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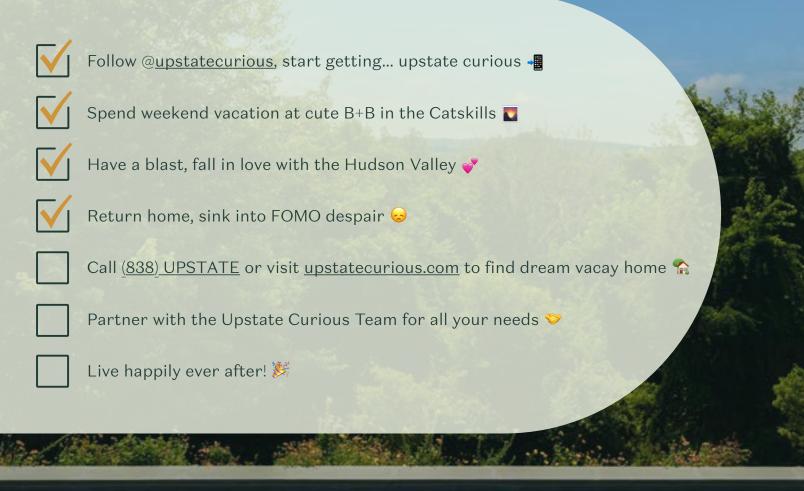
Seek for Yourself

ULSTER COUNTY

NEW YORK



Your Upstate To-Do List





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Enjoy a Train Ride on the Catskill Mountain Railroad

"All Aboard!"

Our train rides depart from the historic Hudson Valley city of Kingston and travel up through the Catskill Gateway at Hurley Mountain. Enjoy the views from our vintage coaches or open-air cars.

Get out of your car and get into history!



To purchase tickets, and for more information about all our unique themed rides, visit:

catskillmountainrailroad.com

WELCOME

Just ninety miles north of Manhattan and an hour south of Albany, Ulster County is a 1,160-square-mile, four-season playground just waiting for you to explore.

This year, our visitors' guide is set up a little differently. It is filled with ideas we hope will inspire your next Ulster County getaway, curated with intel and insights from people who live here.

Scan the QR codes in this guide to find even more information to plan your visit. Discover outdoor adventures, diverse arts and culture, scenic trails, world-class accommodations, hidden history, family fun, farm-to-table eateries, award-winning craft beverages and so much more.

Seek for yourself.

WHAT'S INSIDE

MUST-DOs

To make the most of your stay

LOCAL INSIGHT

Tips from trusted locals

SIGHTS, SOUNDS, STORIES

QR codes link to listings on visitulstercountyny.com

ULSTER COUNTY

NEW YORK

Photo: Steve Aaron Photography





"Eat, Play and Stay" In Your Mid-Hudson Valley Dream Home

Whether buying or selling Berkshire Hathaway Nutshell Realty has the expertise to get the job done. Founded in 2001, for over 20 years Nutshell Realty has been helping sellers achieve their sales objective and buyers find their dream vacation home. To meet or speak with one of our real estate professionals go to www.NutshellRealty.com or call (845) 687-2200. We are ready to help you realize your real estate goals.

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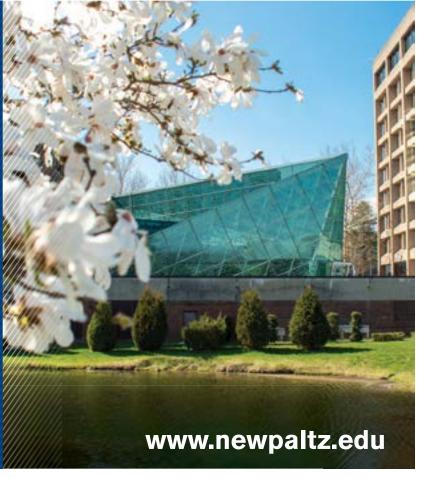


SPEND A DAY ON **OUR CAMPUS!**

- Visit the Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art
- See a Concert or a Theatre production
- Attend a Planetarium Show
- Or schedule a Campus Tour

LOCALLY GROWN... **NATIONALLY** RANKED **Your Public University**





Seek for Yourself

Discover Ulster County

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For more travel information, visit or call: **Ulster County Tourism** 244 Fair Street, Kingston, NY 800-342-5826 | 845-340-3566

ON THE COVER: Biking along the Empire State Trail over the Rosendale Trestle. Courtesy of New York State Department of Economic Development/Darren McGee.

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GETTING HERE

DISTANCE TO ULSTER COUNTY

Measured in miles from Kingston, NY

MAJOR CITIES

Albany, NY	57
Hartford, CT	94
New York, NY	110
Philadelphia, PA	179
Boston, MA	205

AIRPORTS

New York Stewart Intl. Airport	42
Albany Intl. Airport	65
Westchester County Airport	92
LaGuardia Airport	98
Newark Liberty Intl. Airport	102
John F. Kennedy Intl. Airport	107





Explore more at visitulstercountyny.com

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January

Catskill Ice Climbing Festival

New Paltz | alpineendeavors.com Learn the skills and techniques you need to get out on the ice-from the basics of iceclimbing to dry-tooling and glacier travel



February

Sojourner Truth Life Walk

Kingston | blackhistorymonthkingston.org Celebrate the life of abolitionist Sojourner Truth on a walk that highlights her escape route to freedom. Free shuttle.



March

Ashokan Center Maple Fest

Ashokan | ashokancenter.org Sugaring and blacksmithing demos, guided tours, live music and pancakes!



May

Annual Woodstock-New Paltz **Art & Crafts Fair**

New Paltz | quailhollow.com

One-of-a-kind goods by the nation's finest makers and artisans, featuring furniture, architectural crafts, demos, gourmet specialty foods, health care products and more. (Also September)



Field + Supply Market

Kingston | fieldandsupply.com

Home goods, apparel, jewelry, apothecary and more, from dozens of skilled makers, designers and artists. Food and live music. (Also September)



June

Hudson Valley Pride Coalition March & Festival

New Paltz | hudsonvalleypridecoalition.org Events and performances to celebrate Pride Month that kicks off with a march in New Paltz.



Summer at Belleayre

Highmount | belleayre.com

Enjoy outdoor activities like Belleayre beach, scenic gondola rides, hiking, climbing wall and disc golf. Events include Arts and Crafts at the Beach, Mustache Dash 5K, Farmers Market, movie night, Bands in the Sand, Car and Food Truck Fest. Through September.



July

HITS-on-the-Hudson

Saugerties | hitsshows.com Equestrian center offering family-friendly fun

with horse and pony shows, championships and a glimpse of equestrian stars. Events through September.



Upstate Arts Weekend

Various counties | upstateartweekend.org Three-day, self-directed event celebrates the cultural vibrancy of Upstate New York with hundreds of exhibitions and artist studio tours. Free and ticketed events.





August

Blueberry Festival

Ellenville | ewcoc.com

Live music, hundreds of vendors featuring crafts, goods, delicious foods and blueberry pies. Rain or shine. Free parking.





Caribbean Carnival

Saugerties | seasonedgives.org Enjoy authentic Caribbean food, music and cultural events. Annual Carnival fun for the whole family. Donations suggested.

Phoenicia Festival of the Voice

Phoenicia | phoeniciavoicefest.org Join New York City Opera, Teatro Grattacielo opera company and FofV for a family-friendly, outdoor opera festival.



Ulster County Fair

New Paltz | ulstercountyfair.com Annual family event promotes local agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry and good old-fashioned fun since 1886. Entertainment, shows and exhibits.



September

Annual Woodstock-New Paltz Art & Crafts Fair See May

Field + Supply Market







Headless Horseman Haunted Attractions

Ulster Park | headlesshorseman.com Named "No. 1 Haunted Attraction in America." New theme each season. Multiple attractions, gift shops, cafés and kidfriendly days. Through October.



Hooley on The Hudson

Kingston | ulsteraoh.com

Annual Irish festival featuring live music, step dancing, childrens' tent, food and craft vendors. Kicks off with "Parade of Dignitaries" on the Rondout Creek. Free shuttle.



Woodstock Film Festival

Woodstock | woodstockfilmfestival.org Roster of over 150 films, concerts, panels and the Maverick Awards Ceremony. Held at various locations. Runs through October.



October

Burning of Kingston "Capital to Capital 5K Run"

Kingston | burningofkingston.com 5K run/walk commemorating Colonists who fled to Hurley as Kingston was burned to the ground during the Revolutionary War. Both a family fun run and a timed run.



Hudson Valley Garlic Festival

Saugerties | hvgf.org

Two-day celebration with garlic farmers, food, crafts, live music, chef demos, children's activities and tons of garlic. Free trolley service and onsite shuttle



O+ Festival

Kingston | opositivefestival.org A "citywide celebration of life" featuring mural, performance, interactive, installation and fiber artists exhibiting at outdoor locations. Wellness expos and healing arts classes. Some pet-friendly locations.



Rosendale International Pickle Festival

Rosendale | rosendalepicklefestival.org A variety of food, music, wares, contests and lots of pickles, representing cultures of many countries. Rain or shine.



Ulster County Italian Festival

Kingston

ucitalianamericanfoundation.org Annual, free festival featuring a variety of Italian foods, beverages, products, music and family fun on the Kingston waterfront.



Walktoberfest Farmers and Makers Market

Highland | walkway.org

Curated selection of artists, artisans, restaurants, craft beverage makers and more, exhibiting on the Hudson Valley Rail Trail and the west approach to the Walkway Over the Hudson. Tickets required for



Nov-Dec

A Frosty Fest

Ulster Park | afrostyfest.com A holiday light spectacular displaying more than one million lights, with holiday attractions, stage show, photos with





Catskill Mountain Railroad **Polar Express**

Kingston | cmrrevents.com

Discover the magic of Christmas aboard the Polar Express when it arrives in Kingston on a trip inspired by the hit book and film.



