ROAD TRIP · UNITED STATES

New York, the Finger Lakes and Niagara Falls

The city, the Hudson Valley, wine country and the falls.

Length	12 days, 11 nights
Distance	1,430 km, 7 driving days
Behind the wheel	19 h 50 min
Travellers	2, 1 room, 1 car
Hotels	Comfort: a good hotel (3 stars)
Flights	Amsterdam – New York JFK (JFK), New York JFK (JFK) – Amsterdam

CONTENTS

New York	Days 1–3	**8**
Hudson	Days 4–5	**10**
Ithaca	Days 6–7	**12**
Niagara Falls	Days 8–9	**14**
Corning	Day 10	**16**
New York	Day 11	**18**

Day by day

DAY	DATE	NIGHT	KM	DRIVE	°C
1		New York	30	40 min	
2		New York			
3		New York			
4		Hudson	200	2 h 40 min	
5		Hudson			
6		Ithaca	270	4 h	
7		Ithaca			
8		Niagara Falls	270	3 h 40 min	
9		Niagara Falls			
10		Corning	240	3 h 10 min	
11		New York	400	5 h 10 min	
12		Flight home from JFK	30	40 min	

1,430 km · 19 h 50 min behind the wheel · on average 200 km a driving day

Kilometres and drive times by road (OSRM, OpenStreetMap), without stops: plan generously.

The route



Map: US Census Bureau (public domain) · roads © OpenStreetMap contributors

ON THE ROAD

Day 1	Land at New York JFK (JFK), drive to New York · About 30 km (20 mi), 40 min
Day 4	New York, drive to Hudson · About 200 km (130 mi), 2 h 40 min
Day 6	Hudson, drive to Ithaca · About 270 km (160 mi), 4 h
Day 8	Ithaca, drive to Niagara Falls · About 270 km (160 mi), 3 h 40 min
Day 10	Niagara Falls, drive to Corning · About 240 km (150 mi), 3 h 10 min
Day 11	Corning, drive to New York · About 400 km (250 mi), 5 h 10 min
Day 12	New York to New York JFK airport (JFK), fly home to Amsterdam · About 30 km (20 mi), 40 min

Well prepared

ESTA

Dutch and Belgian travellers need no visa for a holiday of up to 90 days, but do need an approved ESTA before boarding. It costs about $40, is valid for two years (or until your passport expires) and is applied for online. Apply at least 72 hours before you fly, and only on the official site.

esta.cbp.dhs.gov

Passport

An electronic passport (with the chip symbol), valid for the whole stay. Children need their own passport and ESTA.

nl.usembassy.gov

Driving licence

Your Dutch driving licence is accepted for renting and driving a car as a visitor. An international driving permit next to it helps with police and some rental desks.

anwb.nl

Renting a car

The renter is the main driver and pays with a credit card in their own name (no debit or prepaid card); the deposit is held on it. Usually from 21, and from 21 to 24 you pay a young-driver fee of about $25 a day. Book from home with insurance included (CDW/LDW and extra liability, SLI) and an extra driver if you want to take turns. Returning the car elsewhere (a one-way trip) costs extra. Fuel is sold by the gallon (3.8 litres); fill it up yourself before you bring it back.

Driving in the USA

Keep right; speeds are in miles an hour (65 mph is 105 km/h). Turning right on red is allowed after stopping, unless a sign says no. At a 4-way stop, whoever stopped first goes first. For a stopped yellow school bus with flashing lights you stop in both directions. Toll roads are often electronic only: ask your rental company about its toll pass. On remote stretches (parks, desert) there's little signal and a long way to the next pump: fill up at half and download the map.

Renting an RV

You can rent an RV from about 21 with an ordinary car licence. On top of the rent, count on mileage (often per mile), a kit with bedding and kitchen things, cleaning and the campsite: in the popular parks you book those months ahead on recreation.gov. Big RVs aren't allowed on every park road. Take photos of the RV when you pick it up: damage and missing items are the most heard complaint.

recreation.gov

National parks

Most big parks charge per car. Visitors from abroad pay $100 a person extra at 11 popular parks; the annual pass for non-residents is $250. Some parks need a timed-entry reservation in high season.

nps.gov

Money and tipping

Prices are without sales tax, which is added at the till. In restaurants a tip of 15 to 20% is usual. Cards are accepted almost everywhere; at the pump you may be asked for a ZIP code, so pay inside.

Travel insurance and health

Care in the USA is very expensive: take travel insurance with worldwide medical cover, and check whether your health insurance covers the USA. Cancellation insurance covers the trip if you can't go; insure the rental car with the rental company (see Renting a car). Take medicines in their original packaging, with a prescription in English. Emergency number: 911.

Power, phone and time

110 volt with flat two-pin plugs (type A/B): bring an adapter. A US eSIM is cheaper than roaming. The mainland has four time zones, Arizona mostly without daylight saving time.

