

# CAYUGA-SENECA CANAL

The Cayuga-Seneca Canal connects New York's two largest Finger Lakes with the Erie Canal and the world beyond. Cayuga and Seneca Lakes and the canal combine to form 92 miles of navigable waterway stretching from Ithaca and Watkins Glen to Geneva, Waterloo, Seneca Falls, and Montezuma. The area includes Seneca Falls, celebrated as the birthplace of the women's rights movement, Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge, and the Finger Lakes Region, renowned for its natural beauty, elegant architecture, wine country, and world-class cultural and recreational attractions.











The canal follows the Seneca River from Seneca Lake Outlet near Geneva to its confluence with the Erie Canal and Clyde River at Montezuma.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

More information about things to do in the Cayuga-Seneca Canal area is available from [visitfingerlakes.com](http://visitfingerlakes.com) and [fingerlakes.org](http://fingerlakes.org). For excellent information about the Finger Lakes region, check [IlovetheFingerLakes.com](http://IlovetheFingerLakes.com).

Try our 4-day Paddle the Cayuga-Seneca Canal itinerary for a ready-made trip that combines two days of paddling with two days of sightseeing. <https://eriecanalway.org/explore/>  
**Plan-Visit**

## Map Symbol Key

	Water Trail Site
	Lock
	Navigation Hazard!
	Hand Launch
	Ramp Launch
	Dock Launch
	Interstate or Limited Access Highway
	US Highway
	State Highway
	County Road
	Major Local Road
	Minor Local Road
	Railroad
	County Boundary
	Stream
	River or Canal
	Park or Recreation/ Wilderness Area

## THE FINGER LAKES

Massive glaciers, with ice more than a mile thick, covered most of Upstate New York during the Ice Age (2 million to 6,000 years ago) and carved a series of deep north-south valleys. Today several of those glacial valleys are filled with water, forming long narrow lakes that look like fingers on a hand. The high ground between the lakes has good soil and a microclimate that encourages farming—first wheat and other grains, then apples, now grapes that are pressed to make the region’s wines.

Most of the Finger Lakes drain to the north. The two largest, Cayuga Lake and Seneca Lake, are connected to the Erie Canal and the rest of the maritime world by way of the Seneca River/Cayuga-Seneca Canal. Canal boats and steamers plied the lakes during the 1800s when the Chemung Canal connected the southern end of Seneca Lake to Elmira and the Pennsylvania coalfields and the Crooked Lake Canal linked Seneca and Keuka lakes.

Dramatic scenery, bucolic farmland, charming villages, great locally grown food, and beverages draw visitors to the Finger Lakes. Many of those sights and attractions are accessible from the water. Several wineries have docks and invite boaters to visit and sample.

**GENERAL PADDLING NOTES:** This is open water paddling—far more exposed than you’ll encounter on the canals. The Finger Lakes are long, narrow, and over 600 feet deep in some places. Waves can build rapidly, especially when the wind is out of the north or south and gets funneled between the hills. Most of the shoreline is privately owned and there are only a few public places to launch a boat or get off the water. Those sites are often on opposite sides of the lake. Plan your route, know your escape points, and keep an eye on the weather before heading out.

## SENECA LAKE

Seneca Lake, one of the longest of New York’s Finger Lakes, stretches 38 miles from Montour Falls and Watkins Glen in the south to its outlet at the head of the Seneca River near Geneva in the north. The lake’s surface covers 66.9 square miles and its maximum depth is 618 feet.

During the 1800s it was a major route for maritime commerce and its bottom is dotted with shipwrecks, including dozens of canal boats. Canal boats on the Chemung Canal carried fuel from the coal fields of Pennsylvania to Seneca Lake and on to the industrial cities across upstate New York. The Crooked Lake Canal carried produce from

the rich farmlands along Keuka Lake. Both of those waterways closed during the 1870s but the Cayuga-Seneca Canal still provides a vital link between Seneca Lake and the connected navigable waterways of eastern North America.

**PADDLING NOTE:** Wind and weather can rapidly change Seneca Lake from placid to dangerous. The bottom is littered with shipwrecks—canal boats, steamers, schooners, and pleasure craft. Much of the shoreline is privately owned and public access points are far apart. It is beautiful country but pay heed to the weather forecast before heading out.



## MONTOUR FALLS

Montour Falls is the southernmost point on today's New York State Canal System. From 1833 to 1878 it also marked the northern end of the Chemung Canal—a waterway that carried coal and lumber from northern Pennsylvania to growing industrial cities along New York's canals. It stands on the site of the Seneca Indian village of Queanettquaga that was destroyed in 1799 as part of the Sullivan-Clinton scorched-earth campaign of the American Revolution. Incoming settlers named it Mills Landing, then Havana, before it was renamed Montour Falls in 1895 after Queen Catherine Montour, a Seneca leader who lived there and led the village before the war.

Seneca Lake Mile 54.1      42.35361 -76.85271

### **Montour Falls Marina & Campground**

Marina Park  
97 Marina Drive  
Montour Falls, NY 14865  
(607) 210-4124  
[villageofmontourfalls.com/municipal-marina-campground.html](http://villageofmontourfalls.com/municipal-marina-campground.html)

**FACILITIES:** A municipal marina and campground/RV park with nearly 100 finger docks along the east bank of the old Chemung Canal. Concrete launch near marina office (fee), informal bank launch at bridge over Catherine Creek about 0.25 mile north. Powerboat and paddlecraft rentals by Geiger's Marine Services: [geigersmarine.com](http://geigersmarine.com)

## WATKINS GLEN

Watkins Glen is at the south end of Seneca Lake. It was an important transshipment point between Chemung Canal boats and railroad cars carrying coal and lumber from northern Pennsylvania to towns and factories across upstate New York. Salt production was also important and remains so today. Hot water is injected into the ground to dissolve underground salt veins and the resulting brine is pumped to the surface and evaporated. Two salt plants still operate at the southern end of Seneca Lake. Watkins Glen State Park, with its dramatic 400-foot-deep gorge, 19 waterfalls, pathways and footbridges is at the southern end of the village. Watkins Glen International motor speedway is on the hill southeast of town.