Snowflake Festival

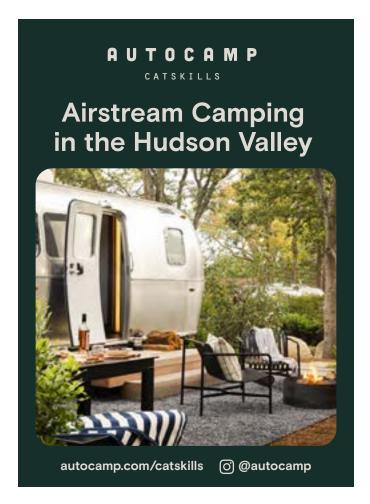
Kingston | kuba.network

Fun for the whole family with main stage performances, carolers, horse-drawn carriage rides, ice carving, dancers, Christmas Tree lighting, a visit from Santa and more.



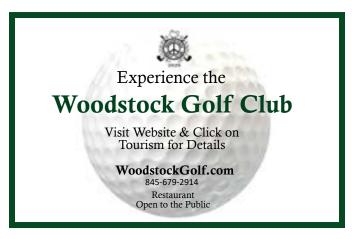
Scan the QR code above for more events and information.

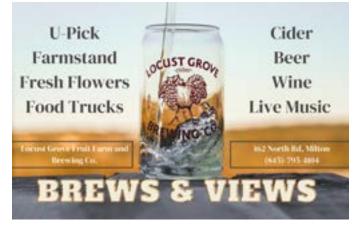
Check the event's website for updates and to purchase tickets.

















Seek for yourself

Outdoor Adventure



ust 90 minutes from Manhattan, Ulster County is a 750,000-acre playground with 35 peaks, 350+ miles of trails and 1,161 square miles of majestic landscapes primed for year-round adventure—biking, hiking, kayaking, skiing, climbing, horseback riding and so much more.

Relax and rejuvenate or get your heart pumping on your Ulster County outdoor escape. Scan the QR code to map out a plan.

Best Spots to Connect with Nature

GREEN GETAWAYS

Explore Ulster County's historic landscapes, towering vistas, nature preserves, rail trails and public lands by bike or on foot.

Scan for more parks and recreation

ON A BIKE: The 750-mile Empire State Trail stretches from New York City to the Adirondacks and Buffalo, and connects in Ulster County along the 7-mile Hudson Valley Rail Trail from Lloyd to New Paltz. Its multi-use, family-friendly trails wind through hardwood forests, under stone bridges and over Black Creek, popular for paddleboarders and kayakers. Stop for a picnic lunch at Black Creek Crossing where the rail bed rises 20 feet above the valley and offers expansive views of Illinois Mountain

Get your pedal on the 11.5-mile Ashokan Rail Trail (ART) running beside the Ashokan Reservoir between West Hurley and Boiceville for spectacular views of the Catskill Mountains, scenic lookouts and acres of forest and wetlands.

On weekends, locals head to the Shaupeneak Ridge Trail in Ulster Park, a 2.2-mile loop of rugged terrain with vistas to the Hudson River, or Jockey Hill off Route 28 in Kingston with 25 miles of groomed trails that connect to the Onteora Lake Trails for a longer ride. In Wawarsing, Lippman Park is a mountain biking destination for all levels, with 15 miles of surface for beginners and plenty of berms, jumps and rocky terrain to make it fun and fast for advanced riders.

ON FOOT: Ulster County's 75 miles of linked, mixed-use rail trails include the well-traveled Wallkill Valley Rail Trail, a 22.5-mile run along a former rail corridor through Gardiner, New Paltz and Rosendale; horseback riders and bikers are also welcome. Quench your thirst with a Belgian-inspired brew at Yard Owl Craft Brewery in Gardiner, just a few minutes away.

Head to the eastern end of the Hudson Valley Rail Trail, which shares a trailhead with 1.28-mile Walkway Over the Hudson, the world's longest elevated pedestrian bridge suspended high over the picturesque Hudson River. (Park at Haviland Road in Highland for easy access.) To avoid the weekend crowds, take a detour on the Walkway Loop

Trail to Franny Reese State Park for bird's-eye views of the Mid-Hudson Bridge along a 19th-century carriage road.

Birders (and early risers) can catch migratory avians along the Kingston Point Rail Trail, which meanders from midtown Kingston to the Rondout waterfront. There's also the relaxed and scenic River-to-Ridge Trail in New Paltz, which traverses across flat farmland and rolling foothills that were once home to the indigenous Munsee Lenape.

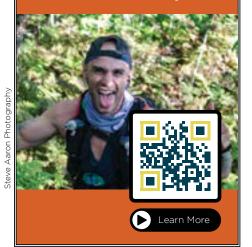
IN(to) THE WOODS: Some of the most beautiful hikes on the East Coast are treks through Ulster County's woodlands. Hike to Awosting Falls just inside Minnewaska State Park for dramatic waterfalls that plunge more than 60 feet into Peter's Kill after the thaw in spring. (Park on the access road after the admissions booth and walk the road back to the lake and across the stream to the top of the falls.) Plan about five hours if you hike the switchbacks to the bottom.

You'll need plenty of time (make it a day!) to hike the 4,600-acre Sam's Point Preserve, the highest section of the Shawangunk Mountains and, by far, the busiest. (Reservations are required for entry on weekends and holidays.) Explore easy trails with stunning views, or challenging hikes with rock scrambles and ice caves. Make the 180foot Verkeerderkill Falls, dubbed one of "Earth's Last Great Places." your end goal. The Nature Center off Sam's Point Road offers tips to get around.

Trek over to Overlook Mountain near Woodstock, a 4.6-mile outand-back moderately challenging route that is popular for its extraordinary views, old hotel ruins and a fire tower. It will take about 2.5 hours to complete the loop, but start out early as the parking lot gets filled by mid-morning during peak season (April-November).

CONQUER THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Get the lowdown from a local expert who is passionate about all things outdoors. Watch the video to find out his favorite places to mountain bike, hike and get a bite and a beer in Ulster County.



Top Destinations for Extreme Adventure

ROUGH + RUGGED

Grab your most durable gear and steel your nerves—you're about to have a thrilling time in, or above, the mountains.

GO VERTICAL: Extreme sports enthusiasts should head to the New Paltz and Gardiner areas for epic adventure. Trek across the grounds of the iconic Mohonk Mountain House resort to the Labyrinth scramble and up the Lemon Squeeze, a 5.5-mile, four-hour challenge (including the lengthy walk from the parking lot); you'll be rewarded with breathtaking vistas of the Mohonk Preserve. For 360-degree views, climb up the Sky Top Tower. Tip: Access to the 40,000-acre forest requires a pre-paid pass. Plan a weekday climb when the wait at the base will be shorter.

The Shawangunks, better known as the "Gunks," is one of the most popular climbing destinations in the country, sought for its quartz conglomerate cliffs and distinct horizontal fissures that create adrenaline-pumping challenges for climbers of all levels. Hit The Trapps and Near Trapps, two of the most popular cliffs located on the Mohonk Preserve. (Purchase a parking pass for the day, which also includes hiking, climbing, biking and horseback riding privileges). Skilled climbers will opt for the two-pitch Limelight, or the aptly named Ridicullissima, a single-pitch at 180 feet. Beginners find the Peterskill Cliffs in Minnewaska State Park easier to access, with bolt anchors and a single-pitch climb. Tip: The number of climbers at Peterskill is limited each day, so get there early to avoid being turned away.

GO HORIZONTAL: If it's airtime you're after, take hang gliding lessons from the certified instructors at Mountain Wings in Ellenville or at Ellenville Flight Park. For heart-stopping adventure, Skydive The Ranch in Gardiner boasts the highest skydive in New York and the longest freefall experience in the Northeast. Celebrate your daredevil accomplishments in New Paltz, an eclectic town with an abundance of replenishments. Refuel with a flight at Clemson Bros. Brewery or Schatzi's Pub and Bier Garden, or sink into a burger at Bacchus.

LOCAL LOWDOWN

TIPS FOR TACKLING **THE OUTDOORS**

Locals head to **Kenco Outfitters** vear-round for top-notch outdoor gear, rentals and advice from knowledgeable staff. Potter **Brothers** is a go-to for ski and snowboard rentals in winter. Both are located on Route 28 in Kingston.

New to climbing? Sign up for a customized ice-climbing or rockclimbing program with Alpine **Endeavors**, or transition from indoor gym climbing with lessons from HighXposure Adventures.

BaseCamp in Gardiner is a onestop emporium for essentials and grab-and-go nutrition to fuel your adventures.

Esopus Creel in Phoenicia offers crash courses for first-timers, and guided fly fishing instruction for experienced anglers, on the Esopus Creek. Shop for

Northeast Off-Road Adventures in Ellenville offers 4WD and overland adventure classes, boot camps and tours. Those with mobility impairments can enjoy adaptive outdoor recreation with their specialized SOAR program.

Tee off at Apple Greens Golf Course in Lloyd, a challenging 27-hole championship course with spectacular views (and onsite bar and eatery). In High Falls, play a relaxing round of nine holes at Stone Dock Golf Course and head to **High Falls Café** after.



Download the Ulster County Golf Guide for more public golf courses

Year-Round Reasons to Love Our Outdoors

NATURAL PURSUITS

There isn't an "off" season in Ulster County; you can take on an outdoor adventure every month of the year.

WINTER: Prime time for cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and fat biking, most rail trails in Ulster are open for scenic, rustic views and a good winter workout. Head to the Hurley Rail Trail. a 3-mile-long, 10-foot-wide path that stretches along the Esopus Creek to Kerhonkson along the old O&W Railway, which carried coal, milk and urban tourists seeking fresh air at the turn of the 19th century. (The parking lot and trailhead are on the left just after you cross the creek.) Belleayre Mountain in Highmount, a winter destination since 1947, has 170+ skiable acres, lodges, group and private lessons and eight lifts, including a high-speed gondola. Off-road-ready fat

bikes are welcome, with 10 Alpine and cross-country trails groomed for a thrilling 9-mile, 1,600-foot vertical drop.

