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WELCOME TO
A GREAT LIFE

NIAGARA FALLS:
NATURAL WONDER
OF THE WORLD
Downtown Buffalo features destination venues like Canalside, Harborcenter, and RiverWorks for year-round entertainment, from sailing and paddle-boarding to ice skating and hockey. There’s also phenomenal architecture, craft breweries and distilleries, fantastic restaurants, diverse food trucks, live music venues, Broadway shows, college centers, and professional sports arenas.

Popular neighborhoods like Elmwood Village, Allentown, and North Buffalo’s Hertel Avenue are easy to explore on foot or by bike. Attractions and destinations include cozy coffee shops, renowned museums, diners and bistros, farmers’ markets, an internationally celebrated orchestra, intimate galleries, antiques, and other locally owned shops.

Buffalo’s Frederick Law Olmsted–designed park system and community greenspaces offer swimming pools, soccer fields, splash pads, tennis, golf, and more.

The sparkling waters of the Niagara River, two Great Lakes — Erie and Ontario — and one of the world’s natural wonders, Niagara Falls, along with its emerging downtown center and area wineries, surround the region to the west and north. To the east and south are rolling hills, family-owned dairy and produce farms, historic cider mills and maple-sugar shacks, ski resorts, and miles of hiking, biking and snowmobile trails. In between, welcoming suburbs offer nationally recognized school districts and an abundance of family-friendly amenities.

Dr. Tye & Courtney Caldwell
Co-founders, ShearShare
Relocated from Austin, Texas

“We really appreciate the uniqueness that is Buffalo. The people here pride themselves on the strength of the community, and we feel that spirit played out every day. When you land in Buffalo, you get the sense that it’s a big city with a small-town feel, and that level of community support is vital when building a family or launching a new endeavor. It’s not called ‘The City of Good Neighbors’ for nothing!”

With fantastic opportunities for work and play — without high costs and hassles — Buffalo Niagara is your place for a great life.
When you explore Western New York, you’ll soon discover how special it is and how much there is to do. This section is an overview of the eight counties that make up the region: Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans, and Wyoming. Geographically speaking, several of the world’s largest bodies of fresh water create the region’s western and northern borders: Lake Erie, the Niagara River, Niagara Falls, and Lake Ontario interconnect for a natural boundary that’s spectacular to see and enjoy (the waterways are also the reason for our temperate climate). Everything to the east of the water is lush, green, and beautiful.

We’ve spotlighted the largest cities — Buffalo and Niagara Falls — and their respective counties — Erie and Niagara — followed by highlights of the other counties and the villages, towns, activities, and amenities that make up this spectacular region.
The region’s commercial and cultural center is the City of Buffalo, located in Erie County on the shores of Lake Erie and the Niagara River. Buffalo is the second-largest city in New York State after New York City. In addition to serving as the region’s business hub, you’ll find that Buffalo is a terrific place to live and play. There are myriad residential options as well as museums, theaters, schools, galleries, sports venues, restaurants, shops, and much more. All of our region’s major league sports teams play in Erie County, as well as several minor league and collegiate teams.

www.visitbuffaloniagara.com
# ERIE COUNTY: CITIES, TOWNS, VILLAGES

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## THE NORTHTOWNS

The northern suburbs of Buffalo including Tonawanda, Kenmore, Amherst, Williamsville, and Clarence. May or may not include Wheatfield and North Tonawanda, depending on who you ask.

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## THE SOUTHTOWNS

Towns located south of the Buffalo River, generally Hamburg, Orchard Park, Boston, Eden, Elma, East Aurora, and West Seneca.
With a focus on increased economic development, job creation, and opportunity for all city residents, Buffalo is becoming a location of choice for new and established businesses and their employees. Investment in the city is higher than it’s been in decades and the fruits of this investment have visibly changed our city’s skyline. Buffalo is moving forward, and we ask you to join us in building on its momentum.”

Byron Brown
MAYOR, CITY OF BUFFALO
OUTSIDE OF DOWNTOWN

4 Allentown

Eclectic and energetic, Allentown is known for its art, music, popular LGBTQIA+ bars, and top-notch restaurants, as well as its charming historic homes. One of Buffalo’s best-loved events, the Allentown Art Festival, is held each June, while Allentown’s art gallery walk, known as “First Fridays,” has grown into a popular monthly event. In addition, Allentown is home to the Theatre of Youth in the historic Allendale Theater and the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site. At the foot of Allen Street stands the brand-new University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences — an anchor to the sprawling and innovative Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus.

5 Black Rock/Riverside

Black Rock is located along the Black Rock Canal and was an independent and bustling waterfront town before incorporation with Buffalo in 1853. Riverside is just past Black Rock, where the canal meets the Niagara River. These abutting neighborhoods include both families who have called them home for generations, and newcomers — many immigrants and refugees, whom Buffalo welcomes. They all enjoy this affordable area’s proximity to waterfront bike paths and greenways, including Riverside Park, designed by renowned landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted’s firm. Niagara Street is experiencing a renaissance of its own with new mixed-use building renovations, loft apartments, breweries, and restaurants.

6 Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus (BNMC)

The Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus is Buffalo’s innovation district, a dynamic place to live, work, and play. Home to world-class hospitals, research institutions, and education facilities, the BNMC has benefited from Buffalo’s entrepreneurial spirit, with more than 120 private sector companies located within its boundaries as well as brand new housing options. BNMC is also home to several University at Buffalo buildings, including the Incubator@CBLS, a business incubator designed to spur innovation and entrepreneurism.
City of Buffalo Neighborhoods

**7 Delaware District**
The Delaware District centers on Delaware Avenue, with stately mansions dating back to the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. At its core is Delaware Park, the centerpiece of landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted’s Buffalo Parks System. This area encompasses the city’s Museum District, with the Burchfield Penney Art Center, the Buffalo History Museum, and the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, currently undergoing a $168M expansion and slated to reopen as the Buffalo AKG Art Museum. Other attractions such as Hoyt Lake, historic and serene Forest Lawn Cemetery, and the Buffalo Zoo make this a popular area.

**8 Elmwood Village**
Nearly 200 shopping, arts, dining, and leisure destinations fill the storefronts, and make this area a residential and entertainment favorite. Highlighted as one of America’s “most livable neighborhoods” by the American Planning Association, the EV offers diverse living options, including many Victorian and Queen Anne–style single-family homes. A seasonal farmers’ market, pocket parks, parkways, and miles of bike lanes make it easy and fun to live and play here. Within or near this neighborhood — which also borders Delaware Park and the Museum District — are several colleges, including Buffalo State College (State University of New York), and Medaille College.

**9 Fruit Belt**
One of Buffalo’s most historic neighborhoods, the Fruit Belt takes its name from the orchards planted by its first settlers. Home to both families and professionals, many of whom have lived there for generations, the neighborhood is bordered by the Michigan Street African American Heritage Corridor. Its proximity to the Medical Campus, the Central Business District, and Jefferson Avenue, the commercial heartbeat of the near East Side, make the Fruit Belt a convenient option to live, work, and play.

**10 Hamlin Park**
Hamlin Park, on Buffalo’s East Side, is home to Canisius College. This neighborhood and the surrounding blocks include many historically significant homes and houses of worship, another Olmsted-designed park (Martin Luther King, Jr. Park, known locally as MLK Park, a popular destination for its splash pad in the summer and ice skating in the winter), and the Buffalo Museum of Science. With significant investments in surrounding neighborhoods and its easy commute to downtown, this family-forward neighborhood is reemerging with affordable and exciting residential redevelopment and business opportunities.

**DISCOVERING BUFFALO, ONE STREET AT A TIME**
Allen Street was named after Lewis Falley Allen, who arrived in Buffalo in 1827 with his wife, Margaret Cleveland. (The future Mrs. Allen was Grover Cleveland’s aunt — her nephew’s career trajectory went from sheriff of Erie County, to mayor of Buffalo and governor of New York and, ultimately, president of the U.S.) After selling parcels of land on Main Street, the Allen’s herd of cows could no longer graze, but the path that had been used to move the cows became “Allen Street” in 1888.

Visit Buffalo Streets, where Angela Keppel, a history enthusiast and urban planner shares much, much more about the history of Buffalo’s streets.

www.buffalostreets.com
Larkin District
The vibrant neighborhood known as Larkinville is favored by people of all ages who live here and attend its many restaurants, breweries, bars, concerts, and events. It centers on the historic and redeveloped Larkin Terminal Warehouse, now called Larkin at Exchange, and several other large-scale industrial buildings are under renovation as mixed-use and residential properties.

Masten Park/Cold Springs
With historic and beautiful architectural character, this residential neighborhood adjacent to the Jefferson Avenue corridor is undergoing a planning rebirth. This neighborhood features the Merriweather Library, Freedom Wall, African American Cultural Center and the Michigan Street African American Heritage Corridor. Here you can also find The Foundry, an active, community-based makerspace providing hands-on classes and entrepreneurial support.

North Buffalo
With Hertel Avenue at its heart and Delaware Park and the Buffalo Zoo within an easy walk or bike ride, North Buffalo is a perennial favorite. It boasts a mix of Buffalo restaurant and bar mainstays, as well as an active retail hub. The eclectic mix of antiques, clothing and furniture stores, art galleries, spas, coffee shops and ethnic markets keep it ever-appealing. This neighborhood is also home to the historic North Park Theater, a much-loved and gorgeously restored 1920s movie theater.

Old First Ward
One of Buffalo’s oldest neighborhoods has become one of its hippest. The Old First Ward – which historically drew Irish, Polish and Italian immigrants to work the thriving industrial scene – has been reinvigorated. In recent years, in addition to the reimagining of the huge grain elevators, things like kayak launch sites, new breweries, cool coffee shops, a rowing club, bike paths, and a climbing gym have popped up.

Outer Harbor
The Outer Harbor features more than 200 acres of green space, including the Independent Health Wellness Trail, Wilkeson Pointe, the Lakeside Bike Park, and the Lakeside Event Lawn. The Outer Harbor hosts events and festivals as well as free summer fitness classes, and kayak and bicycle rentals. Check out RiverWorks, a redeveloped industrial grain-elevator compound featuring a concert venue, outdoor adventure park, restaurant, and brewery that hosts amateur hockey, curling, roller derby, and other special events.

Parkside
On the eastern border of Delaware Park, this tree-lined neighborhood was planned as a residential area by landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted in 1883. Parkside encompasses the Buffalo Zoo, the Darwin D. Martin House — one of Frank Lloyd Wright’s best examples of Prairie-style architecture — and Nichols School, one of Buffalo’s most prestigious private schools.

South Buffalo
While South Buffalo’s Irish-American roots are proudly reflected in the street signs and pubs here, it’s a diverse and bustling neighborhood with two Olmsted parks: Cazenovia Park and South Park. South Buffalo is also home to Trocaire College, the renowned Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens, and Tifft Nature Preserve, a popular urban woodlands and wetlands refuge.

University Heights
This unique, eclectic neighborhood is within walking distance of the University at Buffalo’s South Campus with great access to public transit. This neighborhood is home to students, faculty, and families, surrounded by restaurants, small shops, and bars that cater to the campus community.

Waterfront Village
This largely residential waterfront enclave next to Canalside is also home to the Erie Basin Marina’s bikeways, walkways and gardens, and the Naval Military Park. The neighborhood is adjacent to Buffalo’s largest waterfront park, Ralph Wilson Park, which is currently being transformed into a signature park through a community-led design process.

West Side
Buffalo’s West Side is one of the largest and most diverse neighborhoods in Buffalo. Waterways flank its western border, with the Peace Bridge connecting Buffalo to Fort Erie, Ontario in Canada. It was once one of the final stops of the Underground Railroad, with escaped slaves seeking refuge in Canada. Because of relatively affordable real estate and resources to support small businesses, as well as efforts by community-based organizations, this neighborhood is a hub for Buffalo’s growing immigrant and refugee populations. Today, new Americans are opening vibrant businesses, like restaurants and retail shops on the West Side.
Amherst
The Town of Amherst includes East Amherst, Williamsville, Eggertsville, Getzville, and Snyder and is the largest suburb of Buffalo. Known as one of the safest towns in America, Amherst neighborhoods are dotted with “main street” shops and restaurants, farmers’ markets, parks, and highly rated school districts, as well as several colleges including Daemen College, Erie Community College, and the University at Buffalo North Campus.

Cheektowaga
Cheektowaga lies just to the east of the City of Buffalo and is one of the larger suburbs. Two of the region’s busiest destinations — the Buffalo Niagara International Airport and the Walden Galleria — are in Cheektowaga, as is Villa Maria College.

Clarence
Clarence, a suburb about 20 minutes from downtown, has an award-winning school system and lots of green space with parks, bikeways, and farms (horseback riding is particularly popular here). It’s also home to Antique World, a huge indoor/outdoor antique and flea market and to the Great Pumpkin Farm — hosting a month-long celebration of harvest season and Halloween.

Colden/Glenwood/Boston
Nestled in the hills 30 minutes south of Buffalo, these villages are reminiscent of small Vermont towns and form the heart of Erie County ski country. Buffalo Ski Club and Kissing Bridge resorts are located here.

East Aurora
East Aurora is filled with tree-lined streets, enchanting brick and clapboard houses, and a charming village center. It’s also home to Fisher-Price Toys, Vidler’s 5 & 10, and Elbert Hubbard’s Roycroft Campus, where artisans continue the tradition of crafting handmade home goods and useful objects from wood, metal, and glass in the Arts & Crafts style.

Grand Island
Situated in the Niagara River between Buffalo and Niagara Falls, Grand Island is one of the world’s largest freshwater islands. Its 33 square miles are largely residential and recreational; some significant corporate headquarters are here as well. Attractions include Beaver Island State Park — a waterfront park with golf, bike trails and beaches — as well as Buckhorn Island State Park, a huge nature preserve.

