

Special Tourism Sites, Attractions, Services, and Events

Resource tables elsewhere in this CMP identified public and non-profit resources along the Byway corridor. This section includes information on privately-owned attractions and services, as well as special events. The communities along the Black River Trail Scenic Byway offer a diverse number of local products, lodging choices, foods, services, attractions and events to serve the needs and interests of the traveler. A separate Sites, Attractions and Services Typology follows this section listing a broad array of goods, services, lodging and shopping opportunities available along the travel route.

River Recreation and Attractions

A listing of all Black River access points can be found in the *Black River Blueway Trail Development Plan*, www.blackriverny.com. A total of 66 water access points were identified from the Black's headwaters in Forestport to where the river ends at Lake Ontario in Dexter.



Historical Sites and Events

The history of the Black River Canal, and of the communities that formed along it, offers a unique traveling experience with a wide array of significant sites and events that highlight this heritage. Historical resources along the travel route include art, archeological sites, cemeteries, churches, community centers, festival/fair grounds, historic architecture, monuments, museums and theaters. Forty-eight historical resources were identified and catalogued as part of the *Black River Blueway Trail Development Plan*. Those sites and resources that uphold the Black River Trail Scenic Byway theme and are operated by non profits or are free to the public have been entered in the Resource Key and appear on the Byway route map.



Local Products and Crafts

Locally produced crafts, arts, and food products are also available along the Byway at a variety of general stores, convenience stores, and roadside stands, as well as at the occasional hardware. A variety of farmer's markets along the route offer a broad spectrum of local foods including hand-made breads and cheeses, vegetables, fruits, herbs, and maple syrup products. Craftsmen and artisans often work with materials found locally to create products demonstrating time honored traditions. Specialty shops such as Lowville Producers Cheese Store, Bonnie's Country Store (Forestport), Carthage Fine Chocolates, and the Dodge Pratt Community Center & Gift Shop (Boonville), and similarly named establishments are obvious sources for locally-made products.

Lodging and Accommodations

Information on the rates and locations of the variety of bed-and-breakfast establishments, motels, hotels, cabins and rentals on the travel route can be found on the Chambers of Commerce or regional tourism offices website, listed below.

Eateries

Selection of restaurants, diners, bistros, and cafes varies from community to community. The City of Rome, City of Watertown, and Village of Lowville offer the most choices for visitors. The attached Typology shows the number of eateries found in the various Byway communities. Additional information is available from local and regional tourism offices and Chambers of Commerce.

Sports and Recreation

Numerous business enterprises offering rentals and sale of boats, kayaks, canoes, and other outdoor sporting goods and gear make it easier for visitors to engage in recreational activities. The Black River Trail Scenic Byway offers a wide array of recreational opportunities, both on the river and off. The changing river conditions offer areas for wild river tubing and rafting experiences, smooth flat-water paddling, small motor boats and jet skis, and even rapids used for tricks and stunts by international professionals. Additionally, the river offers a number of opportunities for fishing, wildlife and scenic viewing.

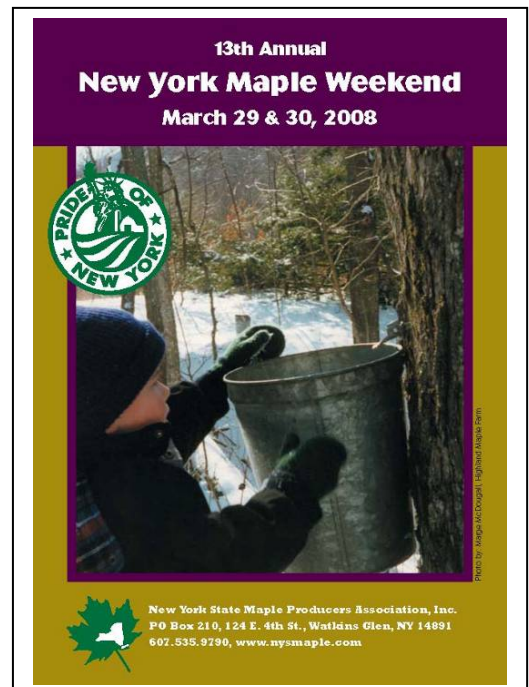


Finally, there are a number of paved and unpaved hiking and biking trails located along the byway route which provide an opportunity for travelers get even closer to the wonderful scenery along the Black River Trail.

Special Events

The Black River Trail Scenic Byway hosts a variety of unique special events that highlight many of the Byway's themes. A sampling, though not entirely complete list of events includes the following:

- General Brown Days (Brownville) - Artistic, musical, and historical activities from the time of General Brown;
- Jefferson County Fair (Watertown) – Traditional, agriculture-focused fair;
- Fragile Wilderness Expo (Watertown) – exposition focusing on wildlife and wilderness preservation.
- Winterfest/Holiday Parade (Carthage) – Outdoor winter carnival and parade;
- Twin Village Community Picnic (Carthage) – Food, games, bands and activities;
- Maple Festival Weekend (Lewis & St. Lawrence counties) – Pancake breakfasts, tours of operating sugar bush operations, demonstrations;
- Mennonite Heritage Week (Lewis County) – Traditional Mennonite foods, crafts, & activities;
- Fall Foilage Drive-It Yourself Tour (Lewis County) – A tour of the areas most scenic vistas including a scavenger hunt with prizes;
- Race with the Wind Mountain-Cross Bike Race (Lowville) – 50-mile race or 12-mile family ride through the Maple Ridge Wind Farm.
- Harvest of the Arts (Lowville) – artisans, quilters, food, music, activities;
- Cream Cheese Festival (Lowville) – Food, music and vendors;
- Lewis County Fair (Lowville) – Traditional, agriculture-focused fair;
- Kite Skiing Festival (Lowville) – Skiers attached to glider type kites, similar to kite surfing;
- Riverfest (Lowville) – Community boat paddling along the river with pit stops;
- NYS Woodsmen's Field Days (Boonville) – Logging competitions and other events including canoe and kayak race and truck rodeo;
- Heritage Days (Town of Western) - Artistic, musical, and historical activities from the time of Western's founding; and,
- Taste of Rome Arts & Cultural Festival (Rome) – Entertainment, children's games and activities, local food and crafts.
- Fort Stanwix Junior Ranger Day (Rome) – Children can become junior rangers in honor of the designation of Fort Stanwix as a national historic monument;



Chambers of Commerce, Tourism Councils and Tourism Offices

Byway planners will direct inquiries pertaining to commercial enterprises and specific event information to the following information centers:

Regional

Adirondack Regional Tourism Council
Phone: 518-846-8016 or 800-487-6867
Email: info@adk.com
Web: www.visitadirondacks.com

1,000 Islands Tourism Council
Phone: 800-847-5263
Web: www.visit1000islands.com

Jefferson County

Greater Watertown North Country Chamber of Commerce
Phone: 315-788-4400
Email: chamber@watertownny.com
Web: www.watertownny.com

Carthage Area Chamber of Commerce
Phone: 315-493-3590
Email: carthage@gisco.net
Web: www.carthageny.com

Lewis County

Lewis County Chamber of Commerce
Phone: 315-376-2213
Email: info@lewiscounty.org
Web: www.lewiscountychamber.org

Oneida County

Oneida County Convention and Visitors Bureau
Phone: 800-426-3132
Email: oneidany@dreamscape.com
Web: www.oneidacountycvb.com

Boonville Chamber of Commerce
Phone: 315-942-5112
Email: info@boonvillechamber.com
Web: www.boonvillechamber.com

Rome Chamber of Commerce
Phone: 315-337-1700
Email: info@romechamber.com
Web: www.romechamber.com