Lace up your ice skates and hit the Rondout Ice Rink at Ole Savannah, quintessential for skating on the waterfront in Kingston. Stay for the Southern hospitality and relish the comfort food from their extensive menu, or get a family-sized meal to go.

SPRING & SUMMER:

Boat, kayak or paddle past spectacular scenery along Kingston's waterfront in the Rondout District. Get outfitted with canoes electric



boats, kayaks or stand-up paddleboards at A Day Away Kayak Rentals. Dry off, then stop for a quick bite at Rosie General on Broadway, margaritas and Mexican at Armadillo, elegant tavern food at Front Street Tavern or carb-load with a naturally leavened loaf and local cheese or overstuffed sandwich from Kingston Bread + Bar.

The upper Esopus Creek is known for easy access to some of the best Class II/III whitewater kayaking and attracts enthusiasts from around the globe—check for scheduled releases. Put-ins are along High Street in Phoenicia, a sleepy hamlet nestled in the Catskill Forest Preserve. Don't leave town without a stop at the Phoenicia Diner (first-come, first-served). This bustling mountainside eatery has been serving up comfort food and "Dam Good" breakfast sandwiches since 1962.

FALL: With over 742,776 acres of land, more than 80% of which is forested, there are plenty of places to peep leaves in Ulster County. Load up the car for a vivid foliage excursion along the Shawangunk Scenic Byway, which winds through 88 miles of scenery connecting on two different loops as you head north. Start at the vibrant village of New Paltz with its farm-to-table eateries and local music scene, then head west through the Shawangunk Ridge, where the elevation rises 2,200 feet above sea level. Follow Routes 44/55 to Kerhonkson and the charming rural town of Stone Ridge before looping back. A southern route traverses from Kerhonkson through the Rondout Valley, with views of the ridge as you travel to Ellenville, passing through the Minnewaska State Park Preserve, the quaint hamlet of Cragsmore and through bucolic farmland into Bullville

Prefer not to drive? Soak in the glorious foliage along the waterfront with a two-hour cruise up the Hudson River on the Rip Van Winkle II, starting in Kingston, past views of the Catskill Mountains, sprawling historic estates, lighthouses and sleepy villages. Tip: Fall excursions sell out fast, so purchase tickets at least one week in advance.

Take part in harvest activities at one of the many orchards dotting the landscape—local faves include Westwind Orchard, Dressel Farms, Hurd Family Farm and Wightman Fruit Farm. Grownups can enjoy bone-dry ciders at Bad Seed Hard Cider in Highland or farm-based English ciders, wood-fired pizza and panini at Hudson Valley Farmhouse Cider in Stone Ridge.

WHERE TO STAY

CAMPING & GLAMPING

AutoCamp Catskills Saugerties Saint Hubert's Lodge Marlboro

BOUTIQUE

Minnewaska Lodge New Paltz Urban Cowboy Lodge Big Indian Shandaken Inn Shandaken Starlite Motel Kerhonkson

RESORTS & SPAS

Hutton Brickyards Kingston Wildflower Farms Gardiner Serene Vista Spa Wallkill



Seek for yourself

Weekend Getaways

oad trip! There's nothing more rejuvenating than a quick escape—throw a few things in a bag, jump in a car or hop on a train and get out of town. Hightail it to Ulster County with a group of friends, a romantic partner or a furry companion; the choices for recreation are plentiful. Shopping, eating, hiking, music, history and culture—you'll find it all here. So what are you waiting for?

Read on to whet your weekend-away appetite, and scan the QR code to explore even more.



Best Towns to Shop, Eat and Drink

FRIEND'S GETAWAY

Eclectic shops, vintage fleas, comfort food and a craft beverage...bring your BFFs and indulge your appetite for a good find and a laidback good time.

DOWNTOWN KINGSTON: The first capital of New York (for a short-lived period during the summer of 1777 before the British burned the town down), Kingston remains steeped in history but with an ultra-contemporary vibe. For a deep dive, start at the artifact-filled Hudson River Maritime Museum at the bottom of Broadway. Book a waterfront walking tour or cruise to the Rondout Lighthouse (accessible only by boat) and explore inside the 1915 historic brick structure all the way up to the observation deck (no open-back shoes or heels!). On Friday evenings, chill out with a bottle of BYO wine and catch the sunset aboard the Solaris, the only solar-powered boat in operation on the Hudson River.

Landlubbers can shop, eat and drink while strolling the Rondout District. In warm weather, dine all'aperto at Savonas, a prime spot for people watching. Gather around a hibachi at The Golden Ginza for a real treat that culminates in fire and sake smoke erupting from a mini onion volcano. Thirsty? Head up Broadway about a mile then right on Jansen Street to Kingston Standard Brewing Company, a super-fresh nano brewery and community watering hole. Grab a barrelfermented brew and indulge in the best lobster roll south of Maine.

SAUGERTIES: Derived from the Dutch "little Sawyer" (a nod to its 17th-century lumber industry) Saugerties' quiet yet convivial downtown packs a lot into its Main and Partition Streets. Find a treasure at one of its many thrifts or fleas (hit The Happy Paws Thrift Store whose proceeds support the Ulster County SPCA, or the Saugerties Antiques Center, the oldest in the Hudson Valley and a must for estate finds). Shop boutiques like Little Blueberry (clothing and jewelry), The Willow Tree (gifts) and Light House (home and entertaining), then caffeine up

at Bluestone Coffee Roasting Company. Lunch on the patio at Stella's Station and dig into the famous house salad and sloppy fries. You'll need a reservation for dinner at Miss Lucy's Kitchen to taste their coveted specialty cocktails and lip-smacking, locally-sourced dishes. Kick back at The Dutch, the neighborhood gastropub serving more than 16 craft brews on tap and classic comfort food.

WOODSTOCK: If it's a throwback vibe vou're after, find peace, love and a baia hoodie among the jumble of eclectic shops, casual cafés and bars along Tinker Street. People watch on the Village **Green** or browse for vintage at **Mowers** Flea Market (weekends from mid-May to November). Kick off with sustainable sustenance from Oriole 9's specials board, or a healthy acai bowl, superfood smoothie, wrap or panini from Little Apple Café, a Woodstock staple for local and organically-sourced goodness.

At nightfall, stick around for libations and music at Station Bar & Curio or R&R



Taproom, or karaoke at local fave Early Terrible. Tour the newly restored Bearsville Theater in the heart of town and explore the hallowed former studio of greats like Dylan, The Band and Joplin. Take in a live show or dine al fresco by the babbling stream at one of the onsite restaurants. Or catch a live performance at the intimate Barn at Levon Helm Studios, a one-of-a-kind landmark and home of the Midnight Ramble.

WHERE TO STAY

B&Bs

Audrey's Farmhouse Wallkill Inn at Kettleboro New Paltz Saugerties Bed and Breakfast Saugerties

Watergrasshill New Paltz

BOUTIQUE

The 1850 House Inn Rosendale The Graham & Co. Phoenicia Hotel Dylan Woodstock The Lorca Shandaken Woodstock Way Woodstock

RESORTS & SPAS

Diamond Mills Hotel Saugerties

Emerson Resort & Spa Mount Tremper

Menla Retreat & Spa Phoenicia

LOCAL LOWDOWN

MUST DO'S IN MUST PLACES

Shop, dine and play on First Fridays in Saugerties when doors on Partition and Main Streets are open till 10 p.m. Pop in and out of specialty shops, restaurants and bars, and browse art and antique galleries. Metered parking is hard to come by, so grab a spot at one of the municipal lots. Escape the crowds with a reservation at Diamond Mills Hotel & Tavern for a three-course, prix fixe dinner overlooking the waterfalls.

Smokehouse of the Catskills

is the go-to butcher shop for inhouse smoked meats, burgers, steaks and cheeses, family-owned and run for more than 15 years. Pick up authentic German treats and a bag of fresh-baked, salted pretzel rolls.

From May to September, HITSon-the-Hudson delights equine lovers with world-class horse shows and competitions in Saugerties against the backdrop of the Catskill Mountains. Spectator admission is free, parking is plentiful, but rent a golf cart to get around.

Stroll through Water Street Market in New Paltz, a quaint shopping village filled with eclectic shops, eateries and galleries with outdoor seating. sculpture garden and views of the Gunks. Check out a live performance at **DENIZEN** Theater, then stop in for a sour ale at Clemson Brothers Brewery across the street.



Explore more places to eat. and drink

Great Ways to Reconnect

ROMANTIC REFRESH

Cozy up with a picnic for two, a private sauna on the river or a long drive on a winding country road. Wide open spaces and big, comfy beds are calling.



SPAS & RETREATS: Book a spacious room or an elegant suite in the lodge at the Emerson Resort & Spa in Mount Tremper, and wake up to stunning views of the Catskills. Nurture your spirit with stone therapy at the spa (replenish at **Spa Sips** after), and satiate your cravings for classic contemporary cuisine at Woodnotes Grille on the edge of the Esopus Creek. Browse shops inside a restored 19th-century dairy barn, or borrow a complementary bike (seasonally, first-come, first-served) and spend the day leisurely exploring nearby Phoenicia, Woodstock and Saugerties. Tip: Book a mid-week package and be rewarded with gift card to use during your stay.

Settle in for an immersive experience at the Hutton Brickyards in Kingston, where industrial-chic architecture combines with unobstructed panoramic views of the Hudson River to melt away your stress. Remnants of its historic past remain on the 73-acre campus (as early as 1865, The Hutton Brick Works Co. manufactured bricks and supplies for some of New York City's most iconic landmarks, including Yankee Stadium and the Empire State Building), now reenvisioned with modern cabins, a bespoke private cottage, elevated dining at the River Pavilion and activity zones (or not). Unwind with

an aromatherapy massage at the Salt Spa or detox in a barrel sauna overlooking the river (seats four) and sip a glass of sparkling wine on the stroll back to your cabin. Staying in? Order brunch and essentials via your in-room tablet, and raise the "Thirsty" flag to have libations delivered to your door.

