

2023-2024 TRAVEL GUIDE



# ULSTER COUNTY

[visitulstercountyny.com](https://visitulstercountyny.com)



Seek for  
Yourself

ULSTER  
COUNTY

NEW YORK



# buttermilkfalls INN + SPA

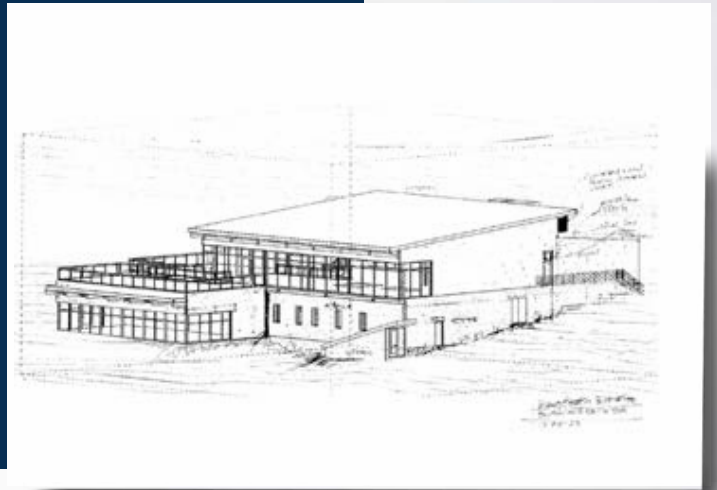


## The Inn, Weddings, Our Property & More...

We are a boutique Inn + Spa located in Milton NY, on a 75 acre estate overlooking the Hudson River. On the property we have an animal sanctuary filled with llamas, alpacas, mini donkeys, goats, sheep and pigs, plus an aviary, apiary, and an organic produce field. We were established in 2001 when Bob Pollock purchased and renovated the historic inn to transform the grounds into a relaxing getaway location. Since then, we've become a premier Hudson Valley wedding destination, and escape for corporate retreats and other private events. We can sleep up to 50 guests throughout our 17 unique and historical lodgings. Since February, we've been offering more community events throughout Buttermilk and at Frida's Cafe & Bakery, a sister location to the property!

## The Spa

As most people already know, our award-winning spa is currently being renovated and expanding from 6,000 to 18,000 square feet, and will include three infinity pools, a sauna, steam room, nail salon, salt room, twelve treatment rooms, and an indoor/outdoor yoga deck. The spa will re-open by mid- 2024. Our current spa is still open 7 days a week, and all world-class treatments are available (facials, massages, nails)



## Henry's at the Farm

Our onsite restaurant, Henry's at the Farm, has won the Hudson Valley's Best Farm to Table restaurant award for four consecutive years. It's current renovations are slated to be complete this August, giving us the capacity of roughly 100 guests, who can also enjoy a private event room and double deck dining patio overlooking our pond.



[www.buttermilkfallsinn.com](http://www.buttermilkfallsinn.com)  
845-795-1310





Enjoy a Train ride on the  
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## "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.

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

**[catskillmountainrailroad.com](http://catskillmountainrailroad.com)**



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# 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.

Our historic towns and funky villages are filled with unique shops, exceptional farm-to-table eateries, award-winning craft beverages and diverse arts and culture. Our landscapes beckon adventurers to explore scenic trails, epic views and wide-open spaces.

We've curated this visitors' guide to inspire your next Ulster County getaway, no matter how long you stay, or what time of year you visit.

Scan the QR codes in this guide to find even more to discover in Ulster County.

Seek for yourself.

## WHAT'S INSIDE

### CAN'T MISS EVENTS

### TRAVEL INSIGHT

Tips from trusted locals

### SIGHTS, SOUNDS, STORIES

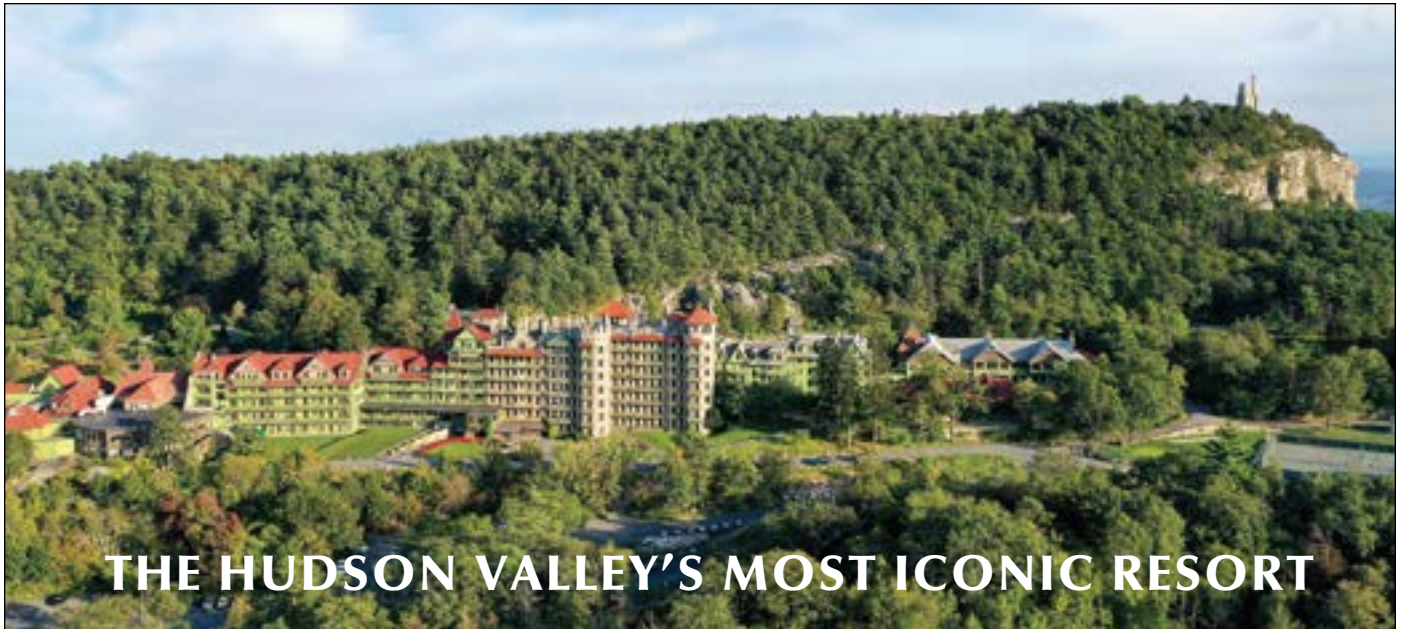
QR codes link to listings on [visitulstercountyny.com](http://visitulstercountyny.com)

ULSTER COUNTY  
NEW YORK

Photo: Wildflower Farms, Auberge Resort, Gardiner







## THE HUDSON VALLEY'S MOST ICONIC RESORT

Choose your path on over 85 miles of trails. Enjoy nightly entertainment, indoor and outdoor activities, and farm-to-table cuisine—all included in your overnight rate. Rejuvenate at the newly updated Spa at Mohonk Mountain House. Join us on the mountaintop and feel your stresses melt away.

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866.966.0348 | [mohonk.com](http://mohonk.com) | New Paltz, NY



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meets nature  
retreat in the  
Hudson Valley.

