



NY 411
Where To Shoot In New York State
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I. New York City

The birthplace of film production in the U.S., and home base for many of the most creative minds in filmmaking, New York City has enjoyed a boom in film and television production in recent years. More than 60 sound stages are available for production, as well as the most famous urban landscape in the world for location shooting. A center for broadcast and cable television as well as feature filmmaking, New York City, with its top ad agencies and record labels, is also a hub of commercial and music video production. At every stage of production, from pre-production to post, New York City offers state-of-the-art facilities, world-class talent, and an unmatched level of creative energy.

II. Long Island Region

NASSAU COUNTY

Nassau County is known for the grand mansions of the 'Gold Coast' as well as picturesque villages, ponds, beaches and parks. Only 45 minutes from Manhattan, Nassau County also features a wide variety of residential areas and office parks.

SUFFOLK COUNTY

Home to the mansions and beaches of the Hamptons as well as blue-collar communities and all-American suburbs, Suffolk County can provide looks from New England villages to Midwest towns. Agricultural landscapes and stunning oceanfront vistas can all be found here.

III. Southeast Region

CITY OF YONKERS

Yonkers is Westchester County's largest municipality, with 19 square miles and nearly four miles of waterfront. Just 10 miles from New York City, Yonkers features distinctive neighborhoods ranging from urban to suburban settings, including Grecian gardens, a 40-acre wildlife sanctuary overlooking the Hudson River, and a stately City Hall. Yonkers also features over 100 parks and playgrounds, 34 public schools, three hospitals and nearly 20 shopping centers.

WESTCHESTER COUNTY

Westchester County is the busiest production area outside of New York City, providing a diversity of locations only minutes from Manhattan. Westchester County's mansions and estates, vineyards, indoor ice rinks, prisons and office parks, as well as miles of Hudson River shoreline to the west and acres of beaches on the east, offer an unsurpassed diversity of locations while minimizing costs.

HUDSON VALLEY

The Hudson Valley corridor is an area encompassing seven counties from 30 minutes to three hours from New York City. The area is full of small towns, suburban looks, college campuses, farms and historic buildings dating back 300 years. It is renowned for its rivers, valleys, and stately mansions. The area is easy to access and offers a talented labor pool of industry professionals.

CATSKILLS

Only 90 miles from New York City, the Catskill region offers spectacular mountains, lush river valleys, and crystal clear lakes and streams. You will also find wineries, covered bridges, antique railroads and quaint country inns.

IV. Northeast Region

CAPITOL-SARATOGA

In addition to the State Capitol, this region boasts architecture from Victorian and Georgian to Gothic and Greek Revival. It also is home to the historic city neighborhoods of Troy and Saratoga as well as gracious resorts, a National Battlefield, and the 2,100-acre Spa State Park.

ADIRONDACKS

Situated less than five hours from New York City, the rugged high peaks of the Adirondacks are a six million-acre natural sanctuary—the largest wilderness preserve outside of Alaska. The abundance of water flowing through the awe-inspiring mountains and forests contributes to nearly 2,500 lakes and ponds and more than 30,000 miles of rivers and streams. Lake Placid, site of the 1932 and 1980 Winter Olympics, is one of many scenic villages nestled in this breathtaking landscape. The region also contains 18th-century revolutionary forts and historic great camps.

THOUSAND ISLANDS

The unique geography of the Thousand Islands offers locations such as the St. Lawrence Seaway—200 miles of forested coastline with endless islands, picturesque small towns and historic sites such as Boldt Castle and Sackets Harbor, made famous in the War of 1812. The 3,300-foot Robert Moses Power Dam is one of the biggest in the Northeast.

V. Central Region

ROCHESTER-FINGER LAKES

Rochester, home to Eastman Kodak, is home to one of the largest production communities in the East, with numerous resources available for filming from grip rentals and production companies to a large and experienced crew base. Rochester is also one of the snowiest cities in the U.S., while the Finger Lakes region boasts gorgeous scenery—waterfalls, dramatic canyons, picturesque small towns, forests and wilderness, and spectacular fall foliage.

CENTRAL LEATHERSTOCKING

The heartland of New York State's Native American experience, this region is home to the fabled Erie Canal, Howe Caverns and the Baseball Hall of Fame. The cities of Binghamton and Syracuse offer great mid-20th century looks and historic turn-of-the-century architecture.

VI. Western Region

BUFFALO-NIAGRA

This region offers filmmakers unique and diverse locations, from Niagara Falls to the shores of Lake Erie. Locations in Buffalo, New York's second largest city, range from gritty urban neighborhoods to beautiful art deco skyscrapers and 19th century architecture.

CHAUTAUQUA ALLEGHENY

From the small towns of the Allegheny foothills, to verdant Amish farmland, this area features an 1891 opera house, and the Victorian village of the Chautauqua Institute.

For information on filming in New York State, contact the New York Governor's Office of Film and Television Production at (212) 803-2330 for assistance with location scouting, local liaisons, and permit assistance.