

“Sipping History in the 1000 Islands – Seaway Region”

Day 1

Canton:

St. Lawrence County Historical Association and Silas Wright Museum: Houses genealogy records for the county and well as the homestead of NYS Governor and Senator Silas Wright. 3 East Main Street, 315-386-8133, www.slcha.org.

Ogdensburg:

River Myst Winery: Located on the St. Lawrence River, the winery makes various reds, whites and blushes with local names. The store also carries gift baskets and locally-made gift items. 9830 State Highway 37, Ogdensburg, 315-713-4702, <http://rivermystwinery.net/>.

Lighthouse Point: It is visible from Morrisette Park on Isabell Street in Ogdensburg. Just one block from the Frederic Remington Art Museum, this landmark is privately-owned; however, it is a great stopping point in Ogdensburg. It is the future site of Fort de la Presentation, which was the last physical battle of the French and Indian War. The fort was also used during the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812 and the Civil War.

Morristown:

Lunch: Bedrock Café is about 10 minutes from Ogdensburg, traveling south on state Highway 37. It features a wide selection for breakfast, lunch and dinner including homemade soups and pies. Don't miss their homemade potato chips! 3748 State Highway 37, 315-375-4230.

The Morristown Windmill: It was built c. 1825 in Chapman Park by Hugh McConnell, a miller from Scotland. It served as a local jail and an Air Warning Post during WW II. It is located off Main Street in the village of Morristown (just off Route 37).

Wilkinson Point: This scenic overlook includes an interpretive panel about the Seaway Trail and is the only point along the highway where Singer Castle is visible. The castle was built on Dark Island in the St. Lawrence River and is only accessible by boat; which run during the weekends through October. The overlook is located on State Highway 37.

Rte 26 to Philadelphia:

Otter Creek Winery: Come and sip your favorite wine while you enjoy the beautiful view from the tasting room. Situated on a knoll, it overlooks the vineyards and sheep grazing below. Rudes Rd. Philadelphia, 315-642-0622, www.ottercreekwinery.com.

Fort Drum: 10th Mountain Division Historical Collection: The collection addresses the history of Fort Drum as a military installation and the history of the 10th Mountain Division. Exhibits portray local military history and conflicts the 10th Mountain Division has participated in. Public is welcome on base; however, a drivers license, vehicle insurance and registration must be presented at the gate. P-10502, S. Riva Ridge Loop, Fort Drum, 315-774-0391, www.drum.army.mil/sites/about/museum/mainpage.htm.

Overnight in Watertown

Day 2

Burrville Cider Mill: Built in 1801, the cider mill is one of Jefferson County's oldest establishments. As you tour the mill, you will be greeted by the sweet smell of the North Country's best apple cider and freshly fried cider donuts. It opens from Labor Day until the week before Thanksgiving. 18176 County Route 156, Burrville, 315-788-7292, www.burrvillecidermill.com.

Jefferson County Historical Society at Paddock Mansion: This is a 19th century mansion and Victorian gardens. Its collections include Tyler coverlets, Native American artifacts, and a 1910 Babcock automobile that was made in Watertown. 228 Washington St., Watertown, 315-782-3491, www.JeffersonCountyHistory.org.

Sackets Harbor:

Sacket Harbor Battlefield State Historic Site: It is the site of two battles of the War of 1812. Tour the furnished Commandant's house (c. 1860) and Navy Yard Grounds, and visit the exhibit "Life on board the Jefferson." Follow the interpretive trail, and enjoy the picnic pavilion and scenic views of Lake Ontario. 504 W. Main St., Sackets Harbor, 315-646-3634, www.sacketsharborbattlefield.org.

Lunch: Sackets Harbor Brew Pub is housed in the former historic railroad station. It is not only a fine restaurant, but also offers beer brewed onsite. While they are known for their award-winning 1812 Ale, there are several varieties to suit everyone's taste. 212 West Main St., Sackets Harbor, 315-646-BREW, www.1812.com.

Yellow Barn Winery: Relax in barn-style ambiance and enjoy a variety of fine American wines. The elegant choices are made from grapes of the cold, hardy variety that are well-suited to the North Country climate. Visit the production area and learn what makes this different from most other wineries. 18876 County Route 66, Watertown, 315-782-1824, www.yellowbarnwinery.com.