SCENIC SOJOURNS: Quality time starts along the **Catskill Mountain** Scenic Byway, a 52-mile-long stretch through the quaint towns of Olive and Shandaken winding through small hamlets to the wild and pristine Catskill Preserve. Detour to the Ashokan Reservoir and find a quiet bench to inhale the views and marvel at this engineering triumph developed in the early 20th century to hold billions of gallons of water for New York City's growing metropolis.

The Maurice D. Hinchey Catskill Interpretive Center in Mount Tremper is a must-stop—it's chock full of resources for things to do along the route. Just east of Boiceville, embrace the visual beauty of indigenous horticulture at the Brunel Sculpture Park and stop for a taste of local at Bread Alone's net-zero bakery. Tip: If your furry friend is along for the ride, the Shandaken Dog Park is a welcome stop for a run.



Best Spots to Take It All In FRESH AIR FOCUSED

Leave the city behind for a two-day getaway destined to reset your stress clock.

ON THE TEE: Take your game to a new location and perfect your waggle on one of the many scenic, public courses in Ulster County,

known for their world-class design and some of the toughest finishers around.

For a historic outing book tee time at the private Woodstock Golf Club (proof of out-of-town license and local lodging receipt required) and end the par 70, 18-hole course with a walk over the rushing Sawkill Creek and a relaxing dinner at the revamped, five-star Millstream.

ON THE TRAIL: For an easy, breezy afternoon, head to Black Creek Preserve near the town of Esopus, Immerse your senses in the sounds of nature on the well-groomed, 2.1-mile upand-down hike over a suspension bridge and through the forest to a rocky beach on the Hudson River.

Make nearby Hudson House & Distillery a post-hike destination. Step inside the Italian Revivalmansion-turned-distillery that spent the last century as a monastery (tours available), and immediately feel at home in the lush parlor or on the expansive outdoor deck with riverfront views and a chance of sighting a soaring bald eagle. Locals can't get enough of the limited-edition spirits and cocktails named after the region. (Altair's Landing, made with house-distilled vodka, ginger beer and green tea sencha syrup, is their signature.)

WITH A CRAFT BEVERAGE: Prepare your palate for a tour around the scenic Shawangunk Wine Trail and the more than two dozen farm-to-glass craft beverage tasting rooms nestled between the Shawangunk Mountains and the Hudson River. Cluster a day's tastings around the Marlboro area with stops at Benmarl Winery, Stoutridge Winery & Distillery and Weed Orchards, then unwind with a glass of ice wine at Quartz Rock Vineyards and watch the sun slip over the river from high atop Mount Zion.

Wind your way through the Gardiner area and book a tour or outdoor seating at Tuthilltown Spirits Distillery for a craft cocktail or flight of world-class Hudson Whiskey (some limited offerings only available in the tasting room) on the site of an old grist mill. Sip sustainable wines at Whitecliff Vineyards and at the Revolutionary War-era tasting room at nearby Bruynswick Winery (food truck fare is available on weekends). End your day at Robibero Winery in New Paltz with silky estate-grown wines and wood-fired pizza, and melt s'mores around the outdoor fire pit.

HIDDEN GEMS

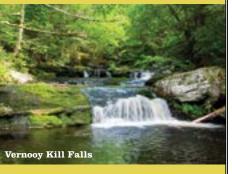
Head for the white noise of moving water and explore these trails less traveled.

FALLING WATERS PRESERVE

Just a few miles south of downtown Saugerties—and a world away—set aside an hour to wander a 2-mile loop of rugged beauty along wellmarked trails with streams, meadows, wetlands and cascading waterfalls that gush toward the Hudson River.

VERNOOY KILL FALLS

Easy access and ample parking mark the start of the 3.5-mile, outand-back Vernooy Kill Falls Trail in Kerhonkson. Traverse rocky streams, babbling brooks and footbridges, and be rewarded with a spectacular, multitiered waterfall, stone quarry ruins and crystal clear swimming holes. Spend a few hours and soak it in.







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Seek for yourself

Wellness Escapes



ind refuge and calm in 1,100 square miles of woodlands and green space that beckon serious nature-lovers and forest bathers, or disconnect and rejuvenate at a rural resort or mountain retreat.

Scan the QR code for ways to reset your mental and physical health on an indulgent day trip (or longer) in Ulster County.

Best Places to Find Calm and Focus

SEEKING SANCTUARY

Turn down the volume and tune into nature—at a preserve, a wildlife refuge or one of Ulster County's many sprawling spaces.

WOODLAND WALKS: Get lost in the 60-acre forest and sculpture park at Opus 40 in Saugerties, and explore the 6.5 acres of monumental earthwork created by pioneering artist Harvey Fite surrounded by breezy meadows, forested paths and abandoned bluestone quarries. Chill out on the lawn with live music and succulent, farm-to-table food truck fare on Stockade Saturday evenings, or pack a picnic and take in a virtuosic performance on Sunday afternoons with the majestic Catskill Mountains as the backdrop.

Tap your inner zen at the John Burroughs Nature Sanctuary in Esopus, a tranquil oasis of 4.5 miles of easy-to-moderate trails that traverse rocky ridge lines, woodlands and wetlands with a 2-acre pond, fern valley, 55-step stone stairway and a cliff-clinging ladder. Revel in the lush landscapes that inspired Burroughs and fellow naturalists like Walt Whitman and Theodore Roosevelt, and step inside Slabsides, the rustic retreat Burroughs built in 1895, a one-story log cabin which remains frozen in a simpler time.

AMONG THE FLORA: Bliss out at one of Ulster County's stunning sunflower farms, which come alive with the vibrancy of a Van Gogh painting in late summer. Stroll through six acres of fields at Kelder's Farm in Kerhonkson or take part in the annual "Sunflower Extravaganza" in August. (Head to their website to purchase a day pass.) Refresh with locally-crafted beer, wine, or cider on tap at the farm's The Loading Dock.



Get your fill of visual therapy at DuBois Farm in Highland, one of the only first-generation farms in the Hudson Valley. This 70-acre wildflower-strewn farm is a mosaic of bucolic orchards and vineyards. Soak up the sunny vibes with simple farm-made fare and a glass of Farms Kolsch or local wine from their onsite brewery and winery.

Witness biodiversity in action at the Shawangunk Grassland National Wildlife Refuge in Wallkill. Grab a spotting scope and head for a stroll through the 597-acre green space where nature seekers flock to catch glimpses of diverse migratory birds, wintering raptors, short-eared owls, upland sandpipers and other rare and endangered wildlife that find refuge here. Two interconnected trails make a 3.6-mile loop through open grasslands plush with native grasses and views of the majestic Shawangunk Ridge. Tip: Early birds literally get the parking spaces here, so head out to the refuge early.

WHERE TO STAY

B&Bs

Moondance Ridge New Paltz Mountain Meadows B&B New Paltz

The Forsyth B&B Kingston

BOUTIQUE

ElmRock Inn Stone Ridge Hasbrouck House Stone Ridge Hotel Kinsley Kingston Inness Accord The Herwood Inn Woodstock

SPAS & RESORTS

Buttermilk Falls Inn & Spa Milton

Honor's Haven Retreat **Fllenville**

Mohonk Mountain House New Paltz

LOCAL LOWDOWN

TRANQUIL RESPITES

Duck into Inquiring Minds Bookstore & Cafe on Partition Street in Saugerties, and browse new releases, best sellers and eclectic literary gems while sipping a mocha latte in a cozy setting. Check for book signings and poetry readings.



Veer off busy Tinker Street in Woodstock and settle on a bench alongside the babbling Tannery Brook at Tinker Taco Lab and enjoy locally-sourced Mexican fare and a cocktail from their extensive menu of more than 150 types of tequila.

Embrace visual therapy and works of contemporary fine art at **Elena Zang Gallery**'s idyllic setting that also features a sculpture garden, vegetable and flower gardens and a working ceramics studio, just outside of Woodstock in the hamlet of Shady.

Float away the stress with a feelgood, Float + Massage package at Kingston's Zephyr Float. One hundred twenty minutes of pampering and relaxation therapy will leave you with a "post float glow" that will last for days. Beginner packages for visitors and first-time floaters.

Ways to Unplug and Indulge "ME" DAY

Looking for an excuse to unplug or a place to get your Om on? Book a restorative day or a full-length stay at one of Ulster County's nature-inspired spa resorts.

BODY: Whether you're traveling solo, as a couple, or with your crew, plan a pampered retreat at Honor's Haven Retreat in Ellenville, perched

on 260 acres of lush gardens and rolling hills at the foot of the Shawangunk Mountain Ridge. Invest in self-care with an overnight (or longer) stay and have access to yoga and qigong classes, private hikes, farm-to-table meals, an ECO healing park and amenities like indoor and outdoor pools, a Jacuzzi and pedal-boating on the lake.

Indulge the senses at Buttermilk Falls Inn + Spa overlooking the Hudson River in Milton, and soak up a euphoric CBD massage, a restorative Red Flower Nature Wrap or elasticity boosting Age Solution Facial. Sink into one of 10 boutique rooms in the 18thcentury Anning Smith house, or book a cozy loft, guest house or cottage. Then dig into locally-sourced seasonal fare made to restore and nourish your spirit (and body) onsite at Henry's at the Farm restaurant. Tip: Bring your pets! Buttermilk's lofts, getaway suites and houses come with pup-care packages and breakfast specials.

For an immersive reset, book a stay at the Mohonk Mountain House in New Paltz, a well-known destination for relaxation since the Smiley Family founded the iconic resort in 1869. Perched high above the Shawangunk Mountains with unparalleled views, overnighters at this castle resort have access to 85 miles of hiking trails, Victorian-style

gardens, Vinyasa yoga, lake activities, golf, tennis and farm-to-table dining indoors and out. Settle in with a good book on an Adirondack chair in the Great Room, revitalize with an aromatherapy massage or freestyle to underwater music in their indoor pool. Tip: Short on time? Reserve a Day Spa experience and have full-day access to the luxurious grounds.

MIND: Jumpstart your journey to wellness at Woodstock Healing Arts in Woodstock. Schedule a massage or acupuncture or take advantage of their integrative medicine, energy work and other therapies personally curated to promote mind-body healing. Block out the noise and unwind with a sound bath at Sage Academy of Sound Center for the Healing Arts, where balancing sound is both an art and a science.

