of the park from out on the lake's waters. Swimming is permitted on the beach in the summer.

AROUND THE AREA

CHENANGO VALLEY STATE PARK

Chenango Valley State Park's two kettle lakes, Lily and Chenango, were created when the last glacier retreated, and are now enjoyed by birdwatchers and fishermen. Campers can choose from among 185 campsites and 24 cabins and golfers will appreciate the 18-hole golf course. 153 State Park Road, Chenango Forks 13746
(607) 648-5251 • 42.21403, -75.82874

CHITTENANGO FALLS STATE PARK

Hike to the top of this park's 167-foot waterfall, which cascades over 40 million year-old bedrock into the Chittenango Creek. Another winding trail leads into the gorge below, where the falls can be viewed from a footbridge. Nature lovers will discover an interesting variety of plants and wildlife along the park's hiking trails. 2300 Rathbun Road, Cazenovia 13035
(315) 637-6111 • 42.97799, -75.84456

GLIMMERGLASS STATE PARK

Located near the charming village of Cooperstown, this park overlooks Otsego Lake, the "Glimmerglass" of James Fenimore Cooper's Leatherstocking Tales. The lakefront property offers extensive camping op-



Explore the elegant mansion and formal grounds of Lorenzo State Historic Site.

tions, and is a short distance to Hyde Hall Mansion State Historic Site, Covered Bridge and the Beaver Pond Nature Trail. 1527 County Highway 31, Cooperstown 13326
(607) 547-8662 • 42.78557, -74.86157

LORENZO STATE HISTORIC SITE

Majestically overlooking Cazenovia Lake, the neo-classical Lorenzo State Historic Site offers an opportunity to discover the imprint of five generations of the Lincklaen/Ledyard family. Lorenzo is the jewel of Cazenovia, a village renowned today for its picturesque landscapes, quiet inns, fine restaurants, cultural attractions and unique shops. 17 Rippleton Road, Cazenovia 13035 • **(315) 655-3200 42.92420, -75.86061**

SANDY ISLAND BEACH STATE PARK

This 13-acre stretch of shoreline along the eastern point of the Great Lakes is like no other. The area's rare freshwater dune site provides a habitat for several species of migratory birds and waterfowl. Recreational activities include swimming, picnicking and bird watching. 3387 County Route 15, Pulaski 13142 • **(315) 387-2657 43.63089, -76.19410**

SELKIRK SHORES STATE PARK

Selkirk Shores State Park's campsites overlook a bluff on Lake Ontario. In addition to spectacular sunsets over one of the Great Lakes, visitors can enjoy outstanding fishing, bird-watching along this migratory route, as well as hiking and biking trails that lead through meadows and woodlands. 7101 State Route 3, Pulaski 13142
(315) 298-5737 • 43.54593, -76.19121

VERONA BEACH STATE PARK

Verona Beach State Park, located on the eastern shore of Oneida Lake, is a picnicker's and camper's delight. The campground and shaded picnic areas are adjacent to the beach with an excellent view of the water. The winter season offers a variety of activities for snow lovers. The park hosts snowmobilers, cross-country skiers and ice fishermen. Verona Beach 13162
(315) 762-4463 • 43.17626, -75.72805

**MORE PARKS IN THE CENTRAL REGION****Battle Island State Park**

2150 State Route 48, Fulton 13069
(315) 593-3408 • 43.363537, -76.44281

Betty & Wilbur Davis State Park

133 Davis Rd, Westford 12197
(607) 547-8662
42.66375, -74.83318

Bowman Lakes State Park

745 Bliven Sherman Road
Oxford 13830
(607) 334-2718
42.51640, -75.67761

Clark Reservation State Park

6105 East Seneca Turnpike
Jamesville 13078
(315) 492-1590
42.99295, -76.09473

Delta Lake State Park

8797 State Route 46, Rome 13440
(315) 337-4670
43.29013, -75.41511

Fort Ontario State Historic Site

1 East Fourth Street, Oswego 13126
(315) 343-4711
43.46343, -76.50702

Gilbert Lake State Park

18 CCC Road, Laurens 13796
(607) 432-2114
42.57277, -75.12807

Herkimer Home State Historic Site

200 State Route 169
Little Falls 13365
(315) 823-0398
43.02549, -74.82048

Hyde Hall State Historic Site

Cooperstown 13326
(607) 547-5098
42.79231, -74.87513

Mexico Point Boat Launch

7101 State Park Route #3
Pulaski 13142
(315) 963-3656

Old Erie Canal State Historic Park

Dewitt/Rome 13082
(315) 637-6111
43.09606, -75.82950

Oquaga Creek State Park

5995 County Route 20
Bainbridge 13733
(607) 467-4160
42.17880, -75.41581

Oriskany Battlefield State

Historic Site
7801 State Route 69, Oriskany 13424
(315) 768-7224 or (315) 338-7730
43.17421, -75.36721

Pine Grove Boat Launch at Selkirk Shores State Park

7101 State Route #3
Pulaski 13142
(315) 298-5737

Pixley Falls State Park

11430 State Route 46
Boonville 13309
(315) 337-4670
43.40337, -75.34486

Robert V. Riddell State Park

125 Riddell Rd, Milford 12116
(607) 432-2114
42.48083, -74.96855

State Park at the Fair

Dewitt/Rome 13082
(315) 492-1756 or (315) 487-2879
43.07110, -76.21658

Steuben Memorial State Historic Site

c/o Oriskany Battlefield
7801 State Route 69
Oriskany 13424
(315) 831-3737 or (315) 338-7730
43.33519, -75.23292

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**THOUSAND ISLANDS REGION****FEATURED PARK****WELLESLEY ISLAND STATE PARK**

Wellesley Island State Park, situated on the St. Lawrence River, is the largest camping complex in the Thousand Islands region with sites ranging from secluded spots accessible only on foot to less-rugged tent/trailer sites directly on shore, rustic cabins and a dozen year-round cottages.

The park has a full service marina and four boat launches, a 9-hole golf course, and a sandy beach on the river offers great swimming and sunbathing.

Other attractions include the popular

Minna Anthony Common Nature Center with a seasonal butterfly house, miles of trails for hiking, cross-country skiing, picnic areas, recreation programs and nature education. 44927 Cross Island Road, Fineview 13640 • **(315) 482-2722 44.31655, -76.020454**

IF YOU ONLY HAVE A DAY

With four boat launches and a full service marine, the park is paradise for boaters. Located on the St. Lawrence River, visitors can cast a line into the waters for some solid freshwater fishing while absorbing the amazing scenery.



Popular Wellesley Island State Park is a favorite destination for boating, camping, fishing and more in the scenic Thousand Islands.



Climb the stairs to enjoy the panoramic view of the Thousand Islands from the lantern room in the historic Rock Island Lighthouse on the St. Lawrence Seaway.

AROUND THE AREA

KEEWAYDIN STATE PARK

Keewaydin State Park is on the St. Lawrence River, offering excellent boating, fishing, camping, swimming, picnicking and ice fishing during the winter. The sheltered marina provides dock space for seasonal and transient visitors. 46165 NYS Route 12, Alexandria Bay 13607 • (315) 482-3331 44.32100, -75.92799

ROCK ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE STATE PARK

Visitors can now enjoy a bird's eye view of the beautiful St. Lawrence Seaway from the historic lighthouse at Rock Island Lighthouse State Park. The vistas from the top of the lantern room are worth the climb, and the museum tour in the keeper's quarters offers the unique history of the island, its caretakers, and the magnificent St. Law-

rence River. Walk the island and take home a souvenir from the gift shop.

