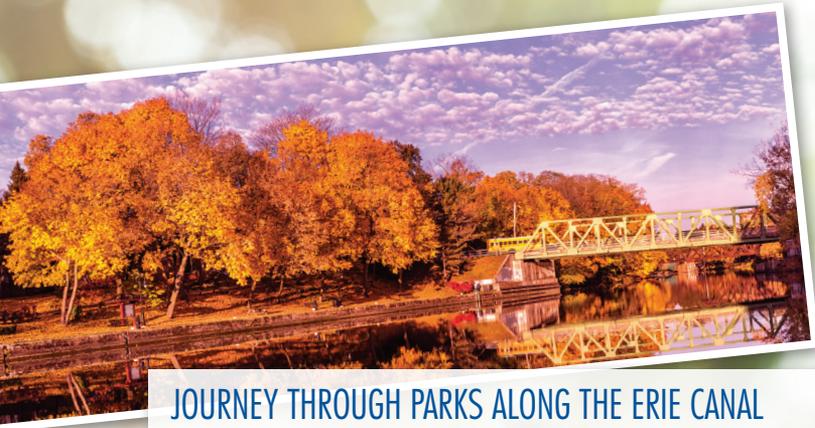




ALL-AMERICAN ADVENTURES



*New York State:
A Canal Runs Through It*



JOURNEY THROUGH PARKS ALONG THE ERIE CANAL



CONTENT WAS CREATED BY AAA IN COLLABORATION WITH THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



Before the days of railroads or automobiles, New York State rolled up its sleeves and started digging. In the words of a popular song, the Erie Canal connected “every inch of the way from Albany to Buffalo.” A ‘carrying place’ that had served six nations for centuries became an outpost for Europeans colonizing North America and then, a place where rebels stood their ground against an imperial army. Women gathered to proclaim to the world that they deserved the right to vote as much as any man. Our youngest president ever assumed office in a friend’s home after an assassination by an anarchist. Come share in an experience this history in a way that can only be found in New York, beginning in Niagara Falls.

- Feel the surging power of one of the largest waterfalls in the world, shared by two nations.
- Visit where a national tragedy at a world’s fair gave America one of its most influential presidents, who led the country into the Twentieth Century as a world power.
- Follow a highway of water, dug by countless men with shovels and sore backs, which brought prosperity to a new nation.
- Become inspired by the bravery of women in Victorian dresses who demanded nothing less than equality with men.
- Come to a fort located where native tribes traded for centuries and where the Continental Army repulsed a siege during the American Revolution.



Niagara Falls is one of the most dramatic waterfalls in the world. One-fifth of all the fresh water in the world is connected to this dramatic setting that has lured lovestruck couples and death-defying daredevils for centuries. Begin your travels with a visit to this iconic site and feel the power of the water.

Niagara Falls has its own National Heritage Area that includes one city, two towns, two villages, a host of parks, sites and attractions along the Niagara River. The "Falls to Fort" region offers the world-famous Niagara Falls, a variety of heritage tourism activities, quaint village shops and restaurants, a downtown tourism area and a variety of outdoor activities including boating, fishing and hiking. From the War of 1812 to its role as a nexus in the Underground Railroad and a catalyst of the hydroelectric power, Niagara has been and continues to be of critical importance.

NIAGARA-USA OFFICIAL VISITOR CENTER



NIAGARA-USA OFFICIAL VISITOR CENTER

10 Rainbow Boulevard
Niagara Falls, NY 14303
1-877-FALLS-US

www.niagara-usa.com
www.discoverniagara.org

FEE FREE SITE; The Niagara Falls National Heritage Area receives visitors year-round, however in the winter months some of our sites have limited hours or may be closed. The Discover Niagara Shuttle, our hop-on/hop-off transportation service, operates from Memorial Day until October, daily from 9:00 am until 7:00 pm.



