

Long Weekend Trip to Seneca Falls

A three-day weekend trip that we took in
the summer.

This is the itinerary that I used for this trip. Feel free to follow it
exactly, or to make changes to fit your schedule.

Legend:

D - Distance to next location **T** - Time to drive to next location **A** - Arrive at the actual time **S** - Stay for how long **L** - Leave at this time
PRIORITY SITE - a top destination that should not be skipped.

Friday Night:

Leave home and find a motel
in Rochester.

If there is sufficient time, check
out some of the murals in this
city. These are included in the
map.



[Click here for the Google Map](#)
showing this weekend's
journey destinations.

Saturday:

Wake up, have breakfast, check to see how long it will take to
get to **Wild Wing Nature Center**. This is a not-for-profit
animal rescue centre that takes wild birds that are no longer
fit to live in the wild and keeps them here. Admission is free
but donations are very much needed. This location shares the
property with Mendon Ponds. Wild Wings opens at 10:00 AM
but first do the Fairy Gardens trail. The parking lot gives
access to both these locations.

A: plan your arrival to be at 9:20

S: at fairy trail until 10:00

A: at Wild Wings at 10:00 (opening)

S: 40 min. L: 10:40



Seneca Art & Culture Center at Ganondagan

Native American museum that charges admission. On site is art, a museum and a tour of a long house. (\$8.00).

D: 20 KM T:18 min A: 11:00 S: 1:15 L: 12:15

Granger Homestead and Carriage Museum - *PRIORITY SITE*

Heritage home with a collection of various carriages that were used prior to the automobile. The tour is by paid admission and is two hours long. Upon arrival, find out when the next tour is. When waiting for the next tour, have a brown-paper-bag lunch that was prepared when packing for this trip.

D: 15 KM T: 15 min A: 12:30 S: 2:30 L: 3:00

Ontario County Historical Society

Free local museum. Had rotating exhibits. Check closing time through the website. *Depending on when the next tour is at Granger Homestead, you may choose to skip this location or go to this one first. The priority is to see Granger Homestead since it is larger, and potentially more appealing to visit.*

D: 2KM T: 1 min A: depends on tour time at Granger Homestead S: 40 min L: depends on the time of arrival.

Sonnenberg Gardens & Mansion State Historic Park - *PRIORITY SITE*

Extensive grounds with various themed gardens. Expect to walk from the parking lot to each gardens and then to the mansion. There are golf carts available for those unable to walk these distances. Paid admission but is included in the Reciprocal Admissions Program. Confirm closing time. You will want to have as much time here as possible. Consider skipping Ontario County Historical Society if time is becoming an issue.

D: 2KM T: 3 min A: 3:10 S: 1:20 L: 4:30 (closing time)



Cayuga Lake State Park

Book a site for two nights. Each site is a respectable size with some distance between other campers. The campground does include sites with electricity. Flush toilets and showers in each loop. Firewood is relatively cheap and easy to find outside the campground. There is firewood at the camp store.

D: 54 KM T: 45 min A: 5:15

Set up camp and enjoy the evening.

OPTIONAL - Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge

At Montezuma, there are hiking trails and viewing areas to see wildlife that call this refuge home. These trails close at sunset. Over 300 species of birds visit this location, with 100 nesting here. It is only a ten minute drive from the campground. Consider visiting this if ahead of schedule or in need of something else to do either tonight, or early in the morning tomorrow or the next day.

Sunday:

Wake: 8:00 Leave 8:45

If up earlier, consider Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge.

All Things Oz Museum - Opens at 10:00

An extensive museum featuring the much-loved Wizard of Oz. Paid admission of \$10/person. A definite must for fans. A lot is one display, and please make sure you read the information panels.

D: 104 KM T: 1:15 A: 10:00 (opening time) S: 1:00 L: 11:00

OPTIONAL - Chittenango Lions Botanical Park & Creekwalk

If you arrive early for Wizard of Oz, or leave sooner than expected, consider this small part only a few minutes away. There is a small fairy garden located in the center. Time expected to spend at this location is about 10 minutes or so.



Chittenango Falls State Park

Small parking fee to see a spectacular falls. Hiking trails take you all the way around. Be sure to walk under the road bridge to see two more minor falls. Beautiful setting.

D: 9KM T: 10 min A: 11:10 S: 40 min L: 11:50

Lorenzo State Historic Site

Heritage home that has tours. Find out the next tour time—a small fee of \$6/person. Be sure to ask about the Anti-Suffragette movement. Tour time can be from one hour to 90 minutes.