Docking is available to private craft and those aboard Clayton Island Boat Tours. For private vessels, Grass Point State Park is the closest launch site (approx. 5-minute boat ride to the island). Contact the park c/o Grass Point State Park, 42247 Grassy Point Rd., Alexandria Bay 13607 (315) 775-6886 44.16494, -76.101

SACKETS HARBOR BATTLEFIELD STATE HISTORIC SITE

Sackets Harbor was a center of American naval and military activity following the outbreak of war between the U.S. and Great Britain in 1812. Today the Sackets Harbor Battlefield is interpreted to the public by exhibits, outdoor signs, guided and self-guided tours, and a restored 1850s Navy Yard and Commandant's House. During the summer months, guides

dressed in military clothing of 1813 reenact the camp life of the common soldier.

504 W. Main Street, Sackets Harbor 13685 (315) 646-3634 • 43.94767, -76.12640



MORE PARKS IN THE THOUSAND ISLANDS REGION

Burnham Point State Park

340765 NYS Route 12E
Cape Vincent 13618
(315) 654-2522
44.16123, -76.26392

Canoe-Picnic Point State Park

36661 Cedar Point State Park Drive
Clayton 13624
(315) 654-2522
44.30323, -76.07436

Cedar Island State Park

County Route 93, Hammond 13646
(315) 482-3331
44.44930, -75.79067

Cedar Point State Park

36661 Cedar Point State Park Drive
Clayton 13624
(315) 654-2522
44.20055, -76.19166

Coles Creek State Park

Route 37, Waddington 13694
(315) 388-5636
44.88861, -75.13766

Cumberland Bay State Park

152 Cumberland Head Road
Plattsburgh 12901
(518) 563-5240 • 44.72498, -73.42292

Dewolf Point State Park

45920 Country Route 191
Fineview 13640
(315) 482-2722
44.33232, -75.99237

Eel Weir State Park

RD #3, Ogdensburg 13669
(315) 393-1138
44.630367, -75.476891

Grass Point State Park

42247 Grassy Point Road
Alexandria Bay 13607
(315) 686-4472
44.278854, -75.995117

Higley Flow State Park

442 Cold Brook Drive, Colton 13625
(315) 262-2880
44.49271, -74.916756

Jacques Cartier State Park

Route 12, Morristown 13664
(315) 375-6371
44.560173, -75.688438

Kring Point State Park

25950 Kring Point Road
Redwood 13679
(315) 482-2444
44.38028, -75.85290

Long Point State Park - Thousand Islands

7495 State Park Road
Three Mile Bay 13693
(315) 649-5258
44.026028, -76.220802

Macomb Reservation State Park

201 Campsite Road
Schuyler Falls 12985
(518) 643-9952
44.621754, -73.609131

Mary Island State Park

36661 Cedar Point State Park Drive
Clayton 13624
(315) 482-9381
44.36545, -75.92170

Point Au Roche State Park

19 Camp Red Cloud Road
Plattsburgh 12901
(518) 563-0369
44.78573, -73.38238

Robert G. Wehle State Park

5182 State Park Road, Henderson 13650
(315) 938-5302
43.87327, -76.27082

Robert Moses State Park - Thousand Islands

19 Robinson Bay Rd.
Massena, 13663
(315) 769-8663
44.995247 -74.844574

Southwick Beach State Park

8119 Southwicks Place,
Henderson 13650
(315) 846-5338
43.76470, -76.19634

St. Lawrence State Park Golf Course

4955 State Highway 37
Ogdensburg 13669
(315) 393-2286
44.62983, -75.57656

Waterson Point State Park

44927 Cross Island Road
Fineview 13640
(315) 482-2722
44.33854, -76.00986

Westcott Beach State Park

Route 3, Henderson 13650
(315) 938-5083
43.89866, -76.12237

Whetstone Gulf State Park

RD #2, Box 69, Lowville 13367
(315) 376-6630
43.70262, -75.45993

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The Adirondack Park is more than six million acres of magnificent mountains, spreading over an area that's two-and-a-half times the size of Yellowstone National Park! There are a variety of opportunities for public enjoyment of the Forest Preserve, including hiking, camping, canoeing, hunting, fishing, trapping, snowmobiling, skiing, mountain biking and rock climbing.

The Adirondack Forest Preserve is defined as the 2.6 million acres of state land within the Adirondack Park. These public lands, which range from remote backcountry to DEC-operated campgrounds, include more than 1,800 miles of marked trails available for people of all interests and abilities.

HIGH PEAKS

Come to the Adirondacks and enjoy the same spectacular views and peaceful waterways that have lured visitors from around the world for more than 150 years. Experienced hikers can head for one of the **46 "High Peaks."**

The Range Trail, which traverses a series of mountainous summits from Mount Marcy to Keene Valley, has long been considered the most rugged and the most scenic trail in the state. This trail travels eight of the mountain peaks in this area that exceed 4,000 feet in elevation. The western portions of the area receive substantially less public use than the Mount Marcy region and afford one of the greatest senses of remoteness obtainable in the Adirondacks.

With elevations over 4,000 feet, **High Peaks** adventurers look at breathtaking views from the highest vantage points in the state. DEC campgrounds such as Buck

Pond offer secluded campsites, canoeing, swimming and trails.

Buck Pond compares to a mountain retreat as it offers secluded sites, ample water access, guarded bathing beach and an "easy to walk" trail which stretches for miles along an old abandoned railroad bed. Buck Pond Campground is located on the western shore of 130-acre Buck Pond. The Lake Kushaqua and the Kushaqua Narrows form most of the western and northern boundaries of the campground.

LAKE GEORGE

Lake George offers some of the best boating, fishing and hiking in the Northeast. All types of watercraft are allowed on the lake. Anglers enjoy the exceptional variety of sportfish species that inhabit the lake. The deeper parts are perfect for landlocked salmon and lake trout, while bass and pike gather in the shallower weed beds and panfish can be caught near the shore.



PACKING ESSENTIALS

Don't hit the trail without:

- Topographic Map and Compass + GPS
- Whistle
- Flashlight or Headlamp
- Sunglasses, Sunscreen and Hat
- High-energy Food and Plenty of Water
- Appropriate Clothing and Extra Layers
- Waterproof Matches
- Insect Repellent
- Pocket Knife
- First-Aid Kit
- Sturdy Footwear

Hiking trails in surrounding hills and mountains lead to spectacular overlooks and remote mountain ponds. Over 50 miles of trails are marked with red, blue or yellow 3 inch diameter markers.

GREAT CAMPS AND SANTANONI

During the late 19th century and the early 20th century, many of America's most successful businessmen built summer homes in the Adirondack Region of New York State. Intended as rustic but elegant retreats from city life, the largest of these Adirondack camps became known as Great Camps.

Camp Santanoni is one of the most sophisticated and distinguished of all of the surviving great camps.