Eight million people a year visit Niagara Falls State Park. At the oldest state park in the United States, designed by landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, people can experience the rush of Niagara's waters by strolling through the park, crossing idyllic bridges, or touring world class attractions like the Maid of the Mist and Cave of the Winds.

In nearby Youngstown, New York, Old Fort Niagara has dominated the entrance to the Niagara River since 1726. The fort played an important role in the struggles of France, Great Britain, and the United States to control the Great Lakes region of North America, and also helped shape the destinies of the Iroquois (Six Nations) peoples and the nation of Canada. Today Old Fort Niagara is a National Historic Landmark and New York State Historic Site. Find out more: www.oldfortniagara.org.



INSIDER TIP/The Discover Niagara Shuttle connects you with more than 12 destination sites along the 14-mile route from the "Falls to the Fort." Hop on, hop off. Park for free at Whirlpool State Park.

In fall of 2017, the Niagara Falls Underground Railroad Heritage Center will open its doors, and provide visitors with a world-class museum experience that preserves and promotes the stories of the Underground Railroad in Niagara Falls. Currently the Niagara Arts and Cultural Center tells the thrilling story of the Underground Railroad in Western New York through the Freedom Crossing Exhibit.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT INAUGURAL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

+ TRAVEL INFORMATION: 21 MILES, 31 MINUTES VIA INTERSTATE 190 SOUTH

Theodore Roosevelt brought excitement and vigor to the presidency. He preserved the environment, created protections for ordinary citizens, began regulation of big business, and made the US a major force in international affairs. Yet he began his presidency during a moment of national mourning—the murder of his predecessor, William McKinley, shot during Buffalo's Pan-American Exposition.

Roosevelt arrived in Buffalo and stayed with his friend Ansley Wilcox. In this home a brief, emotional, improvised ceremony began an energetic, powerful presidency. Here you can follow in the footsteps of our 26th President: hear his thoughts about the challenges confronting the nation, and learn how he left an indelible mark upon the nation.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT INAUGURAL NHS



THEODORE ROOSEVELT INAUGURAL NHS

641 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14202
716-884-0095
trsite.org

Visits are by guided tour only.
Open daily with varying hours;
check [http://www.trsite.org/
visit/plan-your-visit](http://www.trsite.org/visit/plan-your-visit).

FEES: Adults \$10, \$7 for students
and seniors, \$5 for children 6-18,
young children free. Family (2+
adults and all children): \$25.



Free off-street parking is available behind the TR Site and is accessible from Delaware Avenue or Franklin Street. Franklin Street is one-way northbound and cannot be accessed from North Street. On-street, metered parking is also available on Delaware Avenue. Several downtown streets are one-way, so be careful before you turn. If at all possible, it is recommended that persons with mobility-related disabilities be transported in a smaller vehicle that can access the parking lot, and enter from the rear, where an accessible entrance is available.

▶ INSIDER TIP/Weekday tours begin at 9:30 AM; weekend tours begin at 12:30 PM. On most days, the last tour starts at 3:30 PM. On Tuesdays, the site is open until 8 PM.

▶ FUN FACTS/At first, it looked like President McKinley would recover from his wounds. Roosevelt had come to Buffalo after the shooting and stayed with Wilcox, but left when McKinley seemed out of danger. Joining his family on a vacation to the Adirondacks, Roosevelt was climbing a mountain when a messenger came up the trail to tell him to return to Buffalo.

To this day, Theodore Roosevelt is the youngest president in our nation's history. He was six weeks shy of his 43rd birthday.

This was one of only four times in American history when a Presidential oath of office was administered outside the capital city.

+ TRAVEL INFORMATION: 1 HR, 53 MINUTES; 116 MILES VIA INTERSTATE 90 EAST

"...all men and women are created equal." What a radical idea! The Women's Rights Convention gathered here for two hot days in July 1848, where one hundred women and men signed the Declaration of Sentiments. The convention was held in the Wesleyan Chapel in Seneca Falls, three miles east of Waterloo. This event was not the first time the rights of women had been discussed in American society, but it was a vital step toward equality for women in the United States.

