

“Creature Comforts in the 1000 Islands – Seaway Region”

Day 1

Hogansburg:

Akwesasne Cultural Center The museum houses a large collection of sweetgrass baskets, many made by local artisans. The interpretive panels and artifacts tell of the history of the Mohawk in Northern New York, as well as other tribes who lived in New York and Canada. The museum has classroom space for hands-on workshops, as well as a small gift shop with baskets, beadworks and CDs of traditional music. 321 State Highway 37, Hogansburg, 518-358-2461, www.akwesasneculturalcenter.org

Travel Rt. 37 to State Highway 56 and take it south to Potsdam:

The St. Lawrence County Arts Council operates a gallery and store that showcases the arts, fine crafts, books, and music of more than 150 St. Lawrence County Arts Council members. 51 Market Street, Potsdam. 315-265-6860, www.slcartscouncil.org

The Store This Gallery features art, prints, stained glass, fabrics, of local artisans. Creative Spirit Art Gallery, 6 Raymond St, Potsdam, 315-265-3949, www.spiritofcreativity.com

Rolland-Gibson Gallery, Exhibits are organized annually and features artists with regional, national and international reputations, permanent collection objects and student work. Special lectures and workshops are also scheduled. The Gallery is free and open to the public. Closed during college breaks. The gallery is located in Brainerd Hall, Room 103, 44 Pierrepont Ave., SUNY Potsdam Campus, 315-267-3290, www.potsdam.edu/Gibson/

Canton:

Richard Brush Art Gallery at St. Lawrence University

The Richard Brush Art Gallery collection includes 7,000 art objects and artifacts, with particular strengths in 20th century American and European works on paper, including photographs, prints, portfolios, drawings, and artists' books. Works from the collection are regularly utilized for exhibition, as well as students' works. Richard Brush Art Gallery is located on the Campus of St. Lawrence University in Canton, 315-229-5174, www.stlawu.edu/gallery/

Co. Rte. 14 to Rensselaer Falls

Heuvelton:

Heritage Cheese Manufacturing award winning cheese curd and blocks using locally produced milk from Amish Farms, as well as other products such as jams, jellies, smoked meats, and some handcrafted items. , 4775 State Highway 812, Heuvelton, 315-344-2216

Pickens General Store Offering the largest selection of locally made Amish products including furniture, quilts, wall hangings, and baskets. Also featuring non-electrical products, candies, leather goods and indoor and outdoor home décor items. 83 State Street, Heuvelton, 315-344-7950, www.pickensgeneral.org

Ogdensburg:

Frederic Remington Art Museum

Houses one of the largest collections of Frederic Remington bronze sculptures, sketches, paintings and personal belongings of this famed Western and Northern New York artist. 303 Washington Street, Ogdensburg, 315-393-2524, www.fredericremington.org

A couple of nice spots for lunch include

The Place, 1612 Ford Street, Ogdensburg, 315-393-3080

Phoenix on the Bay, 1702 Ford Street, Ogdensburg, 315-394-0678

Both serve American style sandwiches and platters.

Dingman's Point:

Michael Ringer Art Gallery Visit the gallery of one of the region's most prominent artists.

Original painting, bronze sculptures and books. 47382 Dingman Point Rd., Alexandria Bay; 315-482-2833; www.michaelringer.com

Alexandria Bay:

Uncle Sam Boat Tours Offering a variety of tours through the scenic 1000 Islands. 1-hour and 2 1/4-hour sightseeing cruises, luncheon and dinner cruises, Singer Castle tours and round-trip shuttles to Boldt Castle on Heart Island. 45 James St., Alexandria Bay; 800-253-9229; www.usboattours.com

Boldt Castle Enjoy a self-guided tour of a 120-room Rhineland-style castle built at the turn of the 20th century. This is the site of one of America's tragic love stories. Heart Island, Alexandria Bay; 315-482-2501; 800-847-5263; www.boldtcastle.com

