



1125 Marina Parkway
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Towns and villages to the west of Macedon...remember things change, restaurants open & close, docking fees can change. Please use this as a guide only, and if there is something specific that you need more info about, let me know, I can usually find it.

Interactive Map of the New York State Canal System:

<http://www.canals.ny.gov/maps/index.html>

Macedon

<http://villageofmacedon.org>

<http://www.waynecountytourism.com/>

<http://www.mpwcc.org/>

Your orientation begins at Mid-Lakes Erie Macedon Landing at 2:00 p.m. Most people arrive at around 12:30, check in with our crew and run off to the grocery store for last minute supplies.

Dockside Amenities:

Mid-Lakes Erie Macedon Landing (feel free to stop back into the marina at anytime during your trip) –

<https://midlakesnav.com/mid-lakes-marina> : restrooms, laundry, shower facilities and WIFI are available.

From Lock 30 in Macedon, it is a short walk into town. No services at the lock.

Village Amenities:

There is a plaza with pharmacy and fast food at the corner of Route 31.

Attractions:

Longacre Farms: Fun on the farm for all age groups. Jumping pillow, gemstone panning, farm market, ice cream and the Amazing Maize Maze. Market and ice cream: May - October; Maze - August -October.

<https://longacrefarms.com>

Perks:

Our marina staff is available to answer any questions during business hours. (We are always available by telephone.) And, your car is there if you need to run out for supplies.



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Fairport: (1 ½ hour west of Macedon)

www.village.fairport.ny.us/
www.fairportpartnership.org
www.fairportmerchants.com

Dockside Amenities:

Shore Power, Fresh Water, Bathrooms and Shower on shore. Dockmaster on duty in the summer. There is a fee to overnight in Fairport.

Village Amenities:

RV &E Bicycle and Roller Blade Rentals. <http://www.rvebike.com/>
Erie Canal Boat Company, Kayak Rentals. <http://www.eriecanalboatcompany.com/>
Red Bird Market - fresh produce, baked goods, coffee, house-wares & gifts, bulk spices, bread, dairy, general groceries. <http://www.redbirdmarket.com/>
Free WIFI at the coffee shop in the Box Factory.

Attractions:

Slanted Lift Bridge, very unusual and the only one of its kind on the canal system.
http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Image:Erie_Canal_-_Fairport_Lift_Bridge.JPG

Many local restaurants and specialty shops.

Fairport Library (south side of canal, across the street from main docking area) <http://www.fairportlibrary.org>

Restaurants that were recommended in our log books:

Joey B's for dinner
Ricki's for breakfast
Donnelley's excellent pub, 22 taps, good food
Royal Café – they love the Gelato
Blue Cactus – excellent Mexican Food
Mulconry's Irish Pub – Liftbridge Lane

Perks:

Fairport is the first of many true jewels along the canal, a bustling canaside community, with lots to see and do! The slanted liftbridge is fun to watch, there is a dockmaster who will tell you all about his town and plenty of restaurants and shops.



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Warnings:

It looks like you might make it under the Fairport Lift Bridge without having it raised, you will not! Radio the Bridge Operator (channel 13) and have it lifted for you. The bridge operates on demand, just like the locks.

The village of Fairport charges a small fee for overnight docking. It is worth it, boating amenities are among the best and the help of the Dockmaster is priceless.

Noise. The canal is only about a block from the railroad tracks and trains run all night. Bells on the lift bridge are also noisy and start ringing at 7:00 a.m. If you are a light sleeper, this might not be the best overnight for you.

Annual Events:

Farmer's Market – Saturdays 7:00 a.m. - noon

Canal Days – first weekend in June. <http://www.fairportcanaldays.com/>

Car Cruz Nites - Tuesdays, June - Sept.

Scarecrow Festival – Second Saturday in October.

Video Clips:

Canal Days: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KBRAPx2Wr5M&feature=related>

Canal Days: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SP4AKs8qOCA>

Bushnell's Basin

Bushnell's Basin is an area just outside of the village of Pittsford. Here you will find Richardson's Canal House, fine dining with outdoor seating at the canal's edge. Dock space is limited Bushnell's Basin. And there is a charge to stay there overnight.

<http://richardsonscanalhouse.net>



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Pittsford: (< 1 hour west of Fairport)

<http://townofpittsford.org/home-discover>

<http://pittsfordchamber.org/>

Dockside Amenities:

Shore power is limited. It is found on the south side of the canal, near Main Street. There is no fresh water, showers or restrooms available in Pittsford.