**A U T O C A M P**  
CATSKILLS

# Seek for Yourself

## Discover Ulster County

### Can't Miss Events .....6

From arts & crafts to snowflake fests, food and family fun, the best must-do events in the county

### Lodging .....8

Explore your options from posh hotels, retro-inspired inns and cozy B&Bs to family resorts and vacation rentals

### Four-Season Fun..... 11

Inspiration for year-round activities throughout the county  
Rail Trails | Downtowns and Dining Districts

### Summer ..... 16

Cool ways to beat the heat; top spots for epic adventure  
Hidden Gems | In Season | Summertime Family Fun

### Autumn ..... 22

Best places to peep foliage; explore craft beverages and historic sites | In Season | Hidden Gems

### Winter..... 26

Discover cold weather adventure and comfort food & drink  
Must-do Family Fun | U-Cut Xmas Tree Farms

### Spring..... 29

Reconnect and rejuvenate in nature, on the tee or at a spa; top destinations for art and culture | Hidden Gems

For more travel information, visit or call:

**Ulster County Tourism** 244 Fair Street, Kingston, NY  
800-342-5826 | 845-340-3566

**ON THE COVER:** Minnewaska State Park

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#### GETTING HERE

##### DISTANCE TO ULSTER COUNTY

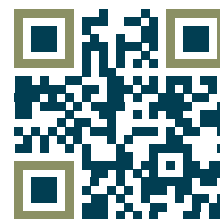
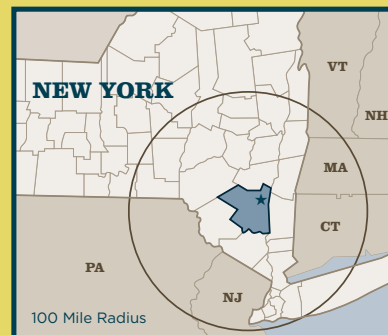
Measured in miles from Kingston, NY

##### 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
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Explore more at  
**visitulstercountyny.com**



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## CAN'T



## Jan-Feb

### Catskill Ice Climbing Festival

New Paltz | [alpineendeavors.com](http://alpineendeavors.com)

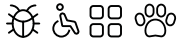
Learn the skills and techniques you need to get out on the ice—from the basics of ice-climbing to dry-tooling and glacier travel techniques.



### Sojourner Truth Life Walk

Kingston | [blackhistorymonthkingston.org](http://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](http://ashokancenter.org)

Sugaring and blacksmithing demos, guided tours, live music and pancakes!



## May

### Hudson Valley Marathon at Walkway Over the Hudson

Highland | [alpha.win](http://alpha.win)

Experience a breathtaking run over the Hudson River on the longest elevated pedestrian bridge in the world. Run a 5K to full marathon on a fast, flat course, or run/walk the first “friends & family” mile.



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

New Paltz | [quailhollow.com](http://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 MRKT

Kingston | [fieldandsupply.com](http://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](http://hudsonvalleypridecoalition.org)

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



### Summer at Belleayre

Highmount | [belleayre.com](http://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](http://hitsshows.com)

Equestrian center offering family-friendly fun with horse and pony shows, championships and a glimpse of equestrian stars. Events through September.



### Sawyer Motors Car Show

Saugerties | [sawyermotorscarshow.com](http://sawyermotorscarshow.com)

At “The Best Little Car Show in the Northeast,” Main and Partition Streets are closed to traffic and lined with more than 500 vintage cars. A day of fun for all ages with live music on every corner.



### Upstate Arts Weekend

Various counties | [upstateartweekend.org](http://upstateartweekend.org)

Three-day, self-directed event celebrating 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](http://ewcoc.com)

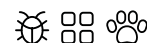
Live music, hundreds of vendors featuring crafts, goods, delicious foods and blueberry pies. Rain or shine. Free parking.



### Caribbean Carnival

Saugerties | [seasonedgives.org](http://seasonedgives.org)

Authentic Caribbean food, music and live performances; costume contest, games and family fun. Donations suggested.



### Ulster County Fair

New Paltz | [ulstercountyfair.com](http://ulstercountyfair.com)

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





# MISS

## September

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

See May

### Field + Supply MRKT

See May

### Headless Horseman Haunted Attractions

Ulster Park | [headlesshorseman.com](http://headlesshorseman.com)  
Named "No. 1 Haunted Attraction in America." New theme each season. Multiple attractions, gift shops and cafés. Through October.



### Hooley on The Hudson

Kingston | [ulsteraoh.com](http://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.



### Hudson Valley Garlic Festival

Saugerties | [hvgf.org](http://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 bus service.



### Hudson Valley Triathlon

Saugerties | [alpha.win](http://alpha.win)  
Experience the beauty of the region! Swim Williams Lake, bike the Ashokan Reservoir and run the Walkkill Valley Rail Trail.



### Woodstock Film Festival

Woodstock | [woodstockfilmfestival.org](http://woodstockfilmfestival.org)  
More than 100 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](http://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.



### O+ Kingston Festival

Kingston | [opositivefestival.org](http://opositivefestival.org)  
A citywide celebration 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

New Paltz | [rosendalepicklefestival.org](http://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](http://ucitalianamericanfoundation.org)  
Annual, free festival featuring a variety of Italian foods, beverages, products, music and family fun on the Rondout waterfront.



### Walktoberfest Farmers & Makers Market

Highland | [walkway.org](http://walkway.org)  
Artisans, restaurants, craft beverage makers and more, exhibiting on the Hudson Valley Rail Trail and west approach to the Walkway Over the Hudson. Tickets required for tasting area.



## Nov-Dec

### A Frosty Fest

Ulster Park | [afrostyfest.com](http://afrostyfest.com)  
A holiday light spectacular displaying more than one million lights, with holiday attractions, stage show, photos with Santa, gift shops and more.



### Catskill Mountain Railroad Polar Express

Kingston | [cmrrevents.com](http://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](http://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.

# REST EASY



Scan for more  
lodging options

We have you covered! Ulster County is filled with inspiring options for every type of visit—from quick getaways to longer stays. Leave the everyday behind and make the most of your visit amid Insta-worthy backdrops of rustic woodlands, river views or wide-open vistas. If you're traveling solo or with your crew, seeking small-town charm, a quiet retreat or a grand escape, you'll find plenty of choices to accommodate your every whim.

Opt for retro-inspired inns, nationally acclaimed resorts, posh hotels, tricked-out cabins, cozy B&B's, vacation rentals and so much more. The list below is just a start! Scan the QR code to search for your perfect home away from home in Ulster County.

Where will you rest your head?

## 🔍 best boutique hotels

Accord - Kerhonkson

**Inness, Starlite Motel**

Ellenville

**81 North**

Kingston

**Hotel Kinsley, Hutton Brickyard**

Mt. Tremper - Phoenicia - Shandaken - Oliverea

**Eastwind Oliverea, Phoenicia Lodge,**

**The Graham & Co., The Lorca**

Rosendale - High Falls - Stone Ridge

**Hasbrouck House, The 1850 House Inn**

Woodstock

**Hotel Dylan, Kate's Lazy Cabin, The Herwood Inn,**

**Woodstock Way**



Hotel Kinsley



Woodstock Way

## 🔍 top spas and resorts in Ulster County

Ellenville

**Honor's Haven Retreat**

Gardiner

**Wildflower Farms at Auberge Resorts**

Milton

**Buttermilk Falls Inn & Spa**

Mt. Tremper - Phoenicia

**Emerson Resort & Spa, Menla Retreat & Spa**

New Paltz

**Mohonk Mountain House**

Saugerties

**Diamond Mills Hotel**



Mohonk Mountain House



🔍 campgrounds close to hiking trails?

