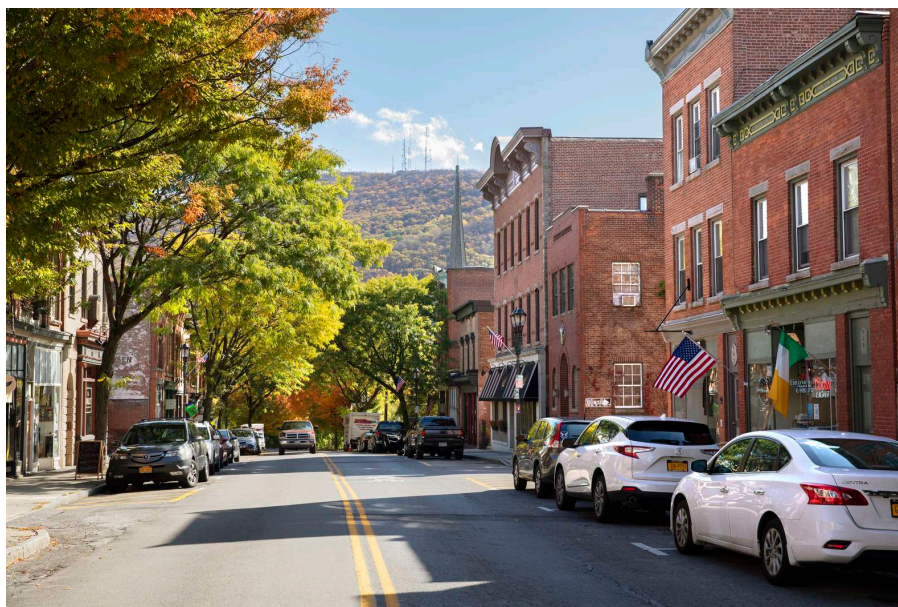


11 Must-Visit Small Towns in Upstate New York

Your international and domestic travel plans may currently be on hold, but that doesn't mean you can't start planning for a different, more local (and just as memorable) vacation. Believe it or not, there is more to New York than the five boroughs -- and we don't just mean Montauk. Our great state truly offers something for everyone, from the picky gourmand to the adrenaline junkie. And, if you're up for a road trip, even the farthest regions of the Empire State are within reach. Just remember, of course, to wear your masks and practice social distancing wherever you visit. New York State's low COVID-19 infection rate is something to be proud of, so let's keep it that way.

And now, from the farm-to-table pleasures of the Hudson Valley to the remote beauty of the Thousand Islands, here are the best small towns in Upstate New York.



Beacon

Why it's so great: At just an hour-and-a-half drive from NYC, this art-filled town is easily doable as a day trip. Many come to visit [Dia:Beacon](#), a 300,000 square-foot contemporary and modern art museum that's housed in an old Nabisco box printing factory on the shore of the Hudson River. But there is much more to explore in the town itself, including quirky *Dr. Who*-themed [The Pandorica](#) restaurant, local craft breweries like [2 Way Brewing Company](#), and the addictive sweets at the [Hudson Valley Marshmallow Co.](#) It's worth spending the night at the romantic [Hotel at Roundhouse Beacon](#); ask for a room overlooking the waterfall.

Must-eat foods: Singapore sling for two and pretzel crack at [Wonderbar](#); a bucket of popcorn at [Story Screen Drive-In](#); lemon-cream cheese pancakes at [Towne Crier Café](#).