Village Amenities:

Towpath Bike Rentals: <http://www.towpathbike.com/>

There are convenience stores, but no grocery store within walking distance.

Attractions:

Between Fairport and Pittsford, you will cross the Grand Embankment, where the canal is built up over the homes below. Unfortunately, the foliage is overgrown and you can't see over the embankment.

Specialty shopping and fine dining are the name of the game in Pittsford. The many shops and restaurants offer something for everyone and make Pittsford a great stop during the day or for the night.

Lock 32 has a unique attractions; white water kayaking in the spillway bed. Ask the locktender if it ok, and tie up at the high side of **Lock 32** to have look or give it a try.

<http://geneseewaterways.org/kayaking.htm>

Local Beer? Try <http://lock32brew.com>

Restaurants that were recommended in out log books:

Aladdin's – Mediterranean, lite fare, inexpensive, open on Sunday

Brueggers Bagles

Coal Tower – lunch

Pittsford Pub – good beer, good lunch

Olive's – Greek, best ever!

Hick's & McCarthy on Main Street – recommended by a local

Perks:

Pittsford is loaded with unique shops and restaurants. In contrast to Fairport's modern architecture, Pittsford has redefined the use of old buildings like the Coal Tower right along the canal.



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Warnings:

Beyond the village of Pittsford, there are two locks, Lock 32 and Lock 33 (approx 30 minutes). The locks are very much like Lock 30, in Macedon, where you do your orientation. Be aware that instead of hanging ropes on the lock walls, lock 32 and lock 33 have cables that are attached at the top and bottom. The concept is the same, just hang on. Ask about these locks during your orientation.

Annual Events:

Summer Concert Series – Fridays, mid-June – mid – August, Port of Pittsford

Positively Pittsford – Saturday, mid-June, live music, family amusement/entertainment

Pittsford Celebrates – Saturday, mid-Sept., live music throughout the day, family amusement/entertainment, fireworks.

Video Clips:

Lock 32/Sam Patch Tour Boat: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AaM-A33zuEc>

Canal Tour & Lock - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sLmspaGktKg>



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Genesee River, Corn Hill Landing, City of Rochester

(@ 2 hours from Pittsford)

<http://www.visitrochester.com>

<http://www.cornhill.org/>

Dockside Amenities:

Corn Hill Landing has Shore power and water are available and there is a fee for docking. Please check in with the dockmaster upon arrival.

There is some free docking (very limited) available near the Staybridge Suites. Look for it before you pay at Corn Hill.

Village/City Amenities:

Some shops nearby, but most services are more than walking distance from the dock.

Attractions:

Over the past couple of years, there has been a great deal of development at **Corn Hill** and it has become a very popular day stop and overnight stop for our renters. <http://www.cornhilllanding.com/harbor.php>

Rochester is loaded with things to do and taxi service is readily available if you are ready to explore. The Strong National Museum of Play, George Eastman House and many cultural and theatre opportunities.

High Falls Urban Cultural Park features a 96' "metropolitan" waterfall, the largest found in the heart of any major city. <http://www.highfalls.us/>

Genesee Brewery: <http://geneseebeer.com/brewhouse/> It's a bit of a walk to get there, but you walk right by High Falls too. Totally worth the walk...or bike ride.

Dinosaur BBQ Rochester: <http://www.dinosaurbarbque.com/location/rochester-ny/> Just across the bridge from Corn Hill Landing...don't miss it.

Perks:

Corn Hill is a growing, prosperous community. And, there is a beautiful view of the Rochester skyline.

Warnings:

While I wouldn't call Corn Hill a high crime area, or dangerous at all, we did have a bicycle stolen off of one of the Lockmasters. It was probably just a dumb kid, but as always, be safe, lock your doors when you leave the boat alone.



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Annual Events:

Lilac Festival, downtown, <http://www.lilacfestival.com/>

Rochester International Jazz Festival, various locations, downtown, <http://www.rochesterjazz.com/>

Corn Hill Arts Festival, Corn Hill Landing,

Free Concert Series, Corn Hill Landing, Fridays, July - Aug.

Video Clips:

Bike Ride in Corn Hill: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-IIXa7rLA1w>

Tug Boat at Genesee Crossing: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bRQhHSSC6Qk>

Strong Museum: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gGm1Xeb2C2c>

Spencerport (2 ½ hour from Corn Hill Landing or 3 ½ hours west of Pittsford)

<http://www.vil.spencerport.ny.us/>

<http://spencerportchamber.org/html/welcome.html>

Dockside Amenities:

Shore power and fresh water are available with no fee.