🔍 family resorts and hotels

Accord - New Paltz - Gardiner

**Hampton Inn, Rondout Valley RV Campground,  
Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park**

Highland

**Rocking Horse Ranch Resort**

Kingston

**Best Western Plus, Courtyard by Marriott, Residence Inn**

Saugerties

**AutoCamp Catskills, Holiday Inn Express & Suites**

🔍 quaint places to stay in  
Ulster County

🔍 historic inns and B&Bs

Kingston

**Church Des Artistes, DeMew House, Midtown Flat,  
The Forsyth B&B**

Marlboro

**Danskammer House**

New Paltz - Wallkill - Stone Ridge

**1796 House Inn at the Ridge, Audrey's Farmhouse,  
Foxfire Mountain House, Moondance Ridge, Mountain  
Meadows B&B, The Inn at Kettleboro, Watergrasshill**

Saugerties

**Saugerties Bed and Breakfast, Saugerties Lighthouse  
B&B**

Woodstock - Shandaken

**Shandaken Inn, Twin Gables, Woodstock Inn  
on the Millstream**

🔍 best vacation rentals with a view

Chichester - Olivebridge

**Ashokan Center, Coal Cabin**

Ellenville

**The Mod House**

Highland - Marlboro

**House in Highland, Saint Hubert's Lodge**

Kerhonkson

**A Black A-Frame, Hornbeck House, Retreat @ Hudson Woods**

Kingston

**Firehouse Inn, The Carriage House**

Saugerties

**Barn on the Pond, Bluestone Basecamp, The Warehouse**



AutoCamp Catskills



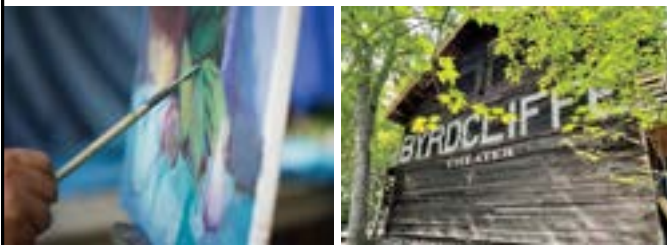
The Inn at Kettleboro



Coal Cabin



## The Arts are alive in Woodstock + Saugerties



**MAVERICK CONCERTS**  
maverickconcerts.org



opus40.org

**WAA** WOODSTOCK ARTS ALLIANCE  
woodstockart.org

**WOODSTOCK SCHOOL OF ART**  
woodstockschoolofart.org

**Woodstock Byrdcliffe Guild**  
woodstockguild.org



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JUNE 2-18



JUNE 23-JULY 9



JULY 14 - AUG 6

**SEASON 2023**



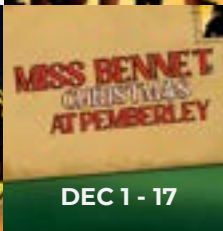
AUG 11 - SEPT 10



SEPT 15 - OCT 1



OCT 6 - 22



DEC 1 - 17

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Seek for yourself

365

DAYS A YEAR

Testimonial Gateway Mohonk Preserve



**Look no further** than Ulster County's 750,000-acre playground for a diverse array of four-season fun. Less than two hours from Manhattan and an hour south of Albany, with the majestic Hudson River flanking its eastern side, the county is home to 35 peaks and 350 miles of trails ready for outdoor adventure all year long.

Explore world class destinations like the Mohonk Preserve on the Shawangunk Ridge, or reconnect with nature in Catskill Park. Welcome the change in seasons along 75 miles of rail trails that wind through long-forgotten corridors, or be dazzled by river views on the Walkway Over the Hudson.

Indoors, seek out well-known performers or emerging artists at our acclaimed venues, where live theater, iconic music and art of all genres thrives in landmark buildings, intimate spaces and tucked into nature.





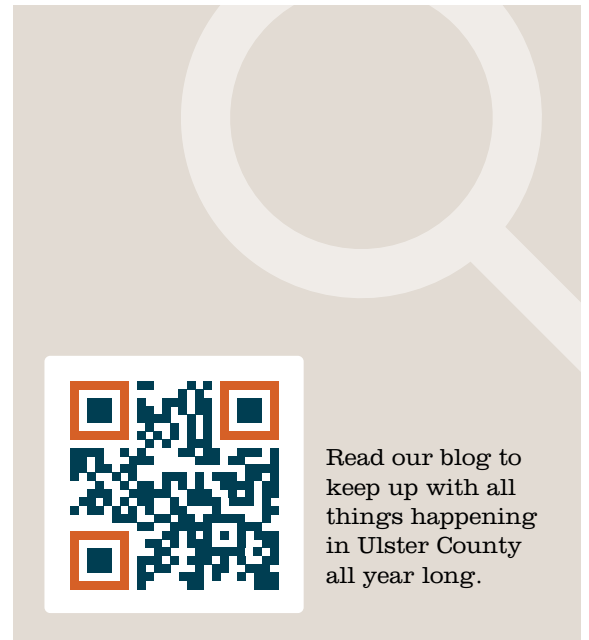
Bread Alone Bakery Woodstock



Mohonk Preserve New Paltz

There are literally hundreds of ways to explore the four corners and four seasons of Ulster County. Browse our quaint towns and bustling Main Streets in Woodstock, Kingston, New Paltz, Saugerties and Gardiner to discover new culinary destinations and craft beverage tasting rooms. Shop our eclectic shops and high-end boutiques or scour for vintage. Peel back centuries of multicultural history and old Dutch architecture in the Stockade District, in Hurley or on Historic Huguenot Street. Or, take to the road on the Shawangunk Mountain Scenic Byway or the Catskill Mountain Scenic Byway for thrilling views in any weather.

**> Flip the pages for more ideas and season-by-season things to do.**



Read our blog to keep up with all things happening in Ulster County all year long.



Fabulous Furniture Boiceville



Menla Retreat & Dewa Spa Phoenicia



## Discover Miles of Scenic Rail Trails



**EMPIRE STATE TRAIL** The 750-mile trail stretches from NYC to Buffalo, connecting in Ulster County from the **Walkway Over the Hudson** in Highland to New Paltz, through Rosendale and on to Kingston. Its multi-use, family-friendly trails wind through forests, under stone bridges, and over creeks and rivers. Stop for a picnic lunch at **Black Creek Crossing** just outside the hamlet of Highland where the rail bed rises 20 feet above the valley and offers expansive views of **Illinois Mountain**.

**WALKWAY OVER THE HUDSON** The eastern end of the **Hudson Valley Rail Trail** links to the 1.28-mile **Walkway Over the Hudson**, the world's longest elevated pedestrian bridge suspended 200 feet over the picturesque **Hudson River**. (Park at Haviland Road in Highland for easy access.) There are plenty of benches and viewing areas. Delve deeper into nature with a detour to the 251-acre **Franny Reese State Park** located on a bluff with fantastic views.

**HUDSON VALLEY RAIL TRAIL** This 7.1-mile mixed-use, pet-friendly trail starts at the Haviland Road parking lot in the hamlet of 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.

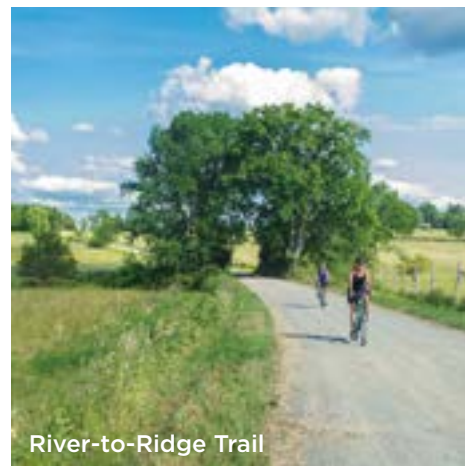
**WALLKILL VALLEY RAIL TRAIL** Access this scenic 22-mile route in New Paltz, where hikers and cyclists of all ages and abilities can follow it south for eight miles to the hamlet of Wallkill, or north for 14 miles through Rosendale to Kingston. The new stone dust surface winds through charming local farms, past historic ironworks, and over the 150-foot **Rosendale Railroad Trestle**. Great spot for Insta-worthy shots!

**RIVER-TO-RIDGE TRAIL** A relaxed and scenic trail that traverses across flat farmland and rolling foothills that were once home to the indigenous Munsee Lenape. An easy, 6.2-mile out-and-back jaunt from the village of New Paltz that will take about two hours to complete.