Follow the carriage road from the impressive stone Gate House through dense forest and past old farm buildings to the sprawling

Main Lodge and the quaint and quirky Artist Studio perched on Newcomb Lake. Enjoy the 9.4-mile round-trip in any season. The trip makes for a moderate ski, snowshoe or hike and is a great opportunity to enjoy fascinating history and elegant architecture.

Cross-country skiers and snowshoers will be able to visit the Gate Lodge and Main Lodge at Camp Santanoni.

DEC CAMPGROUNDS

Camp close to the "Queen of American Lakes," **Lake George**, or choose a more remote spot like Forked Lake or Lake Eaton. Reserve a spot for your RV or stay in a traditional Adirondack lean-to.

With so many choices across a wide variety of terrain, start your DEC Adirondack adventure at www.dec.ny.gov or reserve a campsite by calling (800) 456-CAMP.



Explore the Mount Marcy region of the Adirondacks to find untouched beauty.



CAPITAL REGION

FEATURED PARK

SARATOGA SPA STATE PARK

Saratoga Spa State Park—distinguished by its classical architecture and listed as a National Historic Landmark—is noted for its diverse recreational, cultural and natural resources, including mineral waters located in springs throughout the property.

The park is home to the Gideon Putnam Resort and Spa, two golf courses as well as the nationally-known Saratoga Performing Arts Center, the National Museum of Dance, the Saratoga Automobile Museum and more.

The terrain offers picnic areas, stream-side trails suitable for the nature-lover or the casual walker and as certified

running courses used by joggers, running clubs and high school and college athletes.

The lush 2,400-acre park is just minutes away from charming downtown Saratoga Springs, the historic racetrack and Skidmore College. 19 Roosevelt Drive, Saratoga Springs 12866 • **(518) 584-2000 43.05781, -73.80735**

IF YOU ONLY HAVE A DAY

Stop by the Saratoga Automobile Museum and observe some of the finest racing machines, auto history, car art and rotating exhibits.

Explore the stunning architecture of the Hall of Springs or relax by catching a show at the Saratoga Performing Arts

Center. Enjoy the classic sound of a symphony orchestra, soothing jazz or a ballet performance.

AROUND THE AREA

GRAFTON LAKES STATE PARK

Grafton Lakes State Park, on a ridge between the Taconic and Hudson Valleys, includes five ponds, a popular sandy beach and 2,357 acres. All ponds have launch facilities for sailboats, canoes and rowboats. Visitors also picnic, walk the nature trails and hike, bike or ride horses along the 25 miles of park trails. In winter, the trails are groomed for snowmobilers, and visitors may also snowshoe, cross-country ski, ice skate or ice fish when conditions permit. 100 Grafton Lakes State Park Way, Grafton 12082 • **(518) 279-1155 42.76943, -73.46422**

JOHN BOYD THACHER STATE PARK

John Boyd Thacher State Park is situated along the Helderberg Escarpment, one of the richest fossil-bearing formations

in the world. The park has volleyball courts, playgrounds, ball fields, a campground at Thompson's Lake and numerous picnic areas. Interpretive programs are offered year-round, including guided tours of the famous Indian Ladder Trail.

There are more than 12 additional miles of trails for summer hiking and mountain biking. The Emma Treadwell Thacher Nature Center is located two miles from the park on Thompson's Lake. 1 Hailes Cave Road, Voorheesville 12186 • **(518) 872-1237 42.64181, -73.99159**

MOREAU LAKE STATE PARK

While Moreau Lake State Park's four-season natural beauty draws visitors, its environmental education programs, guided hikes and friendly staff bring people back again and again. Shady groves of trees shelter picnic grounds overlooking the lake framed by hardwood forests, pine stands and rocky ridges. Two pavilions, each with a 120-person capacity, and a 20'x30' tent which can accommodate up to 75 people may be reserved on a daily basis.



The Avenue of the Pines is a favorite with visitors at Saratoga Spa State Park.



Wooded campgrounds offer tranquil accommodations for tent and trailer sites. Waterfront recreation includes a sandy swimming beach, fishing and boating. Moreau's proximity to Saratoga Springs and Lake George make the park a popular destination. In winter, don't miss cross-country ski trails and ice fishing.

The park recently added seven accessible campsites intended for use by persons with disabilities. At least one member of a camping party must be in need of the ac-

commodation. Power sources are available. 605 Old Saratoga Road, Gansevoort 12831
(518) 793-0511 • 43.22628, -73.70817

OUR READER FEEDBACK

"My family loves Moreau Lake State Park in the summer, but it's even more beautiful in the fall when the leaves change."
- DeShawn Morris



MORE PARKS IN THE CAPITAL REGION

Bennington Battlefield State Historic Site

Route 67, Walloomsac 12090
c/o Grafton Lakes State Park
(518) 686-7109
42.93375, -73.30487

Cherry Plain State Park

26 State Park Road, Cherry Plain 12040
(518) 733-5400
42.62209, -73.40942

Crailo State Historic Site

9 1/2 Riverside Avenue
Rensselaer 12144
(518) 463-8738 • 42.63459, -73.74949

Crown Point State Historic Site

21 Grandview Drive
Crown Point 12928 163,
(518) 597-4666
44.02485, -73.42437

Grant Cottage State Historic Site

28 Mount McGregor Rd.
Gansevoort 12831
(518) 587-8277 • 43.20132, -73.74528

Hudson River Islands State Park

Schodack Island State Park
Schodack Landing 12156
(518) 732-0187 • 42.32888, -73.77837

John Brown Farm State Historic Site

115 John Brown Road
Lake Placid 12946
(518) 523-3900
44.25417, -73.97202

John Burroughs Memorial State Historic Site

Burroughs Memorial Rd.,
west of Rt. 30, Roxbury 12131
c/o Mine Kill State Park
(518) 827-6111
42.29431, -74.59214

Johnson Hall State Historic Site

Hall Avenue, Johnstown 12095
(518) 762-8712
43.01506, -74.38230

Max V. Shaul State Park

Route 30, P.O. Box 23, Fultonham 12071
(518) 827-4711
42.54647, -74.41011

Mine Kill State Park

161 Mine Kill State Park
North Blenheim 12131
(518) 827-6111
42.43360, -74.46765

Peebles Island State Park

P.O. Box 295, Waterford 12188
(518) 237-8643 ext 3295
42.78429, -73.68015

Saratoga Lake State Boat Launch

Route 9P, Stillwater 12170
(518) 584-2000
43.05279, -73.72069

Schodack Island State Park

1 Schodack Way, P.O. Box 7
Schodack Landing 12156
(518) 732-0187
42.51799, -73.75969

Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site

129 Schoharie Street
P.O. Box 140, Fort Hunter 12069
(518) 829-7516
42.93985, -74.28300

Schuyler Mansion State Historic Site

32 Catherine Street
Albany 12202
(518) 434-0834
42.64172, -73.75974

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TACONIC REGION

FEATURED PARK

TACONIC STATE PARK

Taconic State Park is located along 16 miles of the Taconic Mountain Range, sharing a border with Massachusetts and Connecticut. Two developed areas, Copake Falls and Rudd Pond, offer an extensive trail system with terrain that varies from easy to challenging, offering spectacular views. Freshwater fishing enthusiasts will delight in hooking brown trout and other fish in the Bash Bish Brook or rainbow trout in the old iron ore mine pit.