Village Amenities:

The Galley Restaurant is located on the canal and offers full-service dining in their dining room or outdoors along the canal. The Village Plaza is home to supermarket, laundromat, Chinese restaurant, banks, a used book store and more. All these shops and more are located within walking distance of the Erie Canal docks.

Attractions:

Sunday Evening Summer Concert Series

Arrowhead Golf Club: www.arrowheadgc.org

Golf – Arrowhead Golf Course (between Spencerport and Brockport). New docks. Restaurant and bar onsite, ice for sale and clubs available to rent. 110v electric available. (Showers and 30amp electrical service planned for 2016)

Trolley Museum & Visitor's Center, canalside.

Restaurants that were recommended in our log books:



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Garndpa Sam's – lunch, dinner
The Galley – bar food, great
Texas Grille

Perks:

The Chamber of Commerce website describes **Spencerport** with, “A traditional "small-town" business district runs for several blocks along Union Street right through the heart of the Village. There you will find diverse gift shops and boutiques offering everything from African art to American primitives, as well as a gourmet coffee shop, an ice cream parlor, and some of the best pizza you'll ever taste.”

Annual Events:

Spencerport Canal Days <http://spencerportcanaldays.com/>

Sunday evening concert series in the gazebo

Video Clips:

Adam's Basin in History <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VyipUKfcvSY>

Brockport (1 ½ hours west of Spencerport)

<http://www.brockportny.org>

<http://www.brockport.net/index.html>

Dockside Amenities:

Shore Power, fresh water, internet access, tv lounge, laundry, restrooms and showers. There is a fee, talk to Visitor Center Volunteer. They usually have a fresh pot of coffee on in the morning!

Village Amenities:

Wegman's Grocery Store is about a mile away.

Our log books say there is a grocery store within walking distance, I don't know any closer than Wegman's.

Smokehouse Restaurant – free WIFI on the porch

Attractions:

One local business that we hear about time and again in Brockport is the Lift Bridge Bookstore. Visit them while in **Brockport**, right at the Main Street Lift Bridge. www.liftbridgebooks.com

One of the country's oldest movie theatres, the Strand Theatre. <http://strandtheater.com/>



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You can even visit the SUNY **Brockport** campus. <http://www.brockport.edu/>

Western Monroe Historical Society <http://www.frontiernet.net/%7Emorganmanninghouse/index.html>

Restaurants that were recommended in our log books:

Smokehouse Restaurant – good BBQ

Brockport Diner – breakfast

Red Tea Room – on Main St. for lunch

Barber’s Grille – tavern

Galley Restaurant – canalside (I heard that they had closed, could be a rumor)

Colleen’s Café – breakfast, good

Main St. Diner – across from Pizza Hut

One Main Street – good food, cold beer

Perks:

Brockport is a busy college town, but from the canal feels like Smalltown USA. There are lots of things to do in town, and then retreat to your boat for a quiet evening away.

Dine in one of the many Brockport restaurants or enjoy a bar-b-que of your own in Harvester Park, where you will be docked.

Visitor’s Center will let you borrow extra bicycles.

Warnings:

College students come back in September and Brockport turns back into a college town. Campus is quite far away, but some of the downtown bars are close-by.

Annual Events:

Thursday Farmer’s Market 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Brockport Summer Arts Festival <http://www.rochesterevents.com/brockportarts/>

Video Clips:

Classic Brockport <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mzG-ckwkX2o>



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Holley (1 hour west of Brockport)

<http://www.oreanscountytourism.com/>
<http://villageofholley.org/content/>
<http://www.oreanschamber.com/>
<http://www.oreanscounty.info/index.htm>

Dockside Amenities

Shore power, fresh water, gazebo with restrooms and showers (get combination # from the bridge tender)

Village Amenities

Your cruising guide indicates that there is a grocery store in **Holley**. The store is now closed. I believe that there is still a pharmacy, bank and Laundromat in **Holley**.

There is a convenience store near town square.

Attractions

Holley is known for Waterfall Park, created by a man-made spillway or overflow, from the Erie Canal. There is a trail through the park that takes you from the canal wall to downtown. <http://nyfalls.com/holley.html>

Restaurants that were recommended in out log books:

There are three different places to get ice-cream!

Jonathan's coffee/bakery – closed Sunday and Monday

Sam's Place – good eating, extremely reasonable

Dustin's Pizza – delivered to the boat

Perks

Holley is a bit of a lazy town. The canal park and waterfall park are beautiful, but there is not a lot going on in town. This is a great place to have a BBQ and spend a relaxing evening alone!

Many entries in our log books indicate that Holley was a favorite stop!