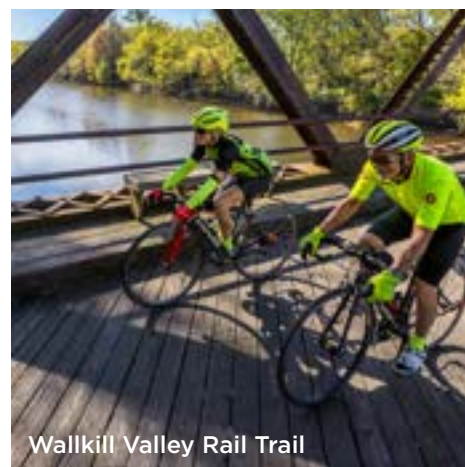
**O+W RAIL TRAIL** This recreational trail provides a glimpse into the area's canal and railroad history. Within Ulster County, the 16.7 mile portion spans north-south from Kingston to Kerhonkson with multiple entry points and parking areas along the route. Stop in the charming town of High Falls to visit the **D&H Canal Museum**, dedicated to telling the stories of the people who built, worked and settled alongside the D&H Canal, which was eventually supplanted by the O&W Railroad. Next, amble along the **Five Locks Walk**, one of the most historic sections of the canal.

**ASHOKAN RAIL TRAIL** Walk or bike this flat 11.5-mile trail 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. There are multiple well-marked entry points and parking lots that allow for distance flexibility. Don't forget the water and snacks!

**KINGSTON POINT RAIL TRAIL** Perfect for families looking for a relaxing stroll or bike ride along the water, this flat, paved pathway stretches 1.2 miles from Kingston's midtown to the **Rondout Creek Waterfront**, offering stunning views of the **Kingston Point Light House**, **Hudson River** and **Rondout Creek Harbor**.



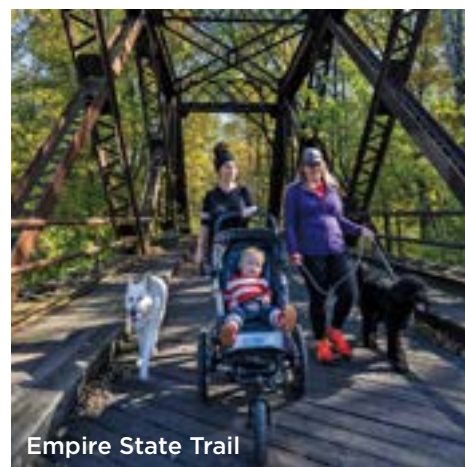
River-to-Ridge Trail



Wallkill Valley Rail Trail



Walkway Over the Hudson



Empire State Trail



Explore more hiking  
and rail trails

## Places

# FOUR SEASON FAVES

### WALK - HIKE - BIKE

Overlook Mountain House Ruins

Woodstock

Rosendale Trestle

Rosendale

Springtown Truss Bridge

New Paltz

Woodstock Dike Trailhead

West Hurley

### SHOP

Pop Vintage Antiques

Saugerties

Tinker Toys

Woodstock

### INDULGE

EJ Bonbons & Confections

Woodstock

Fruition Chocolate

Shokan

ImmuneShein Tea House

Saugerties

### CULINARY & CRAFTING CLASSES

L'Impatience Ceramics

Kingston

The Perfect Blend Yarn & Tea

Saugerties

Upstate Table Cakery

Kingston

Wax Imagination Studio

Woodstock

### FAMILY FUN

BC's Climbing Gym

New Paltz

Emerson Kaleidoscope

Mt. Tremper

Saugerties Bowlers Club

Saugerties

Wood'n Wheel

Family Fun Center

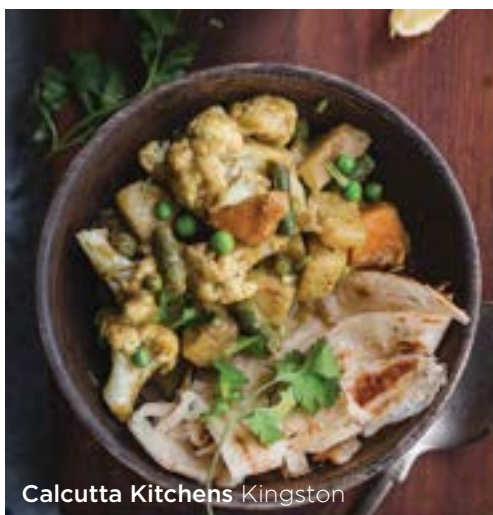
Ulster Park



Hudson House & Distillery West Park



Shawangunk Mountains Scenic Byway Gardiner



Calcutta Kitchens Kingston



Town of Woodstock





## Browse Our Downtowns and Dining Districts

**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 and fleas like the **Saugerties Antiques Center** and shop boutiques like **The Little Blueberry** for clothing and jewelry. Caffeine up at **Bluestone Coffee Roasting Company**, lunch on the patio at **Stella’s Station** or kick back at **The Dutch**, the neighborhood gastropub serving classic comfort food and craft brews. Book a seat overlooking the **Esopus Falls** for farm-to-table dining at the newly-opened **Blackbarn Restaurant Hudson Valley**.

**WOODSTOCK** Find peace, love and a baja hoodie among the jumble of eclectic shops, casual cafés and bars along **Tinker Street**. Kick off the day with sustainable, locally-sourced sustenance at **Bread Alone Bakery**, **Oriole 9** or **Caffe**. People watch on the **Village Green** or browse all things vintage at **Mowers Flea Market** (weekends from mid-May to November). Pop into **Candlestock**, known for its six-foot candle mountain and coveted handmade tapers.

A unique culinary experience awaits at **Silvia Woodstock**, then at nightfall, stick around for libations and music at **Station Bar & Curio** or **R&R Taproom**, or karaoke at local fave **Early Terrible**. Listen to your favorite band at **Colony Woodstock** or eat, drink and dance at **The Pearl Moon Café**. Tour **Bearsville Theater** and explore the 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.

**KINGSTON** The first capital of New York (for a short-lived period during the summer of 1777), Kingston remains steeped in history but with an ultra-contemporary vibe. Start at the artifact-filled **Hudson River Maritime Museum** at the bottom of Broadway, then stroll the **Rondout District**. Book a cruise to the **Rondout Lighthouse** and explore the historic brick structure, accessible only by boat. Stop for a bite at **Rosie General** on Broadway, or margaritas and Mexican at **The Tortilla Taco Bar**.

Head uptown to the **Stockade District** for endless dining options. Sample the eclectic menu on the back deck of **Brickmen Kitchen + Bar**, nosh on small bites at **Chleo** with a glass of wine or carb-load at **Kingston Bread + Bar**. Shoppers can get their fill at shops like **Hamilton & Adams** (upstate garb) and **Blue Byrd’s Haberdashery and Music** (great hats and classic vinyl), or scour vintage and antiques at **Stuff**, **Lovefield Vintage** or **Kingston Consignments**.

**NEW PALTZ** This vibrant college town packs loads to see and do in its bustling downtown. Stroll the heart of New Paltz—**Church**, **North Front** and **Main** streets—a haven of eclectic shops and innovative eateries with a vibrant music scene. Hop on the **Wallkill Valley Rail Trail** at **Lagusta’s Luscious Café** and veer off two blocks north for **Dry Fly Coffee Co.** where artisanal bread and pastries are baked daily. 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**. Catch new works by emerging playwrights at **DENIZEN**, an intimate 70-seat black box theater, then stop in for a sour ale at **Clemson Brothers Brewery** across the street.

**MARLBORO/MILTON** In the heart of the Hudson River Valley, these hamlets in the town of **Marlborough** are lush with multi-generational farms and vineyards and expansive views of the **Hudson River**. Wake up with coffee and pastries from **Frida’s Café & Bakery**, then wind your way around the region to explore farm-to-glass beverages at the family-owned wineries and cideries dotting the landscape. Enjoy a locally-sourced meal at the newly-renovated **Henry’s at the Farm** or savor an old-school dining experience at **The Ship Lantern Inn** in a historic Revolutionary War building.



Clay at Wildflower Farms Gardiner

## Small Town Charm

**ELLENVILLE** Nestled in the foothills of the **Catskill Mountains**, the “Hang Gliding Capital of the Northeast” is known the world over for its **Cohen’s** pumpernickel bagels. Stop at **Gabby’s** for a globally-inspired culinary experience, or enjoy locally-sourced, sustainable food and a curated selection of wine and craft beverages at **Aroma Thyme Bistro**.