Hamburg
Hamburg is located on Lake Erie south of Buffalo and has a bustling village center, Hilbert College and Woodlawn Beach State Park — one of Western New York’s most popular beaches. In Hamburg, you’ll also find the Penn Dixie site, where curious diggers can find Devonian-era fossils and other archaeological wonders in its shale outcroppings.
Kenmore and Tonawanda
Kenmore is a first-ring suburb of Buffalo and a village in the Town of Tonawanda. It’s home to a vibrant village center, large parks and libraries, and other amenities that give it a great mix of urban and suburban benefits. Tonawanda, with its strong school system and safe neighborhoods, developed around Kenmore and its more recent history is reflected in its post-World War II housing, including some lovely mid-century gems.

Lackawanna
The City of Lackawanna lies south of downtown Buffalo, just over the Skyway. Once home to bustling steel mills, it’s now the site of the country’s first urban wind-turbine farm. Here you’ll also find the Small Boat Harbor and Gallagher Beach — a destination for windsurfers and kayakers — as well as urban beaches, parks, marinas, and biking and hiking trails. In winter, it becomes an ice-fishing spot, with hundreds of colorful fishermen’s tents dotting the harbor.

Lancaster
Lancaster’s mix of village life, suburban amenities, and pastoral charm comfortably comingle. Like many of our suburbs, Lancaster has been designated as one of the safest communities in the country. While it’s one of Erie County’s easternmost suburbs, Lancaster is still an easy commute to Buffalo.

Orchard Park
Originally settled by the Quakers, today’s Orchard Park residents enjoy great schools, beautiful parks, and lively events all year long. In addition, it’s here that you’ll find one of the region’s most popular venues — Highmark Stadium, home of the National Football League’s Buffalo Bills.

West Seneca
West Seneca, which is actually east of Buffalo, is a large, post-World War II suburban community with a strong school system, safe neighborhoods, and quick proximity to just about anywhere in Western New York.
Niagara County

POPULATION: 213,525 (2021 est.)

LAND AREA: 523 sq. mi.

LARGEST MUNICIPALITY: Niagara Falls – Population: 48,247 (2021 est.)

Niagara County is home to one of the world's most popular tourist destinations and a wonder of the natural world: Niagara Falls. Love great food and wine? You'll also find thriving farms, vineyards, orchards, cider mills, and wineries (including producers of world-renowned ice wine) along the Niagara Wine Trail. Beautiful towns and villages, miles of biking and hiking trails, outstanding schools, and dozens of arts and cultural destinations are here, too. Historic cities like Lockport grew around the Erie Canal, and this waterway still runs through Lockport's downtown center. Lewiston is a charming and historic village on the Niagara Escarpment, where the Niagara River empties into Lake Ontario. In addition, dozens of other historic sites, public and private higher-education institutions and one of the longest-running hydroelectric power plants in the country are also here in Niagara County.

www.niagara-usa.com
## NIAGARA COUNTY: CITIES, TOWNS, VILLAGES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City/Town</th>
<th>Website</th>
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<tr>
<td>NIAGARA COUNTY</td>
<td><a href="http://www.niagaracounty.com">www.niagaracounty.com</a></td>
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<td>CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS</td>
<td><a href="http://www.niagarafallsusa.org">www.niagarafallsusa.org</a></td>
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<td><a href="http://www.youngstownnewyork.us">www.youngstownnewyork.us</a></td>
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The City of Niagara Falls is in the midst of exciting redevelopment and reinvestment. With its breathtaking beauty, Niagara Falls attracts millions of visitors every year, and the American side boasts some of the most popular attractions for those who want to experience the thrill of the Falls up close. The Cave of the Winds, Maid of the Mist boat tour, Goat Island, and numerous bikeways provide ample opportunities to enjoy the natural beauty here. New York State is investing millions of dollars to upgrade Niagara Falls State Park, too.

The Niagara Falls Culinary Institute is part of Niagara County Community College (NCCC, part of the State University of New York system) and it’s at the heart of the city’s educational and culinary boom. In addition to providing excellent collegiate-level education, NCCC and Niagara University (NU) are also essential partners in arts, culture, and athletics in Niagara Falls.

Pine Avenue and Main Street are the main business districts with independent shops and restaurants — many that have existed for generations. Small and growing areas around Third Street and Buffalo Avenue are also attracting entrepreneurs and restaurateurs. There are many lovely and historic homes around these enclaves, and most are within walking distance of the Niagara Gorge. Located at 425 Third Street is a new public mural project: Art Alley. Take a stroll through this innovative, pedestrian-friendly walkway, filled with 19 murals.

Niagara Falls has several neighborhoods that benefit from the area’s natural beauty. On the escarpment, the Deveaux neighborhood has some of the city’s grandest older homes. Chilton Avenue – Orchard Parkway is a National Historic District just steps from the breathtaking riverfront gorge. Other waterfront areas like Cayuga Island — a small residential enclave on the edge of the Niagara River — also offer beautiful views and more affordable homes than just about any waterfront area of similar quality.

Experience these communities and more with the ‘Falls to the Fort’ shuttle, connecting 15 destinations across its 14-mile route. [www.discoverniagarashuttle.com](http://www.discoverniagarashuttle.com)
1 Downtown
One of the most popular tourist areas in the world, downtown Niagara Falls features both the iconic series of waterfalls and also Niagara Falls State Park. Designed by the incomparable landscape artist Frederick Law Olmsted, Niagara Falls State Park — America’s oldest state park — is packed with popular attractions for those who want to experience a full Falls experience, including the Cave of the Winds (a thrilling walk to the base of the Falls), Maid of the Mist boat tour, Prospect Point observation tower, and Goat Island. After exploring the majestic waters, visitors can enjoy entertainment, shopping, and dining both in and outside the park. Other major attractions include the Aquarium of Niagara Falls, and the Seneca Niagara Resort & Casino, with plenty of games, shows and dining options.

2 Deveaux
Tucked in the northwest corner of the city, the Deveaux neighborhood is a quaint and picturesque area that is home to 10 acres of an old-growth forest park known as DeVeaux Woods, and features a dog park, as well as some of the city’s oldest and grandest homes. The area is located on the escarpment immediately adjacent to Niagara University. The neighborhood is named after Samuel Deveaux, a large landholder, local judge, and businessman who was heavily involved in the construction of the Whirlpool Suspension Bridge in 1847.

3 Hyde Park
Located along Hyde Park Boulevard in the city, Hyde Park refers to both the municipal park and the surrounding residential areas to the east and west. Dubbed the “Jewel of Niagara Falls,” the park provides recreational opportunities in golf, tennis, swimming, ice hockey, bocce, lawn bowling and, perhaps most prominently, baseball. Sal Maglie Stadium, named after the major league pitcher in the ’40s and ’50s nicknamed “The Barber,” is located within the park boundaries.

4 LaSalle
Located along the Niagara River in the southeast portion of the city, LaSalle is a popular residential area with a village feel. In fact, the area was once the Village of LaSalle before it became part of the city of Niagara Falls in 1927. The area is named after Robert de La Salle, a French explorer who completed expeditions on the Great Lakes, Mississippi River and Gulf of Mexico. La Salle’s famed ship, Le Griffon, was built in the area in 1679.

5 Little Italy
Historically home to a large population of Italian-Americans, the neighborhood of Little Italy is centrally located along Pine Avenue between Hyde Park Boulevard and Portage Road. One of the major commercial areas in the city, Little Italy features plenty of retailers and boasts some of regions best-known eateries, including the original DiCamillo Bakery, Michael’s, and the Como Restaurant.

The birth of Niagara Falls can be traced back more than 12,000 years to the end of the last glacial period.

Four of the five Great Lakes (Superior, Michigan, Huron, and Erie) drain into the Niagara River before emptying into Lake Ontario.

During periods of peak flow in the summer and fall, more than 700,000 gallons of water per second pour over Niagara Falls.
Lewiston

This gem on the Niagara Gorge sits above the Niagara River at the mouth of Lake Ontario. It's known for its breathtaking beauty, charming village center with a variety of eating and shopping establishments, historic homes, and proximity to Niagara Falls. The Lewiston-Queenston Bridge is one of several international crossings in the Buffalo Niagara area, and makes Canada minutes away as well. It's also a favorite spot for popular venues and events including Artpark, the Lewiston Peach Festival, the Lewiston Jazz Festival, and the Christmas Walk and Home Tour.

Lockport

Lockport (both the city and town) formed along the Erie Canal, and its historic downtown still reflects its 18th and early 19th century roots. Lockport has an active arts scene highlighting both contemporary and historically significant art. It includes several galleries, museums and shops, as well as the Kenan Center, a refurbished historic home with a range of programming. The town enjoys 20 different park locations featuring two nature parks with great walking trails. The city is home to a public marina where residents can enjoy some of the beauty of the canalside city. It's also the county seat. As with the rest of Niagara County, Lockport is being rediscovered as a great place to live and play.

Historic Erie Canal

Enjoy the Erie Canal on a Lockport Locks cruise, lockportlocks.com or the Lockport Cave walking & Underground Boat Ride historic tour, lockportcaves.com.
Newfane

With over 22 wineries, breweries and cideries to choose from, Newfane is nestled on the picturesque shores of Lake Ontario, located in the heart of the Niagara Wine Trail. The town is known for charming cottages, quaint shops, and excellent freshwater fishing. Kids love Olcott Beach for its vintage amusement park, while adults find it a shopper’s dream. The beach hosts outdoor concerts and classic car shows. The Van Horn Mansion, a cultural and historic highlight, and said to be haunted, offers candlelit tours.

T-han-ah-wahn-duh
(Say it quick)

North Tonawanda

North Tonawanda is a suburb bordered by the Erie Canal and the Niagara River. As the region’s waterways are revitalized for recreational use, “NT” (as locals refer to it) is drawing people from around the region for its easy proximity to the water. The area is an affordable and accessible haven for boaters. Don’t miss Canal Fest, an eight-day festival in Gateway Park featuring free concerts, carnival rides, a variety of ethnic and specialty foods and a parade.

Wilson and Porter

These two Niagara County towns, about 15 minutes apart on the shores of Lake Ontario, are less than an hour from Buffalo. An easy drive from Niagara Falls, Lockport, and North Tonawanda, they provide some of the loveliest waterfront and sunset views around. They are destinations for water sports, including sailing, power boating, and fishing. Popular for both year-round residents, and summer dwellers, Wilson Harbor offers restaurants, shops and marinas. And Porter is adjacent to Youngstown, where historic Old Fort Niagara still stands from the War of 1812. On clear days, you can see Toronto across the lake.
THE SOUTHERN TIER AND ENCHANTED MOUNTAINS

The Southern Tier region is composed of 14 counties, three of which are located in Buffalo Niagara and border Pennsylvania. Like much of our region, there are strong ties to the land and water through agriculture and recreation. Excellent higher education facilities also support the region’s growing green-energy development.

Allegany County

POPULATION: 47,275 (2018 est.)

LAND AREA: 1,030 sq. mi.

LARGEST MUNICIPALITY:
Wellsville – Population: 8,970 (2021 est.)

Allegany County is home to Alfred University, Alfred State College, and Houghton College’s main campus, nourishing creativity with cultural venues and educational opportunities. With its hilly terrain and a 70+ mile ATV park, adventure seekers enjoy cross-country and downhill skiing, hiking, and mountain-biking. People flock to the forests every fall to harvest wild game and the dozens of freshwater lakes, rivers, and streams — including the 62-mile upper Genesee River — for fishing and boating. Discover the quiet of rural countryside and abundant farmland, interspersed with shops and museums in unique villages and hamlets. www.wnywilds.com

Cattaraugus County

POPULATION: 78,046 (2021 est.)

LAND AREA: 1,130 sq. mi.

LARGEST MUNICIPALITY:
Olean – Population: 13,585 (2021 est.)

Cattaraugus County, known as the Enchanted Mountains area, is the heart of the Southern Tier’s ski country. Ellicottville, dubbed the Aspen of the East offers year-round fun with golf, the Aerial Adventure Park, and skiing and tubing at Holiday Valley Resort. Nearby HoliMont is the largest private ski area in the country, with over 50 miles of trails. In addition, Allegany State Park’s 65,000 scenic acres of forests, streams, and trails make it one of the largest in the New York State park system where nature enthusiasts hike, bike, fish, horseback, kayak, whitewater raft, and camp. You’ll also find St. Bonaventure University in nearby Olean. www.enchantedmountains.com
Chautauqua County

POPULATION: 129,380 (2021 est.)

LAND AREA: 1,062 sq. mi.

LARGEST MUNICIPALITY: Jamestown – Population: 28,486 (2021 est.)

Residents in Chautauqua County enjoy the beautiful 17-mile long Chautauqua Lake, perfect for fishing and boating. The county also boasts the world-renowned Chautauqua Institution — a recreation, education, arts, and philosophy campus on Chautauqua Lake established in 1874 — which hosts more than 2,000 events each summer. Distinguished lecturers and teachers include past U.S. presidents and internationally regarded artists and writers.

In summer, visitors also enjoy miles of beaches along Lake Erie as well as visits to historic Lily Dale, home of the country’s largest spiritualist community, along Upper Cassadaga Lake. Other attractions include the National Comedy Center and the Lucille Ball Desi Arnaz Museum & Center for Comedy in Jamestown — Lucille Ball’s hometown.

State University of New York schools Fredonia State College and Jamestown Community College are here in Chautauqua County, providing key synergies for the county’s significant investments in environmentally sustainable business development and revitalization in the City of Dunkirk and throughout the county.

www.tourchautauqua.com
ROLLING HILLS AND RIVERS
To the east and south of Erie and Niagara Counties are gorgeous rolling hills with family-owned dairy and produce farms, wineries, historic cider mills and maple-sugar shacks, ski resorts, and hundreds of miles of hiking, biking, and snowmobile trails in Genesee, Orleans and Wyoming counties.

Genesee County
POPULATION: 59,065 (2021 est.)
LAND AREA: 494 sq. mi.
LARGEST MUNICIPALITY:
Batavia – Population: 14,994 (2021 est.)

