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The WESTCHESTER way

Westchester
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2005 TRAVEL GUIDE
Gateway to the Hudson River Valley

Welcome to Fun Weekends

The Westchester Way!

It's almost too good to be true. You have time for a weekend getaway! Now, where and how will you spend it? Welcome to Westchester County, an all-around destination where you can take advantage of several great "theme" weekends. Select from these suggestions, or mix and match to create an itinerary to suit your interests.

Family Fun Weekend

Don't save the best for last, head straight to **Playland Amusement Park** in Rye. There are 50 major and Kiddyland rides to choose from, include the wooden Dragon Coaster and the Carousel with hand-carved horses, and the new Super Flight Coaster. Play miniature golf, boat on the lake, or stroll the boardwalk. In northern Westchester, take a look at farm life at the turn of the century at **Muscot Farm** in Somers. Children can "meet" all types of animals, take a hayride, tour the historic farm buildings and hike the nature trails. In southern Westchester, visit the **Hudson River Museum** in Yonkers, where children learn about the universe by engaging in guided activities. Don't leave without taking in the star show in the Andrus Planetarium. Spend the evening at the **New Roc City** entertainment complex in New Rochelle. From the 19-screen multiplex with IMAX Theater, to the night-lit bowling alley, go-kart track and indoor skating rink, there's fun for all ages.

History Buff's Weekend

Important historic attractions dating from the 17th century are not only still standing, but open to you during your visit to Westchester. Start with the Westchester County's **African American Heritage Trail**, which consists of fourteen compelling sites spanning several centuries, such as **St. Paul's Church National Historic Site** in Mount Vernon. Then, take a tour led by costumed interpreters at **Philipsburg Manor** in Sleepy Hollow, a 17th century milling, farming and trading complex. At **Washington Irving's Sunnyside** in Tarrytown, you can experience the beloved American author's charming home as if he still lived there. **John Jay Homestead** in Katonah was the home of America's first Supreme Court Justice.

Garden Lover's Weekend

Nature lovers and green thumbs will delight from a choice of fourteen public gardens throughout Westchester. Begin your trip at **Lasdon Park and Arboretum** in Somers, and stroll the formal azalea, magnolia and lilac gardens. Expect to be amazed during a tour of **Kykuit**, the Rockefeller Estate in Sleepy Hollow, with its spectacular morning, brook, and rose gardens, picturesque grottos, glorious fountains, and extraordinary collection of 20th century sculpture. Less than

five miles away lies the stately 19th century **Rose Garden** at the **Lyndhurst Estate** in Tarrytown. Take in the heady aroma of over 100 varieties of roses covering trellises, arbors and gazebos. Experience the altogether different **Donald M. Kendall Sculpture Gardens** on the PepsiCo Headquarters in Purchase. Here, 168 acres of gardens of trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants harmonize with 45 major contemporary sculptures.



Philipsburg Manor

Outdoor Adventure Weekend

Bring your boots, bikes, or binoculars to Westchester County, and we'll supply the rest! **Kayak or sail** on the Hudson River from **Croton Point Park** in Croton-on-Hudson. Windsurf over the current from **George's Island Park** in Montrose. Back on dry land, hike the scenic twelve-mile **Briarcliff-Peekskill Trailway**, or cycle off-road along **Graham Hills Mountain Bike Trail** in Pleasantville. Find the quieter side of nature with a horse ride at **River Ridge Equestrian Center** in Eastchester, or by birdwatching at **Marshlands Conservancy** in Rye, recognized by the Audubon Society for its prolific sighting opportunities.

Shopaholic's Weekend

Shopping opportunities in Westchester run the gamut from small, unique shops in charming villages, to large malls filled with fashions. Treasure hunters will delight in several towns full of retailers, such as **Larchmont**, **Rye**, **Scarsdale** and **Tarrytown**. In the **Hamlet** of

Katonah, one-of-a-kind pieces of art, furniture, jewelry, clothing and more await your discovery. Downtown **Rye** is home to a colorful mix of jewelry, clothing, gift and home accessory boutiques. **The Westchester in White Plains** is a superlative shopping destination boasting over 150 fine stores, including **Nordstrom**, **Neiman Marcus**, **Tiffany's**, **Brooks Brothers**, **Louis Vuitton**, **Williams Sonoma** and more. If shopping for antiques is your passion, there are **antiques shopping trails** connecting over 40 retail shops throughout the county.

Just the Highlights

Want to see a little of everything for a well-rounded Westchester experience? Start with a tour of **Kykuit**, the **Rockefeller Estate** in Sleepy Hollow. The expansive estate home and garden of four generations of Rockefellers commands a breathtaking view of the Hudson River. Equally opulent is the **Lyndhurst Estate** in Tarrytown, America's greatest Gothic Revival castle. Time your visit to take in a concert at the **Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts** in Katonah during their **International Music Festival**, New York's largest outdoor summer music festival. You can also tour the **Mediterranean-style House Museum** and picnic among the gardens. Experience the new **Stone Barns Center for Food & Agriculture** in Pocantico Hills, a culinary destination converted from historic barns on the Rockefeller property. An environmentally sustainable farm supports a fine restaurant, while interesting cooking classes, wine

tastings and other events take place. An evening out at the **Westchester Broadway Theatre** in Elmsford includes an enjoyable three-course dinner and a popular Broadway revival at the longest-running year-round professional Equity theater in the state.

Take a look through this Travel Guide for details on these sites and attractions, or visit www.westchestertourism.com. Maps and several special-interest brochures are free for the asking; see the order form on the inside back page of this guide. Maybe more than one weekend appeals to you? No problem...just plan another trip!

Birdwatching