**PHOENICIA** Tucked in the northwest corner of the Catskills, this funky little town evokes a frontier vibe. Have a brew at **The Sportsman’s Alamo Cantina**. Shop the **Nest Egg**, a quaint country store, or find contemporary and rustic home furnishings at **Tender Land Home**. Fuel up with comfort food at the **Phoenicia Diner**, a bustling mountainside eatery, or flapjacks at **Sweet Sue’s Phoenicia**.

**ROSENDALE** This charming town once supplied cement from its Rosendale Cement Factory to build the Brooklyn Bridge and the Statue of Liberty. Explore the **Widow Jane Mines** or visit the 22-acre **Snyder Estate**. Hike to the **Rosendale Trestle**, a 900-foot truss bridge overlooking the **Rondout Creek**, then recharge at the **Rail Trail Café** with wood-fired pizza and a signature Green Drink. Catch a vintage film at the iconic **Rosendale Theater** and complete the day with a colossal milkshake at **Santa Fe Burger Bar**.

Discover  
more  
shopping





Scan to plan  
your outdoor  
escape

# SOAK IN SUMMER



Mohonk Mountain House New Paltz

Find adventure in Ulster County's Catskill Forest Preserve—its 250,000 acres of mountain wilderness and 1,161 square miles of majestic landscapes are primed for hiking (with more than 190 miles of trails), biking, kayaking, climbing, fishing, camping and so much more. Explore the 71-mile Shawangunk Ridge with over 40,000 acres of natural terrain, and discover swimming holes, pristine mountain lakes and opportunities for extreme experiences like backcountry hiking, hang-gliding, sky diving and mountain climbing.

Plan a summer getaway that's fun for the whole family with kid-friendly activities like pedal biking along a scenic stream bed, taking a trolley ride to the beach or watching a wood-bat baseball game. Visit U-pick berry and wildflower farms, seek out hidden-away places to romp and swim or hit a local fair or vintage car show.

Scan the QR code to find more ways to cool down—or get your heart pumping—on your Ulster County summer escape.

## Mohonk Preserve







## Cool Ways to Beat the Heat

**CHILL IN THE HILLS** 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. Once parked, take the short, wooded path meandering alongside the access road to the trailhead for the falls.

The 5,400-acre **Sam's Point Preserve** includes the most dramatic and highest section of the **Shawangunk Mountains**, making it the busiest park by far. (Online reservations are required on weekends/holidays.) Hikes can include a combination of carriage roads, trails through blueberry fields, ridge trails with spectacular views and rock scrambles. Kids love the ice caves and the 187-foot **Verkeerderkill Falls**. The **Nature Center** offers tips to get around.

Trek over to **Overlook Mountain** near Woodstock, a 4.6-mile out-and-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).

Mountain bike 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 14 miles of surface for beginners and plenty of berms, jumps and rocky terrain to make it fun and fast for advanced riders.

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 up-and-down hike over a suspension bridge and through the forest to a rocky beach on the **Hudson River**.



**DIVE IN** 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**.

The upper **Esopus Creek** is known for its easy access to some of the best Class II/III whitewater kayaking and attracts enthusiasts from around the globe. Get your heart pumping as you sweep down rapids and maneuver around rocks, downed trees and ride waves up to three feet high. Put-ins are along High Street in Phoenicia, a sleepy hamlet nestled in the **Catskill Forest Preserve**. Check for scheduled releases.

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.

## HOT PURSUITS HIDDEN GEMS

### FALLING WATERS PRESERVE

Just a few miles from the heart of Saugerties—and a world away—set aside an hour to wander a 2-mile loop of rugged beauty along well-marked trails with streams, meadows, wetlands and cascading waterfalls that flow toward the **Hudson River**.

### VERNOOY KILL FALLS

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



### SUNDOWN WILD FOREST

Tucked within the secluded wilderness of the **Catskill Forest Preserve**, find massive rock ledges, lush greenery and pristine water amid 28 verdant acres primed for easy and intermediate hikes.

### SOJOURNER TRUTH STATE PARK

Explore 500+ acres of history along a mile of Hudson River coastline in Kingston at this newly developed state park honoring Sojourner Truth, a 19th-century African-American abolitionist and suffragist. Part of the **Empire State Trail** and host to the paved **Hudson River Brickyard Trail**, the park is a quiet refuge for hikes and private family gatherings.

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## Top Spots for Epic Adventure

**MOHONK PRESERVE** Extreme sports enthusiasts should head to the New Paltz and Gardiner areas. Trek across the grounds of the iconic

**Mohonk Mountain House** resort to the **Labyrinth** scramble and up the **Lemon Squeeze**, a 5.5-mile, 4-hour challenge; you'll be rewarded with breathtaking vistas of the Mohonk Preserve. For 360-degree views, climb up the Sky Top Tower. Access to the 40,000-acre forest requires a pre-paid pass. **Tip:** Plan a weekday climb when the wait at the base will be shorter. (Purchase a parking pass for the day, which also includes hiking, climbing, biking and horseback riding privileges.)

**THE GUNKS** Located just minutes from New Paltz, 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 more experienced climbers. Most of the Gunks is located in **Mohonk Preserve** with multiple routes rated at 5.6 or higher that require a minimum of a 60 ft. rope for rappelling.

Two of the most popular cliffs are **The Trapps** and **Near Trapps**. Skilled climbers will opt for the two-pitch **Limelight**, or the aptly named **Ridicullissima**, a single-pitch at 180 feet. **Tip:** For those looking for more experience consider taking a class (from beginner to expert) or hire a guide from **Alpine Endeavors**.

**MINNEWASKA STATE PARK** 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.

**SLIDE/WITTENBERG/CORNELL MOUNTAIN RANGE** Experience this 12.3-mile out-and-back trail near Phoenicia. Generally considered a steep and challenging route, this hike is known for its views and is a popular trail for backpacking, camping and hiking. This continuous climb crosses over the summit of three 3,000+ foot peaks with a total elevation gain of 4,504 ft. **Tip:** Catch the sunrise at Wittenberg.

**IN THE AIR** 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.

## IN SEASON

### U-PICK FARMS

Fill your basket with all sorts of fresh berries (the first ripe fruits of the season) at one of the many U-pick farms in the county. Popular spots include **Kelder's Farm**, **Locust Grove Fruit Farm**, **Saunderskill Farms**, **Jenkins-Lueken Orchards** and **Sonny Weed's Fruit Farm**. Check online picking schedules for other vegetables and fruit in season. **Tip:** Slather on the sunscreen and keep hydrated in the open fields.

### PRIDE MONTH

Kick off a month of celebration at the annual **Pride Parade** in New Paltz and take part in a wide array of county-wide events that include teen talent shows, crosswalk painting, a youth ice-cream social, and more.

### HITS ON THE HUDSON

Watch world-class horse shows and competitions in Saugerties against the backdrop of the **Catskill Mountains** from May to September. Spectator admission is free, parking is plentiful, but rent a golf cart to get around.

### CLASSIC CAR SHOW

Join the thousands of spectators who flock to Saugerties every July to see hundreds of classic cars lining Main and Partition streets at the **Sawyer Motors Car Show**. Shop, dine and bop to non-stop live entertainment—it's a day of fun for kids of all ages. Admission is free.

### BORSCHT BELT FEST

Get your fill of nostalgia at the **Borscht Belt Fest** in Ellenville that pays homage to that fabled era when throngs of urban dwellers relocated each summer to sprawling resorts and bungalow colonies in the Catskills, and a vibrant nightlife drew the nation's top entertainers. Relive this iconic period with stand-up comedy, live music, film, panel discussions, street fare and, of course, borscht.