A mind-opening experience awaits at Dewa Spa at Menla, where ancient Tibetan therapies for massage, Ayurveda, acupuncture, reflexology, energy healing and herbal baths soothe and revivify. Relax in one of the 4,000-square-foot haven's saunas, soaking tubs and pools. Book a single treatment, or stay for a multi-day spiritual retreat led by world-famous yogis. Nestled in Phoenicia, the spa is surrounded by thousands of acres of mountain woodlands offering restorative views primed for forest bathing.

Top Spots for Sustainable Sustenance

FARM TO TABLE

Reboot your overall health and indulge in local farm-grown goodness that has been nurturing bodies, minds and spirits for generations.

EATS: Stock up on fresh fruits and veggies at the historic Saunderskill Farms in Accord, growing for locals since 1680. Today, the 11th generation of Schoonmakers continues the tradition while serving up from-scratch cookies, muffins, pies, and breakfast bacon, egg and cheese panini. Vegans have a lot to love here, too (The Gardener sammie is a fave). Locust Grove Fruit Farm in Milton has been a mainstay since 1820, when the shipbuilders-turnedfarmers traded life on the water for tilling the land. Locals can't get enough of the Kent family's home-baked cider donuts and seasonal fresh produce from their seventh-generation farm. Visit the bright yellow Brewery Barn, built from upcycled farm sheds and outbuildings, where a rotating line-up of food trucks complement the evolving roster of local craft beverages.

For a relaxed, sit-down dinner seek out Ellenville's Aroma Thyme Bistro, the first Green Certified Restaurant in the Hudson Valley. Indulge with vegan charcuterie and cheese, grassfed Waygu beef burgers and share a S'Mores Skillet Ala Mode for Two. Add a glass of local wine or cocktail to round out your experience.

DRINKS: Savor the terroir and relax with a farm-to-glass beverage at Nostrano Vineyards' 75-acre farm nestled in the rolling hills of Milton, once known as the "fruit basket" of New York City. Made by a fourth-generation-farmer-turned-winemaker, Nostrano's small-batch wines like Ava Rosé (named after the owners' daughter) and estate-grown Pinot Noir and Riesling are sought after and sell out quickly. Pair a glass with a local cheese board and a mellow backdrop of live music in the tasting room, or chill out on their expansive patio with a bird'seye view of the valley and a refreshing summer peach riesling wine slushy.

Vegans can delight at Whitecliff Vineyard & Winery in Gardiner, an acclaimed, family-owned winery that has been practicing sustainable winegrowing for more than two decades. While away an afternoon with a flight of vegan wines (choose from more than 30 varietals, mostly estate or locally grown) and take in views of the majestic white-faced Shawangunk Ridge from the lawn. Reserve a seated Gold Tasting that includes a winery tour, artisanal cheese plate and souvenir glass. (Walk-ins and pets welcome.)

Hops and spirits lovers should head to Arrowood Farms in Accord (take the Shawangunk Mountains Scenic Byway from Gardiner) for a fresh and seasonal take on regenerative farming. A relaxing fresh-air, farm-to-glass experience awaits at the pavilion bar or **Apiary Restaurant** with craft beverages and locally-inspired comfort food made with ingredients grown onsite or by neighboring farms.

HIDDEN GEMS

STONE RIDGE FARMERS & MAKERS MARKET

Head to Stone Ridge Orchard for a spirited market that showcases the best of the Hudson Valley's handcrafted and farm fresh products, Sundays from May through December.

KINGSTON FARMERS MARKET

Get your fill of local farm produce and community spirit at uptown Kingston's year-round market, every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the County Courthouse parking lot. (Indoors in winter.)





Tues. August 2-Sun. August 7, 2022

Wednesday-Sunday

Admission \$20.00 FREE Midway rides

Exhibits Parking FREE Children under 36" **FREE** **Tues Aug 2**

Carload Night \$50 per carload, 8 person max

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FREE

Thursday: Murphy Friday: Allie Colleen

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Robinson's Racing Pigs **Goodnow Family Petting Zoo Cowboy Circus** Carrie McQueen, Stilt walker

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Family Fun



lan an Ulster County adventure that's fun for tots, teens and grown-ups, too! Find kid-friendly hikes and bike rides, U-pick farms and petting zoos, holiday magic and local treats the whole family will enjoy.

Come for the day or make a weekend of it (and bring your pets). Share the next few pages with your clan, and scan the QR code for more ways to frolic all year long.

Best Places to Take Your Tots

WITH TODDLERS IN TOW

Find your family's new happy place at kid-friendly destinations that adults will love too.

IN NATURE: Nurture imaginations along the Hudson Valley Rail Trail, a mixed-use, pet-friendly 4-mile trail and home to a variety of wildlife. Start at the Haviland Road parking lot at the entrance in Highland, where a circa 1926 steel caboose (open on weekends) is a huge draw for kids who love clambering up the cupola. Adults can learn about the region's railroading history and view the on-board displays.

Continue on for a stroll along the paved, mile-long Walkway over the Hudson where there are plenty of benches and viewing areas, so kids can take breaks and marvel at the surroundings more than 200 feet above the river.

ON THE FARM: Tiny fingers are perfect for picking berries right off the vine. In June, families rush to one of the many U-pick farms in the county to fill their baskets with strawberries, the first ripe fruit of the season. (Check the calendar for the picking schedule before you head out.) Buy a season pass for the popular 200-year-old **Kelder's Farm** in Kerhonkson, where kids can also romp on 25+ fun attractions like a giant jumping pillow, tube slides and a lifesize spider web, and everyone can enjoy a treat from the farm market or donut wagon. Tip: Picking is typically done in open fields, so slather on the sunscreen and keep kids hydrated!

Spend an afternoon by the pond at Brooklyn Cider House at Twin Star Orchards in New Paltz (leashed dogs are welcome), where simple scratch-made fare like wood-fired pizzas, burgers and vegetable options will satisfy even the pickiest eaters. Complete the orchard experience with fresh craft ciders and live music performed by local artists on weekends.

AT A (PETTING) ZOO: Take refuge at the Forsyth Nature Center in uptown Kingston, where tykes can pet an alpaca, feed a steer, watch a peacock fan its feathers, and interact with more than two dozen animal exhibits at the free outdoor learning center. Walk to nearby Kinderland II playground where there are little- and big-kid slides, monkey bars, swings and a hide-out house to frolic in.

On weekdays, head to DuBois Farm in Highland where playtime includes a mini village (aptly called Tiny Town) and a toddler-sized petting zoo with horses, goats, llamas, pigs and ducks. Settle in on a picnic bench and relax with lunch from their pizzeria (chicken wings, panini and salads are also on the menu) and choose from 24 flavors of hand-crafted ice cream in summer. Thirsty adults can find a variety of local wine and craft beverages at The Tavern.

U-CUT XMAS TREE FARMS

Venture out to a sustainable family farm to find your perfect tree. Saws, sleds and good times supplied.

BALSAM RIDGE CHRISTMAS TREE FARM | Clintondale

Organically-grown fresh-cut or U-cut; sleds and antique sleigh

BELL'S TREE FARM | Accord

Twelve varieties of U-cut, fresh-cut and potted trees; cozy gift shop

GARONE'S MOUNTAIN FRESH FARMS | Highland

U-cut or they cut; hayrides, Santa and outdoor firepit

MOUNTAIN VIEW TREE FARM

Choose and cut your own

WEST WIND TREE FARM | Wallkill Pre-cut and U-cut; wreaths, kissing balls and handmade gifts



Top Activities for Older Kids

TEENS AND TWEENS

Hit the well-known attractions or stray off the beaten path—the possibilities for adventure are endless.

ON LAND: Tour the Catskills on pedalpowered Rail Explorers that run on the tracks of the historic Ulster & Delaware Railroad along Esopus Creek. Book a 2- or 4-seater and depart

from Phoenicia Station for an invigorating, 2.5 hour, 8-mile "River Run." (Electric pedal assistance will help move you along.) Pack snacks to enjoy at the creekside turnaround. Tip: Rail explorers are limited so book ahead of time.

Hike or bike the Wallkill Valley Rail Trail, a 22-mile route that links Rosendale, New Paltz and Gardiner through beautiful landscapes and over the Wallkill River. Rent equipment (and trail-a-bikes for little ones) at Bicycle Depot or New Paltz Biking in New Paltz, where you can sneak in a history lesson on **Historic Huguenot Street** and explore stone house museums and a replica wigwam. Fuel up with burgers and pub grub at P&Gs, a 1900s landmark and local family favorite.

Score big points with sports fans—Saugerties is home to the championship Saugerties Stallions collegiate baseball team. Watch top New York "wood-bat" teams compete at the Cantine Veterans Memorial Complex for 10 weeks in summer. (Discounts for students and seniors; under 12s are free.) Catch the Kingston Stockade Football Club play semi-pro soccer at Dietz Stadium, a five-minute walk from the historic Stockade District in uptown Kingston. Check the calendar for home games and occasional pop-up food trucks and beer garden.

If it's dusty, loud excitement you're after, head to Accord Speedway on Friday nights for the best stock-, modified- and sportsman-car racing around. Easy parking, concession stands (think: old-fashioned root beer floats) and special nights with fireworks and vintage coupes make for an ultra-fun family night out. Start a new tradition and load up the car for the **Ulster County Fair** held every August (since 1869) at the Ulster County Fairgrounds in New Paltz. Pay one price that includes Midway rides, carnival games, live entertainment and more.

Make new family memories year-round at the Rocking Horse Ranch Resort, where adventure is all inclusive and within walking distance of your room. Rock climbing, horseback riding, tubing, bungee jumpers, mini-golf and a water park are just some of the daytime activities; enjoy bonfires, fireworks displays and live performances at night.

