

Fall Road-Tripping Ideas Close to Home

(StatePoint) With the onset of crisper weather and changing leaf colors, fall is the ideal season for a road trip close to home. From scenic drives to exploring historical and cultural areas to hiking and outdoor pursuits, there are lots of activities and nearby places for New Yorkers to discover this fall.

Here are some destinations to consider this season:

Journey to the Great Gatsby Era at the Vanderbilt Museum



(c) Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum

Elegant iron gates welcome visitors to Eagle's Nest, former estate of William K. Vanderbilt II (1878-1944) and home of the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum in Centerport. View the dazzling vista of Northport Bay. Set on 43 acres, the 24-room Spanish Revival mansion and museum -- listed on the National Register of Historic Places -- transport you to the Great Gatsby era. Enjoy centuries-old paintings and furnishings collected during world travels. Join a guided tour of the living quarters. Hear tales of the family and its famous guests. Explore intriguing collections in the natural-history and cultural-artifact galleries. Stroll gardens and tour the Marine Museum and animal habitats. Visit the state-of-the-art Charles and Helen Reichert Planetarium for an astronomy program or spectacular sky show. For details, visit www.vanderbiltmuseum.org.

Immerse Yourself in a Rural Escape to Schoharie County



(c) Trampoline Advertising & Design for Visit Schoharie County

Halfway between Albany and Cooperstown, Schoharie County is an incredibly accessible rural escape, offering both solitude and connection. Ribbons of country roads weave through stunning landscapes blotted with agriculture and scenic vistas. Hike the Long Path or Vroman's Nose (pictured above). Savor fresh produce from many farms and markets. Experience underground cave systems and witness our nation's bird take flight along the Schoharie County Eagle Trail. Sip your way through the Beverage Trail then rest your mind and body in a country homestead. Immerse yourself in all the wonderful things woven throughout Schoharie County. Learn about local attractions, dining, lodging and more at VisitSchoharieCounty.com.

Follow the American Dream at the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island



Courtesy The National Park Service

Walk in the footsteps of the more than 12 million immigrants who followed their American dream to the shores of Liberty and Ellis Islands. A quick ferry ride from Lower Manhattan or New Jersey's Liberty State Park brings you to the historic building where more than 30 percent of Americans can trace their ancestry. Visit the American Family Immigration History Center on Ellis Island to research your connection to Ellis Island. Sessions at the History Center help support The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation's mission to preserve and honor these two beloved American monuments. Complete the experience with a visit to the Statue of Liberty Museum on Liberty Island, home to Lady Liberty's original torch. For ticket information, go to StatueOfLiberty.org.

Taste Autumn at New York's First Farm Cidery



Nothing says autumn like fresh apples and cider in upstate New York. Celebrate the Empire State's coveted crop at Nine Pin Cider, New York's First Farm Cidery, in downtown Albany. Nine Pin's mission is simple; they support New York agriculture by producing quality craft ciders using 100 percent local New York apples and fruit. Visit Nine Pin's tasting room at 929 Broadway in Albany for a rotating selection of nine premium and limited small batch New York hard ciders, as well as local beers and cocktails. Can't choose just one cider on tap? Try a flight of all nine! Pair with their gourmet sourdough personal pizzas or small plates. Also, check out Nine Pin's private campfires. For information, visit www.ninepincider.com, call (518) 449-9999 or follow them @ninepincider on social media.

Fun Holiday Experiences to Put on Your List

(StatePoint) The holiday season is all about family, friends, traditions -- and fun! Here are some enjoyable experiences you can savor and share this season, close to home in New York, as you and yours make new memories together.