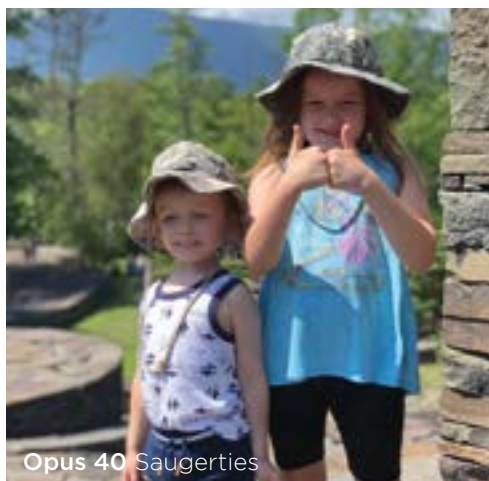




Rocking Horse Ranch Highland



Walkway Over the Hudson Highland



Opus 40 Saugerties



Rail Explorers



## Summertime Family Fun

Head to 200-year-old **Kelder's Farm** in Kerhonkson for ultimate summer fun. Hop along the oversized jumping pillow, wander the corn maze, blast apples from cannons and snap photos with the "World's Largest Garden Gnome." At **DuBois Farm** in Highland, playtime includes a mini village and a barnyard farm with horses, goats, llamas, pigs and ducks. Relax with lunch from their pizzeria (panini and salads are also on the menu) and choose from 24 flavors of hand-crafted ice cream.

Take refuge at the **Forsyth Nature Center** in uptown Kingston, where tykes can feed the goats, 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** for slides, monkey bars, swings and a hide-out house.

Make new family memories at the **Rocking Horse Ranch Resort** in Highland, 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.

Tour the Catskills on pedal-powered **Rail Explorers** that run on the tracks of the former 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." **Tip:** Rail explorers are limited so book ahead.

The whole family can bike the cross-country trails at **Belleayre Mountain** in Highmount. Access is free to miles of trails for all levels and abilities.

Score big points with sports fans—Saugerties is home to the championship **Saugerties Stallions** collegiate baseball team. Watch top "wood-bat" teams compete at the **Cantine Veterans Memorial Complex** for 10 weeks in summer. (Discounts for students and seniors; under 12s are free.)

If it's dusty, loud excitement you're after, head to **Accord Speedway** on Friday nights for the best stock-car racing around. Easy parking, concession stands (think: root beer floats) and special nights with fireworks and vintage coupes make for an ultra-fun family night out.

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.

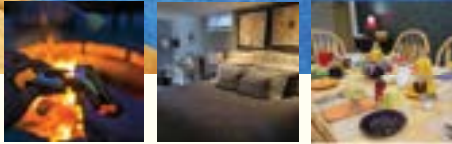
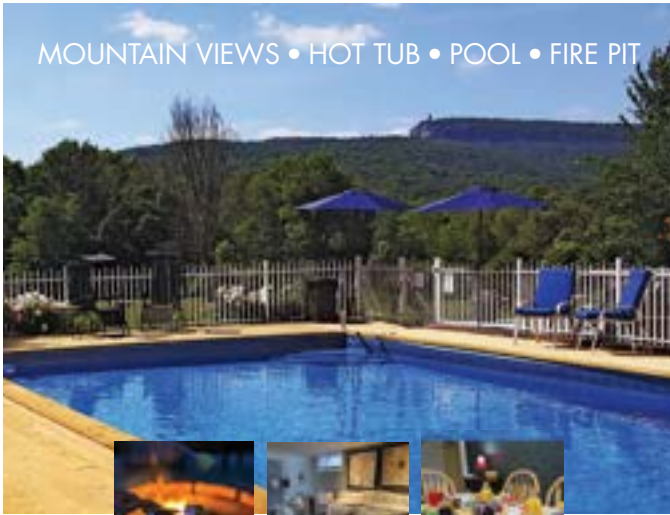
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Children under 36" FREE

### Tues Aug 1

**Carload Night**  
\$50 per carload, 8 person max

### Weds Aug 2 & Thurs Aug 3

**Senior Day**  
Seniors enter FREE until 4:00 p.m.

### Entertainment

**Tuesday:** Thunder Ridge

**Wednesday:** Lee Greenwood

**Thursday:** Alex Shillo's Tribute to Bruce Springsteen

**Friday:** Kentucky Headhunters

**Saturday:** Thompson Square

**Sunday:** J.D. Leonard: "This is Garth"

### Daily Entertainment:

Robinson's Racing Pigs  
Two by Two Animal Sanctuary  
Cowboy Circus

Carrie McQueen, Stilt walker

**Thursday:** Truck Pull

**Friday:** Tractor Pull

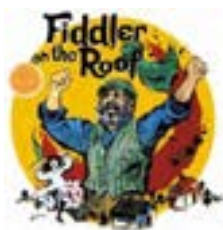
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## Summer Theatre Festival 2023



♦ Monty Python's SPAMALOT 6/9 – 6/25

♦ FIDDLER ON THE ROOF 6/30 – 7/16

♦ HELLO, DOLLY! 7/28 – 8/13

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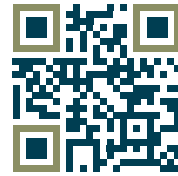
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# TAP INTO AUTUMN

Road trip! There's nothing more rejuvenating than a quick fall escape—grab your gear, jump in a car or hop on a train and hightail it to Ulster County to enliven your spirit. Spend a crisp autumn day taking part in harvest celebrations at one of the more than 24 U-pick farms open for apples, pears, late berries and pumpkins. Visit a farm market to load up on fresh apple cider donuts then head to any of the 30 craft beverage tasting rooms to warm up.

With over 742,776 acres of land, more than 80% of which is forested, there's no shortage of places to peep vibrant fall foliage. Hike, bike or horseback ride along winding scenic trails or dive into our historic past—from the oldest section in New York's oldest city to historic districts creatively re-envisioned.

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



Scan to plan  
your getaway



Hudson Valley Rail Trail



Mohonk Preserve





## Best Places to Peep Fall Foliage

**SHAWANGUNK SCENIC BYWAY** Load up the car or hop on a motorcycle for a vivid foliage excursion along this byway that 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. Hops and spirits lovers should head to **Arrowood Farms** in Accord for a seasonal take on regenerative farming and fresh-air dining at the pavilion bar or **Apiary Restaurant**.

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 Cragmoor and through bucolic farmland into the town of Shawangunk and Pine Bush.

**CATSKILL MOUNTAIN SCENIC BYWAY** The 52-mile-long stretch passes 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.

**ON THE WATER** 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.

**HIKE FOR VIEWS** At an elevation of 1,812 feet, **Gertrudes Nose** (named after Gertrude Bruyn, a 17th-century settler who donated much of the land) is one of the most popular hikes in **Minnewaska State Park**, known for its unique rock formations and dramatic foliage views over expanses of farmland and forest. Hike in on the trails (**Millbrook Mountain Loop** is the most popular) or use the easier, flatter carriage roads to reach Gertrude's Nose. Epic selfies await!



### Sips with a View

Prepare your palate for a scenic tour around the **Shawangunk Wine Trail** nestled between the **Shawangunk Mountains** and the **Hudson River**. Cluster a day's tastings in the Marlboro area, with stops at **Benmarl Winery**, **Stoutridge Winery & Distillery** and **Weed Orchards**, then watch the sun slip over the river at **Quartz Rock Vineyards**, high atop Mount Zion. Nearby **Nostrano Vineyards'** 75-acre farm, nestled in the rolling hills of Milton, offers small-batch wines and expansive bird's-eye views.

Wind your way through Gardiner to **Tuthilltown Spirits Distillery** on the site of an old grist mill, or savor estate-grown vegan wines at **Whitecliff Vineyards** and **Bruynswick Winery** at the base of the **Shawangunks**.

Pick apples and enjoy orchard ciders at **Bad Seed Hard Cider's** popular, kid- and puppy-friendly taproom in Highland, and at **Brooklyn Cider House** at **Twin Star Orchards** in New Paltz (leashed dogs are welcome), where scratch-made fare will satisfy even the pickiest eaters. Browse the harvest market and sample farm-based English ciders at **Hudson Valley Farmhouse Cider** in Stone Ridge.



Explore more  
craft beverages

## IN SEASON

### HARVEST FUN

Head to any of the sprawling farms and orchards in the county to get your fill of fall. Local faves include: **Westwind Orchard**, **Dressel Farms**, **Hurd Family Farm**, **Weed Orchards**, **DuBois Farms** and **Wightman Fruit Farm**.