Centrally located between Buffalo Niagra and Rochester along the I-90, Genesee County’s largest city, Batavia, is undergoing significant revitalization with a focus on dairy and green energy technologies. The area’s natural beauty is preserved through thriving family-owned farms and agricultural cooperatives, and leaves no shortage of entertainment including Darien Lake Theme Park & Performing Arts Center, JELL-O Museum, Hidden Valley Animal Adventures, Area 51 Motocross, and Batavia Downs Racetrack & Casino. Genesee Community College supports lifelong learning here.

Orleans County
POPULATION: 41,698 (2021 est.)
LAND AREA: 391 sq. mi.
LARGEST MUNICIPALITY:
Albion – Population: 13,425 (2021 est.)

Lake Ontario, Oak Orchard Marina, and the Erie Canal in lovely Orleans County, offer boating and fishing lovers a unique lifestyle to fulfill their passion. The open waterways offer a relaxing sailing afternoon or a thrilling fishing derby. With abundant fresh water and sunshine, agriculture is the primary industry, and much of the county is dotted with corn, maple, apple, berry, and other produce farms. The charming villages of Albion and Medina offer cafes, galleries, and antique shops. An architectural sandstone treasure, Bent’s Opera House in Medina, has been transformed into a boutique hotel and farm-to-table restaurant. Don’t miss it.

Genesee, Orleans & Wyoming www.visitgeneseeny.com

Orleans County www.orleanscountytourism.com
Wyoming County

POPULATION: 41,417 (2021 est.)

LAND AREA: 593 sq. mi.

LARGEST MUNICIPALITY: Warsaw – Population: 6,122 (2021 est.)

Wyoming County is a year-round destination for outdoor enthusiasts with miles of trails and rivers as well as Letchworth State Park, the “Grand Canyon of the East.” From a morning of whitewater rafting, an afternoon viewing Balloons Over Letchworth, to an evening at the rodeo — the breathtaking views are endless. There are endless opportunities for family fun, including a ride on the historic Arcade and Attica Railroad, the only fully operational, steam-operated locomotive in New York. Agriculture is the county’s primary industry, and it’s a leader in dairy and maple production. The region’s abundant natural resources also support green energy technologies as well as advanced manufacturing and precision agriculture. www.gowyomingcountyny.com

Come home to Buffalo. Your career is waiting for you.

HodgsonRuss LLP

www.hodgsonruss.com
A PLACE TO CALL HOME

#1 U.S. MARKET FOR MILLENNIAL HOME BUYERS

- Realtor.com (2019)
Living in downtown Buffalo has been an absolute treat. We have great restaurant options, combined with Sabres games, live music at Town Ballroom, and performing arts at Shea’s all at our fingertips. The business community is inspiring and only seems to be getting stronger. We are very excited in the direction the city is moving.”

Whether you're buying or renting, Buffalo Niagara’s housing costs are lower — and availability is more plentiful — than in many comparable metropolitan areas.

Want the energy of downtown Buffalo at your doorstep? Check out loft-style apartments in converted factories or open-concept waterfront condominiums. You’ll also find clapboard and brick cottages, grand Victorians, ornate mansions, and “doubles” and “triples” — houses with separate apartments on each floor.

Want to walk out your door and stroll through a charming, quaint village? The suburbs offer Arts & Crafts bungalows in East Aurora; historic stone homes near the Niagara Gorge in Lewiston; modest mid-century ranches along the shady streets of Tonawanda; and spacious newer builds in Amherst, Grand Island, and Orchard Park.

Want acres of land and an easy commute? You’ll find rolling pastures to the east of Buffalo and Niagara Falls, and the Enchanted Mountains to the south.

If you’re looking to build, our experienced and creative home builders offer design skills to meet your budget and preferences.

Does your relocation include senior family members? Buffalo Niagara has numerous housing options available, from adult apartment complexes offering independent living to full-care facilities, as well as an excellent health care system. You’ll also find many discounts available to events, cultural and educational venues.
Home, Sweet Home

In addition to finding a neighborhood that you love, Buffalo Niagara offers more plentiful and more affordable housing options than many similarly sized metropolitan regions. Within our diverse and dynamic neighborhoods, you’ll find styles to suit every taste and budget — including grand Victorians, charming bungalows, light-filled contemporaries, traditional colonials, and simple farmhouses.

PURCHASING A HOME

At about $206,100, median prices for existing homes in Buffalo Niagara are substantially lower than the national average and they’re among the most affordable in the country.

Thinking of purchasing a home in Buffalo Niagara? Consider a REALTOR®, a member of the National Association of REALTORS®, like Hunt Real Estate or Howard Hanna. When it comes to making your largest investment, use the experts that subscribe to a code of ethics and a high level of professional standards. For a list of local REALTORS® contact the Buffalo Niagara Association of REALTORS® (BNAR) or go online to www.bnar.org. The BNAR actively serves over 3,000 real estate professionals.

If you’re looking to build, Buffalo Niagara’s experienced and creative homebuilders can design the home of your dreams. Newly built homes average $390,000 here, with more amenities than similarly priced new homes elsewhere.

CLOSING PROCESS

Once you’ve found your dream home or built a new one on the perfect property, what are the next steps in New York State? The closing process in New York State typically takes 60 to 90 days, if everything proceeds smoothly. Here are a few key steps in the closing process:

1. INSPECTIONS: In New York State, home inspectors are licensed and trained to check for very specific things. The results of the home inspection can change the home sale price, the buyer’s willingness to purchase the home, or identify issues that may need to be fixed before the closing date.

2. THE BINDER: After the inspection is finished and the buyer has decided to purchase the home, the buyer will be asked to sign a binder. A binder includes details about the sale such as the purchase price, down payment amounts, anticipated mortgage amount, realtor information, attorney information, and expected closing date.

3. CONTRACT OF SALE: Once the binder is finalized, the seller’s attorney will draft the contract of sale. After the contract has been signed, the buyer will deliver the down payment to the seller’s attorney to be held in escrow.

4. TITLE REPORT: The title report discloses any liens or judgements on the property, how the current seller obtained title to the property, potential property line issues, outstanding property violations, permits, outstanding property tax, and any bankruptcy filings by the buyer. Title insurance is commonly purchased and protects the buyer against possible claims relating to the title of the property.

5. CLOSING: At the closing, title to the property is transferred to the new owners by deed and the buyer pays the seller the balance due. If the buyer is taking out a mortgage, the mortgage documents will also typically be signed at the closing.
RENTING
Looking to rent for a while? You’ll find something you’ll love in Buffalo Niagara.

Buffalo and Niagara Falls neighborhoods offer lofts in renovated factories and warehouses, sleek condominiums with views of Lake Erie and the Niagara River, and apartments with turn-of-the-century details and elegance in historic buildings — all within walking distance of theaters, shops, restaurants, and the subway and bus system. While the most abundant rental housing is in the cities, you can find apartments in the suburbs too.

Rents vary widely, from around $500 to more than $2,500 a month, depending on size and type of apartment or home you choose, available amenities, and location.

- HomeFinder/ApartmentFinder: www.apartmentfinderextra.com
- Buffalo Place apartment and rental information: www.buffaloplacem.com/live/apartments-and-condos
- www.buffalo.craigslist.org
- www.apartments.com

MOVING COMPANIES

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WHY LIVE IN DOWNTOWN BUFFALO?

111 restaurants
56 food trucks
16 breweries & distilleries
59 retailers
If your relocation includes senior family members, you’ll be glad to know that Buffalo Niagara is a great place for people of all ages. Living in the city or suburban villages offer cultural and recreational activities — as well as access to necessary services such as pharmacies and groceries — for seniors who choose not to drive. A full range of housing options are available, from more than 50 adult apartment complexes with independent living and amenities to full-care facilities for residents with more complex needs. And there are numerous organizations to help seniors and family members navigate issues from nursing and nutrition to health care.

Senior Services of Erie County: www2.erie.gov/seniorservices

Niagara County Office for the Aging: www.niagaracounty.com/aging
FIRST STEPS
☐ File change of address
☐ Organize school records
☐ Forward medical records

FIND MOVERS
☐ Hire movers or reserve a truck
If moving yourself, start recruiting friends, family, neighbors, and co-workers well in advance. Offer free breakfast, lunch, snacks, and drinks.

GET MOVING SUPPLIES
☐ Markers, moving boxes, newspapers, bubble wrap or other cushioning material, packing tape, scissors or utility knife, and garbage bags

START PACKING
☐ Sort belongings into things you are definitely taking, versus things that won’t make the trip
☐ Donate items to charity, give them to friends, prepare them for a yard sale
☐ Drain fuel from your power mower and other machinery; discard partly used cans of oil, paint, thinner, bleach, or any other substances that may be flammable or combustible, or those stored in containers that may leak

ARRANGE FOR UTILITY TRANSFERS
☐ Notify current and future utility providers of your move date
☐ Cable/satellite television, cell phone service, electricity, gas, internet/broadband, local and/or long distance phone service, propane, recycling pick-up, sewer, security system, trash pick-up, water

MAKE MOVING DAY PREPARATIONS
☐ Make arrangements for child and/or pet sitting
☐ Refill prescriptions
☐ Pack your suitcases
☐ Unplug electronic appliances 24 hours in advance of a move, except plasma televisions, so that they will be at room temperature on moving day (this includes home computers, stereos, and audio/video equipment)

GET OLD AND NEW PLACES CLEANED
☐ Mop, pail, ammonia, wash cloths, sponges, paper towels, vacuum cleaner, broom, and dustpan

MOVING DAY PLAN
☐ Start early
☐ Take all garbage out of the house
☐ Make sure movers have your cell phone number and you have theirs, along with their names
☐ Perform final checks before leaving current home
☐ Turn off air conditioning, fans, and heat
☐ Turn off water, including hoses
☐ Turn off light switches
☐ Leave or turn in keys, garage door openers, etc.
☐ Make sure nothing is left in the refrigerator, freezer, stove, drawer under stove, in closets, bathroom, garage, attic, crawlway, or under porch
MORE TO LEARN

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO:

#1 PUBLIC UNIVERSITY IN NEW YORK STATE
#34 IN THE NATION
Western New York has ways for students of all ages to begin and continue educational experiences. From outstanding pre-K and child care programs and nationally recognized public and private schools to 21 colleges and universities (including many branches of the State University of New York system) and unique industry-driven training facilities, as well as lifelong learning classes for professional development or personal pursuits, there are unlimited options to help you expand your mind and further your interests.

The region’s schools rank highly, with students consistently scoring above average thanks to the collaboration of area districts, colleges, regional partners, and businesses - forging partnerships to build the next generation of leaders.

Western New York is a wonderful place to pursue your higher education goals. No matter your discipline or desired career path, you will find an abundance of transformative opportunities to discover, innovate and excel in your field.”

Dr. Satish Tripathi
President, University at Buffalo

CITY HONORS
IS CONSISTENTLY A TOP-RANKED HIGH SCHOOL
- U.S. News & World Report
More Western New Yorkers (WNY) earn undergraduate and advanced degrees than ever before — and they’re building their futures here, too. In any year, nearly 120,000 students enroll in 21 world-class colleges and universities, studying everything from biomedical engineering and business, to green technologies development, urban planning, and media arts.

The State University of New York (SUNY) is the largest comprehensive higher education system in the U.S., consisting of 64 campuses, including research universities, academic medical centers, liberal arts colleges, community colleges, colleges of technology, and an online learning network. Nine SUNY campuses are located in WNY, including a system flagship, University at Buffalo (UB), one of America’s leading public research universities. UB is consistently recognized as one of the world’s most exceptional, most affordable universities, and partners with 96 universities around the globe.

www.wnycollegeconnection.com

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<td>15A-B</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Villa Maria College Buffalo</td>
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<td>4-year</td>
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</table>

Source: US Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (2019 Enrollment)
Northland Workforce Training Center (NWTC)
Northland provides for-credit technical skills programs in advanced manufacturing and energy taught on-site by SUNY Alfred State College and SUNY Erie. Along with technical skills, NWTC also has wrap-around services to equip students with the soft skills and adaptability needed for today’s workplace. View current programs at northlandwtc.org.

TechBuffalo
TechBuffalo is a nonprofit organization that strives to create a sustainable, inclusive, and accessible technology community for Western New York. TechBuffalo partners with local colleges and universities and variety of training programs to support students with mentorship, wrap-around services, and provide exposure to potential employers. Learn more at www.techbuffalo.org.
Western New York’s cities and towns have independent school districts and several rank among the top in New York State.

**PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAP#</th>
<th>DISTRICT</th>
<th>CITY, ZIP</th>
<th>RANK*</th>
<th>WEBSITE</th>
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<td><strong>NIAGARA COUNTY</strong></td>
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<td><strong>ERIE COUNTY</strong></td>
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<td>Springville-Griffith Institute</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.pioneerschools.org">www.pioneerschools.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Business First (2021) has rated the academic performances of 96 public school districts in Western New York, based on four years of test data from the New York State Education Department. For the purpose of this guide, this table only displays those districts that fall within Erie & Niagara counties. This is why the numbers are not consecutive, skipping those districts that fall outside this two-country region.
Families must provide the following documents to register new or returning students in Buffalo public schools:

1. Two proofs of family residency:
   - NYS driver’s/non-driver’s license
   - Utility bill
   - Pay stub
   - Notice of Decision Statement from the Erie County Department of Social Services

2. Certified birth certificate which includes parent(s) name or I-94 card (including Immigration Family Page)

3. Up-to-date immunization record

4. Latest report card (grades 1–8), official transcript (grades 9–12), and special education documents, if applicable

5. Parent/legal guardian photo identification

6. Legal guardianship or custody papers (if the child does not reside with the biological parent)

7. Proof of physical examination within the last year (due to school within 30 days)
SAY YES BUFFALO

With a mission of removing barriers to educational attainment, workforce participation and economic mobility for students in public and charter schools in Buffalo, NY that is centered on racial equity and inclusion, Buffalo is one of few cities in the country to offer a remarkable program — Say Yes to Education — to its graduates.