### **PADDLECRAFT RENTALS**

42.38779 -76.85745

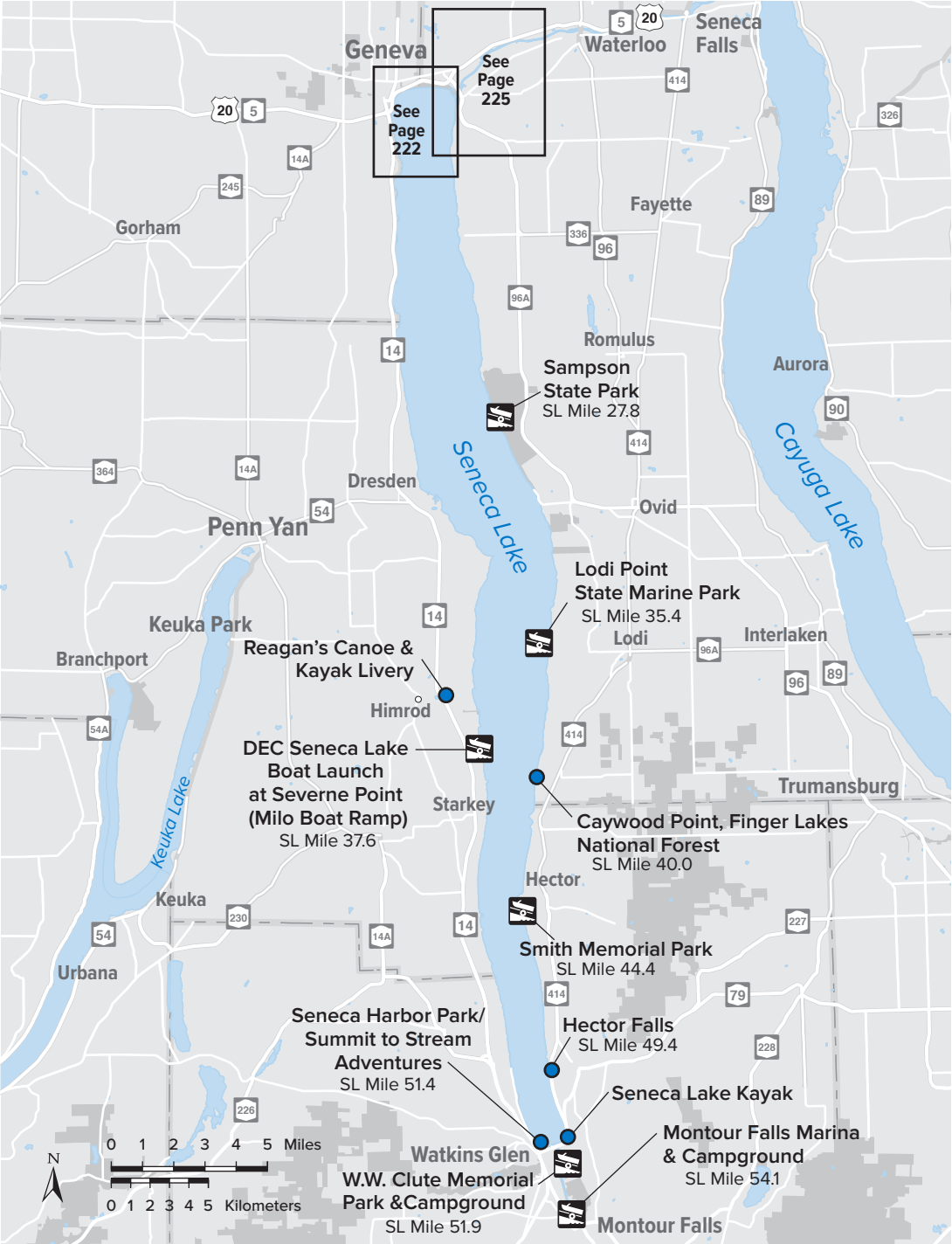
#### **Seneca Lake Kayak**

Watkins Glen, NY 14891  
(845) 489-7884  
[senecalakekayak.com](http://senecalakekayak.com)

42.38402 -76.87415

#### **Summit to Stream Adventures**

2 Seneca Harbor  
Watkins Glen, NY 14891  
(607) 535-2701  
[summittostream.com](http://summittostream.com)



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Seneca Lake Mile 51.4	42.38398 -76.87280
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Seneca Harbor Park is a base for several tour boats and has a pier with great views up the lake. Kayak and paddleboard rentals, lessons, and guided tours by Summit to Stream Adventures: [summittostream.com](http://summittostream.com)

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Seneca Lake Mile 51.9	42.38268 -76.86078
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 **W.W. Clute Memorial Park and Campground**

155 S. Clute Park Drive (office)  
Watkins Glen, NY 14891  
(607) 535-4438  
[watkinsglen.us](http://watkinsglen.us)

Clute Park is at the southern end of Seneca Lake, spanning both sides of Rt. 414 on the east side of Watkins Glen.

**FACILITIES, NORTH SIDE:** Swimming beach with bathhouse and showers, the new Seneca Lake Events Center, skate park, picnic shelter and tables, day-use parking, accessible trails, and great views up the lake.

**FACILITIES, SOUTH SIDE (along the old Chemung Canal):** Paved launch ramp (fee), seasonal kayak storage, restrooms, showers, tent and RV camping.

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Seneca Lake Mile 49.4	42.41825 -76-86775
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Hector Falls  
You can paddle from Seneca Lake to a pool at the base of Hector Falls, a 165-foot staircase cascade that has long fascinated motorists travelling route 414.

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Seneca Lake Mile 44.4	42.48909 -76.88625
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 **Smith Memorial Park**

5303 Park Avenue  
Hector, NY 14841  
(607) 546-4467  
[smithmemorialpark.com](http://smithmemorialpark.com)

A 92-acre park on the east shore of Seneca Lake, operated by the town of Hector

**FACILITIES:** Launch ramp at the south end of the park (fee), swimming beach at the north end, toilets, showers, picnic pavilions, tent and RV campsites.

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Seneca Lake Mile 40.0	42.55140 -76.88216
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**Caywood Point, Finger Lakes National Forest**

9772 Mam Road  
Hector, NY 14841  
(607) 546-4470

A landing on the east side of Seneca Lake.

**FACILITIES:** Gravel beach, picnic tables, informal tent camping allowed.

**NOTE:** This is a good spot to land and rest or camp but is not suitable for launch or take-out.

The hip-roofed building with broad overhanging eaves is the “Queen’s Castle” (1899)—the last surviving building of Camp Fossenvue, established in 1875 by suffragist Elizabeth Smith Miller, her daughter, and friends as an informal, lakeside summer retreat where liberally minded young women could indulge in a variety of intellectual, physical, and recreational activities.

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Seneca Lake Mile 37.6	42.58500 -76.91689
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 **DEC Seneca Lake Boat Launch at Severne Point (Milo Boat Ramp)**

195 Severne Road  
Himrod, NY 14842  
West side of Seneca Lake

**FACILITIES:** Concrete ramp, parking for 30 cars and trailers

**PADDLECRAFT RENTALS**

42.59045 -76.94069

**Reagan's Canoe & Kayak Livery**

440 Hall Road  
Himrod, NY 14842  
(607) 342-6940 or (607) 243-9100  
reaganskayak.com

Seneca Lake Mile 35.4      42.61788 -76.87694

 **Lodi Point State Marine Park**

East side of Seneca Lake at Lodi Point  
8403 Old Lake Road  
Lodi, NY 14860  
(315) 585-6392

**FACILITIES:** Two-lane concrete ramp, gravel beach landing, restrooms, picnic pavilion and tables, playground, parking for 60+ cars and trailers, vehicle entry fee, operated by NYS OPRHP.

**DRESDEN**

Keuka Lake Outlet and the Crooked Lake Canal (1833-1877) empty into the west side of Seneca Lake at Dresden, just north of the large brick powerplant that is visible from the lake. Massive twin barges with a towering crane, moored about a mile offshore, are part of the US Navy Undersea Warfare Center's Seneca Lake Sonar Test Facility where sensing equipment is tested and calibrated in the lake's deep waters. Submarine components and large equipment are shipped to and from this facility via New York's Erie and Cayuga-Seneca canals. Keep clear—the mid-lake barge and shoreside facilities in Dresden are off-limits to the public.

Seneca Lake Mile 27.8      42.72526 -76.91275

 **Sampson State Park**

6096 Route 96A  
Romulus, NY 14541  
(315) 585-6392  
parks.ny.gov/parks/154/

A 2,000 acre park on the east shore of Seneca Lake.

**FACILITIES:** Multi-lane concrete boat ramp, 96 slip marina protected by breakwater, swimming beach, restrooms, showers, camping, cabin rentals, picnic pavilions, playing fields, visitor center/museum.

Named for Rear Admiral William T. Sampson, who was born in nearby Palmyra, the site served as Sampson Naval Training Station during World War II and Sampson Air Force Base during the Korean Conflict. More than 411,000 Navy recruits got their basic training here, followed by 16,000 Air Force recruits. Between the wars its facilities were used as a temporary college campus for 15,000 GI Bill students. It became a state park in 1960.

## GENEVA

Geneva rose at the northern end of Seneca Lake. It is at the head of the Cayuga-Seneca Canal, which connects the Finger Lakes to the Erie Canal, Great Lakes, and Atlantic Ocean. The canal had a significant impact on both agriculture and manufacturing and helped to fuel the city's growth and wealth. Today, Geneva is a major tourism hub offering a wide range of activities, including art and music. The best place to launch is at the Finger Lakes Welcome Center.