Take a long weekend and stay at the campground at Copake Falls, which has sites to accommodate every type of camper. Choose

from a rustic experience or creature comforts. There are 46 tent sites, 24 tent platforms, 36 trailer sites and three cabin areas. 253 Route 344, Copake Falls 12517 • **(518) 329-3993 42.12098, -73.51956**

IF YOU ONLY HAVE A DAY

If you are looking to get outside and active, bike or stroll the Harlem Valley Rail Trail. From here you can hike to Bash Bish Falls, which is the most dramatic and highest single drop waterfall in Massachusetts.

Keep hiking and climb to the top of Brace Mountain, the highest point in Dutchess County. You can even tackle a portion of the Appalachian Trail, which runs through Taconic State Park.

NYS



Taconic State Park offers a front row seat to the scenic Bash Bish Falls.



Soak in stellar views of the Hudson River Valley on the Walkway Over the Hudson.

Learn more about the area and stop in at the newly created Iron Works museum to learn about the iron industry at the former site of Copake Iron Works.

AROUND THE AREA

CLARENCE FAHNESTOCK STATE PARK

With over 14,000 acres, this park has it all: countless hiking trails (including part of the famous Appalachian Trail), boating, hunting, swimming, fishing and camping. The nearby Taconic Outdoor Education Center offers high-quality environmental programming for families and organized groups. 1498 Route 301, Carmel 10512 **(845) 225-7207 • 41.46636, -73.82466**

CLERMONT STATE HISTORIC SITE

Clermont State Historic Site was the Hudson River seat of New York's politically and socially prominent Livingston Family including chancellor Robert R. Livingston, Jr. whose accomplishments include: drafting the Declaration of Inde-

pendence, serving as first U.S. Minister of Foreign Affairs, administering the oath of office to George Washington, negotiating the Louisiana Purchase and developing steamboat technology with Robert Fulton. Named a National Historic Landmark in 1973, Clermont's view of the Hudson and beautiful gardens are also part of the Hudson River National Heritage Landmark District, a must see. One Clermont Avenue, Germantown 12526 **(518) 537-4240 • 42.08508, -73.91183**

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT STATE PARK

Franklin D. Roosevelt State Park is located just north of New York City and offers a day of fun and relaxation. The park offers spacious picnic areas, ballfields, disc golf, boat rentals and a mammoth pool. The park hosts more than 40 special events annually including dog shows, walkathons and festivals. 2957 Crompond Road, Yorktown Heights 10598 • **(914) 245-4434 41.28330, -73.81812**

OLANA STATE HISTORIC SITE

Olana State Historic Site is the home and studio of Hudson River School artist Frederic Edwin Church. The 250-acre estate features an elaborately stenciled, Persian-inspired mansion filled with original sketches, studies and paintings by one of the mid-19th century's most famous artists. Visitors enjoy guided house tours and exhibits and can hike, run and walk dogs in the picturesque landscape, as well as picnic, paint, photograph. 5720 Route 9G, Hudson 12534 • **(518) 828-0135 • 42.20841, -73.83520**

WALKWAY OVER THE HUDSON STATE HISTORIC PARK

This remarkable park provides access to the Hudson River's breathtaking landscape for pedestrians, hikers, joggers, bicyclists, and people with disabilities. The bridge deck stands 212 feet above the river's surface and is 6,768 feet (1.28 miles) long, making it the longest, elevated pedestrian bridge in the world. 61 Parker Ave, Poughkeepsie 12601 **(845) 834-2867 • 41.71121, -73.94931**



MORE PARKS IN THE TACONIC REGION

Dinsmore Golf Course

5371 Albany Post Rd., Staatsburg 12580
(845) 889-4071 • 41.85854, -73.92121

Fahnestock Winter Park

Route 301
Cold Spring 10516
(845) 225-3998
41.47196, -73.82171

Hudson Highlands State Park Preserve

Route 9D, Beacon 10512
(845) 225-7207
41.44118, -73.97547

James Baird State Park & Golf Course

14 Maintenance Lane
Pleasant Valley 12569
(845) 452-1489
41.68822, -73.78689

John Jay Homestead State Historic Site

400 Jay Street
Katonah 10536
(914) 232-5651
41.24804, -73.65876

Lake Taghkanic State Park

1528 Route 82, Ancram 12502
(518) 851-3631
42.09748, -73.71830

Mills Norrie State Park

(Margaret Lewis Norrie)
9 Old Post Road, Staatsburg 12580
(845) 889-4646
41.84024, -73.93099

Ogden Mills & Ruth Livingston Mills State Park

Old Post Road, Staatsburg 12580
(845) 889-4646
41.85693, -73.92649

Old Croton Aqueduct State Historic Park

15 Walnut Street
Dobbs Ferry 10522
(914) 693-5259 • 41.16566, -73.86317

Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site

29 Warburton Avenue
Yonkers 10701
(914) 965-4027
40.93555, -73.89931

Rockefeller State Park Preserve

125 Phelps Way, Pleasantville 10570
(914) 631-1470
41.11291, -73.83651

Staatsburgh State Historic Site

Old Post Road, Staatsburg 12580
(845) 889-8851
41.85661, -73.92974

Taconic State Park-Copake Falls Area

253 Route 344,
Copake Falls 12517
(518) 329-3993
42.12098, -73.51956

Taconic State Park-Rudd Pond Area

59 Rudd Drive, Millerton 12546
(518) 789-3059
41.98482, -73.50724

Taconic Outdoor Education Center

75 Mountain Laurel Lane
Cold Spring 10516
(845) 265-3773
41.42263, -73.87904

Explore more State Parks and Historic Sites

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CATSKILLS

The Catskill Park lies in the fabled Catskills mountain range and is filled with 98 peaks over 3,000 feet and 300,000 acres of publicly owned forest preserve with hundreds of miles of trails and streams for visitors to explore.

Just a short drive from New York City, the Catskills offer visitors lush forests with meadows, lakes, cliffs and even fire towers to climb for spectacular mountain vistas. Hundreds of miles of old logging roads and trails are yours to explore. Distinctive natural areas like mountaintop forests of spruce, wetlands, trout streams and trees that have survived for hundreds of years may be found throughout the Catskill Park.

Depending on what activities you and your group enjoy the most, the Catskills has

the answer for everyone. A summertime mecca for thousands, **North-South Lake** is the biggest and most popular DEC Catskill campground, where you can swim, fish or hike. The campground offers extraordinary scenic beauty, and historical sites, such as: Alligator Rock, Kaaterskill Falls, and the former site of the Catskill Mountain House.

Climb to an elevation of over 2,800 feet and take in the incredible view of the Hudson River Valley, Taconics and Berkshires! Another DEC Catskill campground, Mongaup Pond, is a perfect place to take a dip. Visitors can swim and boat on the largest natural body of water in the Catskill Park. To start your Catskills camping adventure, reserve a campsite by calling **(800) 456-CAMP**.



The Catskills have inspired and brought together artists, musicians and writers throughout history.