Say Yes Buffalo offers Buffalo public and charter school graduates tuition and grants to attend college and post-secondary programs at more than 150 colleges and universities, including all colleges in the State University of New York (SUNY) and City University of New York (CUNY) systems, top-ranked Ivy League schools like Harvard University, Cornell University, and Yale University; and top technological schools like Rochester Institute of Technology and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Say Yes Buffalo and its partners coordinate other supports to students from pre-K through entry into the workforce, to help them achieve high school graduation and attain Say Yes Buffalo scholarships and grants, including physical and mental health services, legal services, mentors, and internships.

Say Yes Buffalo is a local partnership that brings together the Buffalo Public School District, the District Parent Coordinating Council, the Buffalo Teachers Federation, the Buffalo Association of Administrators and Supervisors, the City of Buffalo, Erie County, and higher education with a diverse group of Buffalo area corporate, non-profit, and philanthropic organizations.

M&T Bank. Understanding what’s important.

At M&T Bank, understanding what’s important means realizing the role a bank plays in people’s lives. And then living up to those responsibilities, by helping families, businesses and communities thrive. It’s what we’ve been doing for more than 160 years. Learn more at mtb.com.

M&T Bank is proud to support the Buffalo Niagara region.
There are 22 charter schools within the Buffalo Niagara region that serve students at all grade levels. Many of these schools offer a particular academic, pre-professional, or character-building focus in addition to the standard school curriculum. Charter schools are open to all New York State students. Admission may be dependent on geographic location, lottery, or both.

**CHARTER SCHOOLS**

The Office of State Assessment (OSA), within the New York State Education Department is responsible for the coordination, development, and implementation of the Grade 3–8 tests, Regents Examinations, Regents Competency Tests, Second Language Proficiency Examinations, Alternate Assessments, and English Language Proficiency assessments that comprise the New York State Testing Program (NYSTP). These examinations are administered to students in Kindergarten through Grade 12 enrolled in public, nonpublic, and charter schools throughout the state.

The OSA develops and administers tests that are aligned with the New York State Learning Standards and Core Curriculum, and are consistent with state and federal mandates.

**TESTS GIVEN:**

**ELEMENTARY AND INTERMEDIATE LEVEL STUDENTS**
- Grades 3–8 English Language Arts Test
- Grades 3–8 Mathematics Tests
- Grades 4 and 8 Elementary- and Intermediate-Level Science Tests

**HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**
- Regents Examinations
  - U.S. History & Government
  - English Language Arts
  - Living Environment
  - Global History & Geography
  - Chemistry
  - Earth Science
  - World Language Assessment
  - Physics
  - Algebra
  - Geometry
- Regents Competency Tests (RCTs)

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS**
- English as a Second Language Test (NYSESLAT)
- Language Assessment Battery - Revised (LAB-R)

**STUDENTS WITH SEVERE COGNITIVE DISABILITIES**
- New York State Alternate Assessment (NYSAA)
Buffalo Niagara is home to several diverse private and parochial options, including the acclaimed Nichols School, Nardin Academy, Park School, Canisius High School, Buffalo Seminary, and the #1 ranked high school in WNY — Buffalo Academy of the Sacred Heart. Private school options around Western New York are plentiful and many serve particular needs or interests.

### Special Education Schools
Special education schools for students ages 5 through 21. Special programs exist for the deaf and blind, as well as with autism, dyslexia and other learning differences.

- Aspire Center for Learning
- Baker Hall
- Cantalian Center for Learning
- CHC Learning Center
- Gateway-Longview Lynde School
- Henrietta G. Lewis Campus School
- New York State School for the Blind
- Saint Mary’s School for the Deaf
- Stanley Falk School
- Summit Center
- The Children’s League
- The Gow School

### Catholic Schools, Diocese of Buffalo
When it comes to education, we know parents have many choices. Families of all faiths who have chosen the Catholic schools of the Diocese of Buffalo have discovered outstanding education, leadership and spiritual guidance for their children — a tradition since 1847.

More than 60 Catholic elementary, middle and high schools are located in Erie and Niagara County. A complete list can be accessed at: [www.wnycatholicschools.org](http://www.wnycatholicschools.org)
Excellent child-care programs — offered through private organizations, Boys & Girls Clubs, YMCAs, Jewish Community Centers, and more — include educational enrichment, sports clubs, year-long activities, and summer camps to keep kids happy and engaged.

YMCA Buffalo Niagara
Nationally, the YMCA is the largest provider of child care in the country. Locally, each branch of YMCA Buffalo Niagara provides school age child care year round, serving nearly 3,000 children at over 50 sites.

www.ymcabn.org

Boys & Girls Clubs of America
Buffalo and Western New York have strong Boys & Girls Clubs affiliates that serve thousands of children every day through after-school and weekend programs focusing on educational enrichment, personal development, health and wellness, and sports and play.

www.bgcbuffalo.org

Summer Camps
From day camps to overnight camps, there are dozens of programs offered throughout the summer for kids of all ages, interests, and abilities. In New York State, summer break typically begins the last week of June and ends the first week of September, either just prior to or after Labor Day — dates vary depending on the school district. Registration typically opens in February.

www.buffalo.kidsoutandabout.com

Child Care Resource Network
Child Care Resource Network (CCRN) is a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) organization located in Buffalo, New York, that works to help families find child care, educate and empower child care providers, and advocate for the children of Erie County and Western New York. Throughout Erie County, the agency conducts inspections to ensure providers are following regulations. CCRN also assists in opening child care centers and continues to support them with a wide variety of services.

www.wnychildren.org

Looking to bring executive talent to Buffalo?
TalentRise is Buffalo’s premier executive search firm helping local employers recruit top performing leadership talent to the western New York region. Our expertise, creative and disciplined strategy, and flexible solutions deliver results in a candidate driven market.

Make TalentRise your first call for:
• Executive search
• Executive coaching
• Leadership and organizational development

talentrise.com
SETTLE IN FOR A WHILE

#1 MOST FRIENDLY CITY

- Travel + Leisure (2017)
As a young family, there is no other place we would rather be raising our children. **We have everything here,** from museums to art galleries, world-renowned orchestras to award-winning restaurants. We have been amidst it all and love that our family will experience culture, diversity, and adventure no matter where they explore Buffalo.”

**Relocating is exciting — when it’s not stressful and busy. Here are many of the resources you need to settle in quickly so you can move on to the fun things.**

**TIPS FOR SETTLING IN**

- Make note of three or four goals to achieve in your new city.
- Continue all your special family celebrations and traditions.
- Share some of your family’s recipes and cultural aspects with new acquaintances and neighbors.
- Give everyone in the family manageable moving chores (taking care of practical matters will take the edge off of homesickness).
- Keep a log of new experiences and accomplishments. Join an athletic club or special interest group.
- Get involved in community and religious organizations, especially those that sponsor activities, volunteer efforts, and programs for newcomers.
- Learn about the local government, issues, and policies.
- Take one day at a time.
NEW YORK STATE’S DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES (DMV)

New York State’s Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) requires that new residents apply for a driver’s license and register vehicles within 30 days of relocation. For information, including what you’ll need and fees, visit www.dmv.ny.gov. This website also has information for non-U.S. citizens to determine whether a state license is needed. There are numerous NYSDMV offices throughout the region and appointments are available to ensure a quick and easy visit.

Department of Motor Vehicles  |  (800) 225-5368  |  www.dmv.ny.gov

PUBLIC SAFETY

Anywhere in Western New York, dial 911 to reach emergency police, fire, and ambulance/medical assistance. The City of Buffalo has its own police department, fire department and other emergency services, as do some other cities and suburbs. In many cases, the New York State Police (state troopers) assist with public safety. Assistance is available through:

- New York State Police  
  www.troopers.ny.gov
- Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services  
  www.dhses.ny.gov
- Erie County Central Police Services  
  www2.erie.gov/cps/
- Emergency Services  
  www3.erie.gov/dhses
- Niagara County Emergency Services  
  www.niagaracounty.com/fire
- Niagara County Sheriff’s Office  
  www.niagarasherriff.com

PET REQUIREMENTS

All dogs over four months old must be registered with a valid license that proves current rabies vaccination. As pet licensing requirements vary by municipality, it’s recommended that pet owners contact your local town clerk or city hall to find out the most current information to ensure that you and your pet are in compliance.

- Erie County SPCA  |  (716) 875-7360
- Niagara County SPCA  |  (716) 731-4368

Moving to Western New York Checklist:

- Pick your top chicken wing spot
- Switch area code to ‘716’
- Join AAA

New in town? Make sure you have AAA. We’ll be there if you run into car trouble or need a new battery installed. AAA members also enjoy discounts on everything from local restaurants to groceries to movie tickets. We even offer discounts on moving services from Penske and Atlas Van Lines.

Need insurance? Trust AAA’s local insurance team to connect you with affordable coverage you can count on at a discount of up to 15%.

Join AAA today at AAA.com/Join

Benefits valid only for members of AAA Western and Central New York territory (Club 084). Insurance is provided by AAA Members Insurance Agency of Western and Central New York Inc.
VOTER REGISTRATION

Voter registration is handled through county boards of elections. You must be at least 18 years old, a U.S. citizen, and a resident of the state and the county, city, or village for at least 30 days prior to election (please visit the website, [www.elections.ny.gov](http://www.elections.ny.gov) for more information). You may be able to register through the Department of Motor Vehicles when you update your driver’s license and registration in New York State.

BANKS

Western New York has many financial institutions, ranging from local credit unions to large, international banks for commercial and personal accounts. Important considerations when choosing include availability of ATMs, online banking options, fees and interest rates, availability of account bundles (checking and savings, for example), and loans.

LIBRARIES

You’ll find a library in nearly every town center in WNY. The largest system, the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library system (BECPL), includes the Central Library in downtown Buffalo and more than 35 branch libraries throughout Erie County. There’s much more than books, magazines, and electronic media at our libraries — they’re community centers for education, entertainment, and public forums. There’s no cost to get a library card (identification is required to obtain one, so bring valid ID with you) and one card is good at all libraries in the BECPL system.

Other Western New York counties also have library systems (in some cases, they may share resources, as with the Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Library System). In addition, nearly all of our college and university libraries are open for your use as research resources (lending privileges may be limited, however, so please check). With New York State identification and the OverDrive app, you also have access to the New York Public Library.

UTILITIES

If you’re buying a home, you’ll likely need electric, gas, and water. If you’re renting an apartment, ask your landlord which utilities are included and what you’re responsible for. And don’t forget phone and internet service.

**Electricity**

- National Grid
  - (800) 642-4272
  - [www.nationalgridus.com](http://www.nationalgridus.com)

- New York State Electric & Gas Co. (NYSEG)
  - (800) 572-1111
  - [www.nyseg.com](http://www.nyseg.com)

**Gas**

- National Fuel
  - (716) 686-6123
  - [www.natfuel.com](http://www.natfuel.com)

**Internet & Telephone**

- AT&T
  - (800) 205-6268
  - [www.att.com](http://www.att.com)

- Greenlight Network
  - (716) 919-4300
  - [www.greenlightnetworks.com](http://www.greenlightnetworks.com)

- Spectrum
  - (800) 892-4357
  - [www.spectrum.com](http://www.spectrum.com)

- Verizon
  - (800) 837-4966
  - [www.verizon.com](http://www.verizon.com)

**Cable Television**

- Spectrum
  - (800) 892-4357
  - [www.spectrum.com](http://www.spectrum.com)

- Verizon FIOS TV
  - (800) 837-4966
  - [www.verizon.com](http://www.verizon.com)

**Satellite Television**

- DirectTV
  - (800) 595-4101
  - [www.directv.com](http://www.directv.com)

- DISH Network
  - (800) 823-4929
  - [www.dishnetwork.com](http://www.dishnetwork.com)
Healthcare

**HOSPITALS, SPECIALIZED HEALTHCARE FACILITIES**

- Bertrand Chaffee Hospital  www.bertrandchaffee.com
- Brooks Memorial Hospital  www.brookshospital.org
- Buffalo General Medical Center  www.kaleidahealth.org
- Cuba Memorial Hospital  www.cubamemorialhospital.com
- DeGraff Memorial Hospital  www.kaleidahealth.org
- Eastern Niagara Hospital  www.enhs.org
- Erie County Medical Center  www.ecmc.edu
- Jones Memorial Hospital  www.jmhny.org
- Kenmore Mercy Hospital  www.chsbuffalo.org
- Medina Memorial Hospital  www.medinamemorial.org
- Mercy Comprehensive Care Center  www.chsbuffalo.org
- Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital  www.kaleidahealth.org
- Mount St. Mary’s Hospital and Health Center  www.chsbuffalo.org
- Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center  www.nfmmc.org
- Oishei Children’s Hospital  www.kaleidahealth.org
- Olean General Hospital  www.ogh.org
- Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center  www.roswellpark.org
- Sisters of Charity Hospital  www.chsbuffalo.org
- Sisters of Charity Hospital - St. Joseph Campus  www.chsbuffalo.org
- United Memorial Medical Center  rochesterregional.org
- VA Western New York Healthcare System  www.buffalo.va.gov
- UPMC Chautauqua  www.upmc.com/locations/hospitals/chautauqua
- Westfield Memorial Hospital  www.ahn.org/locations/hospitals/westfield-memorial.html
- Wyoming County Community Health System  www.wcchs.net

**URGENT CARE FACILITIES**

Buffalo Niagara has a robust network of urgent-care centers found throughout the region for those times when healthcare needs are serious but not life threatening:

- Western New York Immediate Care  www.wnyimmediatecare.com
- Pediatric and Adolescent Urgent Care of Western New York  www.pedsurgentcare.com
- WellNow Urgent Care  wellnow.com

**INSURERS**

Health insurance is often offered by employers, and there are many options for the self-employed or employees of small businesses through direct-pay programs offered by the area’s major insurers. There are also supplemented plans available for eligible small-business employees and their families; information on these programs is available through the New York State Health Insurance Exchange.

- Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield  www.bcbswny.com
- Independent Health  www.independenthealth.com
- Univera Health Care  www.univerahealthcare.com
- New York State Health Insurance Exchange  nystateofhealth.ny.gov

**Finding a Doctor**

Moving to a new city is exciting, but it also requires finding the grocery store you like, the schools your kids will attend, and the healthcare practitioners that fit the needs of your family. The following is a list of local and national physician resources where you can search for general physicians, by location, specialty, and more:

- American Medical Association Resource for general health information, as well as a search function for local physician resources under the “Patients” tab of site.  www.ama-assn.org
- American Academy of Pediatrics National website for children’s health resources; separate “Parenting Corner” website is a comprehensive site for health-related news, questions, and other topics.  www.aap.org  www.healthychildren.org
- New York State Medical Society Listing of member physicians across the state, as well as information on general health resources.  www.mssny.org
- Erie County Medical Society  https://wnydocs.org/
- Niagara County Medical Society  www.niagaracountymedicalsociety.org
BUFFALO NIAGARA MEDICAL CAMPUS

The Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus is a dynamic consortium of world-class hospitals and health care providers, exceptional education institutions, and innovative research facilities. Made up of ten members and surrounding neighborhoods, the Medical Campus is home to hundreds of physicians, clinicians, scientists, and researchers, many of whom are world-renowned in the practices of oncology, neurosurgery, immunology, vascular surgery, personalized medicine, cardiology, and beyond. BNMC’s hospitals and clinics offer comprehensive care, research affiliations, and clinical trials.

Consortium institutions and organizations include the University at Buffalo Medical School, Kaleida Health, Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center, Hauptman-Woodward Medical Research Institute, Buffalo Hearing & Speech Center, Buffalo Medical Group, NFTA Metro Rail Station, the Center for Hospice and Palliative Care, and Oishei Children's Hospital.

www.bnmc.org
Media Resources

ALT MEDIA

To get in touch with your new hometown and the happenings within it, follow these alternative media sources, bloggers, and local influencers keeping you in the know. For a full list of Buffalo bloggers, go to: www.buffalobloggingnetwork.com

PRINT PUBLICATIONS

RADIO & TV

Sure, you have cable television and satellite radio — but when you want local information, here are the radio and television stations you need.

AM/FM Radio

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AM</th>
<th>FM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>88</td>
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<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>92</td>
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<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>96</td>
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<td>90</td>
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<tr>
<td>120</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>160</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Broadcast TV channels

- WGRZ – NBC Affiliate Channel 2
- WIVB – CBS Affiliate Channel 4
- WKBW – ABC Affiliate Channel 7
- WUTV – FOX Affiliate Channel 29
- WNED – PBS Affiliate Channel 17
Instagrammable Places

- **SHARK GIRL**
  - New best friend #Canalside

- **PUBLIC ART MURALS**
  - #AKPublicArt

- **PINK STAIRS AT MISUTA CHOW’S**
  - #PrettyInPink

- **TOUCHDOWN PLOW**
  - #KeepBuffaloASecret

- **NIAGARA FALLS**
  - Wonder of the World

- **WILKESON POINTE**
  - On the water

- **ART ALLEY NIAGARA FALLS**
  - #ArtAlleyNF

- **BUFFALO HISTORY MUSEUM**
  - #CherryBlossoms

- **REC ROOM**
  - Night out #NotoriousBFLO
## Cost of Living Comparison

Want to know how living in Buffalo Niagara compares to other cities, in terms of how far your paycheck will go? An individual would need to make “x” (the salary listed in the right column) in the corresponding metro region, to have the same standard of living making $60,000 in Buffalo Niagara. View more comparisons at: [beinbuffalo.com/cost-of-living-calculator](http://beinbuffalo.com/cost-of-living-calculator)

### Half-Gallon of Milk

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metro Area</th>
<th>Salary</th>
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<tr>
<td>San Francisco</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seattle</td>
<td>$96,794</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boston</td>
<td>$91,892</td>
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<tr>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
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<td>$90,155</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chicago</td>
<td>$76,566</td>
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<tr>
<td>Denver</td>
<td>$71,044</td>
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<td>Philadelphia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buffalo</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### 6-Pack Beer

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### Dozen Eggs

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### Coffee

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</table>

### Median Home Price

- **85.8%** of homes affordable to families making median income
- **$206,100** median home price
- **3.3%** below national average

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**Additional Information:**
- Median Home Price - Q2-2021
- Housing Opportunity Index - Q1-2021
- National Association of Home Builders
- National Association of Realtors
- Council for Community & Economic Research

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SHOP LOCAL

Looking for independent and locally owned shops? Head to Elmwood Village, Hertel Avenue, Allentown, or the West Side Bazaar for terrific fashion, home décor, toys, bookstores, and diverse goods.

Many towns — including Lewiston, Williamsville, and East Aurora — also offer wonderful village centers with outstanding specialty shops, restaurants, and farmers’ markets.

Malls in Western New York attract both local and distant customers (particularly our Canadian neighbors). The Walden Galleria in Cheektowaga is the largest mall, with over 200 stores and restaurants. The Fashion Outlets of Niagara Falls USA is a great place to find deeply discounted merchandise including designer fashions, high-end gifts, shoes, bags, and home goods.

Make your house feel like a home with some Buffalo-themed décor from one of the many Buffalo-boosting shops throughout the region.

NIAGARA POWER VISTA

Powerful Fun!

- Guided Tours featuring History of Niagara Power Project & the Region
- Stunning Niagara River Views
- Hands-On Exhibits for All Ages
- Minutes from Niagara Falls
- FREE Seasonal Shuttle Service – discoverniagarashuttle.com
- FREE ADMISSION & PARKING

Niagara Power Vista
At the Niagara Power Project
577 Lewiston Road, (Route 104)
Lewiston NY 14092
1-716-286-6661 or 1-866-NYPA-FUN
nypa.gov/niagarapowervista

NY Power Authority
Scanned by Grant Taylor
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LIFE FOR THE BETTER

36 PERFORMANCE THEATRES
From swimming as the summer sun sets, ice skating under the winter stars, visiting world-class galleries, enjoying concerts or plays, taking in professional sports, or playing tennis in our parks, we’ve perfected quality of life in Buffalo Niagara.

You’ll always find great ways to spend your free time whether you’re exploring solo, with the kids and grandparents, or simply hanging out with friends. Because everything’s easy to get to and more affordable than elsewhere, there’s no reason not to check out Buffalo Niagara’s ever-changing array of things to do.

As the region’s primary travel and tourism organizations, Visit Buffalo Niagara and Niagara USA are terrific resources for residents and visitors alike about events and attractions taking place throughout the year in Buffalo Niagara. They also have excellent information on restaurants, places to stay, and much more.

I’ve lived in 13 different cities and 7 different countries over the past 5 decades and I’ve never been as happy as I am in Buffalo.

From the very outset, I felt in tune with the friendliness, openness, and curious inquisitiveness of Buffalonians.”

Janne Sirén
Director, Albright-Knox Art Gallery
Relocated from Helsinki, Finland
Buffalo Niagara is a cultural destination, with rich history, fine arts, and entertainment for every night of the week.

**MUSEUMS AND CULTURALS**

Buffalo Niagara has an impressive art scene. Most notable is the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, with its world-renowned modern and contemporary collection, including works by Pollock, Picasso and Rothko. The gallery is undergoing a massive $168+ million renovation and expansion project as it becomes the Buffalo AKG Art Museum. It also has an Art Truck experience. Don’t miss the Burchfield Penney Art Center, the Castellani Art Museum at Niagara University, or Hallwalls Contemporary Arts Center in Babeville, a Gothic Revival church renovated by singer-songwriter Ani DiFranco for other impressive collections.

Looking for something fun to do with the kids? Try Buffalo Museum of Science, Explore & More Children’s Museum at Canalside, the Buffalo Zoo, Aquarium of Niagara, or Niagara Power Vista’s interactive experience.

If history is your thing, start at the Buffalo History Museum — the building was actually part of the 1901 Pan Am Exposition. In fact, you can also visit the building where Teddy Roosevelt was inaugurated in 1901 as the 26th president. Additional stops should include Old Fort Niagara, Buffalo & Erie County Naval and Military Park, Michigan Street Baptist Church, Underground Railroad Heritage Center, National Comedy Center, and the Buffalo Transportation Pierce-Arrow Museum.

**History Tours**

Discover the history of Buffalo aboard an authentic 65-passenger double-decker bus or with a family scavenger hunt with trivia to answer and puzzles to solve. [www.buffalohistorytours.com](http://www.buffalohistorytours.com)

Explore Buffalo offers additional tours of the region by foot, bike, boat, and bus. [www.explorebuffalo.org](http://www.explorebuffalo.org)
MUSIC

Hear the Grammy Award-winning Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra or catch global touring acts in concert at Artpark, Asbury Hall at Babeville, Town Ballroom and other regional venues. Buffalo is home to a thriving local music scene, with many genres represented. Try Nietzsche’s on Allen Street or Sportsmen’s Tavern in the Black Rock neighborhood. The Colored Musicians Club is a jazz hotspot — historically, all the touring musicians of their day stopped in, including Duke Ellington, Dizzy Gillespie, and Miles Davis. It now offers weekly jam sessions and an interactive museum experience.

THEATRE

National touring companies of many Broadway shows are booked at the famous Shea’s Performing Arts Center, which anchors Buffalo’s vibrant downtown theatre district. Buffalo Niagara features 36 performance theatres in total to take in a show at. And Buffalo’s Shakespeare in the Park is one of the oldest and largest free outdoor Shakespeare companies in the country.

For a melding of Buffalo’s industrial past with its artistic present, try a poetry reading held inside one of Buffalo’s grain elevators-turned-performance spaces.

“I love the First Fridays in Buffalo when all the art galleries have new shows. Living in Allentown I can walk from one to another enjoying the bubbly local culture.”

Cristiano Pereira
Visual Artist and Educator
Relocated from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
ARCHITECTURE

Buffalo is globally recognized for its architectural gems, and is known for having fine representations of every style of building from 1900 to the present. Walk any block in the city to see beautifully crafted and detailed buildings. Greats like Frank Lloyd Wright, H.H. Richardson, Louis Sullivan, E.B. Green, and so many others made their imprint on the Queen City.

PUBLIC ART

Public art is booming in Buffalo Niagara, with a mural or sculpture seemingly being unveiled every day. Use #AKPublicArt for your social media posts.

Louise Blanchard Bethune was America’s first female architect and was based in Buffalo. Her masterpiece, Hotel Lafayette, has been restored and is a popular wedding and events venue, hotel, and apartment building, with ground-floor retail.

Makerspaces

Buffalo’s arts and literary past includes historic greats like Mark Twain, Frank Lloyd Wright, and F. Scott Fitzgerald. Its future holds whatever YOUR next passion is. Here are some resources to help you along the way:

- Western New York Book Arts Center
- The Foundry
- Stitch Buffalo
- Squeaky Wheel
- Buffalo Arts Studio
- MUSEjar
Wining & Dining

Farm-to-table and upscale restaurants, eclectic food trucks and hometown favorites, unique sweet treats and trendy coffee shops, happily coexist in Buffalo Niagara. There’s a boom in Western New York craft breweries, beer gardens, and distilleries - many offering last call at 4 a.m.; the region is also home to an array of vineyards and wineries.

REASTAURANTS

Once you’ve found your favorite wings, try other regional favorites like beef on weck and Texas hots. You can then sample the many incredible restaurants that offer foods for every taste and ethnic flavor.

You’ll find outstanding restaurants with global influences, from Burma and Ethiopia to Korea and Poland, with a growing number of vegetarian, vegan, gluten-friendly, halal, and all-organic eateries. We love our Italian food and pizza, and you’ll find these restaurants – take-out and sit-down – in just about every neighborhood in Western New York.

Don’t skip the sweet treats! Pick up a pastry heart at Chrusciki Bakery, stop by Antoinette’s – a confectionery staple since 1915 – for sponge candy, or enjoy your favorite flavor at Lake Effect Ice Cream, which works with regional businesses to create flavors found nowhere else.

As with everything about Buffalo Niagara, the best way to find your top choices is to get out and try them – there are price points for most budgets, from modest to relatively high end. There are far too many to list and new ones are opening nearly every day. Check out these guides, and get your appetite on:

Visit Buffalo Niagara restaurant listings: visitbuffaloniagara.com/eat-drink

Buffalo Spree Restaurant Guide: buffalospree.com/food_drink/reviews

Niagara Falls USA Restaurant Guide: niagarafallsusa.com/restaurants

Zomato: www.zomato.com/buffalo

TASTY LOCAL TREATS

WINGS Chicken wings, originally served at Frank and Teressa’s Anchor Bar in 1964. Often served with carrots, celery sticks, and blue cheese dip. Say it like a local: just “wings” – and NEVER “Buffalo wings.”

BEEF ON WECK A thinly sliced roast beef sandwich on kimmelweck rolls – caraway seed-and-kosher salt-topped hard rolls – with horseradish, considered a local delicacy.

CHIAVETTA’S Barbecued chicken, popular at just about any outdoor gathering, named for the company that provides the signature vinegar-based marinade.

FISH FRY A breaded or beer-battered fish, traditionally served in WNY restaurants on Friday, as an alternative to meats and a reflection of the area’s strong Catholic heritage.

PIEROGI A Polish dumpling, fried or boiled, traditionally filled with sauerkraut, potato, cheese, onions, or meat.

SPONGE CANDY A chocolate candy with an airy, crunchy, sugar center.

TEXAS HOTS A style of hot dog known for its hot, spicy sauce. Texas hots originated in the kitchens of Buffalo’s many Greek restaurants, not in Texas. Make sure it’s a Sahlen’s.

BLUE Labatt Blue: Buffalo is the beer company’s U.S. headquarters.

LOGANBERRY A sweet, deep purple and non-carbonated fruit drink made from loganberry juice.

TIMMY’S/TIMMY-HO Shortened name for the regional coffee and donut chain, Tim Horton’s. Possibly one of Canada’s greatest gifts to America, along with hockey.