### PLACES OF INTEREST OFF THE WATER

42.86712 -76.98402

#### **Smith Opera House**

82 Seneca Street  
Geneva, NY 14456  
(315) 781-5483  
thesmith.org

42.86210 -76.98298

#### **Geneva Historical Society Museum**

543 South Main Street  
Geneva, NY 14456  
(315) 789-5151  
genevahistoricalsociety.com

Located in the 1829 Prouty-Chew House.

42.86128 -76.93707

#### **Rose Hill Mansion**

3373 Route 96A  
Geneva, NY 14456  
(315) 789-3848  
genevahistoricalsociety.com

This is a National Historic Landmark.

42.85499 -76.93315

#### **Johnston House**

3523 East Lake Road  
Geneva, NY 14456  
(315) 789-5151  
genevahistoricalsociety.com

### PADDLECRAFT RENTALS

42.81297 -76.97614

#### **Roy's Marina**

4398 Clarks Point  
Geneva, NY 14456  
(315) 789-3094  
roysmarina.net

42.86934 -76.93818

#### **Finger Lakes Water Adventures**

Stivers Seneca Marine  
401 Boody's Hill Road  
Waterloo, NY 13165  
(315) 789-5220  
fingerlakeswateradventures.com

### GUIDED TOURS

#### **Kayak Time Guided Tours**

Geneva  
(315) 670-7134  
kayaktimetours.com



**LODGING**

42.84847 -76.97959

 **Geneva on the Lake**

1001 Lochland Road  
 Geneva, NY 14456  
 (315) 789-7190  
[genevaonthelake.com](http://genevaonthelake.com)

Dedicated dock is 700 feet from hotel.

42.87048 -76.97965

**Hampton Inn Geneva**

43 Lake Street  
 Geneva, NY 14456  
 (315) 781-2035  
[hamptoninn3.hilton.com](http://hamptoninn3.hilton.com)

The hotel is about 0.4 mile from the Geneva waterfront docks.

42.86646 -76.97952

 **41 Lakefront Hotel by Wyndham Lakefront Resort**

41 Lake Front Drive  
 Geneva, NY 14456  
 (315) 789-0400  
[wyndhamhotels.com](http://wyndhamhotels.com)

The hotel has its own dock and is about 300 feet from the Geneva waterfront docks.

CS Mile 17.84, west shore 42.87007 -76.97710

 **Geneva Waterfront**

Geneva, NY 14456  
 (315) 789-7271  
[downtowngeneva.org/lakefront](http://downtowngeneva.org/lakefront)

**FACILITIES:** Lakeshore boardwalk, seawall seating areas, and docking facilities. The shops, restaurants, and attractions of Geneva

are only a few blocks away. Long Pier and the Long Pier Ice Cream are at the south end of the boardwalk.

 **Finger Lakes Welcome Center**

35 Lake Front Drive  
 Geneva, NY 14456  
 (315) 787-0007  
<https://taste.ny.gov/location/finger-lakes-welcome-center>

**FACILITIES:** Electric, wi-fi, water, restrooms. Ramp, fixed and floating docks. Ample parking. Finger Lakes Welcome Center with Taste NY market, café, wine-tasting bar, seasonal farmers' market, information kiosk, playground.

**PADDLING NOTES:** The two-lane ramp on the east side of the Welcome Center can get very busy. Some paddlers prefer to launch from the gravel beach on the west side of the center. There is often a lot of powerboat activity at this end of the lake and winds out of the south can produce some big waves. Be aware and exercise good judgment when paddling.

CS Mile 17.50, east shore 42.87266 -76.94501

 **Seneca Lake State Park**

1 Lakefront Drive (park headquarters)  
 Geneva NY 14456  
 (315) 789-2331  
[parks.ny.gov](http://parks.ny.gov)

Seneca Lake State Park covers 141 acres across the northern shore of the lake. It is a day-use park that features a swimming beach, picnic pavilions, restrooms, a marina with boat ramp on the old Cayuga-Seneca Canal, and a hand-launch area at the lake outlet.

**FACILITIES:** Electric, water, restrooms, showers, picnic tables, grills, pavilions. Ramp. Parking for 100 cars; overnight parking permitted. General admission fee for cars. No camping.

**PADDLING NOTES:** Watch out for the buoys marking the swimming area and powerboat traffic around the outlet.

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CS Mile 17.10	42.86652 -76.94309
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Seneca Lake Outlet/Head of the Seneca River and Cayuga-Seneca Canal  
There is a low breakwater and red buoy #134 on the left (NW) side of Seneca Lake Outlet and the docks, the mooring field of Seneca Yacht Club on the right, and often a lot of motorboat traffic to and from marinas along the upper Seneca River.

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CS Mile 17.10	42.86843 -76.94074
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There is an informal beach landing with storage racks for paddle craft at the shore end of the breakwater near the flagpole.

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CS Mile 17.08, south side	42.86857 -76.93905
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### **Stivers Seneca Marine**

401 Boodys Hill Road  
Waterloo, NY 13165  
(315) 789-5520  
stiverssenecamarine.com

**FACILITIES:** Electric, water, restrooms, showers, Tiki Bar. Paddlecraft rentals and boat cruises through Finger Lakes Water Adventures. Concrete ramp, floating dock.

Large private marina.

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CS Mile 17.0, north side	42.87206 -76.94229
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### **Seneca Lake State Park Boat Launch/ Marina**

100 Waterloo-Geneva Road  
Geneva NY 14456  
(315) 789-2331  
parks.ny.gov

**FACILITIES:** Two-lane concrete ramp with fixed docks, ample parking, restrooms, playground, and swimming beach nearby.

**PADDLING NOTE:** The ramp is on a portion of the old Cayuga-Seneca Canal, about a quarter mile northwest of today's main channel.

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Mile 17.02	42.87071 -76.93807
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Bridge S14, FGLK railroad

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Mile 17.00	42.87106 -76.93786
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Bridge S13A, NY 96A

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Mile 16.95	42.87162 -76.93759
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Bridge S13, former railroad bridge, now used by the Cayuga-Seneca Canal Trail

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Mile 16.91	42.87237 -76.93744
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Bridge S12, gas pipelines

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CS Mile 16.69, south side	42.87406 -76.93611
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### **Barrett Marine**

485 West River Road  
Waterloo, NY 13165  
(315) 789-6605  
barrett-marine.com

**FACILITIES:** Electric, water, restrooms, showers. Concrete ramp, beach landing at western end on the canal, past the inlet. Large private marina.

