



ROUTE 20 STATE PLANNER

New York Route 20 State Planner

Plan one of Route 20's longest state crossings through Lake Erie villages, the western Finger Lakes, rights-history country, central lake towns, and the rural approach to Albany and Massachusetts.



Pennsylvania -> Westfield / Fredonia -> Canandaigua -> Seneca Falls / Auburn -> Skaneateles / Cazenovia -> Sharon Springs -> Albany -> Massachusetts

Use this planner for route shape, not live road status. Verify weather, construction, lodging, hours, parking, seasonal access, and local conditions before travel.

Planning principle

New York needs several driving days even at a brisk pace. Choose one meaningful stop in each section, use a short list of overnight anchors, and let major detours replace other plans rather than stacking on top.

Revision

August 2026
Built from the current Route20RoadTrip state guide.



Current New York Route 20 guide

Scan for the state page, connected segments, trips, and place guides.



How the New York corridor works

New York needs several driving days even at a brisk pace. Choose one meaningful stop in each section, use a short list of overnight anchors, and let major detours replace other plans rather than stacking on top.

CHAPTER 1 - 1. LAKE ERIE VILLAGES

Westfield, Fredonia, and Silver Creek

Enter from Pennsylvania, give Fredonia the main village block, and keep shoreline or wine-country choices selective.

CHAPTER 2 - 2. WESTERN FINGER LAKES

Avon to Canandaigua

Use Avon for services, smaller villages selectively, and Canandaigua as the primary destination.

CHAPTER 3 - 3. RIGHTS-HISTORY CORRIDOR

Canandaigua, Seneca Falls, and Auburn

Move from the lakefront handoff to concentrated women's-rights history and Auburn's deeper historic sites.

CHAPTER 4 - 4. CENTRAL LAKE VILLAGES

Auburn to Cazenovia

Balance Auburn history with Skaneateles leisure time and Cazenovia's village, lake, and history options.

CHAPTER 5 - 5. EASTERN RURAL APPROACH

Cherry Valley to Duanesburg

Follow the rural chain through Sharon Springs, Sloansville, Esperance, and Duanesburg before Albany.

CHAPTER 6 - CAPITAL REGION ANCHOR

Albany

Use state history, downtown, the Hudson River, lodging, and city services before Massachusetts.

My westbound chapter

My eastbound chapter



ROUTE SECTIONS

6 LANES

Choose the chapter that fits

1. LAKE ERIE VILLAGES**1. Westfield, Fredonia, and Silver Creek**

Enter from Pennsylvania, give Fredonia the main village block, and keep shoreline or wine-country choices selective.

Primary anchor / timing

2. WESTERN FINGER LAKES**2. Avon to Canandaigua**

Use Avon for services, smaller villages selectively, and Canandaigua as the primary destination.

Primary anchor / timing

3. RIGHTS-HISTORY CORRIDOR**3. Canandaigua, Seneca Falls, and Auburn**

Move from the lakefront handoff to concentrated women's-rights history and Auburn's deeper historic sites.

Primary anchor / timing

4. CENTRAL LAKE VILLAGES**4. Auburn to Cazenovia**

Balance Auburn history with Skaneateles leisure time and Cazenovia's village, lake, and history options.

Primary anchor / timing

5. EASTERN RURAL APPROACH**5. Cherry Valley to Duanesburg**

Follow the rural chain through Sharon Springs, Sloansville, Esperance, and Duanesburg before Albany.

Primary anchor / timing

CAPITAL REGION ANCHOR**6. Albany**

Use state history, downtown, the Hudson River, lodging, and city services before Massachusetts.

Primary anchor / timing

New York is long enough that a chapter can be the trip. Use the online state guide to move from this paper choice into the matching segment, weekend, and place pages.



PLACE ROLES

ANCHOR MAP

Use stops for the job they do best

Fredonia

Western base

Strong all-purpose base for the Lake Erie villages.

Canandaigua

Lake and gardens

Downtown, City Pier, gardens, dining, and an overnight.

Auburn

History depth

Harriet Tubman history, Seward House, museums, and services.

Skaneateles

Leisure overnight

Lakeside walking, dining, and a slower evening.

Sharon Springs

Rural overnight

Architecture, mineral-springs history, food, and a quieter stop.

Cooperstown

Major optional detour

Reserve a half day, full day, or overnight rather than adding it casually.

Albany

Final city anchor

State history, downtown, river, events, or an overnight before Massachusetts.

My anchor hierarchy

Not every place needs equal time.

Overnight base

Walk / explore

Quick reset



TRIP SHAPES

WORKSHEET

Build a realistic New York plan

Western Lake Erie

Westfield, Fredonia, and Silver Creek with one selected lake or grape-country detour.

Western Finger Lakes

Move through the Genesee Valley villages and protect the main destination block for Canandaigua.

Rights history

Pair Seneca Falls with Auburn's deeper Tubman, Seward, museum, and overnight options.

Central lake villages

Use Skaneateles for leisure time and Cazenovia for the eastern lake-and-history finish.

Eastern rural + Albany

Choose Sharon Springs for a rural overnight, keep Cooperstown deliberate, and finish with Albany.

Choose the smallest trip shape that delivers the experience you actually want. A state planner is allowed to end before the state line.

My chosen chapter

Primary experience

Overnight anchor

First thing to cut



DEPARTURE SHEET

BEFORE YOU DRIVE

Write down the decisions that matter

Route plan

Direction and start

End point

Overnight

Primary experience

Backup

Verify before departure

- ☐ Weather, construction, and road conditions across a long multi-day state crossing
- ☐ Lodging at the chosen overnight anchors
- ☐ Hours and ticketing for museums, historic sites, cruises, and gardens
- ☐ Time cost of Cooperstown, shoreline, wine-country, or other off-route detours
- ☐ The first smaller village or optional detour to cut when the day runs long

Notes

Keep live information separate from this static planner.

For current Route20RoadTrip context, return to <https://route20roadtrip.com/states/new-york/>. This PDF is a planning companion, not a live conditions source.



Keep the current guide with the paper plan.

Use the site for deeper segments, trips, and place guides, then verify live conditions with authoritative sources.