PALISADES REGION

FEATURED PARK

MINNEWASKA STATE PARK PRESERVE

Located along the dramatic Shawangunk Mountain ridge, more than 2,000 feet above sea level, Minnewaska offers jaw-dropping views. Clear streams cut through rocky terrain and dense forests, emerging in scenic waterfalls.

The park features numerous waterfalls, three crystalline sky lakes, dense hardwood forests, incising sheer cliffs opening to beautiful views, clear streams cut into valleys, world-class rock climbing and 35 miles of carriageways and 25 miles of footpaths. Hike, bike, horseback ride or run along the park's extensive trails and paths.

In addition to the swimming beach, enjoy picnicking and boating and some of the best technical rock climbing in the East. 5281 Route 44-55, Kerhonkson 12446 **(845) 255-0752 • 41.73514, -74.23903**

IF YOU ONLY HAVE A DAY

Take the time to explore the amazing rock climbing opportunities in the park. It is one of the few locations in the state that permits technical rock climbing. Individuals travel from throughout the Northeast, and even the country, to enjoy the Gunks!

Birdwatching is another popular activity in the park. Minnewaska is part of a migratory corridor that exists along the entire upland plateau of the Northern Shawangunks.



Minnewaska State Park offers extensive hiking with dramatic views.



Bear Mountain State Park is an oasis just a short drive from New York City. Perkins Memorial Tower and multiple overlooks offer spectacular views of the park and surrounding area.

AROUND THE AREA

BEAR MOUNTAIN STATE PARK

Bear Mountain State Park, situated in rugged mountains rising from the west bank of the Hudson River, features a large play field, shaded picnic groves, lake and river fishing access, a swimming pool, the Trailside Museums and Zoo, hiking, biking and cross-country ski trails. 3006 Seven Lakes Drive, Bear Mountain 10911 **(845) 786-2701 • 41.31294, -73.98895**

HARRIMAN STATE PARK

Harriman State Park, located in Rockland and Orange counties, is the second-largest park in the system, with 31 lakes and reservoirs, 200 miles of hiking trails, three beaches, two public camping ar-

reas, a network of group camps, miles of streams and scenic roads, and scores of wildlife species, vistas and vantage points. Bear Mountain 10911 • **(845) 786-2701 41.25019, -74.04322**

NATIONAL PURPLE HEART HALL OF HONOR/NEW WINDSOR CANTONMENT STATE HISTORIC SITE

At this historic location of the final encampment of George Washington's Army, interpreters in reproduction period dress demonstrate camp-life activities as well as musket drills and blacksmithing. Also on site is the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor with stories of heroism preserved and shared through a series of exhibits, live and videotaped interviews with veterans themselves and an interac-

tive computer program detailing the stories of each individual. 374 Temple Hill Road (Route 300), New Windsor 12584 **(845) 561-1765 • 41.47150, -74.0589**

ROCKLAND LAKE STATE PARK

Rockland Lake State Park's lake is located on a ridge of Hook Mountain above the west bank of the Hudson River. The park offers a huge swimming pool, picnic tables, grills, a

car-top boat launch dock, hiking trails with breathtaking views of the Hudson Valley, six tennis courts and two 18-hole golf courses.

Anglers can fish Rockland Lake for bass, perch and norlunge. Walkers, joggers, roller bladers and bicyclists can enjoy the 3.2 mile non-motorized use paved trail around the lake. 299 Rockland Lake Rd. Valley Cottage 10989 **(845) 268-3020 • 41.13023, -73.92496**



MORE PARKS IN THE PALISADES REGION

<p>Blauvelt State Park Palisades Interstate Park Commission Bear Mountain 10911 (845) 359-0544 • 41.07042, -73.94902</p>	<p>Lake Superior State Park Sullivan County DPW, Box 5012 Monticello 12701 (845) 794-3000 ext 5002 41.68756, -74.88663</p>	<p>Sterling Forest State Park 116 Old Forge Road Tuxedo 10987 (845) 351-5907 41.19895, -74.25708</p>
<p>Fort Montgomery State Historic Site 690 Route 9W P.O. Box 213 Fort Montgomery 10922 (845) 446-2134 41.32453, -73.98870</p>	<p>New Windsor Cantonment State Historic Site 374 Temple Hill Road New Windsor 12553 (845) 561-1765 • 41.47071, -74.06092</p>	<p>Stony Point Battlefield State Historic Site Stony Point 10980 (845) 786-2521 41.24106, -73.97657</p>
<p>Goosepond Mountain State Park Palisades Interstate Park Commission Bear Mountain 10911 (845) 786-2701 41.34841, -74.23446</p>	<p>Nyack Beach State Park 698 N. Broadway Upper Nyack 10960 (845) 358-1316 41.11894, -73.91508</p>	<p>Storm King State Park Palisades Interstate Park Commission Bear Mountain 10911 (845) 786-2701 41.43783, -73.99704</p>
<p>Highland Lakes State Park c/o Palisades Interstate Park Commission Bear Mountain 10911 (845) 786-2701 41.50959, -74.32356</p>	<p>Rockland Lake Golf Course Route 9W, Congers 10920 (845) 268-7275 41.13621, -73.92191</p>	<p>Tallman Mountain State Park Palisades Interstate Park Commission Bear Mountain 10911 (845) 359-0544 41.03468, -73.91320</p>
<p>High Tor State Park 415 South Mountain Road New City 10956 (845) 634-8074 41.18780, -73.98811</p>	<p>Schunnemunk State Park c/o Sterling Forest State Park 116 Old Forge Road, Tuxedo 10987 (845) 351-5907 41.42581, -74.10182</p>	<p>Washington's Headquarters State Historic Site 84 Liberty St., Newburgh 12551 (845) 562-1195 41.49712, -74.00914</p>
<p>Knox's Headquarters State Historic Site 289 Forge Hill Road, Vails Gate 12584 (845) 561-5498 41.45551, -74.04888</p>	<p>Senate House State Historic Site 296 Fair Street, Kingston 12401 (845) 338-2786 41.93514, -74.01860</p>	

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NYC REGION

FEATURED PARK

ROBERTO CLEMENTE STATE PARK

Roberto Clemente State Park is a 25-acre waterfront park located along the Harlem River in the Bronx. The park offers recreational and cultural activities year-round for youth, adults, senior citizens and the physically challenged.

The facilities include a multi-purpose recreation building, an Olympic-size pool complex, ball fields, basketball courts, picnic areas, playgrounds and a waterfront promenade. 301 West Tremont Avenue, Bronx 10453 • **(718) 299-8750 40.85220, -73.92076**

IF YOU ONLY HAVE A DAY

Families can spend a summer's day enjoying the park's playground installed in the Lower Plaza and cool off at the park's aquatic complex. The state-of-the-art children's play areas include a range of climbers, spinners, slides, overhead ladders and a user-activated spray feature, so even young swimmers can get in on the fun.

The pool area offers a completely refurbished main pool and dive tank, a colorful spray pad area with over 20 spray features and a zero-depth entry wading pool with a fountain. On a hot summer day the park's pool and water features are ideal for a family outing.



Children around the state can participate in a Learn to Swim program like the one shown here at Roberto Clemente State Park. Details at nysparks.com.

AROUND THE AREA

RIVERBANK STATE PARK

Riverbank State Park, a unique 28-acre park situated 69 feet above the Hudson River, welcomes 3 million visitors annually and serves as a vital recreation and cultural resource for the surrounding Harlem community and the greater metropolitan area.