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CS Mile 16.40, north side	42.87857 -76.93382
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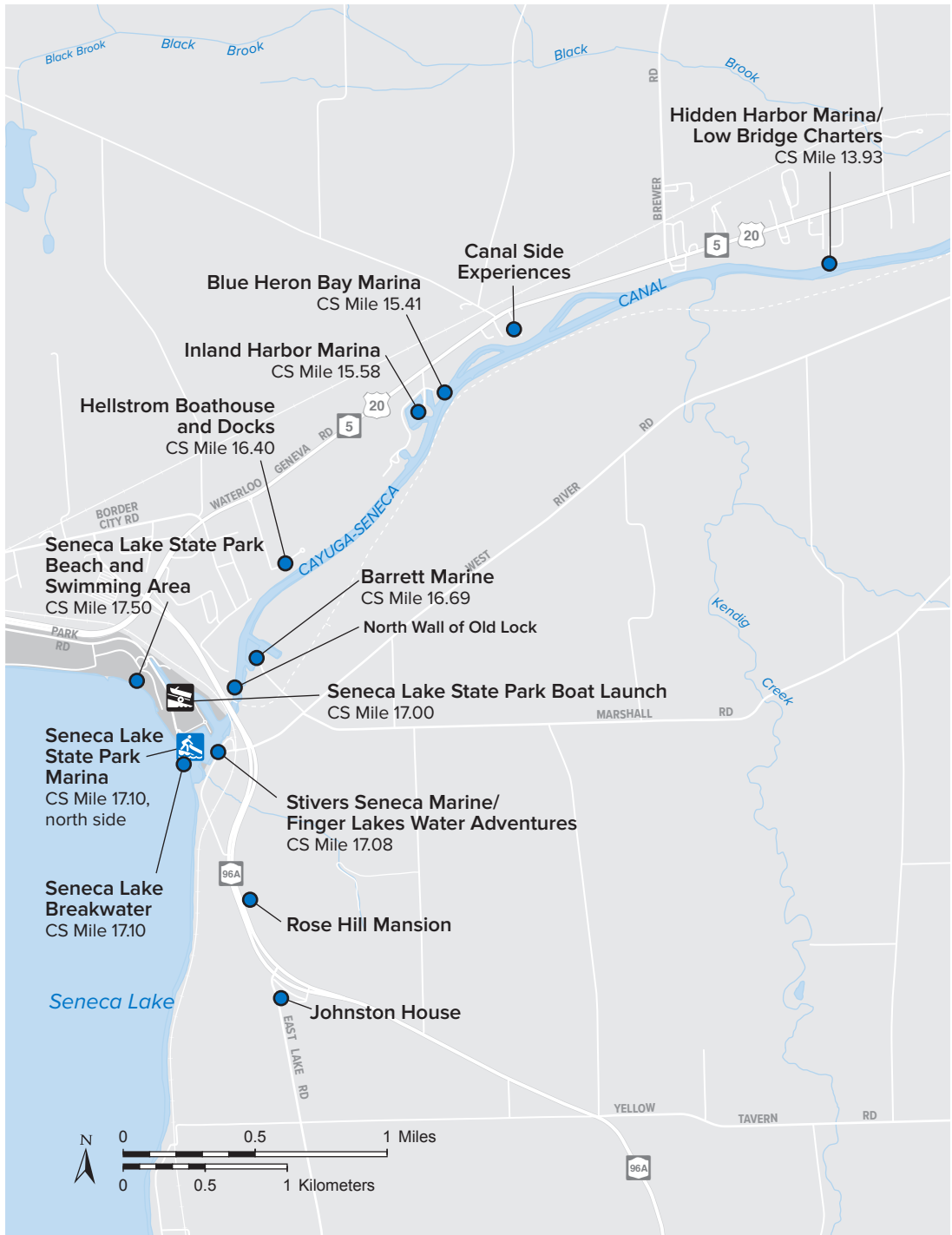
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### **Hellstrom Boathouse and Docks**

470 Blue Heron Lane  
Waterloo, NY 13165

Base for the Hobart and William Smith Colleges rowing teams—NOT open to the public.

**PADDLING NOTE:** Watch out for rowing shells and coaching boats between Seneca Lake and Lock CS4 in Waterloo. They have the right of way.



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CS Mile 15.58, north side    42.88777 -76.92447

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**Inland Harbor Marina**

608 Waterloo-Geneva Road  
Waterloo, NY 13165  
(315) 789-7255  
inlandharborwaterloo.com

**FACILITIES:** Electric, water, restrooms, showers. Ramp, docks.

Large private marina.

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CS Mile 15.41, north side    42.88887 -76.92254

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**Blue Heron Bay Marina**

634-638 Waterloo-Geneva Road  
Waterloo, NY 13165  
(585) 328-7850  
blueheronbaymarina.com

**FACILITIES:** Electric, water, restrooms, showers. Ramp, docks.

Private marina.

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CS Mile 13.93, north side    42.89642 -76.89404

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**Hidden Harbor Marina**

1076 Waterloo-Geneva Road  
Waterloo, NY 13165  
(585) 944-1764

**FACILITIES:** Electric, water, restrooms. Docks. Low Bridge Charters are based here.

Private marina.

**WATERWAY CRUISES**

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42.86934 -76.93818

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**Finger Lakes Water Adventures**

401 Boodys Hill Road  
Waterloo, NY 13165  
(315) 789-5520  
fingerlakeswateradventures.com

# WATERLOO

The Village of Waterloo is the birthplace of the Memorial Day holiday. The first Memorial Day was held here in 1866 to honor the Civil War dead. Memorial Day became an official federal holiday in 1971. Today, Waterloo holds a three-day annual event called Celebrate Commemorate Memorial Day every May.

Waterloo residents were active in 19th Century the social reform movements. Several houses in the village were stops on the Underground Railroad. Some of the planning for the first women's right convention, held in Seneca Falls in 1848, took place here in the home of Quakers and activists Thomas and Mary Ann M'Clintock. The women drafted the Declaration of Sentiments to be presented at the convention while seated around a mahogany tea table in the front parlor. That table is now on display at the Smithsonian Institution. The M'Clintock House and the nearby Hunt House, where additional planning took place, are now part of the Women's Rights National Historical Park. Contact the park for hours.

The best place to launch in Waterloo is Oak Island Park, located just upstream from Lock CS4.

**LODGING**

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42.90490 -76.86483

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**The Gridley Inn**

36 West Main Street  
Waterloo, NY 13165  
(315) 539-5192  
thegridleyinn.com

## PLACES OF INTEREST OFF THE WATER

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42.90545 -76.86167

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### **M'Clintock House**

14 East Williams Street  
Waterloo, NY 13165  
(315) 568-0024  
[nps.gov/wori](https://www.nps.gov/wori)

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42.90230 -76.84433

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### **Hunt House**

401 East Main Street  
Waterloo, NY 13165  
(315) 568-2991  
[nps.gov/wori](https://www.nps.gov/wori)

## PADDLECRAFT RENTALS

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42.89242 -76.91747

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### **Canal Side Experiences**

706 Waterloo-Geneva Road  
Waterloo, NY 13165  
(315) 781-6682  
[canalsideexperiences.com](https://www.canalsideexperiences.com)

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42.86934 -76.93818

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### **Finger Lakes Water Adventures**

Stivers Seneca Marine  
401 Boody's Hill Road  
Waterloo, NY 13165  
(315) 789-5520  
[fingerlakeswateradventures.com](https://www.fingerlakeswateradventures.com)

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42.90123 -76.88085

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### **Waterloo Harbor Canoe & Kayak Company**

1278 Waterloo-Geneva Road  
Waterloo, NY 13165  
(315) 539-8848  
[paddlewaterloo.com](https://www.paddlewaterloo.com)  
  
Located at Waterloo Harbor Campground

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CS Mile 13.05, north side 42.90083 -76.88013

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### **Waterloo Harbor Campground**

1278 Waterloo-Geneva Road  
Waterloo, NY 13165  
(315) 539-8848  
[waterlooharbor.com](https://www.waterlooharbor.com)

**FACILITIES:** Electric, water, restrooms. Follow the sidecut about 250 yards to the marina.

Private campground/RV park with dedicated ramp and docks.

Paddlecraft sales and rentals from Waterloo Harbor Canoe & Kayak Company.

