

Rochester is home to the High Falls Brewing Co., makers of Genesee Beer. In the early 1800s, the area became America's first boomtown and was termed the "Flour Capital of the World." The city developed along the upper falls of the Genesee, one of the few rivers in the Northern Hemisphere that flows from south to north. Frederick Douglass settled here in the 1840s, where he established and published the *North Star Newspaper* and helped Rochester become the northern terminus of the Underground Railroad. Other famous people who lived and worked here include Susan B. Anthony and George Eastman, and John Bausch and Henry Lomb's optical and health care company started here. The Haloid Company opened in 1906, in a loft above a shoe factory in Rochester, and in 1961 was renamed Xerox Corporation.

If you are passing through in May, it's easy to understand why Rochester is also nicknamed the Flower City. That's when the largest public collection of lilacs in the world come into bloom at historic Highland Park and the Lilac Festival, which has been held every year since 1898. The festival draws hundreds of thousands to marvel at the sight and scent of 22 acres of the fragrant shrub.

Rochester is also home to the Pont de Rennes footbridge, where visitors can view a 96-foot waterfall right in the middle of downtown. Equally unique for visitors is a tour of the George Eastman House, the world's premiere museum of photography and film, located on the 12.5-acre urban estate of the founder of the Eastman Kodak Company, a National

Historic Landmark.

**BUFFALO-DEPEW** Resting across the Niagara River from Canada on the eastern shore of Lake Erie, Buffalo is ideal for boating and water sports of all kinds. The second largest city in New York, Buffalo is a reminder of the glory days of the steel industry. Visitors can enjoy a rainy day inside the Boulevard Mall, a minor league baseball game at Pilot Field or a night of Mozart at Kleinhans Music Hall. Buffalo is the home of the National Hockey League's Buffalo Sabres and the National Football League's Buffalo Bills. Michael Bennett, creator of *A Chorus Line* and *Dreamgirls*, was born here.

The beauty of its watery setting where the Niagara River flows into Lake Erie is thought to have given Buffalo its name. Early French explorers called the area "beau fleuve," beautiful river, which English speakers transformed over years of mispronunciation into Buffalo.

**BUFFALO-EXCHANGE ST. STATION** One of two stops in Buffalo, this smaller station is located downtown.

**NIAGARA FALLS** Movies and photographs just can't prepare you for the power and grandeur of the roaring water spilling over 182-foot cliffs or the attendant clouds of mist and spray. When Jacques Cartier left to explore the New World in 1535, the people he met in his travels spoke of the existence of the falls, but he never saw them for himself. It is believed that Etienne Brue was the first European to view the falls in 1615. A major tourist attraction today, visitors began touring the falls in the 1820s. Located on the border of New York and Canada, Niagara Falls plunges 176 feet to the basin below.

In addition to the falls, the Niagara region overflows

with historical and cultural offerings that make it a great destination for families as well as couples. Lake Ontario offers some of the best fishing you'll ever find, and the Niagara wine trails are just moments away. You can boat along the terminus of the Erie Canal, marvel at the Aquarium of Niagara (especially the Peruvian penguins), or test your luck on one of 2,900 slot machines and 114 table games at the Seneca Niagara Casino.

**ST. CATHARINES** Called the Garden City and Heart of Niagara, this city in Ontario is home to one of the oldest farmers markets, which is still open today. Farmers have been selling their produce here since the early 1800s, where they also used it as a public meeting place. On the fertile plateau running from St. Catherine's to Grimsby, visitors can find more than a dozen picturesque wineries tucked into the rolling landscape, and restaurants and inns that complement the wine with inventive regional dishes.

**GRIMSBY** This town is located on the western end of Lake Ontario. Boating, fishing and hiking are popular recreational pastimes in Grimsby.

**ALDERSHOT** Located on Lake Ontario's Hamilton Harbour, Aldershot is a quaint, romantic town.

**OAKVILLE** In 1827, shipbuilder and merchant Colonel William Chisholm bought Oakville – land that had been originally owned by the Mississauga Indians. In 1834, Oakville was declared a port of entry into Canada.