Riverbank's facilities include four outdoor tennis courts, an indoor theater, indoor basketball courts, a gymnasium and fitness center, ball fields, outdoor basketball courts, handball courts, outdoor concert areas, multiple landscaped picnic areas, an indoor and outdoor aquatic complex, skating rink and carousel. 679 Riverside Drive, New York 10031 **(212) 694-3600 • 40.82709, -73.95206**

CLAY PIT PONDS STATE PARK PRESERVE

Clay Pit Ponds State Park Preserve is a 260-acre nature preserve near the southwest shore of Staten Island. It contains a variety of unique habitats, such as wetlands, ponds, sand barrens, spring-fed streams and woodlands. Evidences of the Leni Lenape Indians, European settlers and the Free Blacks of Sandy Ground provide a rich cultural history.

Educational programs, such as nature walks, pond ecology, birdwatching and tree and flower identification are offered, as are many activities geared to school children. In addition, visitors may picnic or hike on designated trails. Horseback riding is also permitted

on over five miles of bridal paths. 83 Nielsen Avenue, Staten Island 10309 **(718) 967-1976 • 40.54238, -74.23667**

EAST RIVER STATE PARK

East River State Park is located along the East River in the Williamsburg neighborhood of Brooklyn. It offers visitors a stunning view of the Manhattan skyline, a delightful play area, free *Oh, Ranger! Wi-Fi™*, barbecues and green space for recreation and relaxation.

As the site of a 19th century shipping dock, visitors to East River may also discover unique historical remnants like old cobblestone streets and railroad tracks embedded in concrete. 90 Kent Avenue, Brooklyn 11211 • **(718) 782-2731 40.72182, -73.96025**

MORE PARKS IN THE NEW YORK CITY REGION

Gantry Plaza State Park

4-09 47th Road
Long Island City 11101
(718) 786-6385
40.74614, -73.95650

Bayswater Point State Park

Clay Pit Ponds State Park Preserve
1479 Point Breeze Place
Far Rockaway 11691
(718) 967-1976
40.61281, -73.77255

Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms State Park

1 FDR Four Freedoms Park
Roosevelt Island, NY 10044
(212) 486-0195

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Take on one of the most challenging golf courses in the country at Bethpage on the Black Course.

MONTAUK DOWNS STATE PARK

The park is best known for its Robert Trent Jones-designed, championship-length, 18-hole golf course. In addition, the park offers a driving range, six championship tennis courts, a main swimming pool and a wading pool for children, as well as a beautiful catering facility, a clubhouse and a grill room serving breakfast and lunch. 50 South Fairview Avenue, Montauk 11754 • (631) 668-3781 **41.05369, -71.93592**

ORIENT BEACH STATE PARK

With its stunning water views and vast frontage on Gardiner's Bay, Orient Beach State Park can't be missed if you're looking for fun in the sand and sun for the whole family. Swim in the bay, fish, enjoy a picnic, go hiking or cycling, or explore nature trails along the park's rare maritime forest. Route 25, Orient 11957 • (631) 323-2440 **41.15358, -72.24511**

PLANTING FIELDS ARBORETUM STATE HISTORIC PARK

The former Gold Coast estate of the W.R. Coe family, this magnificent property has over 400 acres of exquisite landscape designed by the Olmsted Brothers who created New York City's Central Park. The Tudor Revival residence, Coe Hall, gives visitors a glimpse of the formal lifestyle and stunning craftsmanship of the 1920s.

Together, the main greenhouse and camellia greenhouse offer one of the largest collections of camellias in the Northeast as well as hibiscus, orchids, succulents and seasonal displays. 1395 Planting Fields Road, Oyster Bay 11771 • (516) 922-9200 **40.86794, -73.55282**

SUNKEN MEADOW STATE PARK

Sunken Meadow State Park offers swimming in the Long Island Sound, six miles of hiking trails—including the

northern starting point of the Suffolk County Greenbelt Trail—biking (in designated areas), horseback riding, picnicking, kayaking, canoeing, windsurfing, fishing, a boardwalk and cross-country ski-

ing. In addition, the park offers a 27-hole golf course, a driving range and putting green. Rte. 25A and Sunken Meadow Parkway, Kings Park 11754 • (631) 269-4333 **40.90579, -73.26033**



MORE PARKS IN THE LONG ISLAND REGION

Bayard Cutting Arboretum

Oakdale 11769
(631) 581-1002
40.73945, -73.16303

Belmont Lake State Park

Southern State Parkway Exit 38
North Babylon 11703
(631) 667-5055
40.73431, -73.33852

Brookhaven State Park

c/o Wildwood State Park, Route 25
Wading River 11792
(631) 929-4314
40.91305, -72.87889

Caleb Smith State Park Preserve

581 West Jericho Turnpike
P.O. Box 963 (mail)
Smithtown 11787
(631) 265-1054
40.85184, -73.22481

Camp Hero State Park

1898 Montauk Highway, Montauk 11954
(631) 668-3781
41.07064, -71.87102

Captree State Park

Babylon 11702
(631) 669-0449
40.64031, -73.25570

Cold Spring Harbor State Park

Care of Caumsett State Historic Park 25
Lloyd Harbor Road, Huntington 11743
(631) 423-1770
40.86696, -73.46192

Connetquot River State Park Preserve

Oakdale 11769
(631) 581-1005
40.74813, -73.15243

Caumsett State Historic Park

25 Lloyd Harbor Road, Lloyd Neck 11743
(631) 423-1770
40.92927, -73.47075

Gilgo State Park

Ocean Parkway, Babylon 11702
(631) 669-0449
40.63391, -73.34491

Hallock State Park Preserve

c/o Wildwood State Park
Hulse Landing Road, Wading River 11792
(631) 323-2440
40.98313, -72.58894

Heckscher State Park

Heckscher Parkway Field 1, East Islip 11730
(631) 581-2100
40.71680, -73.16426

Hither Hills State Park

164 Old Montauk Highway, Montauk 11954
(631) 668-2554
41.00392, -72.02563

Montauk Point State Park

2000 Montauk Highway, Montauk 11954
(631) 668-3781
41.05913, -71.89562

Nissequogue River State Park

799 Saint Johnland Road
Kings Park 11754
(631) 269-4927
40.88444, -73.24957

Robert Moses State Park

600 Robert Moses State Parkway
Babylon 11702
(631) 669-0470
40.62517, -73.26198

Sag Harbor State Golf Course

Barcelona Point
Sag Harbor 11963
(631) 725-2503
40.99201, -72.26845

Shadmoor State Park

900 Montauk Highway, Montauk 11954
(631) 668-3781
41.03860, -71.92766

Trail View State Park

25 Lloyd Harbor Road, Huntington 11743
(631) 423-1770
40.81378, -73.47021

Valley Stream State Park

Valley Stream 11580
(516) 825-4128
40.67816, -73.69991

Walt Whitman Birthplace State

Historic Site
246 Old Walt Whitman Road
Huntington Station 11746
(631) 427-5240
40.81728, -73.41220

Wildwood State Park

North Wading River Road
Wading River 11792
(631) 929-4314
40.96274, -72.80842

Explore more State Parks and Historic Sites

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WILDLIFE IN NEW YORK STATE PARKS

New York State Parks and Historic Sites protect more than just beautiful landscapes. These areas provide crucial habitats for both common and rare flora and fauna. For centuries, the marshes, forests, lakes and beaches have acted as havens for animals of all kinds.