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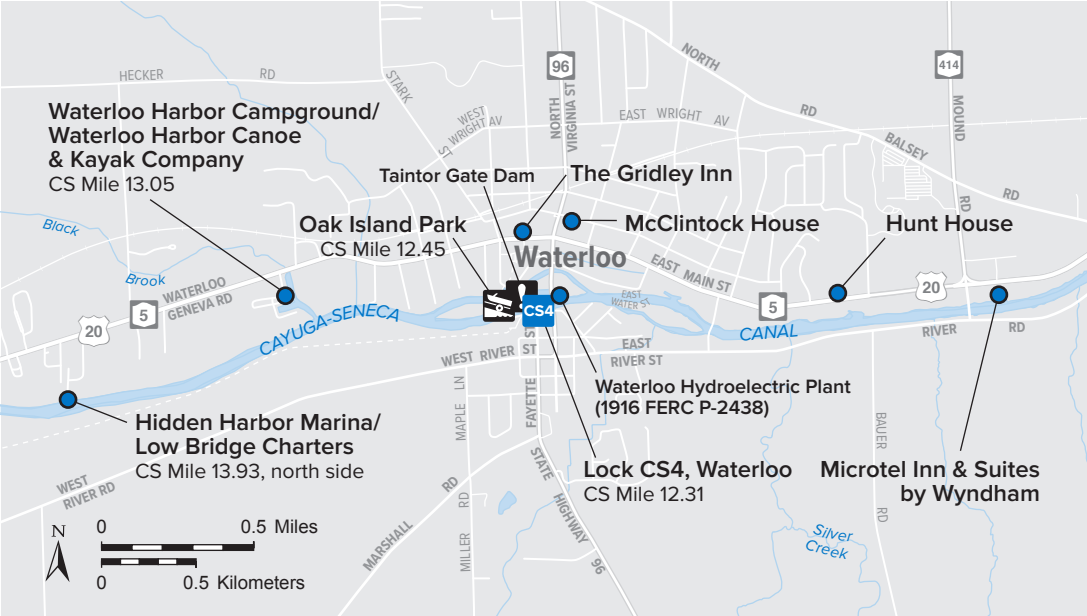
CS Mile 12.45, north side 42.90133 -76.86627

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### **Oak Island Park**

1 Oak Street  
Waterloo, NY 13165  
(315) 539-9131  
[waterloony.com](https://www.waterloony.com)

**FACILITIES:** Electric, water, restrooms, showers, two pavilions. Floating dock, concrete ramp, ample parking. Shops and restaurants in Waterloo are within easy walking distance of the park.



CS Mile 12.31                      42.90123 -76.86375

**Lock CS4, Waterloo**

50 Washington Street  
Waterloo, NY 13165  
(315) 539-3242  
LIFT: 14.5 feet.

**FACILITIES:** Facilities are difficult for paddlers to access at this location due to vertical canal walls. Use Oak Island Park, just upstream.

The American Civil War Memorial on the north side of the lock commemorates the 58 men of Waterloo who died in the Civil War (1861-1865) and recognizes all the soldiers and sailors who gave their lives in the conflict.

**PADDLING NOTE:** Movable Taintor gates that feed water into a hydroelectric plant on the north side of the lock can produce unpredictable currents. Water exiting the powerplant tailrace can cause turbulence below. Exercise caution.

CS Mile 12.26                      42.90139 -76.86276

Bridge S11, Washington Street (NY 96)

CS Mile 11.71                      42.90048 -76.85250

Bridge S10, Gorham Street—Closed to traffic

CS Mile 10.85                      42.90168 -76.83578

Bridge S9, Mound Road (River Road connector)

CS Mile 9.16                      42.90892 -76.80591

Bridge S8, Rumsey Street (Veterans Memorial Bridge)

## SENECA FALLS



*National Women's Hall of Fame and Seneca Knitting Mill, Seneca Falls*

The historic village of Seneca Falls is a good example of how canals brought industry and social change together during the 19th century. Seneca Falls was a major industrial center, with factories that made pumps and fire engines, textiles, and a wide range of iron products. The elegant houses of Seneca Falls reflect the prosperity generated by manufacturing and canal transportation. Seneca Falls was also a center for social reform. The Abolitionist movement and the Underground Railroad were strong forces; so was the Temperance movement. The movement for women's rights, however, is the most recognized part of Seneca Falls' history.

On July 19 and 20, 1848 the first Convention on Women's Rights was held at the Wesleyan Chapel on Fall Street in Seneca Falls. Organized by Jane Hunt, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Mary Ann M'Clintock and others, it was the birthplace of the Women's Rights Movement.

Today the Elizabeth Cady Stanton House, the Wesleyan Chapel, and other sites are part of the Women's Rights National Historic Park.

Seneca Falls hosts Women's Rights Convention Days in July. Seneca Falls is an excellent starting or ending point for a paddling trip, with great places of interest, accommodations, and amenities.

## PLACES OF INTEREST OFF THE WATER

42.91042 -76.79539

### **It's a Wonderful Life Museum**

76 Fall Street  
Seneca Falls, NY 13148  
(315) 568-5838  
wonderfullifemuseum.com

42.90839 -76.80872

### **Ludovico Sculpture Trail**

22 Bridge Street near West Bayard Street  
Seneca Falls NY 13148  
cnyhiking.com/ludovicotrail.htm

42.90914 -76.79943

### **National Women's Hall of Fame and Seneca Knitting Mill**

1 Canal Street  
Seneca Falls, NY 13148  
(315) 568-8060  
womenofthehall.org

42.91519 -76.79496

### **Seneca Falls Historical Society Museum**

55 Cayuga Street  
Seneca Falls, NY 13148  
(315) 568-8412  
sfhistoricalsociety.org

42.91006 -76.79780

### **Seneca Museum of Waterways and Industry**

89 Fall Street  
Seneca Falls, NY 13148  
(315) 568-1510  
senecamuseum.com

42.91025 -76.79449

### **Trinity Episcopal Church**

27 Fall Street  
Seneca Falls, NY 13148  
(315) 568-5145  
trinitychurchsenecafallsny.com

42.91078 -76.80014

### **Women's Rights National Historical Park**

136 Fall Street (Visitor Center)  
Seneca Falls, NY 13148  
(315) 568-0024  
nps.gov/wori

## LODGING

42.91480 -76.79395

### **Barrister's Bed & Breakfast**

56 Cayuga Street  
Seneca Falls, NY 13148  
(800) 914-0145  
sleepbarristers.com

42.91074 -76.79889

### **The Gould Hotel**

108 Fall Street  
Seneca Falls, NY 13148  
(315) 712-4000  
thegouldhotel.com

42.90240 -76.83389

### **Microtel Inn & Suites by Wyndham Seneca Falls**

NY 5 and US 20  
Seneca Falls, NY 13148  
(315) 539-8438




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CS Mile 8.99, north side      42.90960 -76.80261

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### **Seneca Falls Boat Ramp**

Behind the Seneca Falls Community Center  
at 35 Water Street  
Seneca Falls, NY 13148

**FACILITIES:** Fixed dock and concrete ramp. No camping. Parking for 20 cars. A skate-board park is just to the west of the dock area. Use the facilities at nearby Seneca Falls Canal Harbor.

Stonework of a 19th century Cayuga-Seneca Canal guard lock supports the “Welcome to Seneca Falls” sign near the ramp.

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CS Mile 8.90      42.90939 -76.80082

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### Bridge S7, Bridge Street

This is said to be the model for the bridge in the movie “It’s A Wonderful Life.” The Village

of Bedford Falls in the movie is said to be based on the village of Seneca Falls. A plaque on the bridge commemorates its role. A pedestrian walkway is on the east side.

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CS Mile 8.84, south side      42.90923 -76.79945

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### **Seneca Knitting Mill/National Women’s Hall of Fame**

1 Canal Street  
Seneca Falls, NY 13148  
(315) 568-8060

**FACILITIES:** Fixed dock, parking for 20 cars.

The stone building on the north bank of the canal originally housed the Seneca Knitting Mill. It is now home to the National Women’s Hall of Fame. The stonework of one wall of old Cayuga-Seneca Lock 5 serves as a canal retaining wall nearby.

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CS Mile 8.74, both sides      42.90974 -76.79692

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 **Seneca Falls Canal Harbor**

89 Fall Street  
Seneca Falls, NY 13148  
(315) 246-3231  
senecafalls.com

**FACILITIES:** Electric, water. Floating dock, 400 feet of bulkhead.

The harbor is on both sides of the canal between the Ovid Street and the Bridge Street bridges. There are low docks near the bandstand on the north side and the Seneca Knitting Mill/National Women’s Hall of Fame on the south side. Shops, restaurants, historic sites, and most attractions are at the harbor or a short walk away. Ample parking, but the lots can get crowded during the summer.