**TORONTO** Known as the World Within a City,<sup>™</sup> Toronto is Canada's largest and most diverse city and is filled with stunning architecture, galleries and world-class museums. Visitors can browse among Old Masters and Inuit carvings at the Art Gallery of Ontario or visit the baby polar bears – and

more than 5,000 other exotic creatures – cavorting at the Toronto Zoo. Toronto is also home to the original gold-plated Stanley Cup at the Hockey Hall of Fame.

In 1615, Etienne Brue was the first European thought to stand on the banks of what is now Toronto, but the area had been populated for over 10,000 years previously by various indigenous peoples. Then controlled primarily by the British, the area referred to as York officially became Toronto on March 6, 1834.

Having come a long way since its early days, Toronto is now a center of culture and commerce in Canada and offers an array of museums, historical churches, theatres, parks, hotels, shops and restaurants.

#### SCENIC PHOTO TIPS

The "camera" symbol on your Route Guide Map marks the best spots, so have your camera ready.

Outside shots: Medium speed films (ISO 200 or higher) are recommended for shooting scenery through the train windows. If your shutter speed is adjustable and light conditions permit, set it at a higher speed (1/125 or 1/250 sec.) for the clearest results. Hold your lens close to the window to eliminate glare and reflections.

Inside Shots: Flash is recommended. To avoid glare and reflections, do not point the flash directly at the windows.

#### HOST RAILROADS

are the freight and commuter railroads that Amtrak contracts with to operate Amtrak passenger trains. New York-Yonkers — Amtrak; Yonkers-Poughkeepsie — Metro North (MNR); Poughkeepsie-Niagara Falls — CSX; Niagara Falls-Toronto — Canadian National (CN).

## WELCOME ABOARD

On board the *Maple Leaf*,<sup>SM</sup> you will experience the comfort and relaxation of train travel while witnessing some spectacular scenery. We are happy to have you aboard today and want to ensure your trip is everything you want it to be. If there is anything that can be done to make your trip more enjoyable, please do not hesitate to call any train employee.

#### THE TRAIN STAFF

The staff of the *Maple Leaf* is here to make your trip a special and unique experience.

**Conductor** is responsible for the entire On-Board Services staff as well as ticket collection, the safety of passengers and the safe operation of the train.

**Lounge Car Attendant** is responsible for the operation of the Cafe/Lounge Car.

**Train Attendant** is responsible for providing service for passengers ticketed in coach. This includes seat assignment, luggage service and any assistance to ensure a comfortable journey.

#### ACCOMMODATIONS

Coach seating provides a wide reclining seat with fold-down tray tables and overhead reading lamps.

**Lounge/Cafe Car** Sandwiches, snacks and beverages are available in the Lounge Car. This car provides the perfect atmosphere for enjoying the company of your family or fellow passengers while eating a light meal.

#### SERVICES

**Trails and Rails Program** In a cooperative effort with the National Park Services, volunteer rangers, seasonally, provide a narrative between Croton-Harmon and Plattsburg, New York, on Saturdays and Sundays.

Information contained in this route guide as well as described amenities and other on-board features are subject to change without notice. Tipping is certainly not required, but it is a much appreciated way to let employees know they have made your trip more enjoyable.

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#### AMTRAK<sup>®</sup> SMOKING POLICY

Smoking is prohibited entirely on the *Maple Leaf*. Passengers may smoke on the station platforms as announced by train crews and must remain next to train, ready to reboard immediately upon hearing the sound of the locomotive horn and verbal "All Aboard" calls.