Over 100 species of native mammals, tens of thousands of species of insects, hundreds of fish species, 70 species of amphibians and more than 300 species of birds find a home in the parks and historic sites across the state. If you are planning a visit, you will most likely get the opportunity to spot unique birds, mammals, fish and plant life that you can't find in your own backyard. Please do not feed or approach the animals.

NATURE CENTERS

One of the best ways to learn more about nature and wildlife in New York state is to visit a state park nature center. In total there are 23 across New York.

Enjoy wildlife by keeping a safe distance and bringing along a camera. Take memories and photos, but please remember to leave the park as you found it. Respecting nature and wildlife ensures it will be there for all to enjoy!

BIODIVERSITY

Biodiversity brings important environmental services to our parks and communities. The variety of plant and animal life that occur naturally in these areas help to clean and protect our environment. For example, wetlands are often

areas of high plant and animal biodiversity; they clean water of pollutants and mitigate flooding. Biodiversity keeps the area in balance.

There is also aesthetic value in seeing a variety of plants and animals, making parks a popular destination for nature-lovers. It is important that we safeguard these diverse resources, so that they may continue to provide this valuable contribution to the ecosystem.

Some examples of elements contributing to New York's biodiversity include the old growth hemlock-northern hardwood forests in Allegany State Park in Western New York; the carnivorous Butterwort plant at Taughannock Falls State Park in the Finger Lakes and the Short-eared owls at Gilgo Beach State Park on Long Island.

PROTECTING BIRDS IN NEW YORK

The New York State Bird Conservation Area Program was established in 1997 to safeguard and enhance bird populations and their habitats on State lands and waters. The goal of the Bird Conservation Area (BCA) Program is to integrate bird conservation interests into agency planning, management and research projects, within the context of agency missions.

The BCA Program is modeled after the National Audubon Society's Important Bird Areas program, which began in New York in 1996. To date, 25 BCA sites have been designated in New York State Parks. BCA programs help ensure birds have a habitat to live, reproduce and thrive.

WATCHABLE WILDLIFE



1 BEAVER (*Castor canadensis*)

With their large flat tail and webbed feet, beavers are well adapted to a semi-aquatic environment, and can glide swiftly and effortlessly through water. Beavers build dams and lodges that not only provide protection, but create a favorable new habitat for other species. • **Weight** 20 pounds • **Length** 3-4 feet inches • **Active** year-round. Photo: Bill Damon

2 BLACK BEAR (*Ursus americanus*)

Black bears like to eat juicy plant parts, insect larvae, fruits, nuts, acorns and occasionally meat. They range in color from dark black and chocolate-brown to cinnamon brown or blonde. To survive the scarcity of food in winter, bears hibernate for up to seven months. • **Weight** 200–585 lbs. • **Length** 4.5–6.5 ft. • **Active** Spring through fall. Photo: Jitze Couperus

3 GREAT BLUE HERON (*Ardea herodias*)

With its long legs and thin beak, the blue heron wades into the waters in search of food. Its diet consists mainly of small fish and some small animals and some land animals. The heron uses its sharp beak to pierce prey. These birds are year round inhabitants of the parks. • **Weight** 5–8 lbs. • **Length** 5.5–6.5 ft • **Active** year-round. Photo: Fritz Flohr Reynolds

4 NORTHERN GREEN FROG (*Rana clamitans*)

Due to their excellent camouflage, these brightly colored frogs can be difficult to spot. Mostly nocturnal, they resemble a small bullfrog. Frogs spend most of their time on the banks of rivers, ponds and lakes waiting for prey. Their diet consists primarily of insects and small animals. • **Length** 2-4 inches • **Weight** 1-3 oz. • **Active** year-round. Photo: C.P. Ewing

5 RED SQUIRREL (*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*)

The red squirrel enjoys eating insects, seeds, bark, nuts, fruits, mushrooms and pine seeds or cones. The red squirrel is most active in the early morning and late afternoon. An agile climber and jumper, the red squirrel lives in deciduous and coniferous forests. • **Length** 11-14 inches • **Weight** 7 ounces • **Active** year-round. Photo: Airwolfhound

6 WHITE-TAILED DEER (*Odocoileus virginianus*)

These deer, and their flashy white tails, are commonly seen along roadways (drive aware!) and in the woods. Thanks to their four-part stomachs, they extract a large amount of nutrients from grazing on green plants and woody vegetation. • **Weight** 90-130 pounds • **Size** 6-7 feet • **Active** year-round. Photo: U.S. Fish & Wildlife



WALKING & HIKING

Thousands of miles of trails connect communities to the heritage of New York. Trails serve as recreation, alternative transportation and contribute to the economy. From foot paths in the Adirondacks to paved greenway trails along the Manhattan waterfront, our trails are as diverse as the communities which host them.

While hiking, be sure to follow the general etiquette guidelines. Stay on the trail, don't litter, pass others with care, take only pictures and leave what you find. Be sure to follow any trail-specific guidelines posted on trailhead kiosks or at visitor centers and do your best to leave the trails as you found them. Happy hiking!



WALKING & HIKING TRAILS

Trail State Park	Description	Round-Trip Distance	Difficulty
Niagara Gorge Trail <i>Niagara Falls State Park</i>	This trail goes through multiple state parks and rewards with stunning views of gorge vistas.	6.2 Miles	Moderate
Gorge Trail <i>Letchworth State Park</i>	Explore the best of the "Grand Canyon of the East" and see the famed waterfalls.	7 Miles	Easy
Catharine Valley Trail <i>Near Watkins Glen State Park</i>	Enjoy scenes from the glacially-carved valley south of Seneca Lake.	2 Miles	Easy
Rim Trail <i>Taughannock State Park</i>	Stop at the overlook for a stunning view of Taughannock Falls.	5 Miles	Moderate
Lake Trail <i>Clark Reservation State Park</i>	Lake Trail circle Glacier Lake and is a nice, relaxing hike.	4 Miles	Easy
Green Lakes Trail <i>Green Lakes State Park</i>	Soak in the stunning views of the lake as you walk along its shoreline.	1.8 Miles	Easy/flat
Indian Ladder Trail <i>Thacher State Park</i>	With Limestone cliffs and Minelot Falls, be sure to bring along your camera.	.5 Miles	Easy
Spring Overlook <i>Moreau Lake State Park</i>	Take in views of the Luzerne Mountains and Hudson River.	.86 Miles	Moderate
Appalachian Trail <i>Bear Mountain State Park</i>	Hike a section of the famous, and longest, trail on the east coast.	6 Miles	Difficult
Break Neck Ridge <i>Hudson Highlands State Park</i>	Scramble up the rocks in a trail that will test your physical and mental acuteness.	5.5 Miles	Difficult
Thirteen Bridges Loop <i>Rockefeller State Park Preserve</i>	The trail leads to 13 bridges on the wandering Gory Brook.	1.9 Miles	Moderate
South Taconic Trail <i>Taconic State Park</i>	Enjoy the Copake Falls area and views of the Hudson Valley.	7 Miles	Moderate to difficult
Red Jacket Trail <i>Allegany State Park</i>	Begins on the west side of Red House Lake, which takes you on an exploration of discovering the forest's beauty.	1 Mile	Easy



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PHOTOGRAPHY

The ecosystems of America's national and state parks and public lands are among the most diverse on the planet—from the wetlands of the Everglades to the temperate rain forests of Olympic National Park and the deserts of Death Valley to the mountains of Yellowstone and Grand Teton. For both aspiring and experienced photographers, the goal of any trip to a national park is to capture its endemic wildlife.