Customs

Fresh food, meat and fruit may not be brought in. Declare food you carry.

Packing list

- [ ] Passport (valid for the whole trip)
- [ ] ESTA, printed
- [ ] Driving licence (and an international one)
- [ ] Credit card in the driver's name
- [ ] Travel and cancellation insurance
- [ ] Confirmations: flights, car, hotels
- [ ] America the Beautiful pass for the parks
- [ ] Plug adapter for type A/B (110 volt)
- [ ] Car charger and phone holder
- [ ] eSIM or offline maps
- [ ] Sunscreen, sunglasses and a cap
- [ ] Water bottles for the desert
- [ ] Hiking shoes
- [ ] Layers: the coast and the nights get cold
- [ ] Medicines, in your hand luggage
- [ ] A pen, for this booklet

DON'T FORGET

Notes



DAYS 1–3

New York NY

Central Park and Times Square

Land at New York JFK (JFK), drive to New York: about 30 km (20 mi), 40 min

3 nights

NEW YORK · DAYS 1–3

HOTEL

- ☐ Moxy NYC Lower East Side · 3★ — roughly €180
  145 BOWERY
- ☐ Moxy NYC East Village · 3★ — roughly €430
  112 EAST 11TH STREET
- ☐ Moxy NYC Chelsea · 3★ — roughly €410
  105 West 28th Street
- ☐ Hilton Garden Inn NYC Financial Center/Manhattan Downtown · 3★ — roughly €340
  6 Water St
- ☐ Hampton Inn Times Square Central · 3★ — roughly €410
  220 West 41st St.

NOTES



DAYS 4–5

Hudson NY

The Hudson Valley

New York, drive to Hudson: about 200 km (130 mi), 2 h 40 min

2 nights

HUDSON · DAYS 4–5

HOTEL

- [ ] Batterby House – Adults Only · 3★
  251 Allen St
- [ ] Wm. Farmer and Sons · 3★
  20 S. Front St.
- [ ] The Wick, Hudson, a Tribute Portfolio Hotel · 3★
  41 Cross Street
- [ ] Hudson Mariner · 3★ — roughly €220
  26 Warren Street
- [ ] Hudson City Bed & Breakfast · 3★
  326 Allen Street

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DAYS 6–7

Ithaca NY

Gorges and waterfalls

Hudson, drive to Ithaca: about 270 km (160 mi), 4 h

2 nights

ITHACA · DAYS 6–7

HOTEL

- [ ] Inn On Columbia · 3★
  228 Columbia Street
- [ ] La Tourelle Inn & Spa · 3★ — roughly €140
  1150 Danby Rd 96B
- [ ] Hampton Inn Ithaca · 3★ — roughly €100
  337 Elmira Rd
- [ ] Homewood Suites by Hilton Ithaca · 3★ — roughly €120
  36 Cinema Dr
- [ ] Hilton Garden Inn Ithaca · 3★ — roughly €130
  130 E. Seneca Street

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DAYS 8–9

Niagara Falls NY

The Maid of the Mist

Ithaca, drive to Niagara Falls: about 270 km (160 mi), 3 h 40 min

2 nights

NIAGARA FALLS · DAYS 8–9

HOTEL

- [ ] The Butler House B&B · 3★
  751 Park Place
- [ ] The Little Italy of Niagara Falls Bed & Breakfast · 3★
  2211 Forest Ave
- [ ] Stay Inn Niagara Falls Vacation Studios · 3★
  2754 Niagara Falls Blvd Rear
- [ ] Hampton Inn Niagara Falls · 3★ — roughly €100
  501 Rainbow Blvd
- [ ] Courtyard by Marriott Niagara Falls, USA · 3★ — roughly €80
  900 Buffalo Avenue

