

New York, New Jersey & Pennsylvania

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Best Places to Eat

- Blue Hill at Stone Barns (p122)
- Hazelnut Kitchen (p127)
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- Anchor Bar (p132)
- Reading Terminal Market (p153)

Best Places to Stay

- Roxbury Motel (p125)
- Yotel (p98)
- Giacomo (p134)
- White Pine Camp (p128)
- Congress Hall (p145)

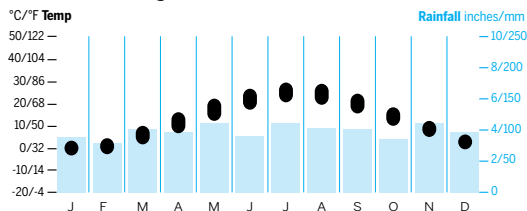
Why Go?

Where else could you visit an Amish family's farm, camp on a mountaintop, read the Declaration of Independence and view New York, New York from the 86th floor of an art-deco landmark – all in a few days? Even though it's the most densely populated part of the US, it's full of places where jaded city dwellers escape to seek simple lives, where artists retreat for inspiration, and where pretty houses line main streets in small towns set amid stunning scenery.

Urban adventures in NYC, historic and lively Philadelphia and river-rich Pittsburgh are a must. Miles and miles of glorious beaches are within reach, from glamorous Long Island to the Jersey Shore – the latter ranges from stately to kitschy. The mountain wilderness of the Adirondacks reaches skyward just a day's drive north of New York City, a journey that perfectly encapsulates this region's heady character.

When to Go

New York City



Oct–Nov Autumn in NYC brings cool temps, festivals, the marathon and gearing up for holiday season.

Feb Winter-sports buffs head to the mountains of the Adirondacks, Catskills and Poconos.

31 May–5 Sep Memorial Day through Labor Day is for beaches from Montauk to Cape May.

Transportation

The big cities all have airports, but New York's John F. Kennedy is the region's major international gateway. Alternatives include Newark Liberty International Airport and LaGuardia, in Queens, with mostly domestic flights. Philadelphia and Pittsburgh also have international airports.

Greyhound buses serve main cities and towns, while Peter Pan Bus Lines and Adirondack Trailways are two regional bus lines. Amtrak provides rail services linking New York with much of New Jersey, as well as Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. Most popular day trips, at least from New York City, are easily accessible by one of the three commuter-rail lines. If you're driving, the main north-south highway is I-95.

NATIONAL & STATE PARKS

Parklands and recreation areas are in big supply here, as is wildlife, which is at first surprising to many who associate these states only with large urban areas. Black bears, bobcats and even elk can be found in forested parts of the states; more common are various species of deer. Falcons, eagles, hawks and migrating species of birds stop over in the region, some within only a few miles of New York City.

In New York alone, you'll find hundreds of state parks, ranging from waterfalls around Ithaca to wilderness in the Adirondacks. In New Jersey, float down the Delaware River, grab some sun at the Cape May beach and hike the forested Kittatinny Valley in the north. Pennsylvania includes a huge array of thick forests, rolling parklands and a significant portion of the Appalachian National Scenic Trail, a 2175-mile path that snakes its way from Maine to Georgia.

Top Five Scenic Drives

- ➔ **Catskills, New York – Platte Clove Rd to 214 to 28** This takes you past forested hills, rushing rivers and spectacular falls.
- ➔ **North Central, Pennsylvania – Rte 6** A drive through this rugged stretch of mountains and woodlands includes gushing creeks, wildlife and state forests.
- ➔ **Lake Cayuga, New York – Rte 80** Head north from Ithaca above the lake past dozens of wineries.
- ➔ **Delaware Water Gap, New Jersey – Old Mine Rd** One of the oldest roads in the US past beautiful vistas of the Delaware River and rural countryside.
- ➔ **PA Dutch Country – S Ronks Rd** This country lane takes you past bucolic farmland scenery between Strasburg and Bird-in-the-Hand.

THE WILD CENTER

Located in Tupper Lake, NY, the Wild Center (p130) is a jewel of a museum dedicated to the ecology of the Adirondacks. Interactive exhibits include a digitally rendered earth that displays thousands of science-related issues.

Fast Facts

- ➔ **Hub cities** New York City (population 8,245,000), Philadelphia (population 1,536,000)
- ➔ **Time zone** Eastern Standard
- ➔ **New York City subways** 24 hours a day
- ➔ **First oil well drilled** 1859, Titusville, PA

Did You Know?

From November to April harbor seals, as well as other seal species, migrate to the waters of the Jersey Shore, Long Island Sound and NYC, from Staten Island to beaches in the Bronx.

Resources

- ➔ **New York State Tourism** (www.iloveny.com) Info and maps available by phone.
- ➔ **New Jersey Travel & Tourism** (www.visitnj.org) Statewide tourism tips.
- ➔ **Pennsylvania Travel and Tourism** (www.visitpa.com) Maps, videos and suggested itineraries.
- ➔ **Gas Buddy** (www.gasbuddy.com) Find the cheapest places to grab gas.