Day 2

Minna Anthony Common Nature Center, Wellesley Island State Park Over 600 acre nature center on Eel Bay within Wellesley Island State Park. Over 8 miles of trails and natural history museum, this center is home to numerous eagles, osprey, hawks, deer, and other woodland birds and animals. 44927 Cross Island Rd., Alexandria Bay; 315-482-2479; www.nysparks.com

Clayton: T.I. Adventures: From tranquil island bays to the swift currents of the Canadian waters, there are kayaking adventures for everyone. Offering kayak lessons and touring in the unique beauty of the region. 38714 NYS Route 12E, Clayton; 315-686-2500; www.tiadventures.com

Lunch in Watertown: Why not eat what the locals eat? JRECKs sub to go...the region's favorite submarine sandwich. The Thompson Park Overlook is a beautiful location for a picnic.

New York State Zoo at Thompson Park Discover the only zoo in the world dedicated to New York's wild animals and wild places. Get nose to nose with black bears, watch the playful antics of rare wolverines, climb a real Adirondack fire tower. One Thompson Park, Watertown; 315-782-6180; www.nyszoo.org

Sackets Harbor:

Old McDonald's Farm & North Harbor Dairy – Fall Pumpkin Patch An educational agricultural adventure for the entire family. Take a musical hayride, visit animals in the barns and in the fields, pick pumpkins in the region's largest pumpkin patch, tour the modern 400-cow dairy. North Harbor Road, Sackets Harbor; 315-583-5737; www.oldmcdonaldhasafarm.com

Dinner and Overnight: Pulaski

Day 3

Pulaski Area

Salmon River Fine Arts Center Gallery exhibits by local artists, workshops and classes. 19 Lake St. 315-298-7007.

Salmon River Falls Unique Area 110-foot waterfall on middle reaches of Salmon River provides a spectacular view any time of year. Walking trail along top of falls, scenic overlooks are handicapped accessible. Hiking footpath to bottom of gorge open May 1 – Nov. 15. Owned by NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. Falls Road, Orwell, 1.4 miles northeast of Co. Rte. 22. 315-298-7467; <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/22565.html>

Grindstone Organic Farm Certified organic fruit and vegetable. Store hours Thursday and Friday 10 am – 2 pm, Saturday 9 am – noon. Call ahead to confirm. 780 Co. Rte 28, Tinker Tavern Road, Pulaski; 315-298-4139; www.grindstonefarm.com

From Co. Rte. 28, take NYS Route 104 east through Mexico to Oswego

Oswego:

Oswego Civic Arts Center, Art Association of Oswego Gallery, classes. Fort Ontario Park, 315-343-5675; www.oswegoarts.org

Tyler Art Gallery, SUNY Oswego Two gallery spaces feature exhibits by students and faculty, traveling exhibitions and permanent collections. Oswego State University campus, 315-312-2113; http://www.oswego.edu/academics/opportunities/artswego/tyler_art_gallery/

Follow NYS Rte. 48 along Oswego River Canal to Fulton.

Lunch in Fulton

Tavern on the Lock, 24 S. First St., 315-592-2661; Battle Island Clubhouse Café, 2150 NYS Rte 48, 315-593-6605

From Fulton, take NYS Rte 3 east to Route 49 to Central Square for the scenic drive along north shore of Oneida Lake:

Cleveland:

Art of Wilderness Studio, Robert McNamara, award-winning artist, writer, naturalist and illustrator. Hours by appointment. 46 Reservoir Drive, Cleveland. 315-675-3522;
www.artofwilderness.com

Unique Woodworks Adirondack-style furniture and items, large collection of landscapes and artwork by local artists. 260 NYS Rte. 49, Cleveland. 315-675-3680;
www.uniquewoodworks.net

Bernhards Bay

Bernhards Bay Country Store Authentic 19th century country store. Antiques, crafts, collectibles, NYS cheeses. 676 NYS Route 49, Bernhards Bay. 315-675-3806

To Rome: Take NYS Rte. 49 east, 25 miles

To Syracuse: Take NYS Rte 49 west, 18 miles to I 81.