## ROUTE GUIDE

New York ★ Syracuse ★ Rochester  
Buffalo ★ Niagara Falls ★ Toronto



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## MAPLE LEAF<sup>SM</sup>

Welcome aboard Amtrak's *Maple Leaf*<sup>SM</sup>. This route links New York City with Buffalo, Niagara Falls and Toronto. The *Maple Leaf* is the successor to two famous trains that operated between these points. Its namesake comes from a New York to Toronto overnight train that operated over the rail lines of the Lehigh Valley Railroad. Today's train largely follows the route and daytime schedule of the *Empire State Express*<sup>SM</sup> a premier New York Central Railroad train between New York City and Buffalo inaugurated in 1891. The publicity conscious New York Central went to great lengths to promote the *Empire State Express*, featuring it in an 1896 film that was the first movie to depict a train. When the *Empire State Express* was refurbished with new equipment in 1941, the New York Central decided to inaugurate it on December 7, anticipating that no other newsworthy event would occur on a Sunday. The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, however, thwarted those plans. This train service is financed in part through funds made available by the New York State Department of Transportation. Please sit back and read more about some of the fascinating places waiting for you.

This guide is written from south to north. Note that all **AMTRAK<sup>®</sup> STATIONS** are in capital letters to set them apart from **towns and regions** through which the *Maple Leaf* travels but makes no stops. Use this guide along with an Amtrak<sup>®</sup> timetable to determine station times.

**NEW YORK CITY** More than 350 years ago, the city of New York grew from the southernmost part of the island of Manhattan. Now known as Lower Manhattan, this is the civic and financial heart of the city. Where Dutch explorers once built forts and settlements now stands the New York Stock Exchange and the Brooklyn Bridge.

The Big Apple is a place unlike

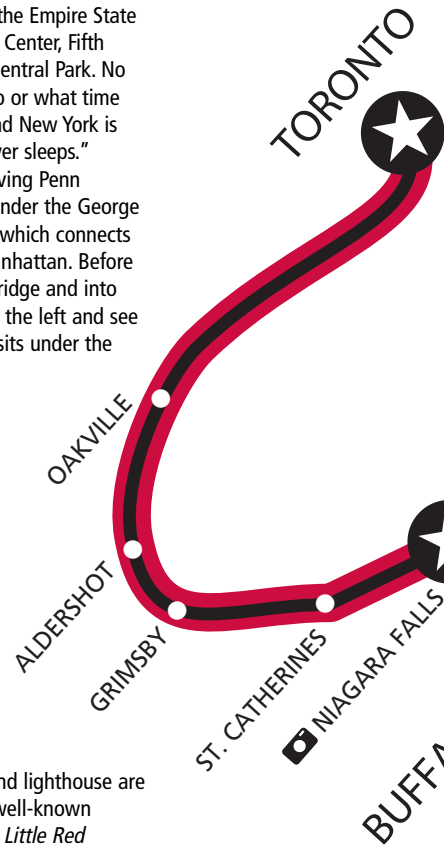
any other. From the lights of Broadway to the heights of Wall Street and the breathtaking Statue of Liberty to the stately Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York is loaded with attractions. You'll want to concentrate on visiting Manhattan simply because it offers the most to see: Greenwich Village, Times Square, the United Nations, the Empire State Building, Rockefeller Center, Fifth Avenue shops and Central Park. No matter where you go or what time you go out, you'll find New York is truly "a city that never sleeps."

**Harlem River** Leaving Penn Station you'll pass under the George Washington Bridge, which connects New Jersey with Manhattan. Before passing under the bridge and into the rock cut, look to the left and see the lighthouse that sits under the

bridge. The bridge and lighthouse are the subjects of the well-known children's book, *The Little Red Lighthouse and The Great Gray Bridge*, by Hildgarde Swift and Lynd Ward. As you head away from New York City, you'll cross the Harlem River at a spot called Spuyten Duyvil. This ominous sounding name is Dutch for "spitting devil," because of the tricky currents where the Harlem River joins the Hudson River.

**YONKERS** This city was bought from the Dutch Government by a man named Adrian Van Der Donck, who was also known as Djonk Heer or "young gentleman." After several changes, the city evolved from Djonk Heer to Yonkers.

**Irvington** The town is named for Washington Irving, creator of *Rip Van Winkle*, *Ichabod Crane* and *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*. Irving's home, Sunnyside, can be seen as you pass through town near the train station. Many of Irving's stories were set in these picturesque valleys, with



their many Cliffside mansions and homes of the well-to-do.