The Declaration of Sentiments also called for equal educational opportunities, the right to property and earnings, the right to the custody of children in the event of divorce or death of a spouse. It was the demand for the right to vote, however, which caused the most controversy.

WOMEN'S RIGHTS NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK



VISITOR CENTER

136 Fall Street
Seneca Falls, NY 13148
315-568-0024
www.nps.gov/wori



HAVE A LITTLE EXTRA TIME?

HARRIET TUBMAN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

180 South Street
Auburn NY 13021
315-252-2081
www.nps.gov/hart/index.htm
www.harriethouse.org

A brand new national park, created in 2017, with limited services. Through our park partner organization Harriet Tubman Home, Inc., visitors can see the Harriet Tubman Visitor Center, the Tubman Home for the Aged (by tour only), and the Harriet Tubman residence (exterior only).



Begin with a stop at the Visitor Center. Then proceed to Wesleyan Chapel, site of the First Women's Rights Convention, where the Declaration of Sentiments was approved. Each year, on the third weekend in July, the park holds a three day celebration in honor of the 1848 Women's Rights Convention with speakers, activities, concerts, and boat tours along the Cayuga-Seneca Canal.

Walk with a ranger to the home of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, a primary author of the Declaration, along the town's quaint main street and beautiful scenery overlooking the Cayuga-Seneca Canal. Self-described as a "caged lioness," the Stanton House served as the early hub of the women rights movement as Stanton herself juggled raising seven children, writing speeches and petitions, and hosting some of the most renowned reformers of the time. Sit at the table in her parlor and add your thoughts. If you have time, visit the M'Clintock House in nearby Waterloo, where the Declaration of Sentiments was drafted.



INSIDER TIP/On Sundays during the summer, visitors can bring their kayak, or rent one locally, and join a park ranger on a tour of the Cayuga – Seneca Canal. The tour floats past historical sites and locks through one of the only double lock chambers in the New York State Canal System, before entering the base of Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge.



FUN FACT/Every December, the park collaborates with the It's a Wonderful Life Museum, to celebrate the famous movie.

DAY
THREE

ERIE CANAL MUSEUM AND FORT STANWIX NATIONAL MONUMENT

+ TRAVEL INFORMATION: 49 MINUTES, 47 MILES VIA INTERSTATE 90 EAST

For nearly two centuries, people have been “digging” the Erie Canal. When it opened in 1825 it served as the spine of a new age of commerce and industry. Once a vital highway of commerce, the canal is now a recreational attraction and a historic testament to American knowhow.

ERIE CANAL MUSEUM



ERIE CANAL MUSEUM

318 Erie Boulevard East
Syracuse, New York 13202
315-471-0593
eriecanalmuseum.org

Admission is free with a suggested \$5 donation. Open every day but New Year's Day, Easter, Independence Day (Fourth of July), Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.



HAVE A LITTLE EXTRA TIME?

Camillus Erie Canal Park
5750 DeVoe Road, Camillus, NY 13031
Phone: 315-672-5110



Home to the only remaining canal weighlock building in the U.S., the Erie Canal Museum shares two centuries of Erie Canal and U.S. history through hands-on exhibits, interactive displays, narrative audio tracks and original artifacts. Step inside the 19th century canal weighlock to see where barges were weighed and assessed tolls. Check out a full-size replica canal boat and enjoy education exhibits including a tavern, pottery business, general store and garden. The Museum also serves as the Syracuse Heritage Area Visitor Center and is open seven days a week, so begin your trip to Syracuse here!

Key Features and Major Points of Interest include: 1850 National Register Weighlock Building with canal boat weigh chamber; Erie Canal exhibits and artifacts; mule and driver monument on the original Erie Canal towpath; "Run the Weighlock" video game that gives visitors an opportunity to calculate the weight of boats that would have come through the weigh chamber during navigation season.