Get lost in the 3-acre corn maze or hop on a hay ride at **Wallkill View Farm** in New Paltz. On weekends, take a hay ride or explore the sunflower maze at **Seed Song Farm** in Kingston. Tailgate at **Wright's Farm** in Gardiner amid 453 acres of breathtaking views, then hit the onsite **Gardiner Brewery**. Or, stomp grapes at **Robibero Winery** in New Paltz then relax with estate-grown wines around an outdoor fire pit.





DuBois Farms Highland

### HAUNTED ACTIVITIES

For the ultimate scary fun, head to **Headless Horseman Haunted Attractions** in Ulster Park for an immersive, heart-pounding experience. Or, book the **Boos & Brews Haunted Tours of Historic Huguenot Street** and explore the legendary street's chilling tales with a local craft beverage.

### FALL ADVENTURE TRAINS

Embark on a spectacular journey on the **Catskill Mountain Railroad's Fall Foliage Adventure Train**, which travels through the Catskills along the former Ulster & Delaware Railroad corridor. Rides leave from Kingston Plaza in September and October for an 8-mile, round-trip excursion. Book the **Pumpkin Express** and choose a pumpkin on board to take home.

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## Fall for History



**KINGSTON STOCKADE DISTRICT** Named for the stockade built by Dutch governor Peter Stuyvesant in the mid-1600s, the uptown Kingston **Stockade District** is a close-knit, 8-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, then head to the **Senate House State Historic Site**, the first seat of New York government where the state's first Constitution was adopted in 1777. Browse artifacts next door at the **Senate House Museum**. 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), or download the *Kingston Walks Audio Tour* on your smartphone.

**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. Pick up a map (or download one) and take a self-guided walking tour of the picturesque village.

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. In High Falls, follow the half-mile **Five Locks Walk** that follows a towpath along the canal.

**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**. 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. 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 reconstructed 1717 French church, an exact replica of an Esopus Munsee wigwam and a historic burial ground.



Scan for more  
historic sites



Old Dutch Church Kingston

## FALL FAVES HIDDEN GEMS

### BRUNEL SCULPTURE PARK

Tucked away off the **Catskill Scenic Byway** in the town of Olive, embrace the visual beauty of indigenous horticulture on a self-guided tour of this 4-acre artistic sanctuary.

### THE FALCON

Perched over **Marlboro Falls**, listen to world-class jazz, blues or rock by Grammy-winning artists and local musicians at this iconic venue (no tickets needed—just reserve a table for dinner) or visit the “pub-beneath-the-club,” home to **Avalon Archives Museum of Rock & Roll**.



### SAUGERTIES LIGHTHOUSE

Hike to the remote 1850s lighthouse on a half-mile nature trail, open sunrise to sunset, or turn the clock back to when steamboats traveled the **Hudson River** and book a stay at the restored, red-brick B&B surrounded by water and furnished as it was in the early 20th century.

### BELLEAYRE MOUNTAIN

Take a gondola to the top of the mountain during the off-season (park in the upper lot of the ski resort) for spectacular autumnal views of the **Catskill Mountains**. Walk the trails under the dormant ski lifts or set up a picnic lunch at the base and imagine the activity once the snow falls!





Scan for  
more  
winter fun

# WELCOME WINTER



**Rocking Horse Ranch** Highland

Hello, chilly weather! Whether you're a hardcore adventure seeker or looking for a frolicking good time with family and friends, there are plenty of exhilarating activities to choose from once the temperature starts to dip. Soak up the seasonal magic in our vast landscape and experience a paradise of snow-dusted hills and crunchy, snowy trails. Or warm up in front of a fireplace with a craft cocktail and a hearty, farm-to-table meal at our cozy restaurants and gathering places.

Come for the day or make a weekend of it. Grab your clan and scan the QR code for more ways to beat the winter blues in Ulster County.



**Emerson Resort** Mt. Tremper





## Best Ways to Weather the Cold

**HIT THE TRAILS** It's prime time for cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and fat biking, and most rail trails in Ulster County are open for a good winter workout with scenic, rustic views. Head to the popular **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. (The trailhead is on the left just after you cross the creek.) XC in fresh snow at **Minnewaska State Park** on five groomed trails that boast some of the best elevation gain in the region (1,079 feet total ascent on the Upper Awosting loop). Weather permitting, the **River-to-Ridge Trail** in New Paltz offers easy access for all levels and beautiful winter views of the **Shawangunk Ridge**.

**ON THE SLOPES** **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. Cross-country skiers and off-road-ready fat bikes are welcome on a network of thrilling trails groomed for every level, from gentle carriage roads to steep, challenging drops.

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

**ON THE ICE** 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.

Glide on an Olympic-sized rink indoors at **Kiwanis Ice Arena** in Saugerties. It's fully-enclosed 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 you skate.

Trout season comes to a close at the end of November in Ulster County, but hardcore enthusiasts can ice fish at places like **Sturgeon Pool** east of Rosendale, **Rondout Creek** in Eddyville and **Onteora Lake** west of Kingston. Polar-bear anglers can spend all winter casting at various lakes, rivers, streams and reservoirs, including the **Hudson River** (eel), the **Ashokan Reservoir** (walleye) and **Esopus Creek** (black bass). **Tip:** Stay apprised of weather conditions and know the rules and regulations.

## Must-do Family Fun



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

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 and delight in on-board entertainment, caroling, hot chocolate and cookies during this magical ride. Limited space is available for those with sensory sensitivities.

## IN SEASON

### U-CUT TREE FARMS & HOLIDAY SHOPS

Venture out to a sustainable family farm to find your perfect tree and holiday decor. 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.

**BOICE'S FARM & GARDEN**  
Saugerties | Pre-cut trees and kissing balls.

**CHRISTMAS TREE LANE** | Wallkill  
Pre-cut and U-cut; animated barn, Reindeer barrel train, live animals and comfort food.

**GARONE'S MOUNTAIN FRESH FARMS** | Highland  
U-cut or they cut; hayrides, Santa and outdoor firepit.



Mountain View Tree Farm

**MOUNTAIN VIEW TREE FARM**  
Saugerties | Choose and cut your own.

**THUNDER HORSE HOLLOW FARM**  
Ulster Park | Pre-cut trees in season.

**W&K SPLIT RAIL NURSERY** | Milton  
U-cut or they cut; wreaths, kissing balls and personalized ornaments.

**WALLKILL VIEW FARM** | New Paltz  
Fresh-cut trees; gift showroom with decorations, holiday plants, and baked treats; groups welcome.

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



Scan for more  
tree farms and  
holiday shops



**Belleayre Mountain** Highmount



**Inness** Accord



**Urban Cowboy** Big Indian



**View of Ellenville**

## Top Spots for Comfort Food and Drink



Cozy up and taste the local flavor in casual cafés, farm-to-table eateries and historic buildings where acclaimed chefs transform seasonal and locally-grown ingredients into the Hudson Valley's most creative and memorable dishes.

### **AROMA THYME BISTRO** | Ellenville

Farm-to-table, locally-sourced food by a Green Certified chef. Grass-fed steaks, seafood, vegan dishes and an award-winning beer menu.

### **BUTTERFIELD RESTAURANT** | Stone Ridge

Romantic, fireside dining inside an 18th-century Dutch Colonial mansion offering a revolving menu of farm-to-table fare and regional beverages.

### **GARVAN'S** | New Paltz

A local gathering place for fresh, local food housed in a historic 18th-century building.

### **HOFFMAN HOUSE** | Kingston

Relaxed fireside dining in a National Historic Registered stone house. Continental fare, steaks, fresh seafood, homemade pasta and desserts.

### **HOOT OWL RESTAURANT** | Pine Bush

American comfort food and globally-inspired fare in a warm and inviting atmosphere.

### **PEEKAMOOSE RESTAURANT & TAP ROOM** | Big Indian

Farm-to-table restaurant set among the bucolic Catskill Mountains with a daily menu, innovative cocktails and a nightly bonfire.