**CROTON-HARMON** This is the site of the historic Van Cortlandt Manor, home of New York's first Lieutenant Governor. It dates back to the late 1600s. Since then, the city has hosted visits by U.S. and foreign dignitaries. The town of Stoney Point, famous as a strategic fort during the Revolutionary War, is across the river. Reservoirs for New York City's water are here.

**Peekskill** This town served as the

American army headquarters during the Revolutionary War.

**West Point** The United States Military Academy at West Point, the nation's oldest military academy, is identifiable by the huge stone battlements on the opposite shore of the Hudson River. They were put up in 1802. The Barbara Streisand movie *Hello Dolly!* was filmed in the village of Garrison, which lies opposite West Point on the east side of the river.

**Bannerman Castle** Pollepel Island was purchased in 1900 for the Bannerman family's military surplus business. Built to look like a military fortress, the castle served as a gigantic advertisement for the retail store. Today, the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation owns this fantastic ruin. Storm King Mountain looms ominously

across the river on the left.

**Beacon** As a revolutionary army post, the town was warned of approaching British troops by the mountaintop signal fires for which it was named. Across the river, you'll see the city of Newburgh, famous for stunning colonial-period homes – including the one where George Washington said farewell to his troops. The last east-west ferry on the Hudson was retired with the construction of the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge built in 1963. A second span was added in 1980.

**POUGHKEEPSIE** This city was the second capital of New York; Kingston was the first. The Smith Brothers made cough drops here at this river port city. You will pass the town of Hyde Park on the near shore.

On the right, facing the railroad, is the Vanderbilt Mansion, summer home of Frederick Vanderbilt. Once the longest railroad bridge in the world, the Cantilever Bridge (spanning the river on the right) was built from 1873 to 1888. This link between the coalfields of Pennsylvania and Southern New England industries was destroyed by fire in 1974.

**RHINECLIFF-KINGSTON** The Rhinecliff station is the former dock/shore landing of the ferry to the west shore and Kingston, where naval vessels were built until the Korean War. Today the dock has been restored for recreational use. The station also serves nearby

Rhinebeck purchased from the Indians by Dutchmen for trinkets worth about \$35.

**HUDSON** Founded as a whaling port after the American Revolution, today the city has become a center for unique fine antiques in the Hudson River Valley.

**ALBANY-RENSSELAER** Albany has been the capital of New York since 1797. The second incorporated city in America, Albany still operates under its 1686 charter. A thriving fur trading center during the French and Indian Wars, Albany has been a transportation center since the Indian trail days. The first New York State steam train, "The DeWitt Clinton," operated here over the Mohawk and Hudson Railroad in 1831. The port of Albany actually operates on both sides of the Hudson River, keeping the city an important inland port since the Erie Canal was completed in 1825. Supposedly, Dr. Schuckburgh, a

British surgeon, composed "Yankee Doodle" in Albany in 1768. Today, it's a crossroads for business, industry and culture.

While in Albany, visitors like to stop by the state capitol, a granite French chateau on State Street, and the New York State Museum where thousands of photomurals and artifacts depict life in the Adirondacks. At the Albany Institute of History and Art, the various antique collections as well as the 18th- and 19th-century Hudson Valley paintings are very popular. The museum

houses a research library with archival materials. The Institute also features a wonderful collection of Hudson River School paintings.

Albany's Cherry Hill is a historic downtown house built for Philip Van Rensselaer, a prominent merchant and farmer. Tours feature nine period rooms of original furnishings and personal belongings, along with the surrounding gardens.

**SCHENECTADY** The rocky cliff that hangs over the tracks is the site where the Mohawks fought and defeated the Mohicans at Kinquariones. Here you cross the Mohawk River and begin your journey along the Erie Canal.

The Historic Stockade section of Schenectady is just before the station. This historic district features homes from the early 1700s to the first quarter of the 19th century. The Stockade was founded in 1661. In 1690, it was razed during the Indian-French massacre and then rebuilt by the

Dutch. Today, the preserved and restored Stockade and Historic District features dozens of homes from before the revolution. Visitors can set their own pace with a self-guided walking tour available at the Schenectady County Historical Society Museum.