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CS Mile 8.74, north side      42.91006 -76.79780

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**Seneca Falls Visitor Center**

89 Fall Street  
Seneca Falls, NY 13148  
(315) 568-1510  
senecafalls.com

**FACILITIES:** Restrooms, showers, laundry, and other boater amenities.

Accessible from the docks at Seneca Falls Canal Harbor or by a short walk from the ramp behind the Community Center, this is a good starting point to explore Seneca Falls. Exhibits explain village and canal history, staff answer questions and provide referrals and information about local attractions.

**HOURS:** September through May, Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. June through August, Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. Closed Sunday and Monday January to March.

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CS Mile 8.65      42.90939 -76.79592

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Bridge S6, Ovid Street (NY 414)

**Van Cleef Lake**

The broad flatwater area was formed in 1915 when canal builders began filling the pond behind the newly completed dam at Barge Canal locks CS2-3, inundating the rapids and waterfalls that gave the village its name and an industrial and working-class residential area called “The Flats.” Manufacturers relocated and some houses were hauled to higher ground but today’s placid and often photographed waters look very different than the way the area looked during the 1800s.

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CS Mile 8.01      42.91467 -76.78663

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 **Locks CS2-CS3, Seneca Falls**

9 Seneca Street  
Seneca Falls, NY 13148  
(315) 568-5797

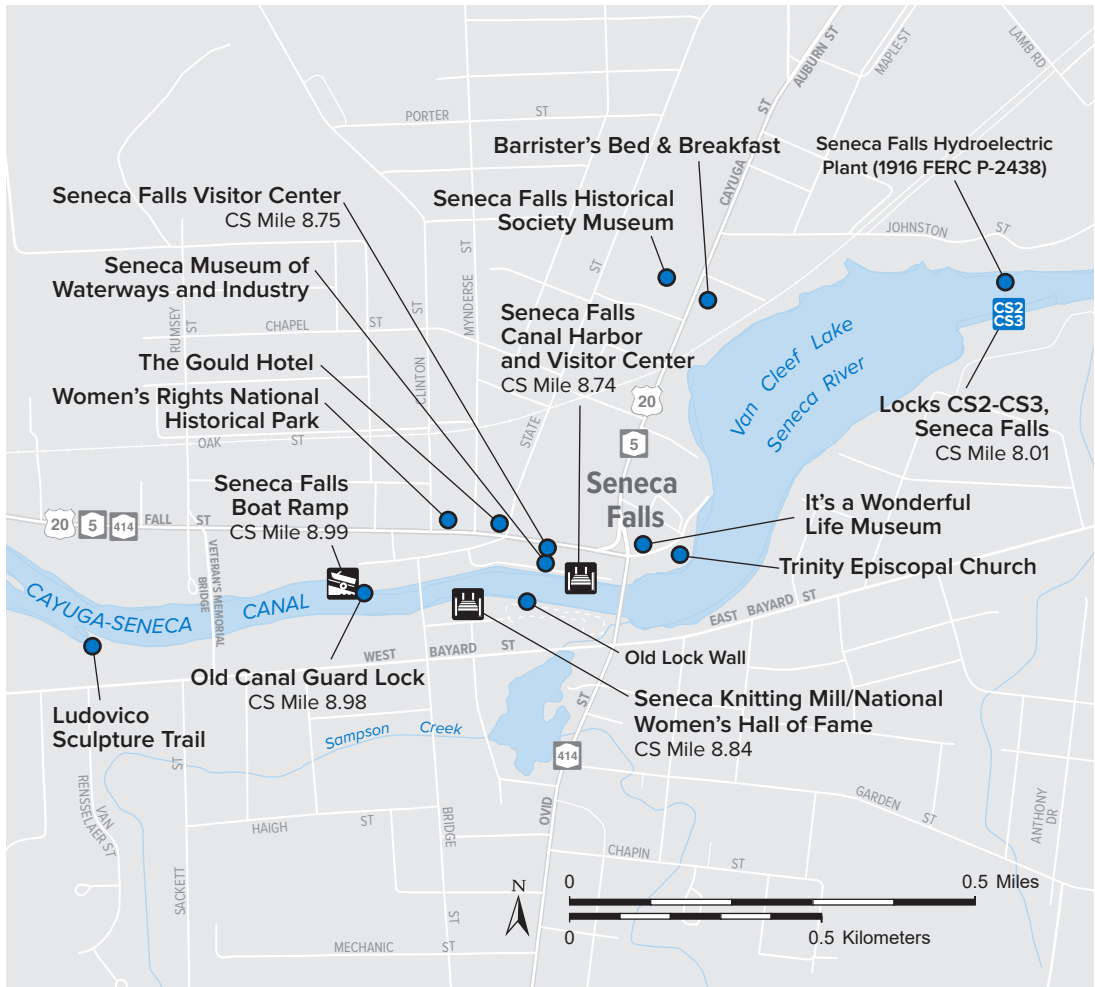
**LIFT:** 24.5 feet each; combined lift 49 feet.

**FACILITIES:** Portable toilets, camping. A floating dock is at the upstream end on the south side, near the lockhouse. The Elizabeth Cady Stanton House, part of Women’s Rights National Historical Park, is a 700-foot walk from the dock.

**PADDLING NOTE:** Water released below the lock through the tailrace of the hydroelectric plant on the north bank can cause cross-currents and turbulence. Be aware.

Designated Biker-Hiker-Boater site.

These two locks form a tandem staircase lock. They replace five locks and canal segments that ran along the south bank of the river, under what is now Van Cleef Lake. The upper gates of Lock CS2 are the lower gates of CS3. The only other ones like this on the New York system are Locks E35 and E34



in Lockport at the western end of the Erie Canal. A foot-bridge crosses the canal just below the gates between the two chambers and provides an excellent vantage point to watch passing boats.

CS Mile 5.99	42.93729 -76.76538
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Bridge S4, Finger Lakes Railway (FGLK)  
The FGLK is a short-line freight railroad with 167 miles of track serving six counties in the Finger Lakes region.

CS Mile 5.70	42.93912 -76.76081
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Bridge S3 (NY 89)

CS Mile 4.20	42.94476 -76.73433
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The Red-Green “CS” buoy marks the point where Cayuga Lake Outlet comes in from the south and the Seneca River/Cayuga-Seneca Canal bears off to the north.

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CS Mile 4.04 42.94798 -76.73439

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**Lock CS1, Cayuga**

6869 River Road  
Cayuga, NY 13034  
(315) 253-7523  
LIFT: 7.5 feet.

**FACILITIES:** Use the boat ramp at the southern end of the wall on the east side. Overnight parking is permitted.

**PADDLING NOTE:** During high flows turbulent water from the dam enters the canal about a half mile below the lock on the west side. Exercise caution.

This lock is popularly known as Mud Lock because it was built on the soft soil of the Montezuma marsh.

Designated Biker-Hiker-Boater site.

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CS Mile 3.03, west side 42.96204 -76.73874

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 **Seneca River Fishing Access Site  
(Montezuma Boat Ramp)**

US 20, opposite Montezuma NWR entrance  
Tyre, NY 13148

**FACILITIES:** Concrete ramp; seasonal floating dock. Parking for 10 cars. Overnight parking allowed; 24-hour limit. No camping.

DEC fishing access site.

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CS Mile 3.0 42.96297 -76.73795

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Bridge S1, Freebridge (US 20 and NY 5)

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CS Mile 2.53, west side 42.97023 -76.73712

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 **Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge  
Dock**

3395 US 20  
Tyre, NY 13148  
(315) 568-5987

**MONTEZUMA NATIONAL  
WILDLIFE REFUGE**

US 20  
Seneca Falls NY 13148  
(315) 568-5987  
[fws.gov/refuge/montezuma/](https://fws.gov/refuge/montezuma/)

The lower 5.5 miles of the Cayuga-Seneca Canal run along the edge of Montezuma NWR, from the NY 89 bridge and Lock CS-1 to the confluence with the Erie Canal. This 9,800-acre wetland complex is a premier waterfowl watching site. Warbler and songbird migration peaks in mid-May. Mid-September to mid-November is peak viewing of up to 50,000 Canada geese and 150,000 ducks. Watch for great blue herons, ospreys, eagles, and swallows all summer long.