IN THE WATER: Plan a one-of-a-kind kayaking adventure! Rent from I Paddle New York, then suit up at Saugerties Beach for an easy, two-hour paddle along the Esopus Bend Nature Preserve. Stop for a swim and let the water games ensue (squirt tubes supplied). New to the sport? Learn kayaking basics from a certified instructor (Tuesday mornings only). Tip: Kids must be three years old and 30+ pounds to ride tandem; or older than 10 to have their own kayak.

Bring your own canoe or kayak to Belleayre Beach at Pine Hill Lake in Pine Hill, where families can also rent pedal boats, swim, fish, boat and hike around the lake from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

Things to Do in Fall and Winter

SEASONAL FUN

Sweater weather or snow boot season? No problem, we've got you covered.

FALL: Center your activities around harvest season at one of the many sprawling farms and orchards in the county. Make a day of it and tailgate at Wright's Farm in Gardiner, one of the busiest farms around. With 453 acres amid breathtaking views, there is plenty of room to carve out a niche for your pod (including pets) so toddlers can run freely and tinies have a quiet place to nap. Hit the onsite Gardiner Brewery (weekends only, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.), and enjoy the live music, rotating tap list and seasonal cocktails made with local farm-grown ingredients.

Get lost in the 3-acre corn maze (win a pumpkin if you complete it) or hop on a hay ride every weekend in October at Wallkill View Farm in New Paltz. A run through the hay tunnel to the massive pumpkin field is a rite of passage for local kids, and creates lasting memories for firsttime visitors. Stick around and shop the market for just-picked produce, and satisfy your sweet tooth with muffins, scones and three types of apple cider donuts made daily at the onsite bakery.

Head to Bad Seed Cider in Highland, a popular, kid- and puppy-friendly taproom serving up pizza, snacks and orchard ciders made from fruit harvested at Wilklow Orchard, their sixth-generation farm. Giant Jenga, board games and cornhole keeps kids entertained on the patio. Or drive six miles to enjoy orchard views, pick-your-own apples, hay rides and refreshments at the Farm Bar. Tip: Parking at the taproom can be challenging, so get there early or plan a weekday visit.



WINTER: Relive the classic story and get whisked away to the North Pole on the Catskill Mountain Railroad's Polar Express, departing from Kingston beginning in mid-November. Reserve a Golden Ticket for assigned seating in one of the 1950s vintage coaches (limited space is available for those with sensory sensitivities) and delight in onboard entertainment, caroling, hot chocolate and cookies during this magical ride.

Reserve a date at Kidscamp Belleayre and introduce your kids under 12 to skiing or snowboarding at Belleayre Mountain in Highmount. Kid-friendly instructors run four-hour group lessons on weekends and holidays so beginners can get acclimated to the terrain and progress to the 220foot "Magic Carpet." Tip: For the quickest access, park at the base at the Discovery Lodge where check-in begins at 8 a.m.

Glide on an Olympic-sized rink indoors at Kiwanis Ice Arena in Saugerties. It's fullyenclosed and open daily from September to April. Or, splurge on a two-hour weekday pass and lace up at the rustic

Mohonk Ice Skating Pavilion, perched high above the lake atop the Mohonk Mountain House property. Rest tired legs with a ride on an ice chariot and warm up in front of the massive stone fireplace. Tip: Come unencumbered; only small cubbies are available to hold your shoes while vou skate.

Get in the holiday spirit at A Frosty Fest in Ulster Park, an annual light spectacular displaying over one million lights and 12 holiday attractions, live entertainment, gift shops and more. Don't miss photos with Santa! Tip: Reservations are recommended; skip the crowds and attend early in the season or on Fridays or Sundays.

WHERE TO STAY

CAMPING & FAMILY RESORTS

Rocking Horse Ranch Resort Highland

Rondout Valley RV Campground Accord

Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park Gardiner | Greenfield Park

HOTELS

Best Western Plus Kingston Courtyard by Marriott Kingston Hampton Inn

Kingston | New Paltz

Holiday Inn Express & Suites Lake Katrine | Saugerties Residence Inn Kingston

BOUTIQUE

(membership required)

The Homestead at Catskill **Animal Sanctuary** Saugerties The Gray Barn at Woodstock Farm Animal Sanctuary High Falls

LOCAL LOWDOWN

FAMILY FAVES

Sissy's Café in Kingston has kidapproved wraps, sandwiches and smoothies made fresh with local ingredients. Opt for vegetarian, organic or gluten-free fare, or classic deli. Pull up a seat outside or order to go.

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Hole in One Donuts in Highland lets kids craft their own treat. Start with a classic donut, then layer on a glaze, topping and drizzle to make it one-of-a kind.

Explore real trolleys and rail cars at the **Trolley Museum** where admission includes a 1.5mile trolley excursion along the Hudson River to Kingston Point. Board at T.R. Gallo Memorial Park at the bottom of Broadway in Kingston, and pack a picnic lunch to enjoy at one of the stops. Open weekends and holidays, April through October.

Embrace your inner child at the Teddy Bear Museum in Kingston with more than 5,000 teddy bears, stuffed animals, dolls and handcarved wooden toys. Grab a pickme-up and bubble tea (more than 40 flavors to choose from) onsite at the **Den at Marbletown** café.

.....



Discover the 60-foot-tall Kaatskill **Kaleidoscope** (the world's largest) hidden in a converted 1860s grain silo in Mount Tremper, and watch an unforgettable surround-sound experience from the bottom up.

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The Arts are alive in Woodstock - Saugerties







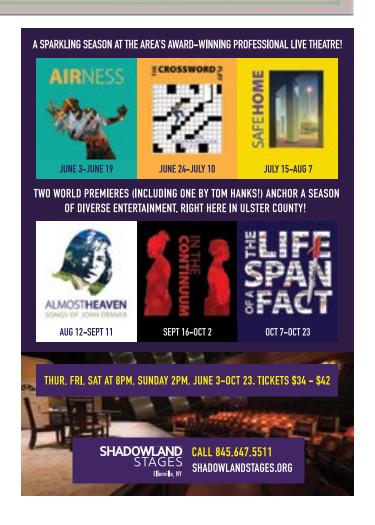


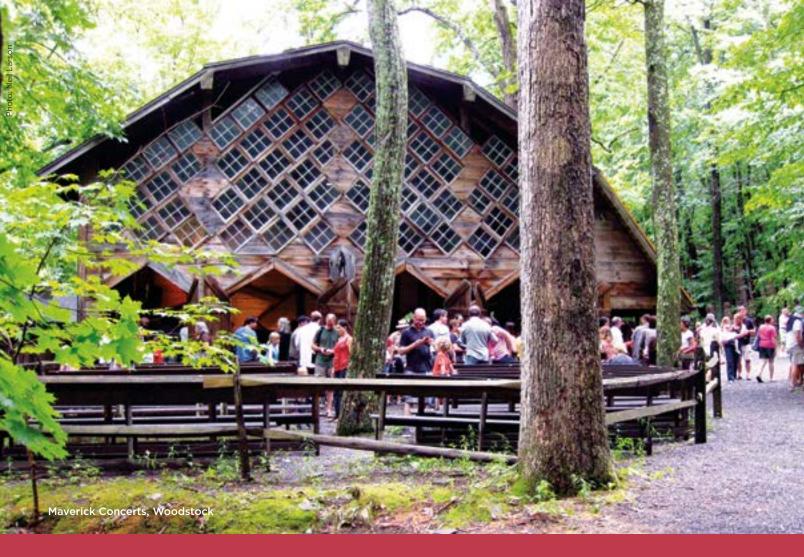












Seek for yourself

Arts & Culture



ingle at the crossroads of art and community in Ulster County, where live theater, iconic music and art of all genres thrives in landmark buildings, intimate spaces and tucked into nature.

Seek out well-known performers or meet emerging artists — there's no shortage of talent or venues where you can have a meaningful experience or rock a good time.

Scan the QR code for ways to enjoy your favorite art form or discover a new one.

Where to Go for Live Music

MUSIC MECCAS

Find a landmark venue or a quirky club and feel the pulse of Ulster County's thriving music scene. Plan ahead or just pop in; music lives here.

WOODSTOCK: The spirit of community is alive in the iconic town of Woodstock at the foot of the Catskill Mountains. Step back in time at the Colony for a curated line-up of live music and upscale pub food; sit inside the intimate circa 1929 hotel ballroom or outdoors in the beer garden (open 5 p.m. on weekdays or for all-day brunch on weekends beginning at 11 a.m.). Pop in for open mic nights every Monday; there's no cover on Wednesdays.

Channel the vibes of Woodstock's musical heritage at Bearsville Theater, a center for inspiration and creativity for acclaimed music icons as far back as the 60s. Take in a show in the lounge or Main Stage theater, or gather with friends and family at the newly opened Bearsville Park behind the theater (across from Utopia Sound Stage, commissioned for legendary artist Todd Rundgren in 1979). Dine, drink and relax with live music in this multi-use, sun-dappled oasis on the Sawkill Creek.

Every summer, lovers of classical, jazz and contemporary music head to Maverick Concerts for visceral experiences in the intimate, gambrelroofed, barn-like structure nestled in the woods outside Woodstock. Hand-built in 1916 as part of the Maverick Artist Colony by utopian writer Hervey White, it is the oldest continuous chamber music festival in the U.S. Diverse programming by acclaimed music director Alexander Platt includes an interactive Maverick Family Concert Series (free for those under 16) designed to engage kids with all genres of music. Tip: Parking is available at the venue but bring a repellent to ward off insects.

Affectionately known as "The Barn," Levon Helm Studios is a simple, rustic structure set off a country road on the outer edges of

Woodstock. Inside is a one-of-a-kind musical landmark and home of the legendary Midnight Rambles, a tradition that continues to this day. Buy a ticket (reserved seating or standing room only) in the intimate hallowed hall, acoustically engineered by the late Helm himself. Enjoy good music with friends you know and those you haven't yet metthere isn't a bad seat in the cozy, 200-capacity house.