Warnings

Usually not a lot going on in town. Some people love that and others do not.

Annual Events

Fire Department Carnival, last weekend in June



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Entertainment at the Gazebo, July and August, Fridays, 7 – 9 pm

Video Clips

Holley Falls <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WWv4Hnh4aCo>

Albion (1 ½ hours west of Holley)

<http://www.orleanscountytourism.com/>

<http://vil.albion.ny.us/content/>

<http://www.orleanschamber.com/>

<http://www.orleanscounty.info/index.htm>

<http://www.calsplus.com/orleans>

Dockside Amenities:

Shore Power and fresh water and comfort station with showers

Village Amenities:

Grocery stores: Tops Supermarket (408 West Ave), Pawlak's Food Center (320 West Ave.), Yellow Goose Market (202 North Main St.)

Attractions:

Swan Library: <http://www.swanlibrary.org/>

The Canalway Trail in Albion features 180 bluebird nesting boxes.

Restaurants that were recommended in our log books:

Village House – family diner, great menu, great food

Family Restaurant on Rte 31

Perks:

A walk through the historic district reveals some amazing architecture. The Historic Courthouse District has the Greek Revival Style courthouse surrounded by seven architecturally outstanding churches.

Annual Events:

Strawberry Festival, mid-June.



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Medina (1 ½ hours west of Albion)

<http://villagemedina.org/content/Tourism>

<http://www.orleanschamber.com/>

<http://www.orleanscounty.info/index.htm>

<http://www.calsplus.com/orleans>

Dockside Amenities:

Shore Power, fresh water, restrooms and showers

Village Amenities:

No grocery store within walking distance. There is a convenience store a few blocks away.

Attractions:

Before you reach the village, float for a few minutes at Culvert Road, wait for a car to pass right under the canal. This is the only place on the NYS Canal System where this happens.

Beyond Culvert Road, the Erie Canal crosses an aqueduct that takes the canal over Oak Orchard creek. The Erie Canal is approximately 42 feet above the waterfall. If you don't get a good look at the falls from your boat, dock in **Medina** and walk along the towpath on the north side of the canal to have a look. It's not too far.

<http://www.nyfalls.com/medina.html> <http://www.geocities.com/falzguy.geo/medina-falls.html>

The biggest attraction in **Medina** is the Railroad Museum, a 100 year old freight terminal with a huge collection of railroad memorabilia and model trains. The museum is about a half mile walk or bike ride from the canal. <http://railroadmuseum.net/>

Restaurants that were recommended in our log books:

Avanit's

Zambistro – fine dining, reasonable prices

Perks:

Great architecture. Many historic buildings constructed from local Medina Sandstone. Medina even has a Sandstone Society, dedicated to preserving these buildings. <http://www.medinaarmory.com/>

Warnings:

A group had the bicycles stolen from the top of their boat. They notified the Medina police who found the bikes, caught up with the boaters and returned the bikes. The theft was most likely the work of bored kids, but just something to watch out for.



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Annual Events:

Cruise Nite & Music, Fridays, June – August

Farmer’s Market, Thursdays, June - October

Video Clips:

RR Museum Layout: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uUvokJGjpnE>

Middleport (45 minutes west of Medina)

<http://www.middleport-ny.com>

<http://www.niagaracounty.com/>

Dockside Amenities:

Shore power and fresh water available. Restrooms and showers are at the DPW building, next to the canal. There is no charge, but the village does ask for a donation in a drop box near the DPW building.

Village Amenities:

There is a small grocery store, Wilson Farms (79 Telegraph Rd.) within walking distance and a couple of Laundromats.

Restaurants that were recommended in our log books:

The Basket Factory – closed Monday

Perks:

Middleport is a cute little Canal Town. There is not much going on, but that is nice sometimes too.

Video Clips:

Canal Trip to Middleport (rafting three boats together is not the norm!)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ih5Og6Idwc> & <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=473zVnh7H9E>

Lockport (2 hours west of Middleport)

<http://www.elockport.com/>

Dockside Amenities:

There are a few different places that you can tie up in Lockport. Ask the Locktender to recommend the best place. He will most likely tell you to go through the locks to the Upper Terminal Wall, on the high side of the double locks (34 & 35). There is no power or water there.



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Village/City Amenities:

There is a grocery store, but it is quite far from the canal.

Attractions:

Locks 34 and 35, one of two sets of double locks on the canal system. (The other is on the Cayuga Seneca Canal at Seneca Falls.) These locks will raise you a total of 50' over the Niagara Escarpment, the same geological formation that creates Niagara Falls.