A Safe Adirondack Getaway at Mirror Lake Inn Resort and Spa



(c) Mirror Lake Inn Resort and Spa

At the AAA Four Diamond Mirror Lake Inn Resort and Spa in Lake Placid, safety is the new luxury. The destination has invested \$500,000 in COVID health and safety protocols, making it among the safest resorts in the country, according to its owners. This 7-acre resort overlooks Mirror Lake and features two distinct dining options, European spa and salon, and easy access to Lake Placid's Olympic sites, including nearby Whiteface Mountain. It's also just a 2-minute walk to Main Street shopping. The inn offers an authentic Adirondack experience, featuring the exclusive opportunity to ski with double Olympic medal winner Andrew Weibrecht. It also boasts the only hotel ski shop in Lake Placid. More information is available at www.mirrorlakeinn.com, at (518) 523-2544, and on social media at @mirrorlakeinn.

Fun Aquatic Adventures at the Long Island Aquarium



(c) Long Island Aquarium

The Long Island Aquarium is a great activity during the school holiday break, offering interactive, exciting educational experiences that capture imaginations and emphasize the importance of marine life and environmental preservation. It features an all-living Coral Reef display, a 120,000-gallon Shark habitat, year-round sea lion shows, African Penguins, touch tanks and over 100 exhibits, including lavish indoor gardens in the Butterflies, Bugs and Bees Exhibit. Try an Aquatic Adventure, like Shark Dive where you'll enter a cage in the Shark habitat, or the Penguin Encounter to meet adorable, feathered friends, or take souvenir photos with Penguins or Sea Lions. These also make great holiday gifts, as does a Membership, a gift that lasts all year! Celebrate your birthday with FREE Aquarium admission! Visit longislandaquarium.com for details.

A Holiday Diamond Mine Experience from Herkimer



The Herkimer Diamond Mines KOA Resort is home to the highly sought out Herkimer Diamond, as well as unique lodging and memories. With the season closed until April 15, the resort is bringing its mining experience direct to homes. Its website, HerkimerDiamond.com, contains finds from its local mines, along with sluice bags to pan at home with the family. With the holidays upon us, jewelry, souvenirs and specials are available for easy and exciting shopping. If you visit in 2022, you can hunt for your own Herkimers by mining or sluicing, create your own jewelry and visit the resort's museum. After taking a swim at its campground, head to the Canteen or Miners' Table for unique eats before spending the night at its Treehouse Lodge.

Big Apple, Big Holiday Fun



New York City during the holidays is the stuff that Christmas movies are made of. Start your visit at Rockefeller Center and its ice skating rink, set in front of the massive, decorated Christmas tree. Steps away on Fifth Avenue, marvel at brightly adorned, seasonal windows at Saks Fifth Avenue and other stores. One block in the other direction is Radio City Music Hall, home to the historic Christmas Spectacular, showcasing the legendary Rockettes. Nearby on 34th Street, enjoy Macy's famous holiday windows and views atop the Empire State Building. Along the way, stop at Bryant Park on 42nd Street, behind the impressive New York Public Library building, boasting another terrific skating rink, Christmas tree, and a holiday village of stalls selling gifts and souvenirs.



New York Round-Up Story Calendar

ROUND-UP STORY TOPICS	DISTRIBUTION DATE
Fall Road-Tripping Ideas Close to Home	9/27/2022
In Good Spirits: Wineries, Distilleries and Breweries to Check Out	10/11/2022
Romantic Weekend Ideas Close to Home	11/8/2022
Fun Holiday Experiences to Put on Your List	11/22/2022
Fun Family Activities for New Yorkers this Winter	12/13/2022
Explore Great Winter Getaways	12/27/2022
Fun Winter Experiences for New Yorkers	1/10/2023
Discover Nearby Memory-Making Destinations	2/14/2023
Spring Road-Tripping Ideas Close to Home	3/21/2023
Fun Spring Experiences for New Yorkers	4/25/2023
Long Weekend Getaways for New Yorkers	5/23/2023
Enjoy Summer Road-Tripping Close to Home	6/20/2023
Fun Nearby Summer Activities	7/18/2023
Great Outdoor Experiences a Drive Away	8/22/2023
Fall Road-Tripping Ideas Close to Home	9/19/2023
Great Fall Activities for New Yorkers	10/17/2023
Fun Holiday Experiences to Put on Your List	11/14/2023
Explore Great Winter Getaways	12/12/2023