D: 15 KM T: 15 min A: 12:10 S: 90 min L: 1:40

Stone Quarry Hill Art Park Inc

A donation to enter this large location. They boast over 100 sculptures and many kilometers of hiking trails. There is no map of sculpture locations that I could find. The idea is to walk the trails and find the sculptures on your own. There is the potential to spend hours at this location.

D: 5 KM T: 10 min A: 1:50 S: 1:20 L: 3:10

Pratts Falls Park

A community park that features a tall waterfall. There is viewing platforms at the top and a trail to get to the bottom. Locals are known to swim at the base of the falls.

D: 17 KM T: 17 min A: 3:30 S: 30 L: 4:00

13 Curves - Haunted Road

There is a short scenic road that has 13 curves. It is apparently haunted from all those that died on this road. Is it true? Only one way to find out.

D: 33 KM T: 27 min A: 4:30 S: 10 min L: 4:40

Return to campground

Pick up more firewood on the way, if needed.

D: 55 KM T: 50 min A: 5:30



Monday:

Wake: 7:00

Break Camp and Leave: 8:30

Ludovico Sculpture Trail

Find parking on the street nearby – free. Walk the length of this trail along the river for statues and sculptures. Be sure to check out the “**It’s A Wonderful Life Bridge**” that is at the start of the trail.

D: 5KM T: 7 min A: 8:40 S: 30 L: 9:10

Visit five museums:

- **Women’s Rights National Historical Park**
- **National Women’s Hall of Fame**
- **Seneca Museum of Waterways and Industry**
- **It’s A Wonderful Life Museum**
- **Seneca Falls Historical Society**

Confirm the opening times of these museums. The Wonderful Life Museum is likely closed on Sundays and Mondays, so this destination is open if the itinerary is used for different days other than the weekend,

At the Women’s Rights NHP, ask when the other locations in this city are open. Check to see if there is enough time in your plan to travel to these as well.

You may have passed a couple of other statues nearby on the way in. Consider checking them out.

Prices for these locations range from free, donation to admission.

S: 2:30 L: 11:40



Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens

Paid entry to this location but is free with the Reciprocal Admissions Program. They have rotating garden themes throughout the year.

D: 190 to 210 KM T: 1:50 to 2:20 DEPENDING ON TAKING THE TOLL ROAD OR NOT. A: 1:40 S: 40 L: 2:20

Our Lady of Victory National Shrine & Basilica

This incredible basilica is hard to miss from the Botanical Gardens. It is free to visit and has a museum in the basement.

D: just a few blocks S: 40 L: 3:10

OPTIONAL - Paula's Donuts

We always go to Paula's Donut when we are in the area. They have a sizeable cinnamon bun and an apple fritter that is just amazing. There are several locations in this area.

OPTIONAL - Buffalo Mural Tour

Buffalo has many murals throughout the city. If time allows, consider checking out these murals and get to know this city and the people better. Locations are on the map.

Home

It is time to head home and begin planning your next trip.



Links:

The Google Map for this trip: <https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=13d0venCCF4RCnjTZIDysg9Sz1WML7Co&usp=sharing>

Travels With Stacey: <https://travelswithstacey.com/>

Wild Wings Nature Center: <http://www.wildwingsinc.com>

Seneca Art and Culture Center: <http://ganondagan.org>

Granger Homestead: <http://grangerhomestead.org>

Ontario County Historical Society: <http://www.ochs.org>

Sonnenberg Gardens: <http://www.sonnenberg.org>

Reciprocal Admissions Program: <https://travelswithstacey.com/new-map-reciprocal-admissions-program/>

Cayuga State Park: <https://parks.ny.gov/parks/123/details.aspx>

Montezuma NWR: <https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Montezuma/>

All Things Oz: <http://www.allthingsoz.org>

Chittenango Falls: <https://parks.ny.gov/parks/130/>

Lorenzo SHS: <https://parks.ny.gov/historic-sites/15/details.aspx>

Stone Quarry: <https://sqhap.org>

13 Curves: <https://travelswithstacey.com/13-curves/>

Women's Rights: <https://www.nps.gov/wori/index.htm>

Women's Hall of Fame: <https://www.womenofthehall.org>

Seneca Waterways and Industry: <http://www.sfheritagetourism.org>

Wonderful Life: <https://www.wonderfullifemuseum.com>

Seneca Falls HS: <http://www.sfhistoricalociety.org>

Buffalo Botanical Gardens: <https://www.buffalogardens.com>

Our Lady of Victory: <http://www.olvbasilica.org>

Paula's Donuts: <http://paulasdonuts.com>