MARLBORO: Listen to world-class jazz, blues or rock at The Falcon in the center of Marlboro, where no tickets are needed—just reserve a table for dinner (donations are encouraged). Perched over Marlboro Falls, which once powered operations at this 19th-century button factory, the comfortable setting hosts both Grammy-winning artists and local musicians. Brunch on Sundays (10 a.m. to 2 p.m.) or tour The Falcon Underground, the "pub-beneath-the-club," home to Avalon Archives Museum of Rock & Roll

Before the show, stop for a classic cocktail at nearby Raccoon Saloon, a local staple for more than 40 years with views of the Hudson River. Explore the hamlet of Marlboro and make your way to **Benmarl Winery** (home of the oldest vines in the U.S.) for award-winning wines made on the historic property. Further along Route 9W, stop at Stoutridge Winery & Distillery to sample a line of French-inspired absinthes and spirits distilled from local grains, malted onsite, or Kedem Winery, best known for their large selection of international kosher wines.

HIDDEN GEMS

MARK GRUBER GALLERY

Fans of the Hudson River School should seek out this small fine art gallery tucked in the corner of New Paltz Plaza (1/4 mile from the NYS Thruway exit) for traditional landscapes by contemporary Hudson Valley artists, plein-air painters and photographers.

ROSENDALE THEATER

Classic movies, indie films and contemporary plays are on the lineup at this small-screen, independent theater that began its 117-year history as a casino and burlesque house. Themed series celebrate aging, the LGBTQ+ community, science, teens and more.



Best Places to Take in a Show

PERFORMING ARTS

Grab a front row seat for a well-known act or an experimental performance at these world-class venues.

KINGSTON: Catch a national act at the renovated, 1,500-seat Ulster Performing Arts Center (UPAC) in Kingston, a national landmark and one of New York's last great show palaces. Book advance tickets or pick them up at the box office on the day of the show (up until final intermission on weekends). Ample free parking is available in two nearby lots. Grab snacks and drinks at the theater (cash only), or seek out international cuisine in midtown Kingston's burgeoning food scene. Locals rave about the homemade "pupusas" at the family-owned Pupuseria Mi Ranchito Restaurant. Top them with pickled cabbage, sour cream and hot sauce, and add a side of banana leaf-wrapped tamales and a margarita for an authentic Salvadoran treat.

ELLENVILLE: For contemporary live theater in a neo-deco setting, head to Shadowland Stages, now in its 35th season. Attend a preview performance on the first Friday night or Saturday matinee of each show's run and "pay as you are able" (if unreserved space is available) for red-velvet seating in the newly renovated theater, once a movie house and host to 1920s vaudeville acts. Order stone-fired pizza with house-made mozzarella (vegan options available) and glass of wine before the show at Tony & Nick's Italian Kitchen across

SAUGERTIES: The life's work of sculptor Harvey Fite, Opus 40's permanent art installation on 6.5 acres of a former bluestone quarry provides a monumental setting for live music, theater, dance and spoken word performances throughout the year. Embrace its uniqueness as the sun sets over the Catskills on Community Fridays, or bask in afternoon music on Stockade Saturdays (and Sundays). Check the website for pop-up events. Tip: Wear comfortable shoes to walk the grounds and bring a blanket or lounge chair to enjoy the performance.

NEW PALTZ: Black box theater has a new home in New Paltz at the DENIZEN Theater, a 70seat house known for showcasing new works by emerging playwrights in its intimate space. Catch monologues, solo shows and thought-provoking performances by professional and aspiring artists. Browse the Water Street Market shops and artist showrooms like The Cronin Gallery, or stop for a small plate and wine at Jar'd Wine Pub or fresh-roasted coffee at Mudd Puddle Coffee Roasters & Cafe on your way to the theater.

LOCAL LOWDOWN

ART IN UNEXPECTED PLACES

Just off Route 28 between Kingston and Woodstock, The Lockwood Gallery skillfully curates works in a contemporary, architectural setting. Book an appointment or stop by on weekends (11 a.m. to 6 p.m.). Across the street, **Hickory BBQ & Smokehouse** masters the art of barbecue with dishes made fresh in-house using founder Doc Hickory's time-tested rubs and sauces.



Catch one of the jazz or classical performances hosted at colonial uptown Kingston's Senate Garage, a dramatic industrial setting restored to expose its rich historic roots. Check the online calendar for events.

Peek into the creative process during the Saugerties Open Studios Tour, when artists open their doors to the public one weekend in August. Now in its 20th year, the self-guided tour features painters, sculptors, photographers, printmakers, furniture makers, weavers and more. Download a map and plan a day to meet established and emerging artists and purchase works where they were created.

Map out a weekend around the annual Art Walk Kingston, a two-day celebration of art and community that takes place at intimate home studios and galleries across the city in September.

Great Destinations for Art Lovers

ART SCENE

Discover creative communities that are breaking new ground to bring groundbreaking art and culture to Ulster County.

KINGSTON: Explore the city's three distinct areas for a wide range of art and events. Uptown, discover contemporary abstract works by local artists at Pinkwater Gallery, or at Headstone Gallery, a new space that fosters unknown artists with solo and two-person shows. In midtown, converge with other art lovers on the first Saturday of every month (1st Saturdays), when more than two dozen galleries open new exhibits to the public. Browse fresh, current art at **Kingston** Pop Museum and contemporary mixed-media at Monument HV or dive into traditional and digital photography at the new home of the Center for Photography at Woodstock, a hub for artists for more than 40 years. After gallery hopping, stop for locally-sourced light fare at the ArtBar Gallery, authentic Turkish at Masa Midtown or hot chai and Indian tiffin (snacks) at Calcutta Kitchen's flagship. Locals veer off Broadway to line up for Jamaican jerk, curried goat and signature hot sauce at the James Beard-nominated Top Taste.

Downtown, the West Strand Art Gallery on the waterfront exhibits contemporary works ranging from mixed-media, works on paper, textiles and video, to ceramics and sculpture. Artport Kingston is a must-stop for non-traditional exhibits and multimedia installations housed inside the historic Cornell Steamboat Co., building. (Admission is free, donations welcome.)

SAUGERTIES: Dive into the emerging art scene in the center of eclectic **Saugerties Village**. Woman-owned Jane Street Art Center showcases multidisciplinary art and works-in-progress in two interconnected 19th-century brick buildings, including the former J. J. Newberry department store, lovingly rehabbed by the artist herself. Share founder Jen Hicks' philosophy for Art: Incubated and prepare for immersive experiences that span genres. Feel the energy at Emerge Gallery & Art Space where an impressive array of works by up-and-coming local artists can be purchased on the spot. (Art changes monthly and is also available for sale online.) Swivel Saugerties brings the community approach it fosters in its Brooklyn location to Main Street Saugerties, with non-traditional, conceptual and abstract group shows.

NEW PALTZ: Find world-class art at the Dorskey Museum at SUNY New Paltz, tucked behind the campus's iconic glass and metal Atrium. Nine thousand square feet of exhibit space houses six galleries, each filled with diverse works meant to spark curiosity and critical thinking. Temporary exhibits champion the work of lesser-known artists; the annual Hudson Valley Masters Series is not to be missed. The permanent collection spans 4,000 years and diverse cultures (and a collection of 5,000+ pieces of American art), making this one of the leading art museums in the region. (\$5 donation suggested.) Tip: Parking is scarce near the Museum so plan for a long walk from one of the visitor parking lots.

WOODSTOCK: Wander down Tinker Street, the main corridor of this diverse little hamlet, and feel an immediate connection to its deep artistic roots; there are dozens of galleries teeming with pottery, paintings, jewelry, photography and more. In its center is the Woodstock Artists Association & Museum (WAAM), where Woodstock's heritage as the "Colony of the Arts" is on display. Visit Thursday through Sunday for concurrent monthly group exhibitions, solo shows by contemporary area artists and exhibits of works from the permanent collection by early artist members dating back to 1920.

Wind your way through natural beauty to the outskirts of town and arrive at Byrdcliffe Arts Colony, a utopian Arts and Crafts community established in 1903. The 250-acre mountainside campus (the second oldest art colony in the U.S.) hosts free exhibitions and gallery talks featuring local, national and international artists showcasing works that range from traditional fine art and functional crafts to experimental multi-dimensional art.

Get immersed in Byrdcliffe's cultural legacy on a one-mile, self-guided walking tour of the lush 300-acre campus around its chalet-style studios and artists residences, or book a guided tour (second Saturdays from May to October) that includes a visit to White Pines, the original home of Byrdcliffe's founders, preserved in its original state. Tip: Tours are limited so schedule at least one month in advance to secure a spot.

WHERE TO STAY

B&Bs

Danskammer House Marlhoro Norsdale CMYK Phoenicia Church Des Artistes Kingston Modern Accord Depot Accord Midtown Flat Kingston

BOUTIQUE

Firehouse Inn Kingston Kaatsbaan Lodge Kingston Modern Accord Depot Accord The Warehouse Saugerties

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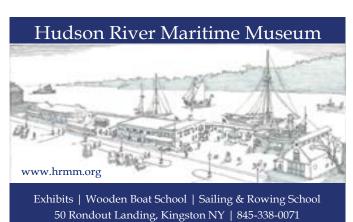














Seek for yourself

Historic Sites



hether you're a serious history buff or a serious lover of vintage, you can satisfy your passion for the past in every corner of Ulster County.

From the oldest section in New York's oldest city to historic spaces creatively reenvisioned, find tradition and innovation creatively intertwined. Dine in a colonial-era inn, stay in a mid-century motel. Shop for antiques or in trendy boutiques.

Scan the QR code to discover more places to take your travels back in time.

Top Destinations to Connect with the Past

HISTORIC DISTRICTS

Geek out or just browse around; exploring history has never been so rewarding.

KINGSTON STOCKADE DISTRICT: Named for the stockade built by Dutch governor Peter Stuyvesant in the mid-1600s to protect early colonists, the uptown Kingston Stockade District is a close-knit, eight-block neighborhood that blends colonial American history and small-town charm with a bustling retail scene.