### **STONE HOUSE TAVERN** | Accord

Hometown restaurant and tavern serving up locally-sourced food and drink in an inviting space.

### **SWEET SUE'S** | Phoenicia

A cozy, small-town café serving up breakfast and lunch favorites, sweet treats and fresh-pressed green juices in the heart of the Catskills.

### **THE PARISH RESTAURANT** | New Paltz

New Orleans-style cuisine with a friendly, upbeat vibe and great views.

### **THE RED ONION** | Saugerties

Seasonally-inspired global and traditional fare and creative cocktails in a historic 1840s farm house.

### **VIGNETO CAFÉ** | Highland

Authentic Italian dishes and homemade creations in a comfortable café atmosphere.

Scan  
for more  
food and  
drink



**Hutton Brickyards** Kingston





Discover  
more ways  
to refresh  
and  
reconnect

# AWAKEN TO SPRING



Opus 40 Saugerties

Refresh, reconnect. Learn something new. As nature starts to thaw and wildflowers begin to bloom, find refuge and calm in 1,100 square miles of woodlands and open space that beckon nature lovers and forest bathers. Renew your spirit and explore scenic vistas and rushing waterfalls, or rejuvenate at a rural resort or mountain retreat. Take to the tee or learn to fly fish in the pristine waters of the Catskills Preserve.

As the temperature warms, witness art and community come alive in Ulster County, where theater, music and art of all genres thrives in landmark buildings, intimate spaces and tucked into nature.

Scan the QR code and read on for ways to reset your mental and physical health on a restorative trip to Ulster County.



Esopus Creek Shandaken





Wallkill River



Minnewaska State Park Preserve



Wiltwyck Golf Club Kingston



Download  
our Golf Guide



## Best Places to Reconnect with Nature

**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. Chill out on the lawn with live music and farm-to-table food truck fare on Stockade Saturday evenings, or pack a picnic and take in a 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, 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 peek inside **Slabides**, the rustic one-story log cabin Burroughs built in 1895.

**AMONG THE FLORA** Bliss out at one of Ulster County's stunning wildflower farms, which come alive with spring blossoms. Stroll through six acres of tulips in May at **Kelder's Farm** in Kerhonkson, then refresh with locally-crafted beer, wine or cider on tap at the farm's **The Loading Dock**. Reserve boho seating or a picnic table at **Hudson Wildflower Co.** in Milton and soak up sunny vibes amid lush flower fields. Stay at **Auberge Resort's Wildflower Farms** in Gardiner where you'll discover an understated, authentic back-to-nature escape, set on 140 acres with clear views of the **Shawangunk Ridge**. Stay in free-standing cabins, and book an "experience" from farm foraging to hiking to distillery tours.

Witness biodiversity in action at the **Shawangunk Grassland National Wildlife Refuge** in Wallkill. Stroll through the 597-acre green space to catch glimpses of diverse migratory birds and other rare 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 early.

**ON THE FLY** An abundance of lakes, rivers and creeks, and ideal weather conditions make Ulster County a favorite destination for fishing (especially trout). **Esopus Creek** is a go-to spot for anglers, with good wading levels and a variety of brown, rainbow and brook trout. The **Ashokan Reservoir** is stocked with fish and a rewarding place for casual fishing from shore or boat. **Rondout Creek** is a sprawling tributary of the Hudson River creating perfect trout fishing conditions all spring and summer long. Public access to some portions of the creek (north of the reservoir) is limited, which makes it coveted for serious anglers. With boat launch sites in Kingston, Esopus and Saugerties, opportunities abound along the **Hudson River**, with plenty of bait-and-tackle shops, fishing guides, restaurants and amenities nearby.



**ON THE TEE** Pack your clubs for one of Ulster County's 10 scenic public courses known for their world-class design. Tee up at family-owned **Apple Greens Golf Course**, a 27-hole course beloved by locals for its fairways intertwined with apple orchards and stunning views of the **Catskills** and **Shawangunk Mountains**. (Load up your golf cart with free apples in October.)

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 dinner at the five-star **Millstream**. If you only have time for nine, head to the **New Paltz Golf Course**. This challenging par-36 course is located close to **Historic Huguenot Street**, a district of stone house museums built by early settlers.





Buttermilk Falls Inn & Spa Milton

## Refresh and Rejuvenate

Jumpstart your journey to wellness and plan a pampered getaway or a day of relaxation at one of the many spas and retreats in Ulster County.



Scan to explore spas and resorts



## Top Destinations for Art and Culture

**KINGSTON** Explore the city's three distinct areas for a wide range of art and cultural events. Converge with other art lovers in midtown on the first Saturday of every month when more than two dozen galleries open new exhibits to the public, or dive into photography at the new home of the **Center for Photography at Woodstock**. Catch a national act at the 1,500-seat **Ulster Performing Arts Center (UPAC)**, a national landmark and one of New York's last great show palaces. Downtown, the **West Strand Art Gallery** on the waterfront exhibits contemporary works, and **ArtPort Kingston** is a must-stop for non-traditional exhibits housed inside the historic **Cornell Steamboat Co. building**. Book a jazz or classical performance at colonial uptown's **Senate Garage**.

**SAUGERTIES** Embrace the uniqueness of **Opus 40**, the life's work of sculptor Harvey Fite, a permanent art installation on 6.5 acres of a former bluestone quarry that provides a monumental setting for live music, theater, dance, yoga and outdoor classes. Catch the sunset over the Catskills on Community Thursdays, or take a guided tour of the pristine property on weekends.

Dive into the emerging art scene in the center of the eclectic Saugerties village, including **Jane Street Art Center**, which showcases multidisciplinary art in two 19th-century brick buildings (including the former J. J. Newberry department store), and **Emerge Gallery & Art Space**, which features works by local artists that can be purchased on the spot.

**NEW PALTZ** Find world-class art at the **Dorsky Museum at SUNY New Paltz**, tucked behind the campus's iconic glass and metal **Atrium**. Six galleries are housed in 9,000 square feet of exhibit space, each filled with diverse works meant to spark curiosity and critical thinking. The **DM Weil Gallery** offers the look and vibe of a Soho-style exhibition space with the majestic **Shawangunk Mountains** as a backdrop. Catch new works by emerging playwrights at **DENIZEN's** intimate black box theater and stroll galleries at **Water Street Market** and along Main Street.

**WOODSTOCK** Feel an immediate connection to Woodstock's deep artistic roots on Tinker Street; 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.

Channel Woodstock's musical heritage at **Bearsville Theater**, a center of creativity for music icons as far back as the 60s. Take in a show or gather at **Bearsville Park**, an oasis for dining, drinking and relaxing with live music along the Sawkill Creek. Step back in time at the **Colony** for a curated line-up of live music and upscale pub food in the intimate circa 1929 hotel ballroom or outdoors in the beer garden. Catch a live performance at the 70-seat **Barn at Levon Helm Studios**, a one-of-a-kind musical landmark and home of the Midnight Ramble.

# SPRING THINGS HIDDEN GEMS

## 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.

## CATSKILL OUTFITTERS

If you're new to fly fishing or would prefer a guided experience, **Catskill Outfitters** in Phoenicia offers organized fishing expeditions with all equipment supplied, and licensed guides to ensure a good catch. Get your handmade ties ready!

## WOODSTOCK PLAYHOUSE

This legendary theater at the **Gateway to Woodstock** has staged plays, concerts and other performances since 1938, including a pivotal precursor to Woodstock '69. Catch a live performance in an intimate setting at this historical mecca beginning in May each year.



## FARM MARKETS

Find the best of the Hudson Valley's hand-crafted and farm fresh products at the **Stone Ridge Farmers & Makers Market** in Stone Ridge, Sundays from May through December.

Local farm produce and community spirit abound uptown at the **Kingston Farmers Market** open Saturdays catskillyear-round from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the County Courthouse parking lot.

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Copenhagen, Denmark

New Paltz, New York