Across the river, look for the elegant window arches of the Adirondack Power & Light Facility; the Lionel Train Company modeled their toy power station after this Art Deco building,

which today is used to make cement blocks. The Schenectady Locomotive Works (later American Locomotive Company) built steam engines to the right of the tracks here in 1851. Here Thomas Edison established his company, Edison Machine Works, which later became the General Electric Company.

The name "Schenectady" is taken from a Native American word meaning "through the open pines." It is a city of diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds and is one of the oldest U.S. cities, purchased in 1661 from the Mohawk Indians by Arent Van Curler and a group of Dutch settlers.

**AMSTERDAM** Situated by the Mohawk River, Amsterdam, New York, is named after the city in the Netherlands. The area expanded quickly and benefited greatly from the completion of the Erie Canal, which helped establish the area as a trading center. Early industries included carpet factories and knitting mills. Amsterdam is home to old Fort Johnson and Guy Park State Historic Site, which provide

great insights into Native American relations and 18th-century lifestyles. Kids enjoy exploring children's lives in Mohawk Valley history at the Walter Elwood Museum.

**UTICA** This area, referred to as the "Crossroads of New York," was part of a 23,184-acre tract granted by George II to New York's colonial governor, William Cosby, in 1739. Union Station (1914) is Utica's monument to the golden age of railroading.

Colorful harness horse racing can be enjoyed between April and October at the nearby Vernon Downs Racetrack, one of the world's fastest tracks.

The north valley, including Utica and Rome, New York, is part of Leatherstocking Country, named after James Fenimore Cooper's tales of the French and Indian Wars and the American Revolution that were set here. Utica's Children's Museum, which is right next door to Union Station, has four floors of hands-on exhibits for kids of all ages, while the more mature artistic tastes are satisfied at the Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute, with a permanent collection of 20,000 artworks.

Another of Utica's popular attractions is the F.X. Matt Brewery, where visitors can take a summer trolley ride to the 1888 tavern for a sampling of fine Saranac brews or a root beer. Come evening, the lavishly baroque Stanley Performing Arts

Center is a great place to catch a touring Broadway show, a symphony, or the best in classical and pop performers.

**ROME** Also called the Copper City for its importance in manufacturing, Rome is located in the geographical center of New York State. Visitors can step back in time as they cross the wooden bridge at the entrance of reconstructed Fort Stanwix National Monument at the center of Rome, the site of a crucial Revolutionary War battle. Rome is also home to the

De-O-Wain Sta, or "The Carrying Place." De-O-Wain Sta, essential to the Iroquois, was used to carry canoes one mile from the Mohawk River to Wood Creek.

Rome's Erie Canal Village is a site where the first shovelful of earth was turned for construction of the Erie Canal in 1817. Visitors can take a mule-drawn boat ride on the canal to experience the old time pace or just stroll the re-created 1840s canal village.

**SYRACUSE** Right in the geographic heart of central New York, Syracuse has a bit of everything that makes the region exciting, and more than a few things that make the city exceptional. To the south and west are the rolling hills, vineyards and clear waters of the Finger Lakes. To the east are the rustic and rigged Leatherstocking Country of majestic caverns, unspoiled forests and rich traditions.

Syracuse, a unique blend of metropolitan excitement and old-world charm, is home to Armory Square – the local brick sidewalked hot spot – and the Silverman Planetarium at the Museum of Science and Technology. History buffs like to visit the Erie Canal Museum where canal boats were weighed as they traveled through the center of Syracuse, and the nearby Salt Museum on the shore of Onondaga Lake, for a glimpse into the salt-mining industry that first made Syracuse prosperous.

Known as "Salt City," the city, Syracuse's salt springs were discovered by Father LeMoyne in 1654. The Onondaga Salt Springs were the first inland source of salt in the country. The New York State Fair Grounds come into view on the right. On the left, you pass the shores of Onondaga Lake.

**ROCHESTER** Located on the banks of the Genesee River,