Taking photographs of animals presents a unique set of challenges. Landscapes cooperate; wildlife does not. Not only are animals likely to react to a photographer's presence, but they are also driven by their own instincts and behavior, which can make capturing them difficult. The tips below will help you compose better wildlife images of all creatures great and small—from the bison to the tiniest hummingbird and everything in between.

- **Use a tripod.** If you are using a large telephoto lens, consider investing in a gimbal head, which will make it easier to track your subject.
- **Know your subject.** Before you take out your camera, understand your subject's



JPeche/Stock

Don't miss your shot! Be aware of your surroundings.

behavior so that you can be prepared for what it will do next.

- **The eyes have it.** Capturing your subject's eyes will lead the viewer into the picture and make your image more impactful. Always keep the eyes in focus and try to place them in the power points (the intersection of rule of third guidelines).
 - **Keep a safe distance.** You'll want to keep a minimum of 25 yards between you and your subject and more than 75 yards for larger predators. That means that you'll need a big telephoto lens if you want to get up close and personal.
 - **Shoot in burst mode.** Instead of taking a single frame, increase the probability that you'll capture the behavior, head position or angle by capturing multiple frames.
 - **Be prepared.** Wildlife, and particularly birds, move quickly and without provocation. Practice your panning skills to better catch birds when they alight.
 - **Timing is everything.** The best time to photograph wildlife is during the golden hours—at dusk and dawn—when the light is soft and less likely to cast harsh shadows across your subject's face.
 - **Keep it simple.** The easiest way to draw attention to your subject is to use a simple background. Use a shallow depth of field to blur any distracting backgrounds.
 - **Aim for the action.** Make your image more compelling by capturing your subject exhibiting its natural behavior—flying, hunting, eating or caring for young.
- The best way to take better photographs is to practice, and you don't need to go far. Buy a bird feeder and build a studio in your backyard, where you'll be able to create your own version of *A Star(ling) is Born*.



Arches National Park

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Visit the only Utah destination where you can experience two of **The Mighty 5[®]** National Parks from one convenient location. Visitors from around the world come to the town of Moab to experience sunrise over the towering depths of Canyonlands National Park and then follow it up with sunset in the otherworldly red rock landscape of Arches National Park. Moab's year-round access to thousands of square miles of amazing red rock landscapes, along with the cool waters of the Colorado River, has made it one of the most sought-after outdoor recreation destinations in the American Southwest.



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VISIT A NATURE CENTER!

Where do turtles live in the winter? How do owls see in the dark? Visit one of our nature centers and find out. Here, families and school groups will discover more about the natural world.

Through exhibits, hands-on programming and activities, environmental educators and staff will share their knowledge from ecology to geology and help you connect with the outdoors. Call the location before heading out or visit nysparks.com for the park's programs and events near you.

CONNECT KIDS - FREE PARK ENTRANCE TO 4TH GRADERS

For 2017, New York State Parks will continue to accept the Every-Kid-in-a-Park pass for free vehicle entry into all state parks. The 4th grader must be present in the vehicle. The pass will also be accepted at state historic sites for the pass holder and up to 3 adults for house tour fees. Fourth grade students can obtain and print their pass at everykidinapark.gov.

LEARN TO SWIM

From pristine lakes to Olympic-size swimming pools, New York State parks abound with opportunities to swim in the summer months. New York State Parks' free or low-cost Learn-to-Swim programs are a great way for kids to gain a life skill, become acquainted with the water and enjoy the outdoors safely.

The program is intended for children age 5-10 and available at approximately 30 state parks across the New York. Participants' parents are asked to sign up ahead of time as space is limited and expected to fill up quickly.

Each swim program is 40 to 45 minutes in duration and participants who enroll in these lessons will receive a Red Cross Learn-to-Swim Achievement Booklet and a State Parks Learn-to-Swim kit. Most programs are free and pre-registration is required. For more information on locations, schedules and how to sign up, visit the Learn-to-Swim page at nysparks.com/recreation/swimming.



Get a hands-on experience in the outdoors with a nature program at a state park.



DELICIOUS TASTE NY PROGRAM GROWING STATEWIDE



When you visit New York's beautiful parks this year, you'll find an array of lo-

cally made sandwiches, soups, honey, juice, beer and wine, among many other foods and beverages.

Taste NY, the official eat-local drink-local program for New York State, is continuing to grow at an unprecedented rate since its launch by Governor Cuomo in 2013. With an increasing presence at attractions across the state in the form of markets, cafés, bars, and concessions, it's never been easier to taste New York's local flavor.

Look for Taste NY at Niagara Falls, Watkins Glen, Jones Beach, Robert Moses, Beth Page, Sunken Meadow, Bear Mountain, and Saratoga Spa State Parks.



You can help preserve the places you love to hike.

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AMERICANHIKING.ORG/JOIN



Photo: Philipp Lublasser



EDITOR'S PICKS

Derek Burke



Clockwise from top left: Relax to the sound of rushing water on the Gorge Trail at Watkins Glen State Park. End the day watching the sunset over Seneca Lake at Sampson State Park. At Green Lakes State Park, encircle crystalline Round Lake on a hike.

- Feel the spray from Niagara Falls on the **Hurricane Deck at the Cave of Winds.**
- Hike **Watkins Glen State Park's** Gorge Trail to enjoy stone bridges and waterfalls.
- Take time to enjoy a waterfront sunset at **Sampson State Park**, one of the most picturesque in the Finger Lakes Region.
- Take the family for a jaunt through Mary's Glen at **North-South Lake Campground** in the Catskills and enjoy of the fabled Hudson River Valley.
- Swim in the cool waters at the base of Lower Falls in **Robert H. Treman Highlands State Park.**
- Enjoy the almost perfectly circular Round Lake and its blue-green waters at **Green Lakes State Park.**
- Enjoy the stunning views from atop the **Walkway Over the Hudson State Park.**
- Play 18 holes at the Robert Trent Jones-designed golf course at **James Baird State Park** in the Hudson Valley.
- Truly get away from it all with boat access-only camping with a visit to **Canoe-Picnic Point State Park.**
- Take the kids on a water world vacation to the **Thousand Islands**, known for some of the best boating and fishing in the world.
- Try roller-skating in the warmer months or ice-skating in winter at **Riverbank State Park's** covered rink in New York City.
- Watch an historic re-enactment at **Old Fort Niagara Historic Site.**

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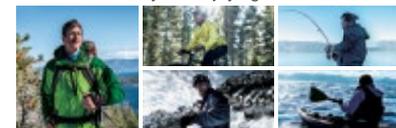
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