POP You may call it soda, but in Western New York, this is the word for any flavored carbonated beverage or soft drink.
Wining & Dining

“I love Buffalo. The city is so supportive in everything I do. From pop-up fine dining restaurants or take out lunches, to cooking classes and catered events, I am always booked or sold out! I may have traded my Jamaican hometown for the snow, but the food and people are sure worth it!”

Chef Darian Bryan
The Plating Society, Private Catering
Relocated from Jamaica

MARKETS

In Buffalo Niagara, you’ll find lots of great delis, supermarkets, and farmers markets with fresh locally grown produce. Be sure to explore your neighborhood to find your favorite. Here are a few suggestions:

- Braymiller Market
- Dash’s Market
- Lexington Cooperative Market
- The Broadway Market
- Tops
- Trader Joe’s
- Wegmans
- Whole Foods
- Farmers’ markets in each corner of our region: www.visitbuffaloniagara.com/business-type/farms-markets
- U-pick fields of great variety: www.wnydealsandtodos.com/wny-farms-and-u-pick

Wingin’ It

The Wing Trail is the tastiest drive in America. Stop at 12 of the top spots tossing wings in Buffalo. www.visitbuffaloniagara.com/crawl/buffalo-wing-trail

© VISIT BUFFALO NIAGARA
© NIAGARA USA
NIAGARA FALLS CULINARY INSTITUTE

The Cereal Spot
Wining & Dining

BREWERIES
Buffalo is home to over 50 craft breweries making local favorites and experimenting with single-batch specialties. Try out Hayburner IPA from Big Ditch Brewing or Pressure Drop Brewing for some West-Coast influence.

WINERIES
The vineyards of Buffalo Niagara are plentiful and beautiful. Start at Becker Farms and work your way through Niagara County for delicious tastings – the region is known for its Concord grape wines. Or, hit the Southern Tier and Chautauqua County for an abundance of grape farms and an amazing palate journey. [www.niagarawinetrail.org](http://www.niagarawinetrail.org)

DISTILLERIES
The Buffalo Region has seen an exponential growth in the distilling industry with award-winning results. You’ll find a spirited collection of bourbon, gin, whiskey, and vodka when you stop in for a tour or tasting at Tommyrotter Distillery, Hartman’s Distilling Company and Buffalo Distilling Co. to name a few.

COCKTAILS
Creative cocktails can be found all around Buffalo Niagara, with mixologists stirring up something new constantly. Check out Ballyhoo or Billy Club in downtown Buffalo. Mocktails are a staple as well, if the hard stuff isn’t your thing.

COFFEE
If you’re looking for a spot to caffeinate Buffalo has no shortage of independently owned coffee shops. Grab a cup at Remedy House or with a Cheerios-topped waffle at Wonder Coffeehouse, a converted fire station. (It’s just a stone’s throw from Buffalo’s iconic General Mills cereal plant.) Maybe you’re looking for a unique flavor; try Overwinter Coffee with two city locations, which works with a half-dozen importers to bring in beans from Guatemala, Uganda and other far-flung locales.

KOMBUCHA ON TAP
Looking for that digestive fix and natural energy? Buffalo has dozens of kombucha breweries where you can experience tasty flights. You can find Bootleg Bucha in your grocery store or check out the flavors at Company B on Niagara Street.
Sports & Play

From the Buffalo Bills (National Football League), Buffalo Sabres (National Hockey League), and Buffalo Beauts (National Women’s Hockey League), to the Buffalo Bandits (National Lacrosse) and Buffalo Bisons (AAA-baseball affiliate of the Toronto Blue Jays), our dedicated fans pack area arenas and stadiums. In addition, women’s and men’s collegiate teams from the University at Buffalo, St. Bonaventure University, Niagara University, and Canisius College are among the local competitors in football, basketball, and hockey that keep sports enthusiasts rooting along all year.

Football
BILLS: www.buffalobills.com

Hockey
SABRES: www.sabres.nhl.com
BEAUTS: www.beauts.premierhockeyfederation.com

Baseball
BANDED: www.bandits.com

Lacrosse
BISONS: www.milb.com/buffalo

THE NFL’S #1 TAILGATING CITY
Yahoo, September 2016

Prefer playing sports to watching them? There are countless community and school-based leagues with everything from softball to swimming to soccer, and from baseball to badminton to beach volleyball. So whether your interests (or your kids’) include rowing or riding (bikes, dirt bikes, horses, snowmobiles), you’ll find it all here in Western New York.
“The cost of tickets is so reasonable. Our sports are accessible. I’m able to bring my daughter to Sabres, Bills, or Bandits games and have a great time.”

Kelley Bilz
Senior IT Business Analyst
Independent Health
Outdoors & Healthy Living

PARK IT

Buffalo has an entire park system designed by Frederick Law Olmsted — that’s the same guy who designed New York City’s Central Park. He thought the purpose of green space was “to refresh and delight the eye and through the eye, the mind and the spirit.”

Upon touring the City of Buffalo in 1868, he convinced local leaders that not one park — as in New York City’s Central Park — but multiple parks would better serve Buffalo’s needs. In all, there are six major parks, seven parkways, and eight circles where residents make daily use of playgrounds, basketball courts, baseball diamonds, soccer fields, golf courses, running tracks, tennis courts, paths, trails, and a lot more.

Buffalo Niagara has many non-Olmsted designed parks across its region as well. Letchworth State Park is often referred to as “The Grand Canyon of the East.” And the Ralph Wilson Park, located along Lake Erie on Buffalo’s west side, is undergoing a $110M transformation into a world-class waterfront destination with a resilient shoreline to mitigate the effects of climate change and rising lake levels.

DOG PARKS

In Buffalo, there’s plenty of room for your four-legged friend to enjoy the outdoors. Check out Knox Farm State Park, which has a six-acre dog park (with puppy- and small dog-designated areas) within its 633 acres.

“When I lived in Manhattan, we had 300 pounds of dog within a 600-square-foot apartment. Buffalo is really dog-friendly. We’re always hiking in the Southtowns or at the Knox Farm dog park.”

Liz Tsai
HiOperator, Founder & CEO
She has lived in: Houston, Boston, San Francisco, New York City, and more.
STAY ACTIVE

If you’re looking to get active out-of-doors, try free yoga at Canalside or get a bit more daring while scaling one of our monolithic grain silos reinvented as a rock wall. Not your bag? Try one of Lakeside Bike Park’s three mountain bike tracks: 20 acres dedicated to the adventurous biker – complete with a bike wash. And when the temperature drops, head to the hills for skiing, snowboarding, or sledding. Or, lace up the skates for pond hockey.

POPULAR TRAILS

ON THE WATER

Buffalo Niagara’s waterways are more than just beautiful – they’re a lot of fun, too. The region is surrounded to the west and north by Lake Erie, Lake Ontario, and the Niagara River. Take a walk on Bird Island Pier, picnic at developing Ralph C. Wilson Centennial Park, or bike along the Erie Canal.

From Memorial Day to Labor Day, take the Queen City Bike Ferry from Canalside to the Outer Harbor and back (you don’t need a bike to ride the ferry; it’s $1).

Buffalo Harbor State Park is home to a 1,000 slip marina, boat launch, fish cleaning station, playground, and more. The park is adjacent to the popular Tifft Nature Preserve, boasting 264 acres of restored habitat.

The most popular public beaches are Woodlawn (Hamburg), Beaver Island State Park (Grand Island), Sunset Bay (Irving), and Evangola State Park (Evans/Angola). Year-round the region is a haven for fishing.

BUFFALO NAMED AMONG “5 OF THE MOST REMARKABLE WATERFRONTS”
- April 2021, Hemisphere Magazine

CITY OF BUFFALO WATERFRONT ATTRACTIONS

Bird Island Pier
Accessed from the foot of Broderick Park, which recently underwent an $11 million makeover and is recognized as a terminus of the Underground Railroad between the United States and Canada.

Buffalo and Erie County Naval & Military Park
The largest inland Naval & Military Park in the country featuring four decommissioned Naval vessels.

Buffalo RiverWorks
A restaurant and brewery featuring a Ferris wheel, roller derby track, multiple ice hockey rinks, and a high ropes course, and is home to big-name concerts and events.

Canalside
At this playground for all ages take a free wellness or fitness class, play a free game (giant chess or checkers, anyone?), and rent a kayak or bike. There are family activities, restaurants, and concerts, just steps from the Central Business District.

Outer Harbor
On mighty Lake Erie’s edge, access the trails, walking and biking paths, beaches, and parks that dot over 200 acres of green space and reclaimed shoreline. Wilkeson Pointe, Lakeside Complex and bike park, and the Bell Slip along the Health Wellness Trail are popular destinations.

Silo City
Grain silos stand along the Buffalo River as an ode to Buffalo’s industrial past, now rejuvenated into breweries, rock climbing structures, art galleries, and performing arts venues.
Our rural areas are bisected by the Erie Canal, the Genesee River, Chautauqua Lake, and dozens of smaller inland lakes, creeks, and streams. Sail on Chautauqua Lake or visit the shoreline for recreation at Long Point State Park or the Chautauqua Institution, home to a nine-week season of programming dedicated to arts, culture, and education. Many of the region’s waterfronts, including Cuba, Rushford, and Silver Lakes, feature rental properties for an easy staycation destination, as well. Whichever way you like the enjoy the water, you’ll find it here.

www.tourchautauqua.com/destinations/chautauqua-lake
Niagara Falls State Park is home to over 400 acres of lush landscape and wildlife, the beautiful Falls themselves, and many famous attractions. Designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, Niagara Falls State Park offers a breathtaking view of one of nature's marvels as it was intended to be seen.

First discovered in 1678, by French explorer Father Louis Hennepin, Niagara Falls was one of America's first icons, luring explorers, daredevils, and visitors.

World-class attractions such as the Maid of the Mist and Cave of the Winds, offer the nine million+ visitors each year an opportunity to feel, see, and experience the rush of Niagara's waters. Niagara Falls State Park is the oldest state park in the United States and is open 365 days a year, 24 hours a day.

**NIAGARA FALLS, U.S.A. ATTRACTIONS**

**Cave of the Winds**
Go face-to-face with the pounding waters of Niagara Falls and get soaked on the Hurricane Deck just feet from the waters.

**Goat Island**
Enjoy nature while gaining access to Cave of the Winds, Top of the Falls Restaurant, Three Sisters Islands, Terrapin Point, Luna Island, and the Niagara Rapids.

**Maid of the Mist Boat Tour**
Experience the world famous scenic boat tour of the American and Canadian Falls.

**Niagara Falls State Park Visitors Center**
Information Center, ticketing, gift shop, food, and home to the Niagara Adventure Theater. Footpaths lead from the center to every area of the Park and the Niagara Scenic Trolley departs from near the center.

**Niagara Falls Illumination**
Hundreds of LED lights create a breathtaking view of Niagara Falls every night of the year, with custom colors celebrating holidays and significant occasions.

**Niagara Scenic Trolley**
Take a three-mile trolley ride through the park that stops at several locations. A history of the park is provided.

**Observation Tower**
View both the American and Horseshoe Falls at the same time from the Observation Tower's deck that extends over the Niagara Gorge.

**Whirlpool Jet Boat Tours**
Experience a 45-60 minute jet boat tour through the Class V Devil's Hole rapids! Specially designed 1500 horsepower jet boats plunge directly into the rapids for a thrilling adventure.
VISITING CANADA

- **Niagara-on-the-Lake** is home to world-class theater at the Shaw Festival. This picture-perfect village is located on Lake Ontario at the mouth of the Niagara River. It's filled with boutiques, nature trails, wineries, restaurants, inspirational landscapes and farms, and much more.

- **The Niagara (Ontario) Wine Trail** is where North American ice wines originated — though they’re only one kind of many specialty wines available here. The escarpment region is known for producing earthy grapes with robust mineral flavors.

- **Toronto**, Canada’s largest city, is beautiful, cosmopolitan, and fun. About 90 minutes from Buffalo Niagara, it makes for a great day or weekend trip anytime.

- **Algonquin Provincial Park** is Canada’s first (and one of its largest) provincial parks; it’s a nature-lover’s paradise with scenic hiking, canoeing, and camping.

- **Montreal, Quebec** is Canada’s largest bilingual city, with French and English spoken. It’s distinctly European in feeling with outstanding boutiques, cafés, and restaurants, and is a wonderful place to visit any time of year.
Sometimes it comes late, sometimes early, but when winter comes to Buffalo Niagara, put on your hats, gloves, coats, and boots, and grab your skis, ice skates, sleds, snowmobiles, snowshoes, and ice-fishing gear. If it can be done outside in winter, we’ll do it. We love winter in Buffalo Niagara, and you will too.

What’s “lake-effect” snow?

In winter, if there’s not a lot of ice cover on the Great Lakes, cold air moving over the comparatively warmer water picks up moisture, which becomes snow. That cold air, part of the weather system that produces “lake-effect snow” can park over the city and/or over ski country, sending a bounty of the fluffy white stuff. (Lake-effect snow can also be accompanied by lightning and thunder, a phenomenon known as “thundersnow.”) And like everything about Buffalo Niagara’s weather, it’s pretty wonderful, too.

Here are just a few highlights of our winter season:

**Labatt Blue Pond Hockey Tournament**
Buffalo is home to Labatt Blue USA and, in just a handful of years, this winter favorite has expanded to include teams from all over the country and Canada and is now hosted at RiverWorks, an amazing urban reuse of our historic grain silos as a large-scale sports, entertainment, and craft-brewery complex.

**Ski Clubs and Winter Sports**
Holiday Valley, Holimont, Kissing Bridge, Buffalo Ski Club, and Peak’n Peek offer up ideal conditions, affordable ticket prices and endless days and nights of downhill skiing; other areas offer cross-country skiing, snow-shoeing, tubing, sledding, and ice skating.

**First Night New Year’s Eve Celebration**
A favorite way to ring in the New Year, this ball drop and party — complete with fireworks and bands — is free, family-friendly, and always fun.

