



What's New in New York State for 2026



From new mountainside attractions and trails to quirky boutique stays and major sporting events, New York State is rolling out exciting openings and travel updates for 2026.

With direct flights from the UK, and additional routes with United and American Airlines launching from Edinburgh and Glasgow this year, there's never been a better time to explore beyond the Big Apple.

Here's a quick round-up of the latest travel news from across the pond.

Where to Stay

Escape to the NEW restorative retreat, Mirbeau Inn & Spa Beacon, in Hudson Valley

Set to open this spring, [Mirbeau Inn & Spa Beacon](#) is a serene retreat on a historic 64-acre property in Hudson Valley, focused on healing and renewal. Blending Gothic Revival architecture with Mirbeau's signature French-inspired hospitality, the property features tranquil ponds and Monet-inspired gardens. It offers a peaceful escape just outside New York City. Prices to be announced. Mirbeau Inn & Spa Beacon: www.beacon.mirbeau.com

Check into the NEW Little Nell Hotel at 10 Rockefeller Plaza in New York City

Aspen's [Little Nell Hotel](#) is expanding with a 130-room property at 10 Rockefeller Plaza, becoming the only hotel located within the iconic building. Scheduled to open in fall 2026, it will occupy nine floors above the studios where NBC's Today show and Saturday Night Live are filmed. Prices to be announced. Little Nell Hotel: www.aspenhospitality.co/properties/the-little-nell-new-york

Tap into the Hudson Valley's rich artistic community at the NEW Pocketbook Hudson

Opened in November 2025, [Pocketbook Hudson](#) is bringing fresh energy to downtown Hudson, New York. This restored 1880s textile mill is now a multi-faceted boutique hotel, featuring 46 guest rooms and suites, sleek interiors that blend industrial heritage with minimalist luxury, engaging public spaces, and a forthcoming spa and bathhouse inspired by global bathing traditions (opening early

2026). Rates start from £219 / \$294 per night (room-only basis, based on double occupancy).

Pocketbook Hudson: www.pocketbookhudson.com

Get Outside

Hop on Gore Mountain's NEW Zip Coaster Adventure in the Adirondacks

This summer, hop on [Gore Mountain's new Zip Coaster](http://Gore%20Mountain's%20new%20Zip%20Coaster) for an exciting adventure through New York's spectacular Adirondack Mountains. This unique attraction combines the thrill of a coaster and a zipline, taking guests on a journey through the heart of Upstate's wild beauty.

Gore Mountain Zip Coaster: www.goremountain.com/the-mountain/improvements

Stroll along the NEW Tanglewood Nature Centre Canopy Treetop Walkway in the Finger Lakes

Enjoy a stroll above New York's spectacular Finger Lakes this summer on the new Tanglewood Nature Centre Canopy Treetop Walkway. This path in the sky will invite visitors to climb 70 feet into the trees for stunning views of New York's lakes and landscapes. The accessible wooden trail is set to include observation decks at varying heights, with a multi-level platform offering sweeping vistas of the surrounding mountains, valleys, and forests.

Tanglewood Nature Centre Canopy Treetop Walkway: www.tanglewoodnaturecenter.com

Visit the Autism Nature Trail, first of its kind inclusive recreational trail, at Letchworth State Park

Located in Letchworth State Park, also known as "Grand Canyon of the East", is the Autism Nature Trail, the first-of-its-kind inclusive recreational trail. Designed to make nature accessible for all, the trail allows everyone to experience the physical, emotional and social benefits of being fully engaged with nature and with each other. Equipped with eight different stations, from sensory station to playful path, reflection knoll and celebration station, the trail offers a range of experiences from quiet engagement to active exploration and adventure along its one-mile loop.

The Autism Nature Trail: www.autismnaturetrail.com

Major Sporting Events and Anniversaries Across New York State:

The FIFA World Cup

Kick off the excitement of the FIFA World Cup as the world's biggest sporting event comes to the region. Starting June 13, 2026, MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, NJ, will host eight matches, including the [World Cup Final](http://World%20Cup%20Final) on July 19. After the matches, enjoy viewing parties, fan fests, and other special events across the region. You can also explore New York's natural and culinary highlights, from Niagara Falls to wine tasting in the Finger Lakes, and hiking in the Adirondacks.

New York State: www.iloveny.com/fifa-world-cup

Catch the Belmont Stakes for the final time at the Historic Saratoga Race Course

America's oldest sporting venue, the Historic Saratoga Race Course, will host its [third and final](http://third%20and%20final) [Belmont Stakes](http://Belmont%20Stakes) in June 2026. The 158th running of the Triple Crown finale is set for June 6, marking the end of its tenure as the race's temporary host while Belmont Park is under construction. Visitors can enjoy other prestigious races, such as the Travers Stakes, during the 40-day summer meet at Saratoga, running from mid-July until Labor Day (7 September 2026). Opening day at [the new Belmont Park](http://the%20new%20Belmont%20Park) is September 18 2026.

Saratoga Race Course: www.nyra.com/saratoga/

Celebrate America 250

Attend Sail4th 250 to watch the largest international flotilla of tall ships ever assembled

To celebrate America's 250th birthday on July 4, 2026, New York City will [co-host the largest international flotilla of tall ships ever assembled](#). The ships will spend a week in the heart of the nation's first capital, from July 3–9, with celebrations including Macy's fireworks, an International Aerial Review headlined by the U.S. Navy Blue Angels, culinary festivals, and an expanded Fleet Week. Sail4th 250: www.sail4th.org

Be a part of the USA's first victory of the American Revolution at the historic Fort Ticonderoga

Fort Ticonderoga, the site of the first American victory of the Revolution, will continue to bring this history to life through its [Real Time Revolution™ series](#). Highlights include reenactments of pivotal moments in New York State that ultimately led to the signing of the Declaration of Independence in Philadelphia.

Fort Ticonderoga: www.fortticonderoga.org

Have a beer with a pint-sized George Washington throughout Hudson Valley

Visitors exploring Hudson Valley in 2026 can enjoy a beer with a pint-sized George Washington at local pubs through the [Commander in Cheers Augmented Reality Experience](#). By scanning a unique coaster, guests can hear about one of Dutchess County's revolutionary endeavours directly from America's first president while enjoying New York's refreshing local craft beer.

Hudson Valley: www.destinationdutchess.com/cic

For more inspiration and travel updates, visit iloveny.com