**FACILITIES:** The Seneca Trail leads from floating dock to outdoor exhibits, wildlife observation tower, restrooms, and refuge visitor center. Follow it to the north and then west to reach wildlife viewing areas, including an observation tower (0.2 miles) overlooking the Main Pool of Lake Montezuma. Continue on the trail to reach restrooms (0.3 miles) and the visitor center and Lodge Nature Store (0.4 miles).

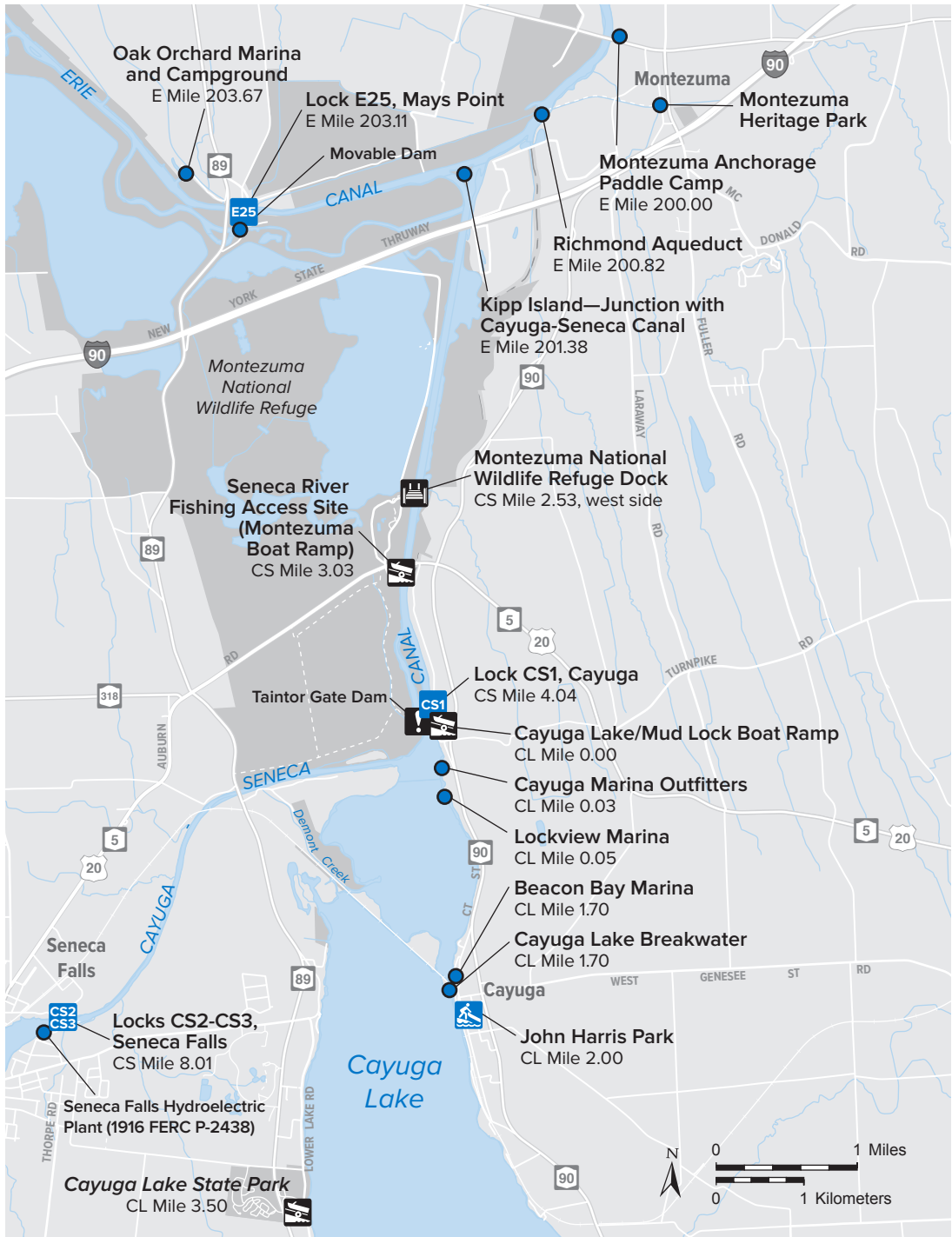
The refuge loop road is open to one-way vehicle traffic during daylight hours. Pedestrian and bicycle access is prohibited during certain times of the year to avoid disturbing nesting wildlife.

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CS Mile 0.5 42.99795 -76.73092

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Bridge S1A, New York State Thruway (I-90)



CS Mile 0.4 42.99942 -76.73150

The Clyde River enters the canal on the west bank, just north of the Thruway Bridge. It is possible to paddle about 1.9 miles upstream during low and moderate flow periods to a steep take-out on a riprap bank at the DEC Fishing Access Site off Rt 105A, the access road to Lock E25.

The western end of the Seneca River Crossing Canals Historic District begins here; the eastern end is in the Town of Montezuma. The district includes the Enlarged Erie Canal prism (dating 1849-1857) and remnants of the original Erie Canal. The district was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2005.

CS Mile 0.01 43.00288 -76.73192

### Kipp Island

This triangular island marks the junction of the Cayuga-Seneca and Erie canals.

**PADDLING NOTE:** Lock E25 is about 1.5 miles to the west. If you pass through the chamber during operating hours there is a take-out on a back channel above the lock. (See page 119 for description). Paddlers continuing downstream on the Seneca River portion of the Erie Canal will pass the ruins of the 1845 Richmond Aqueduct and can find an often-muddy informal pull-out below the Rt. 31 bridge about 1.3 miles downstream of the junction. The next public access site below that is the DEC Seneca River-Port Byron ramp about 7.6 miles below the junction.

## CAYUGA LAKE

Cayuga Lake is the longest Finger Lake, stretching nearly 39 miles from Ithaca in the south to its outlet near the Village of Cayuga in the north. It is slightly shallower (max depth 435 feet) and narrower (max width 3.5 miles) than Seneca Lake.

After years of work, paddlers and shore-side communities launched the Cayuga Lake Blueway Trail in 2021. The Blueway features 12 public launch sites, with more on the way. Their website describes about two dozen day trip itineraries for paddlers: [cayugalake.com/cayuga-lake-blueway-trail/](http://cayugalake.com/cayuga-lake-blueway-trail/)

### CANOE, KAYAK & PADDLEBOARD RENTALS ON CAYUGA LAKE

#### Cayuga Lake Boat Rentals

Drop-off at Dean's Cover Boat Launch,  
Romulus  
(315) 515-0077  
[cayugalakeboatrentals.com](http://cayugalakeboatrentals.com)

#### Paddledockers

321 Taughannock Blvd.  
Ithaca, NY 14850  
(607) 260-2037  
[paddledockers.com](http://paddledockers.com)

#### Paddle-N-More

Rental locations at Stewart Park, Ithaca;  
Taughannock Falls State Park,  
Trumansburg; Myers Point Park, Lansing  
(607) 288-3470  
[paddlenmore.com](http://paddlenmore.com)

## Ithaca

The city at the southern head of Cayuga Lake is home to Cornell University, Ithaca College, some great restaurants and ice cream places, and a terrific farmers market. It also has a long connection to New York's canal system. Canal boats, towed up and down the lake by steam tugs, hauled Tompkins County produce and the products of Ithaca manufacturers to market.