INSIDER TIP/Erie Canalway National Heritage

Corridor includes hundreds of miles of attractions along the Erie Canal. They also have driving itineraries of their own. Boat rentals and tours are available in many locations and the 365-mile Erie Canalway Trail provides great opportunities for walking and cycling along the canal. Find out more at www.eriecanalway.org.



FUN FACT/Many of the walls of the Weighlock Building are made of stamped tin. Some people believe the Weighlock Building is haunted.

+ TRAVEL INFORMATION: 46 MINUTES, 44 MILES DRIVE TIME

Rebuilt using the original British plans, Fort Stanwix is one of the most authentic reconstructions of an 18th century fort in the United States. Immerse yourself in the stories of the people that lived, worked and fought at Fort Stanwix. Try out a colonial game, put on a soldier's uniform, drill with a training rifle, or carry water buckets with a yoke. Choose your side and find out if you have what was needed to survive during wartime on the New York frontier. Stand where American troops, under the direction of Colonel Peter Gansevoort, successfully repelled a prolonged British siege in 1777.

FORT STANWIX NATIONAL MONUMENT



FORT STANWIX NATIONAL MONUMENT

Fort Stanwix Visitor Center
100 North James St.
Rome, NY 13440
315-338-7730
www.nps.gov/fost

FEE FREE SITE; Fort Stanwix Visitor Center open seven days a week, March-December, 9 a.m.- 5 p.m. January-February, open Tuesday-Saturday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Reconstructed Fort open seven days a week, April-November, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Closed December-March except to pre-scheduled tours, weather permitting.



Visitors to Fort Stanwix National Monument can “step back in time” to the 18th century when opposing loyalties divided communities, neighbors, and families in the Mohawk Valley. Join a ranger-guided program or explore on your own to discover why the fort was built and what life was like during the American Revolution.

Fort Stanwix National Monument is an archaeological site and battlefield that includes remnants of the original Fort Stanwix (briefly renamed Fort Schuyler). The site is significant for the strategic roles the fort played during the French and Indian War, the American Revolution, and for the various treaties negotiated within its walls. A partial reconstruction of the fort (completed in 1976) memorializes these events and allows visitors to engage with representations of the 18th century.

The Marinus Willett Collections Management and Education Center houses thousands of artifacts found during reconstruction of the fort. Many are on display in the museum, but special “behind the scenes” tours are available during the summer months.

▶ **INSIDER TIP/**Be sure to see the hearth room inside the fort. This room houses the only original part of the fort on display, a fireplace foundation constructed in 1758. The hearth is carefully preserved right where it was uncovered during the archaeological dig.

▶ **FUN FACT/**Fort Stanwix is often called “the fort that never surrendered” due to the fact that it was never captured by the British during the American Revolution.



The U.S. National Park Service cares for more than 400 national parks and special places, and helps communities preserve their historic sites and open spaces so that all may experience our heritage.

The "All-American Adventures" series was produced under a partnership arrangement between the National Park Service and AAA. We invite people everywhere to discover their own personal connections to parks.

TRAVEL RESOURCES

Check out the following trip planning resources as you plan your All-American Adventure.

[NPS.gov](https://www.nps.gov)

Find details on all national parks, including things to do, activities and lodging.

[AAA.com/TripTik](https://www.aaa.com/TripTik)

Plan your next road trip with a custom routing showing you points of interest along the way.

[AAA.com/Travel](https://www.aaa.com/Travel)

Book Diamond-Rated hotels, plus reserve a rental car or book an airfare to get you going on your adventure.

[AAA Mobile® App](#)

Download the AAA Mobile app for directions, travel resources and roadside assistance.

[Get information in-person](#)

Be sure to visit your local AAA office or National Park Service location for information on your next national parks excursion.