Old McDonald's Farm & North Harbor Dairy – Fall Pumpkin Patch: An educational and 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, and tour the modern 400-cow dairy. North Harbor Road, Sackets Harbor, 315-583-5737, www.oldmcdonaldhasafarm.com.

Altmar/Orwell:

Salmon River Fish Hatchery: Owned and operated by NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, the hatchery is the major stocking source for several varieties of salmon and trout in Lakes Ontario and Erie. More than 3 million salmonids produced annually. Displays and exhibits. Egg collection takes place weekdays during the fall salmon run. 2133 Co. Rte. 22, Altmar, 315-298-5051, <http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/21663.html>.

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 is 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>.

Mexico/New Haven:

Mexico Point State Park and Spy Island: Visit the gravesite and monument of Silas Town, an American spy and Revolutionary War patriot. Town overheard St. Leger's plans to attack Fort Stanwix at this site. He was then able to warn American forces at Fort Stanwix of the impending attack and prevent the loss of the fort to the British. Mexico Point Drive, west side of Little Salmon River, off NYS Rte 104B. <http://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/WM203Z>.

Behling Orchards: Retail and u-pick apples, fruit, cider. Pony and wagon rides, corn maze. 114 Potter Road, Mexico, 315-963-7068, www.behlingorchards.com.

Ashley-Lynn Winery and Leon's Farm Market: 11 varieties of fruit wines are pressed, aged, blended, and bottled at this location and wine tasting is conducted daily. Pumpkins, flowers, home and garden products, gift baskets. 4142 NYS Route 104, New Haven, 315-963-3262, www.ashleywines.com.

Dinner: Arena's Eis House, 144 Academy St., Mexico, phone 315-963-3830, www.arenaseishouse.com; Bridie Manor, 1830 Bridie Square, Oswego, 315-342-1830, www.bridiemanager.com; Canale's Restaurant, 156 W. Utica St., Oswego, 315-343-3540, www.canalesrestaurant.com

Overnight in Oswego

Day 3

Oswego:

Safe Haven Museum and Education Center: Commemorates the 982 Holocaust refugees from World War II who were invited to the United States as guests of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. These refugees were housed at Fort Ontario from August 1944 until February 1946. 2 E. Seventh St., Oswego, 315-342-3003, www.oswegohaven.org.

Fort Ontario State Historic Site: Originally built in 1755 as a British fortress overlooking Lake Ontario, the first Fort Ontario was destroyed by French troops under the command of the Marquis de Montcalm in 1756. It is the site of battles spanning French and Indian War, American Revolution and War of 1812. Restored to 1867-1872 appearance. 1 E. Fourth St., Oswego, 315-343-4711, www.fortontario.com.

H. Lee White Marine Museum: Located on a pier overlooking Oswego Harbor, collections depict 300 years of Oswego County's maritime history and the colorful story of a major Great Lakes port during the 19th century. Museum includes a 1925 NYS Canal Boat and the National Historic Landmark WWII Tug "LT-5". 1 W. First St. Pier, Oswego, 315-342-0480, www.hleewhitemarinemuseum.com.

Richardson-Bates House Museum: The Italian villa was completed in 1889 for local attorney Maxwell Richardson. The luxurious interiors contain 95 percent of the original furnishings and portray the family's wealth and Mr. Richardson's position as a civic leader in Oswego. Maintained as it appeared around 1890, this National Register house offers a unique glimpse at Victorian America's fascination with history, art, education, and travel. 135 E. Third St., Oswego, 315-343-1342, <http://www.rbhousemuseum.org/>.

Fulton:

The John Wells Pratt House Museum: Features exhibits on the industrial and community history of Fulton, including maps, a period kitchen and special displays. 177 S. First St., Fulton, 315-598-4616, http://lildell.thebixbys.com:81/gwen/Fulton_FOH/virtual_tour/index.htm.

Brewerton:

Oliver Stevens Blockhouse Museum and Historic Park: This site on the Oneida River was occupied by Native Americans for more than 10,000 years. The blockhouse is a replica of a 1778 fortification and contains a fascinating collection of Native American and local artifacts. 9 U.S. Rte11, Brewerton, 315-668-8801, <http://www.fortbrewerton.org/index.htm>.