**Canalside**
Buffalo’s waterfront is a year-long destination. Try your hand at curling, ride an ice bike, play bumper cars, or take a leisurely skate around the beautiful rink.
SPRING

In spring, winter snow gives way to warm sunshine and flowers. People are out and about too — biking, hiking, white-water rafting, fishing, and playing. As the days grow milder and longer, street fairs, outdoor concerts, and farmers’ markets begin. Weather varies from cool (even an occasional light snowfall) and rainy, to warm and sunny — sometimes all in the same day. That’s spring in Buffalo Niagara.

DYNGUS DAY

Historically a Polish-American tradition, Dyngus Day celebrates the end of Lent, the joy of Easter, and spring’s arrival. Buffalo is home to the country’s largest celebration, which always falls on the Monday after Easter. Put on your polka shoes and get ready for kielbasa, butter lambs, water guns, and pussy willow.

Spring highlights and activities:

St. Patrick’s Day Parades
City of Buffalo, City of Niagara Falls, and Old First Ward are the most popular.

Maple Syrup Weekend
When sugar shacks are open to the public and serve everything from pancakes to maple candy.

Edible Book Festival
As part of a national festival taking place around April 1st, people of all ages can submit edible representations of literature for prizes. After judging, feasting begins, as well as basket raffles, edible crafts, and letterpress demos.

Balloons Over Letchworth
Hot air balloons fill the skies over this magnificent park, called “the Grand Canyon of the East.”

Broadway Market
This historic Buffalo marketplace is a cherished shopping destination, especially during the Lenten season. Find Easter and Dyngus Day holiday essentials such as the famous butter lambs, pussy willows, Polish sausage and pierogi.

8TH BEST CITY IN U.S. TO CELEBRATE ST. PATRICK’S DAY
- Insider, 2020

FARMLANDS MARKET SEASON BEGINS IN MIDSUMMER
There’s no better summer than a Western New York summer. The days are sunny and long and the evenings are captivating — and both are just about always spent outside. The waterways are packed with swimmers, sailors, jet skis, power boats, and kayakers, while the surrounding forests are filled with campers, hikers, and mountain-bikers. Daytime temperatures are in the 80s and evenings are comfortably in the mid-60s, with breathtaking sunsets over the lakes, and an occasional midnight rainfall or thunderstorm that keeps our foliage green and lush.

Some of our Summer Events:

**Allentown Art Festival/Allentown West**
Every summer, more than half a million visitors flock to this multifaceted arts festival that takes place over two days in early June.

**Juneteenth Festival**
This celebration of Buffalo’s African American heritage brings thousands of visitors to MLK, Jr. Park for a weekend of fantastic food, music, crafts, and dance.

**Taste of Buffalo**
One of the largest food festivals of its kind in the country, this is a great way to try signature foods from dozens of local restaurants and food trucks.

**Garden Walk Buffalo**
The largest free public garden walk in the country, this incredible event enables hundreds of thousands of visitors to view hundreds of private gardens throughout the City of Buffalo.

**Harvest Festivals, including Eden Corn Fest & Lewiston Peach Festival**
With our region’s diverse and plentiful agricultural heritage, there are reasons to celebrate throughout the summer, beginning with June’s strawberry festivals.

**Tonawanda Canal Fest**
As the Erie Canal has experienced revitalization, so has this week-long event, which attracts thousands of people.

**Erie County Fair**
The third-largest county fair in America — and one of the longest running — “The Fair” is one of the most popular and fun family-centered events in the region.

**Pride Week**
This week-long celebration expresses the region’s support of our LGTBQ community. Over 30,000 people join in a number of events that make up the week including the Pride Festival, parade, 5K, and more.

**National Buffalo Wing Festival**
Every Labor Day weekend, tens of thousands converge on Buffalo to celebrate one of America’s favorite bar and game-day foods. The festival features 40 tons and 100 varieties of chicken wings.
After summer’s heat, Buffalo Niagara welcomes fall’s cooler days and evenings — with daytime temps in the 50s–70s and evenings cooling to the 40s–50s (the secret behind our region’s breathtaking foliage and amazing apples). Weekends are spent enjoying harvest celebrations and, because the waterways are still warm, sailing, fishing, and even swimming before the first frosty nights.

**Fall in love with Buffalo Niagara:**

**Oktoberfest Weekend in Ellicottville**
Head to the Enchanted Mountains of Cattaraugus County and the Village of Ellicottville for one of the most popular fall music and arts festivals in the region.

**The Great Pumpkin Farm/Pumpkinville/Great American Pumpkin Festival/Oinktoberfest**
These events are favorites for kids of all ages celebrating everything from Halloween favorites to barbecue contests.

**Leaf Peeping Hikes**
As the leaves turn, head to one of our many parks and trails to see bright yellows, deep reds, and everything in between. Letchworth State Park and the Whirlpool Trail at the Niagara Gorge offer beautiful views. Check out New York State’s fall foliage map here for a guide of the color change.


**Niagara Wine Trail**
Great to visit all year, the Niagara Wine Trail really comes alive in the fall, when harvesting is completed and it’s time to uncork the previous years’ vintages.

**Cider Doughnuts at Mayer Bros.**
Don’t miss all the seasonal treats and family friendly activities at Mayer Brothers. Come for the fresh doughnuts and take a horse-drawn hayride on the weekend.

**4TH SAFEST CITY FROM NATURAL DISASTERS**
- Trulia 2013

**Sophia Marshall**
@marshallproductions

**BUFFALO BILLS TAILGATING**

Join the best fanbase in the NFL for a party in the parking lots before the team hits the field. At tailgates you’ll find plenty of lawn games, barbecues, Zubaz, and the famous “Shout” song.

©NANCY J. PARISI/OLMSTED PARK CONSERVANCY

©RYAN MEISSNER

Sophia Marshall
@marshallproductions
AVERAGE COMMUTE IS

21.7 MINUTES

5.9 MINUTES FASTER THAN NATIONAL AVERAGE

- U.S. Census Bureau, 2019
By car or plane, bike or bus, Buffalo Niagara makes life on the go easy.

We’re called a “20-minute city” for a reason — you’re never far from your next stop in the day. Shorter commutes free up time in the day for the important things. And a car isn’t your only option here. Buffalo Niagara is very bikeable, with bike sharing programs and miles of greenways, pathways, and bike lanes throughout the region.

And when vacation time comes, we’re an easy road trip or flight to many of the top destinations in the country and abroad. Buffalo Niagara International Airport is central in the community.

For best modes of transportation and route, visit gobuffaloniagara.org

Rosa Alina Pizzi
Partner, Phillips Lytle
Relocated from New York City

We always seem to be stumbling upon a gem of a trail or path or park. After seven years here, I understand why people want to keep Buffalo a secret, but I’m also the first one to spill the beans about how magical our outdoor spaces are.”

4 INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE CROSSINGS
AIRPORTS

Take off from Buffalo Niagara International Airport, with more than 120 flights daily, and Niagara Falls International Airport, with specialty carriers to places like Mexico and Florida. The Toronto Pearson International Airport is around a 1 1/2 hour drive from Buffalo Niagara.

Buffalo Niagara International Airport (BUF)

With more than 100 nonstop flights daily as well as connecting service throughout the country and around the world, Buffalo Niagara International Airport is an easy-access airport. Its compact size and ample parking make flying relatively stress-free compared to many cities. www.buffaloairport.com

Niagara Falls International Airport (IAG)

Niagara Falls International Airport specializes in destination vacations with specialized carriers, as well as some private business travel. Its location near the U.S./Canada border makes vacation carriers here popular with Canadians as well as Americans, and its small size and specialized use make it easy to get around and get out of town. www.niagarafallsairport.com

Toronto Pearson International Airport (YYZ)

A 90-minute drive from WNY communities, this is the largest hub for Air Canada and Westjet. Pearson also has extensive services by non-Canadian airlines to destinations world, and has nonstop service to 197 unduplicated cities. www.torontopearson.com

DIRECT FLIGHTS FROM BUFFALO NIAGARA

Average one-way fare: $212

(Source: U.S. Department of Transportation Consumer Airfare Report – 2021)
TRAINS
Amtrak runs daily trains along several major statewide and national routes, making it easy to get where you need to go without the hassle of flying or driving.

www.amtrak.com | 1-800-872-7245

- Exchange Street Depot
  75 Exchange Street
  Buffalo, NY 14203

- Depew Depot
  55 Dick Road
  Depew, NY 14043

- Niagara Falls Station Building
  825 Depot Avenue West
  Niagara Falls, NY 14305

VIA Rail Canada makes trips between Toronto and Niagara Falls, Canada
www.viarail.ca/en

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Metro Bus and Metro Rail
Public transportation in Buffalo, Niagara Falls, and the surrounding suburbs include the NFTA Metro Bus with 54 routes and 4,103 stops, and NFTA Metro Rail – an electric light rail line with stops along Main Street in Buffalo between the University at Buffalo’s South Campus and Canalside, making it easy to get to popular entertainment venues, events, and downtown offices.

metro.nfta.com

ELECTRIC VEHICLE NETWORK
Buffalo Niagara has a vast network of electric vehicle infrastructure, including charging stations built into many parking ramps and street spots.

plugshare.com

THRUWAY TRAVEL
The New York State Thruway system includes electronic tolls that are billed to you or, more conveniently, with E-ZPass, an electronic transponder that’s accepted throughout New York State, the surrounding Great Lakes states, and most areas in the New York City metro/tristate area. It’s also accepted at U.S./Canada bridge crossings.

- E-ZPass
  www.e-zpassny.com

CROSSING THE BORDER WITH EASE
Remember, you’re traveling across an international border and proof of citizenship is required. Every person in your vehicle must have appropriate identification. Lack of proper identification can cause travel delays, and denial of crossing or reentry. Acceptable forms of identification include U.S.-issued passports, an enhanced driver’s license, enhanced nondriver identification card, or a NEXUS card (issued by the Canadian government for U.S. and Canadian citizens). Basic driver’s licenses or birth certificates are not considered proper identification for adults at international crossings. This is also the case if you’re traveling by bus, airplane, or train to or from Canada. For detailed information on acceptable forms of ID, please visit the U.S. Customs and Border Patrol website at www.cbp.gov.

Other important considerations include purchasing items to bring home (including shopping at the Duty Free shops at the international crossings), as some items may require you to pay duty or may be banned at international crossings (such as some food and plant materials). It is important to declare any purchases made while visiting. If bringing pets, please note that they must be properly licensed including proof of vaccinations.

- Buffalo Passport Agency
  1-877-487-2778
  www.us-passport-service-guide.com
  /buffalo-passport.html

- NEXUS Pass
  ttp.cbp.dhs.gov
Biking is big in Buffalo Niagara, both as transportation and for recreation. We’re adding miles of bike lanes every year — more than 80 miles of trails and dedicated bike paths have been created in the last few years, from waterfront connections between Buffalo and Niagara Falls, to the outlying hills with breathtaking trails and scenery. Newly created trails connecting Buffalo and North Tonawanda create easy access between the popular work and residential areas.

Buffalo is also the western terminus of the newly created Empire State Trail, a 750-mile connecting Buffalo to New York City, including the 8-mile Erie Canalway Trail section, which runs through the city from the Buffalo Harbor to the banks of the Niagara River. www.empiretrail.ny.gov

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THE BIG BLUE WATER TOWER
In the Town of Amherst, used as a landmark by radio traffic reporters for the interchange of I-290 with I-90.

THE BOULEVARD
Niagara Falls Boulevard, one of the area’s major suburban strip shopping areas.

THE 33
(AKA – The Kensington) The 33 serves as the primary arterial between Downtown Buffalo and the eastern suburbs.

THE 90
Refers to New York State Thruway Interstate 90. WNYer’s add “The” before highway route numbers, such as “The 190,” “The 290,” and “The 990.”

THE QUEEN ELIZABETH WAY
The Queen Elizabeth Way, an expressway linking Niagara Falls and Toronto.

THE YOUNGMANN
(AKA – The 290) The Youngmann Memorial Highway, a six-lane expressway through the suburbs of Amherst and Tonawanda, connecting I-90 with I-190.

BUFFALO BICYCLING CLUB

NEARLY 150 MILES OF BIKE LACES IN THE CITY OF BUFFALO

BUFFALO BICYCLING CLUB
BIKE PATHS
Community-based organizations like GObike Buffalo and Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper, public officials, and private corporations are committed to making Buffalo Niagara a forward-thinking and bike-friendly region. Bike infrastructure investments have been plentiful throughout the region, including more and more places dedicated to biking. These paths follow along much of the area’s most beautiful scenic areas, like the waterfront, and enable easy access between destinations. The most comprehensive is the popular Niagara River Greenway Trail, featuring miles of urban, waterfront, naturalized, and suburban paved pathways and trails (www.niagaragreenway.org). In addition, many major city roads have dedicated bike lanes to enable easier commutes by bike.

Find detailed maps of our region’s bike routes on the Greater Buffalo-Niagara Regional Transportation Council’s website: www.gbnrtc.org.

LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

GObike Buffalo
GObike promotes active mobility options, trails and greenways, and complete streets in Western New York, and connects and empowers communities through advocacy, education, planning, and engagement. gobikebuffalo.org

Niagara Frontier Bicycle Club | nfbc.com
Western New York Mountain Bicycling Association | www.wnymba.org
Buffalo Bicycling Club | www.buffalobicycling.com
Reddy Bikeshare | reddybikeshare.socialbicycles.com
East Side Bike Club | esbcbuffalo.com
Colored Girls Bike Too | facebook.com/groups/coloredgirlsbiketoo/
Slow Spokes Buffalo | facebook.com/groups/SlowSpokesBuffalo

BICYCLE EVENTS

SkyRide
A bicycle tour of historic locations, new bicycle infrastructure, and an incredible, scenic ride over the Buffalo Skyway.

Slow Roll
Slow Roll Buffalo is a free and inclusive guided group bicycle ride that meets every Monday night from May through October. Slow Roll, founded in Detroit in 2010, has expanded into a global network of community rides. Each week, SRB meets at a different venue; riders take a unique route throughout Buffalo and surrounding neighborhoods.