Get acclimated at the Matthewis Persen House Museum on John Street, one of oldest structures in the District (predating the county) and now its cultural heritage center. Step back in time at the $\textbf{Senate House State Historic Site} \ \ \text{on Fair Street, the first seat of New York government where the} \\$ state's first Constitution was adopted in 1777, and browse exhibits at the adjoining Senate House Museum which houses a massive collection of artifacts and a genealogical archive.

Explore the heart of the Dutch settlement on a self-guided walking tour (download a map or pick one up at the Friends of Historic Kingston Gallery on Main Street). Better yet, download the Kingston Walks Audio Tour on your smartphone. Tip: Register for a guided walking tour (first Saturday of the month, July through October), which includes a visit to the burying ground at the Old Dutch Church and a tour inside the Federal-style Fred J. Johnston House.

Shoppers can get their fill at shops like Hamilton & Adams (upstate garb) and Blue Cashew (cookware), or scour vintage and antiques at Stuff, Lovefield Vintage or the quirky Outdated Café on Wall Street which doubles as an eatery. Stop for coffee, beer and conversation at Rough Draft Books & Bar located on Kingston's historic four corners (the only intersection in the U.S. where the buildings on all four corners were built pre-Revolutionary War). Ready for happy hour? Head to the speakeasy-inspired Stockade Tavern on Fair Street for a pre-Prohibition cocktail.

Round out your visit and dine in a landmark building in the heart of the settlement. Chops Grille in the yellow-bricked 1910 Stuyvesant Hotel straddles the corners of Fair and John Streets; the longstanding Hoffman House Tavern on North Front Street makes its home in a preserved, circa-1679 stone house, with wide-planked floors, roaring fireplaces and outdoor patio. At the Hotel Kinsley, feast on a locally-sourced menu of New American classics by Chef Zak Pelaccio in a thoughtfully-designed former 19th-century bank building, where the old vault serves as the check-in for hotel guests.

HURLEY HISTORIC DISTRICT: Stretching for 250 acres on both sides of U.S. Route 209, the Hurley Historic District is a prime destination for some of the best-preserved colonial Dutch architecture in the country. Dive into 350 years of the settlement's history at the Hurley Heritage Society museum on Main Street, with exhibits that trace Hurley's Native American roots (originally a Lenni Lenape community), its Dutch beginnings (settled in 1662) and its pivotal role in the American Revolution (Hurley was the temporary seat of New York government for a short period in 1777 following the burning of Kingston, then New York State's capital, by British troops). Pick up a map at the museum (or download one) and take a self-guided walking tour of the picturesque village, dotted with 27 stone houses and historic sites, including a parsonage, sawmill and historic burial ground.

Celebrate Old Hurley's history on Stone House Day in July, when some of the stone houses are open to the public and the town comes alive with reenactments and craft demonstrations. Runners and spectators can take part in events that benefit local charities during the Capital to Capital 5K Run in October, which follows the route of colonists fleeing the burning of Kingston during the Revolutionary War.

Nature lovers can explore more of the hamlet on the paved, mixed-use O & W Rail Trail. Park on Russell Road in Hurley to stroll or bike the 13-mile route that runs along U.S. Route 209 to Stone Ridge and High Falls. Tip: In High Falls, the newly-opened D+H Canal Museum is a must-visit for a glimpse of life along the canal in the mid-19th century. Take the half-mile Five Locks Walk that follows the towpath of the "hoggees" who led the mules that pulled the boats along the canal.

WHERE TO STAY

B&Bs

1796 House Inn at the Ridge Wallkill

DeMew House Kingston ElmRock Inn Stone Ridge Saugerties Lighthouse B&B Saugerties

The Forsyth B&B Kingston

BOUTIQUE

81 North Ellenville Hasbrouck House Stone Ridge **Hotel Kinsley** Kingston Kate's Lazy Cabin Woodstock Phoenicia Lodge Phoenicia The Mod House Ellenville

RESORTS & SPAS

Mohonk Mountain House New Paltz

Rocking Horse Ranch Resort Highland

LOCAL LOWDOWN

LANDMARK LOCATIONS FOR ICONIC EXPERIENCES

Find 165 years of firefighting history at the **Volunteer** Fireman's Hall and Museum of Kingston on Fair Street. Artifacts, photos and vintage apparatus (including the building's original fire pole) are all on display inside the 1857 Wiltwyck Hose Company.

Covered bridge seekers will find nostalgia at the junction of Route 32 between Esopus and Rosendale. Built in 1844, Perrine's Bridge stretches 154 feet over the Wallkill River and is one of New York's last surviving examples of Burr arch truss design.

For the most photogenic highaltitude vistas in the county, hike to the summit of Balsam Lake **Mountain** (the westernmost of the Catskill High Peaks) to the Balsam Lake Mountain Fire **Observation Station**. The steel frame lookout, originally built in 1887, was saved from demolition a century later thanks to rallying efforts by local residents, and took its place on the National Register of Historic Places in 2001.

Locals make the pilgrimage to **The** Ship Lantern Inn in Milton for an old-school dining experience in a historic Revolutionary War building. Exceptional service (for two or a group), upscale American cuisine (vegetarian options available) and a cozy vibe are mainstays of this maritime-themed eatery that first opened its doors in 1925.

HISTORIC HUGUENOT STREET: Walk down one of America's oldest streets in this 10-acre National Historic Landmark District in New Paltz, tucked away from the college-town buzz. Explore 300 years of multicultural history on Historic Huguenot Street, founded by Huguenot descendants in 1894 to preserve their French and Dutch heritage.

The journey begins at the **DuBois Fort Visitor Center** (park in the lot on Broadhead Avenue), where you can register for a guided tour (limited to eight people; pre-registration is encouraged) and browse exhibits on the settlement's evolution and the area's Indigenous and enslaved African peoples. Visit the museum shop there, too.

If you opt for the unguided tour, download the free app to learn about each site as you explore the District's seven stone house museums, including the flagship Jean Hasbrouck House (a rare example of 18th-century Dutch architecture), a reconstructed 1717 French church, an exact replica of an Esopus Munsee wigwam (constructed to commemorate the signing of the original land agreement with the Munsee) and a historic burial ground. Tip: Reserve in advance for the haunted "Boos and Brews" tours of Huguenot Street, which focus on unexplained phenomena and include a local craft beverage (and sell out auickly).



Before you head back to the bustle of downtown New Paltz, continue on the official Huguenot Path (stop to admire the Gardens for Nutrition, one of the oldest community gardens in New York) and spend an hour or two meandering the Nyquist-Harcourt Wildlife Sanctuary. Relish 56 acres of "forever wild" nature with over 1,300 feet of frontage views of the Wallkill River, an "oxbow" of ponds and wetlands and wild meadows of grasses and herbaceous plants. Have more time? Detour on the River-to-Ridge Trail, an easy, 6.2-mile jaunt that will take about two hours to complete.

Dine on comfort food with a sense of history at Garvan's in a 1759 building at the end of Huguenot Street, or dig into traditional German dishes like schnitzel and spaetzle at the third-generation Mountain Brauhaus in Gardiner, a 10-minute drive away.

HIDDEN GEMS

Peel back the layers of Ulster County's iconic towns and funky villages and stay, eat and play amid its deep historical roots.

SAUGERTIES LIGHTHOUSE B&B

Turn the clock back to the days when steamboats traveled the Hudson River and stay at the remote Saugerties Lighthouse B&B. The restored, redbrick 1850s lighthouse is completely surrounded by water and furnished as it was in the early 20th century. Spend the night (sleeps six) like a lightkeeper and wake up to the sunrise and a hot breakfast served in a cozy kitchen.



BUTTERFIELD

For a uniquely Hudson Valley culinary experience, brunch at **Butterfield** on weekends (10 a.m. to 1 p.m.) located in the **Hasbrouck House**, a lavish, 18th-century Dutch Colonial stone mansion nestled in a 50-acre, parklike setting in Stone Ridge. The in-house, farm-to-table restaurant features an inspired, locally-sourced menu that changes with the seasons. Bonus: brunch includes bottomless mimosas and Bloody Marys.

THE SNYDER ESTATE AND WIDOW JANE MINE

Midway between New Paltz and Kingston, take a deep dive into the history of Rosendale's Cement District at the Century House Historical Society Museum on the Snyder Estate, where archival photos, artifacts and a collection of horse carriages and sleighs are on display. Spelunk the natural cement mines on a self-guided tour (closed in winter) where cement was excavated and used to build beloved landmarks such as the Brooklyn Bridge, Washington Monument and Grand Central Terminal, Park on Binnewater Road in Rosendale to access the estate

via the Wallkill Valley Rail Trail

(brochures available at the entrance), where you'll also pass ruins and kilns, and walk through low-lying mist emanating from the caves on cool, humid days.



STEVE HELLER'S FABULOUS FURNITURE

Discover a whimsical wonderland of eclectic works of art created from vintage and retro artifacts on Route 28 in Boiceville. For a unique take on history, browse the gallery and sculpture garden at Fabulous Furniture where outsider artist Steve Heller has created a showstopping menagerie of massive metal dinosaurs, space-age rocket ships and functional robots from repurposed objects and farm tools.

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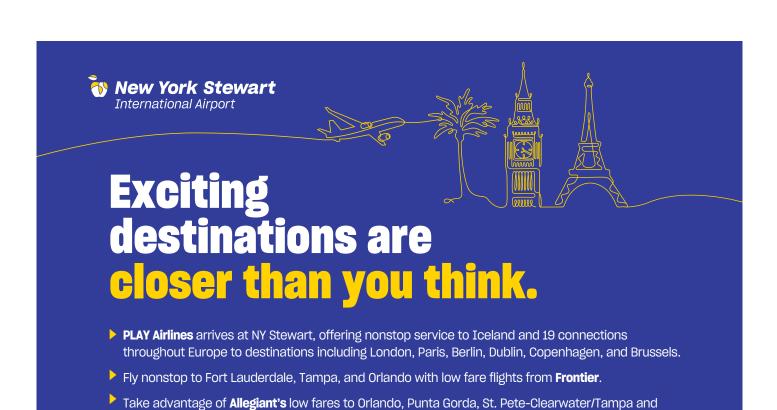
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