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Cayuga Lake Mile 37.9	42.45521 -76.5120
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### **Cass Park**

701 Taughannock Blvd.  
Ithaca, NY 14850  
(607) 273-1090  
casspark.org

**FACILITIES:** Dedicated paddlecraft launch with floating roller dock at north end of the park. Paddlecraft racks available for seasonal rental. Restrooms and showers at the Cass Park pool and ice rink, about 0.25 mile south of the launch and at Allan H. Treman State Marine Park, about an equal distance north. Ithaca Farmers' Market has a dock about 0.25 mile south of the Cass Park launch on the opposite bank of Cayuga Lake Inlet. It is not suitable for launch or take out but is a good place to stock-up if you're starting your paddle on a Saturday.

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Cayuga Lake Mile 37.8	42.45642 -76.51242
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### **Allan H. Treman State Marine Park**

805 Taughannock Blvd. (Rt 89)  
Ithaca, NY 14850  
(607) 272-1460 or (607) 273-3440  
parks.ny.gov/parks/allantreman/

**FACILITIES:** Eight-lane launch concrete ramp (fee), slips and docks for 430 boats, restrooms, showers, seasonal paddlecraft storage rack rentals.

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Cayuga Lake Mile 37.6	42.45973 -76.50774
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### **Stewart Park**

71 Stewart Park  
Ithaca, NY 14850  
(607) 319-4766  
cityofithaca.org/516/Stewart-Park  
friendsofstewartpark.org

**FACILITIES:** Dedicated hand-launch on Fall Creek, floating roller dock, restrooms, picnic pavilions and tables about 0.3 mile from launch, carousel, playground, athletic fields, bird sanctuary with trails. Kayak rentals through Paddle-n-More: paddlenmore.com

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Cayuga Lake Mile 37.0	42.47143 -76.50379
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### **East Shore Park (East side)**

1000 East Shore Drive  
Ithaca (Lansing), NY 14850

**FACILITIES:** Informal landing along rock wall shoreline, limited parking

## Lansing

The large buildings on the east side of the lake are headworks for the Cayuga Rock Salt Mine, which has been producing since 1921 and is now operated by Cargill. Most of its production is used for de-icing roads. Portions of the salt veins extend under the lake with over 600 feet of hard rock between the top of the mine and the bottom of the lake.

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Cayuga Lake Mile 31.9	42.53782 -76.54991
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### **Meyers Park (East side)**

1 Lansing Park Road  
Lansing, NY 14882  
(607) 441-6773  
lansingrec.com/parksrec/page/myers-park



**FACILITIES:** Dedicated hand-launch on Salmon Creek at north side of park, three-lane paved launch ramp (fee) and marina on south side, restrooms, showers, swimming beach, campsites, picnic pavilions, playground, seasonal paddlecraft storage rack rentals. Vehicle access fee for non-residents. Canoe and kayak rentals, lessons, and guides are available through Paddle-n-More: paddlenmore.com

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Cayuga Lake Mile 29.5      42.54591 -76.59526

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 **Taughannock Falls State Park (West side)**

Trumansburg, NY 14886  
(607) 387-6739

**FACILITIES:** Dedicated hand-launch with parking, beach landing and dock, restrooms, and kayak rentals on southeast side of Taughannock Point. Kayak rentals and guided trips by Paddle-N-More. Multi-lane launch ramp, docks, and marina basin at tip of point. Restrooms and cabin rentals, picnic pavilions and grills, trails to Taughannock Falls—a 216-foot drop in the middle of a 400-foot deep gorge.

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Cayuga Lake Mile 25.0      42.55184 -76.64290

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Milliken Generation Station (East side)  
The coal-fired electric generating station ceased production in 2019, after 64 years of operation, but the tall stacks and buildings remain a landmark, visible for miles up and down the lake.

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Cayuga Lake Mile 16.1      42.71514 -76.70876

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**Long Point State Park (East side)**

2063 Lake Road  
Aurora, NY 13206  
(315) 364-5637 or (315) 497-0130

**FACILITIES:** Hand-launch on gravel beach, four-lane concrete launching ramp behind

breakwater, restrooms, campsites and cabin rentals, playground, picnic tables, grills, and hiking trails.

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**Cayuga Lake Mile 13.7**

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**Aurora (East side)**

The Village of Aurora is home to Wells College, established as a women's college in 1868 by Henry Wells, a founder of the Wells Fargo Express Company. There are no public landings in the village.

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Cayuga Lake Mile 14.4      42.74487 -76.76798

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 **Dean's Cove State Boat Launch (West side)**

5761 State Route 89  
Romulus, NY 14541  
(315) 568-5163

**FACILITIES:** Multi-lane launch ramp (fee), parking. No other facilities. Powerboat, kayak, and paddleboard rentals by Cayuga Lake Boat Rentals.

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Cayuga Lake Mile 7.7      42.84231 -76.69658

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**Frontenac Park (East side)**

15 Creamery Road  
Union Springs, NY 13160  
(315) 889-7265  
unionspringsny.com/park/

**FACILITIES:** Municipal park with multi-lane launch ramp, beach landing (no swimming allowed), parking, picnic pavilions, playground and playing fields. Open sunrise to sunset.

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Cayuga Lake Mile 3.5      42.90025 -76.74948

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 **Cayuga Lake State Park (West side)**

2678 Lower Lake Road  
Seneca Falls, NY 13148  
(315) 568-5163  
parks.ny.gov

## Cayuga-Seneca Canal—Cayuga Lake

**FACILITIES:** Multi-lane launch ramp at north end of the park (fee), restrooms and showers (some housed in a handsome Civilian Conservation Corps-era Lodge), swimming beach, picnic pavilions, rental cabins with lake views, campground. Vehicle entrance fee in summer.

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Cayuga Lake Mile 2.00    42.917255   -76.729806

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 **John Harris Park Cayuga Lake Blueway**  
**Cayuga Village Hall (East side)**  
6205 Railroad Street  
Cayuga, NY 13034  
(315) 252-1707  
[villagecayugany.com/parks/](http://villagecayugany.com/parks/)

**FACILITIES:** Hand launch, restrooms, picnic tables, grills, swimming beach. Parking for 10 cars.

Cayuga Village Hall is housed in the former Finger Lakes Railway station, surrounded by parkland with a grassy beach hand-launch at the north end, a boardwalk along the lake-shore, and picnic tables. It's a great place to watch sunsets over Cayuga Lake.

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Cayuga Lake Mile 1.70    42.91905   -76.73154

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Cayuga Lake Breakwater  
The concrete breakwater and slab-on pier wharf is badly deteriorated. Steer clear until you're past the end.

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Cayuga Lake Mile 1.70    42.92051   -76.73065

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Finger Lakes Railway Bridge

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Cayuga Lake Mile 1.70    42.91995   -76.73172

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### **Beacon Bay Marina (East side)**

6255 Water Street  
Cayuga, NY 13034  
(315) 252-2849  
[beaconbaymarina.business.site](http://beaconbaymarina.business.site)

Private marina

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Cayuga Lake Mile 0.05    42.93944   -76.73274

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### **Lockview Marina (East side)**

6655 River Road (NY 90)  
Cayuga, NY 13034  
(315) 255-2936  
[lockviewmarina.com](http://lockviewmarina.com)

**FACILITIES:** Electric, water, restrooms, showers.

Private marina.

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Cayuga Lake Mile 0.03    42.94212   -76.73310

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### **Cayuga Marina Outfitters (East side)**

6721 River Road (NY 90)  
Cayuga, NY 13034  
(315) 252-5754  
[cayugamarinaoutfitters.com](http://cayugamarinaoutfitters.com)

**FACILITIES:** Electric, water, restrooms, showers. Boat launch.

Private marina with RV camping. Fee for parking and day use of boat ramp.

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Cayuga Lake Mile 0.00    42.94634   -76.73376

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### **Cayuga Lake—Mud Lock Boat Ramp (East side)**

136-198 River Road (NY 90)  
Cayuga, NY 13034

**FACILITIES:** Portable toilet, no camping. Twin Concrete ramps. Ample parking. Overnight parking allowed; call (315) 253-7523 for more information.

DEC fishing access site.