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DAY 10

Corning NY

The Museum of Glass

Niagara Falls, drive to Corning: about 240 km (150 mi), 3 h 10 min

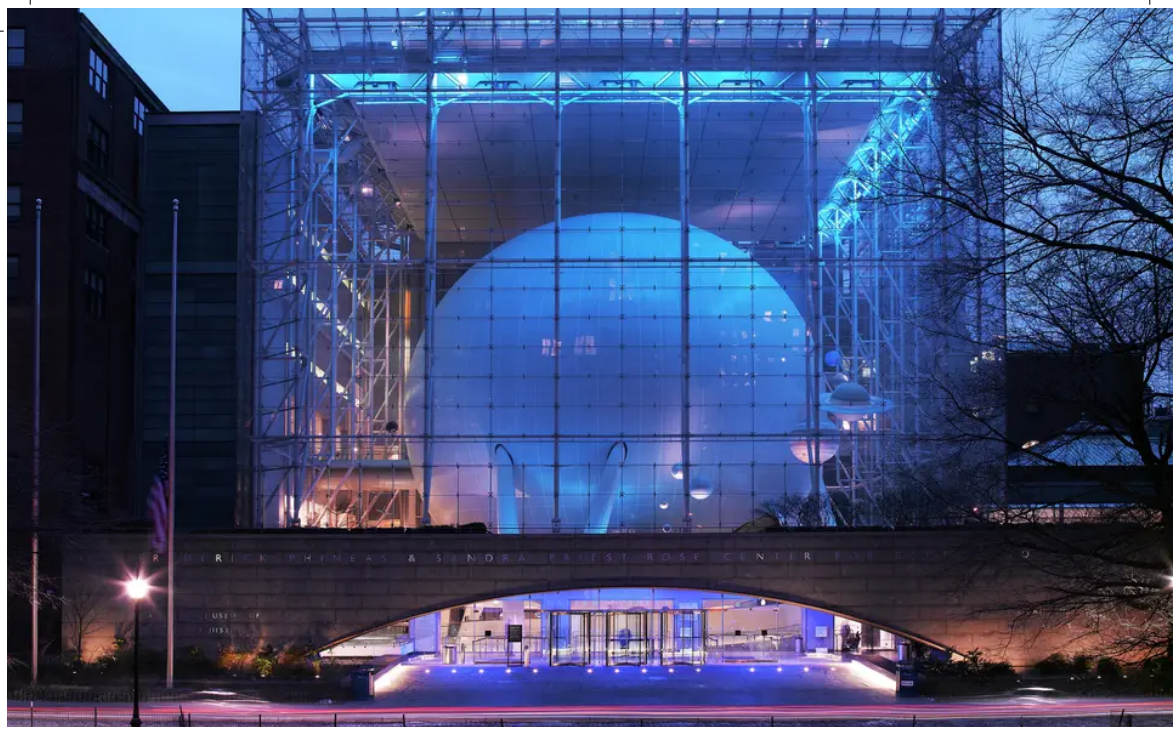
1 night

CORNING · DAY 10

HOTEL

- [ ] Little peace of heaven · 3★ — roughly €90
  197 Decatur Street Apartment 101 1st floor
- [ ] Hilton Garden Inn Corning Downtown · 3★ — roughly €120
  23 Riverside Dr
- [ ] Staybridge Suites Corning by IHG · 3★ — roughly €100
  201 Townley Ave
- [ ] 1 Mi to Dtwn: Pet-friendly Corning Retreat · 3★
- [ ] 'little Piece of Heaven' Rental Near Dtwn Corning! · 3★
  197 Decatur St

NOTES



DAY 11

New York NY

Before the flight home

Corning, drive to New York: about 400 km (250 mi), 5 h 10 min

1 night

HOTEL

- ☐ Moxy NYC Lower East Side · 3★ — roughly €180
  145 BOWERY
- ☐ Moxy NYC East Village · 3★ — roughly €430
  112 EAST 11TH STREET
- ☐ Moxy NYC Chelsea · 3★ — roughly €410
  105 West 28th Street
- ☐ Hilton Garden Inn NYC Financial Center/Manhattan Downtown · 3★ — roughly €340
  6 Water St
- ☐ Hampton Inn Times Square Central · 3★ — roughly €410
  220 West 41st St.

NOTES

What it costs

DAY	PLACE	HOTEL	TOURS	CAR	TOTAL
1	New York	€160	–	€60	**€220**
2	New York	€160	–	€60	**€220**
3	New York	€160	–	€60	**€220**
4	Hudson	€160	–	€60	**€220**
5	Hudson	€160	–	€60	**€220**
6	Ithaca	€160	–	€60	**€220**
7	Ithaca	€160	–	€60	**€220**
8	Niagara Falls	€160	–	€60	**€220**
9	Niagara Falls	€160	–	€60	**€220**
10	Corning	€160	–	€60	**€220**
11	New York	€160	–	€60	**€220**
12	Flight home from JFK	–	–	€60	**€60**

Flights	€1,700
Hotels	€1,760
Excursions	€0
Car hire	€720
Total	**€4,180**
	€2,090 a person

An estimate to plan with (prices of 2026-10): hotels, the ticked excursions, car hire and flights. No fuel or meals.

Notes

About this booklet

Made on rondreis.expert. Your trip is still there, to change and print again: usa.rondreis.expert/en/tours/niagara-finger-lakes/

PHOTOS

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Hudson	Battery Park View, New York World Trade Center, New York, New York LCCN2011630158.tif · Carol M. Highsmith, Public domain
Ithaca	0CC ,4321 · gpj.3211
Niagara Falls	Niagara Falls, New York LCCN2010630807.tif · Carol M. Highsmith, Public domain
Corning	Side view of station, before remodeling - Erie Railway, Corning Station, Erie Avenue and Pine Street, Corning, Steuben County, NY HAER NY,51-CORN,1-2.tif · Public domain
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MAP AND TYPE

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