Ride for Roswell
The Ride For Roswell is an annual celebration of community support for Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center. Each year, more than 8,000 riders and 2,000 volunteers come together to raise funds for cutting-edge research studies and patient-care programs at Roswell Park. With a dozen routes ranging in distance from three to 102 miles, anyone can participate.
#1 BEST CITY FOR A FRESH START

- Lending Tree (2018)
The Buffalo Niagara region are undergoing an all-encompassing renaissance. Public and private investment is fueling growth for established companies, scrappy startups, and everything in between. Businesses are opening, relocating, or expanding to Buffalo Niagara because of the success of others and innate economic advantages for business growth.

Our well-educated and dedicated workforce and low operating costs build a compelling business case for Buffalo Niagara. Buffalo Niagara’s location on the Canadian-American border, with 40% of the binational population within a 10-hour drive, also makes market reach and subsequent growth even easier. The region’s diversified and growing economy, has been recognized by leading business publications such as Fast Company, Forbes, The New York Times, CNBC, Business Facilities, CNN Money, and Business Week.

Business is booming in Buffalo Niagara.

“Buffalo was an easy choice for my company and my family. Between the reasonable cost of living and high quality of life, we know that we will not only be able to hire top talent, but also attract them to the Buffalo area.”

Natascha Thomas
Development Center Director, Rural Sourcing
Relocated from Mobile, Alabama
Diverse Economy

LEADING BUSINESS SECTORS

**Advanced Business Services**
A tech-savvy workforce and more than 80,000 miles of fiber optics cable are significant assets for companies in insurance, back office, and technology.

Regional business amenities, access to talent, and a low cost of living in a region with a highly desired lifestyle has accelerated the Buffalo Niagara region into a hub for data processing, technology, insurance, and back office support companies.

**Advanced Manufacturing**
Buffalo Niagara has a rich manufacturing and innovation history. Today’s growth areas include medical devices, sensor technology, additive manufacturing, clean technology, and electronic manufacturing.

**Food and Dairy Processing**
Food and dairy processing is one of Buffalo Niagara’s most successful industries. Wyoming County is the highest dairy producing county in New York State — which is the third highest-producing state in the country.

**Life Sciences**
Between the 120+ acre Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus and University at Buffalo’s research funding, which exceeds $390 million, Western New York is a burgeoning health and life sciences hub. Proximity to Toronto increases R&D to production collaboration and spin-off, research, and healthcare centers.

**Higher Education**
With 21 colleges and universities, including major research and specialty centers, Buffalo Niagara’s higher education institutions are vital to the economic vitality and intellectual culture of our region.

**Arts, Culture & Tourism**
As the region’s economic renaissance continues, the area has been rediscovered as a destination for tourism and culture. A growing number of national and international business, sport and recreation organizations host annual conventions and conferences here. Direct investment and spin-off impact for restaurants, hotels, and retail has buoyed this industry as a regional economic driver.
EMPLOYMENT RESOURCES

Buffalo Niagara has a number of resources available to people who are relocating. Here is a select listing of employment agencies and online resources. Ask your employer about spousal/partner relocation advisement — some of our region’s largest employers, such as the State University of New York system — have programs available.

### JOB SEARCH RESOURCES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Website</th>
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<tr>
<td>Aleron</td>
<td><a href="http://www.aleroninc.com">www.aleroninc.com</a></td>
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<td>Be in Buffalo</td>
<td><a href="http://www.beinbuffalo.com">www.beinbuffalo.com</a></td>
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<td>Forge Buffalo</td>
<td><a href="http://www.forgebuffalo.com">www.forgebuffalo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lighthouse Technology Services</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lhtservices.com">www.lhtservices.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>New York State’s Department of Labor</td>
<td><a href="http://www.labor.ny.gov">www.labor.ny.gov</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Western New York Jobs</td>
<td><a href="http://www.wnyjobs.com">www.wnyjobs.com</a></td>
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### PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING SERVICES

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Service</th>
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<tr>
<td>Buffalo Employment &amp; Training Center</td>
<td><a href="http://www.workforcebuffalo.org">www.workforcebuffalo.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Buffalo &amp; Erie County Workforce Investment Board</td>
<td><a href="http://www.becwib.org">www.becwib.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>ECC One Stop Center</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ecc.edu/academics/one-stop-career-center.html">www.ecc.edu/academics/one-stop-career-center.html</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Erie 1 BOCES Workforce Development Center</td>
<td><a href="http://www.efb.org">www.efb.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>NCCC Workforce Development</td>
<td><a href="http://www.niagaracc.suny.edu/wd">www.niagaracc.suny.edu/wd</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Niagara County Workforce Development Board</td>
<td><a href="http://www.niagarawdb.com">www.niagarawdb.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>New York State Department of Labor</td>
<td><a href="http://www.dol.ny.gov">www.dol.ny.gov</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Northland Workforce Training Center</td>
<td><a href="http://www.northlandwtc.org">www.northlandwtc.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Orleans Niagara BOCES</td>
<td><a href="http://www.onboces.org">www.onboces.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>UB Educational Opportunity Center</td>
<td><a href="http://www.eoc.buffalo.edu">www.eoc.buffalo.edu</a></td>
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BUFFALO RANKED A TOP 10 CITY FOR CAREER OPPORTUNITY

- Smartasset, September 2015

“I grew up on the East Side of Buffalo where most people counted you out. To come back here and build a multi-million-dollar tech company is crazy. The opportunity is here. Bring your hustler attitude but leave the overpopulation and pollution of the mega metro behind.”

Venus Quates
President & CEO, Launchtech

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43North is an accelerator that hosts an annual startup competition, investing $5M per year to attract and retain high-growth companies in Buffalo.

ACV Auctions became Buffalo’s first software unicorn, with a valuation over $1B, more than 1,000 employees, and a successful IPO on the NASDAQ in 2021.

Entrepreneurial support is plentiful through business-funding competitions and through local and statewide incentive programs. There are also several small business development centers, mentoring programs, and more available to help brand-new startups or expanding operations. With their assistance, you’ll be sure to get your business started off right.

Find the information you need for your particular field from your city or town’s municipal offices; your county’s business development agency or office; the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) or Senior Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE); and local Chambers of Commerce.
“Coworking spaces solve problems for people. When you’re able to listen to people’s needs and deliver a product that works for them, it facilitates trust and creates a solid foundation for community, which has become increasingly important for the remote & WFH workforce.”

Erin Wilson
Community Manager, HANSA

COWORKING SPACES

Coworking has long offered the flexibility desired by solo-preneurs and freelancers alike. But the COVID-19 pandemic, its impacts on the economy, and work-from-home policies have increased the importance of amenity-rich coworking spaces and community building centers.

Buffalo Niagara has no short supply.

Below is a list of coworking spaces in Western New York. But with how often they’re popping up, we can’t promise just how comprehensive it will stay!

- Convergence Coworking
- Coworking at Baird
- Coworking at CBLS
- Cowork Perry
- dig Buffalo
- HANSA
- Inception Buffalo Cowork & Incubation Space
- Regus
- Serendipity Labs
- The Foundry
- The Harvester Center
- TReC
- UNOVA Coworking
### CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

Buffalo Niagara’s business support network is strong and growing, and the Western New York Chamber Alliance includes many chambers of commerce and partner organizations that support businesses of all sizes through a variety of services. It’s an excellent resource that will help you find the specific contacts you need, whether you’ve already determined where your business will be located or want additional information regarding doing business in specific cities, towns, and counties.  

www.wnychamberalliance.com

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chamber of Commerce</th>
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<tr>
<td>Akron Chamber of Commerce</td>
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<td>Alden Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td><a href="http://www.aldeny.org">www.aldeny.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Amherst Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td><a href="http://www.amherst.org">www.amherst.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Black Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td><a href="http://www.wnyblackchamber.org">www.wnyblackchamber.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Buffalo Niagara Partnership</td>
<td><a href="http://www.thepartnership.org">www.thepartnership.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Chamber of Commerce of the Tonawandas</td>
<td><a href="http://www.the-tonawandas.com">www.the-tonawandas.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td><a href="http://www.chautauquachamber.org">www.chautauquachamber.org</a></td>
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<td>Cheektowaga Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cheektowaga.org">www.cheektowaga.org</a></td>
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<td>Clarence Chamber of Commerce</td>
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<td>Eden Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td><a href="http://www.edenny.gov/eden-chamber-of-commerce/">www.edenny.gov/eden-chamber-of-commerce/</a></td>
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<td>Genesee County Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td><a href="http://www.genesenyny.com">www.genesenyny.com</a></td>
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<td>Grand Island Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td><a href="http://www.gichamber.org">www.gichamber.org</a></td>
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<td>Greater East Aurora Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td><a href="http://www.eanycc.com">www.eanycc.com</a></td>
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<td>Greater Olean Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td><a href="http://www.oleanyny.com">www.oleanyny.com</a></td>
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<td>Hamburg Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hamburg-chamber.org">www.hamburg-chamber.org</a></td>
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<td>Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ken-ton.org">www.ken-ton.org</a></td>
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<td>Lackawanna Area Chamber of Commerce</td>
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<td>Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td><a href="http://www.laccny.org">www.laccny.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Niagara River Region Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td><a href="http://www.northofthefalls.com">www.northofthefalls.com</a></td>
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<td>Niagara USA Chamber</td>
<td><a href="http://www.niagarachamber.org">www.niagarachamber.org</a></td>
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<td>Orchard Park Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td><a href="http://www.orchardparkchamber.com">www.orchardparkchamber.com</a></td>
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<td>Orleans County Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td><a href="http://www.orleanschamber.com">www.orleanschamber.com</a></td>
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<td>Springville Area Chamber of Commerce</td>
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<td>West Seneca Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td><a href="http://www.westseneca.org">www.westseneca.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td><a href="http://www.wycochamber.org">www.wycochamber.org</a></td>
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Whether it’s flex office space for 1-20 individuals, traditional office suites, a new build-to-suit industrial or office building, Uniland is the region’s largest and most reputable provider of commercial real estate, managing over 300 buildings and serving more than 400 clients across Western New York.
Bringing jobs for our neighbors and investment for our neighborhoods.

To support business attraction, expansion, and entrepreneurship, Invest Buffalo Niagara collaborates with local businesses, universities, nonprofit organizations, and elected officials to deliver a unified response to regional economic development opportunities.

Our team of professional economic development consultants provides services to companies considering the Buffalo Niagara region, particularly for the first time.

Join us.
We’re guided by more than 60 of Buffalo Niagara’s businesses that believe in investing in the future of our community. And we’re ready to work with you as well.

Learn why Invest Buffalo Niagara matters to our community. buffaloniagara.org
Investing in the future of Buffalo Niagara

InvestBuffalo Niagara is a unique private-public partnership that allows business leaders to guide regional initiatives that positively impact economic growth. We’re working to expand our industry clusters, bring more development, and add new jobs. Thanks to our investors, InBN also serves as a single point of contact for economic development inquiries and offers a free, comprehensive suite of client-driven project management services.

AAA of Western & Central New York*
Acara Solutions, Inc.
Allegany County Industrial Development Agency
Amherst Industrial Development Agency
ARC Building Partners
Astronics Corporation
Buffalo Niagara Partnership*
Buffalo Urban Development Corporation
Chautauqua County Industrial Development Agency
Ciminelli Real Estate Corporation
City of Buffalo
Clarence Industrial Development Agency
Delaware North*
Douglas Development
Dunn Tire
Empire State Development Corporation*
Erie County
Erie County Industrial Development Agency*
Ernst & Young, LLP*
Five Star Bank
Frey Electric Construction Company
Genesee County Economic Development Center
Hamburg Industrial Development Agency
Hanna Commercial Real Estate
Harris Beach, PLLC
Harter Secrest & Emery LLP
Highmark BlueCross BlueShield of Western New York*
Hodgson Russ LLP
HSBC Bank USA, NA*
HUNT Real Estate Corporation
Hurwitz & Fine, P.C.
Independent Health
KeyBank, NA*
Lighthouse Technology Services
Lippes Mathias Wexler Friedman LLP
Lockport Industrial Development Agency
Lumsden & McCormick, LLP
Lynn Critical Infrastructure
The Martin Group
Merchants Insurance Group*
Moog Inc.*
M&T Bank Corporation*
National Fuel Gas Company*
National Grid*
Niagara County Department of Economic Development
New York Power Authority
NYSEG*
Phillips Lytle LLP*
Schutte Buffalo
Sonwil Distribution
The Buffalo News
TM Montante Development
Tops Markets, LLC*
Troncon Segarra & Associates LLP
Turner Construction Company
Uniland Development Company*
Univera Healthcare
University at Buffalo
Wegmans Food Markets
West Herr Automotive Group
WNY NYSCAR
Wyoming County Business Center

*FOUNDING INVESTORS
From pioneering tech jobs to those in financial services and everything in between, Buffalo offers opportunity for what’s next in your career.

Buffalo is grounded by accessibility and freshly energized with potential and boundless opportunity to help you reach next-level success and “be” whatever you want to be—whether that's a first-time homeowner, creative freelancer, C-level executive, or anything in between.

From our rapidly expanding high-growth job market to our world-renowned cultural amenities, low cost of living, and stunningly accessible real estate market, it's no wonder Buffalo is attracting college-educated young adults in droves. Find out for yourself why Time called Buffalo Niagara one of “25 Cities Where Millennials Are Moving.

beinbuffalo.com
We know the future requires more technology, not less. Our city needs caring technology professionals to help businesses find their path forward.

At Lighthouse, our team takes pride in guiding job seekers to great opportunities using their industry expertise and rich local connections.

The result? Hundreds of individuals finding exciting, fulfilling technology jobs in Buffalo and joining our team.

Want to learn more about what it means to #BeALighthouse?

Scan or visit us at lhtservices.com

It’s a great time to find a technology job in Buffalo!
It’s an exciting time to be here and we’re proud to be a part of it.

**Heritage Point, Canalside**
Two Mixed-Use Buildings

**Buffalo Convention Center**
Façade & Lobby Improvements

** Eleven Eleven Elmwood**
Luxury Condominiums

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