Adjacent the modern locks, explore the stonework from the set of five locks that took the original Erie Canal through Lockport. (I heard that Lockport had a plan to re-water the original five locks, but I am not sure where that project stands now.) There is a small, one room museum located at the base of the locks.

Lockport Cave and Underground Boat Rides. Here, former underground hydraulic tunnels that used excess water from the original Erie Canal are used for this unique cave attraction. Cool! <http://www.lockportcave.com/>

Erie Canal Discovery Center 24 Church Street, Lockport, NY 14094 Phone: (716) 439-0431 Hours: Daily May-October 9am-5pm. (Available for group tours in off-season.) Admission \$6 and \$4 students. Hands-on, interactive center highlighting Lockport's role in the opening of the Erie Canal.

The Kenan Arts Center - <http://kenancenter.org/>

Lockport is quite close (20 minutes by car) to Niagara Falls. Many people will work in a car rental or taxi ride to spend a day at the Falls. Lockport and Tonawanda both have Enterprise Car Rental franchises. As advertised, "Enterprise will pick you up", so you do not have to find transportation to get to them. Remember, you will need your car insurance information and identification (best to have a passport, but a driver's license still works) to get into Canada. <http://www.enterprise.com>

2014 suggestion from a Comment Sheet: *"One item that worked out great for us this year was that we wanted to go to Niagara Falls while we were so close in Lockport but had trouble renting a car. We ended up taking a limo round trip from Timkey Enterprise Inc. Their number is 716-433-0699. We got this from the City Clerk's office as one of the suggestions. It was reasonable and convenient since they could drop us off and pick us up wherever we wanted."*

Restaurants that were recommended in our log books:

Tom's Diner – breakfast, near locks
Shamus – West Street

Perks:

Lots of Erie Canal Structures to explore. There are many shops and dining opportunities nearby and city transportation is good if you want to explore further. There are tons of things to do!



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Warnings:

Walking in Lockport can be rough. Hills are very steep in some places. And, when you explore the old locks and power house museum, there a tons of stairs.

Annual Events:

Monday Night Car Cruise Nights, May – Labor Day

Annual Lockport Outdoor Arts & Crafts Festival – late June , Downtown Lockport. Over 200 Arts & Crafts/Food vendors from all over the states.

Front Porch Concert Series, Wednesdays in August and September, Lockport Free Library.

Video Clips:

Modern Lockport <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i8QXnKVTtCM>

Erie Canal Lockport <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HEfkNmTToPA&feature=related>

Going through the locks (once again, rafting three boats together is not normal)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PTt_Wol5gzg

City of Lockport Web Cam - <http://www.elockport.com/eriecanal.html>

Tonawanda (2 ½ hours beyond Lockport)

<http://www.the-tonawandas.com/>

<http://www.ci.tonawanda.ny.us/>

<http://www.northtonawanda.org/>

Dockside Amenities:

Gateway Park: Water, electric, free WIFI

Attractions:

The Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum is just couple of blocks north off the canal in North Tonawanda.

<http://www.carrouselmuseum.org/>

Railroad Museum site (no website found) on Oliver Street. This former Erie Railroad station has been restored for museum purposes. . In addition to the building, there are two cabooses and two locomotives.

This is as close as you will get to Niagara Falls and the city of Buffalo. Many people will work in a car rental or taxi ride to spend a day at the Falls. Lockport and **Tonawanda** both have Enterprise Car Rental franchises. As advertised, “Enterprise will pick you up”, so you do not have to find transportation to get to them.

Remember, you will need your car insurance information and identification (best to have a passport, but a driver’s license still works) to get into Canada. <http://www.enterprise.com>



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Riviera Theatre - <http://www.rivieratheatre.org/>

North Tonawanda History Museum - <http://www.nthistorymuseum.org/frameset1.html>

Water Bike Adventures – rent a water bike on the Erie Canal in Gateway Park. <http://waterbikeadventures.com/>

Perks:

A landscaped "Heritage Trail" connects the Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum with the Railroad Museum. The trail continues, by means of signage, to the Riviera Theatre, on the Erie Canal.

Warnings:

Tonawandas is the western terminus of the Erie Canal. It is time to turn around.

Annual Events:

CanalFest of the Tonawandas <http://www.canalfest.org/>

Gateway Concert Series – Wednesday and Friday evenings at Gateway Park.

Video Clips:

Gateway Harbor Web Cam - <http://www.northtonawanda.org/GatewayWebCam.htm>

News/Magazine Articles:

http://artvoice.com/issues/v8n23/summer_guide/exploring_north_tonawanda