



Sitting at the base of the Shawangunk Mountains in the Hudson Valley lies New Paltz, a town steeped in our nation's history. Perhaps best known for the Mohonk Mountain House, a historic resort that has been visited by five American presidents, New Paltz is where business and beauty operate harmoniously. Part hip college town, part nature-lover's retreat, it's where arts and culture come to life, farmer's markets appear at every turn and outdoor adventures, including hiking in Mohonk Preserve, are boundless.

7 THINGS TO DO IN
NEW PALTZ

1. Between Kingston and Gardiner, the Wallkill Valley Rail Trail, a former railroad, has been converted into a 22-mile, multi-purpose paradise for walkers, runners and cyclists. You'll see wetlands, forests and farms—don't miss the recently restored 940-foot-long Rosendale Trestle.
2. Loaded with boutiques and galleries, the Water Street Market, an open-air shopping center, showcases local contemporary artists and artisanal treats. In the Antiques Barn, you can get lost for hours sifting through old Polaroid cameras, vintage typewriters and trinkets from yesteryear.
3. Consistently voted one of the top dining spots in the Hudson Valley, A Tavola relies on local ingredients to deliver rustic dishes inspired by the Italian countryside. Get your drink on at the nearby Rock and Rye Tavern, where cool classic cocktails feature their date of inception on the menu.
4. Two wineries along the 80-mile-long Shawangunk Wine Trail call New Paltz home. Housed in a 200-year-old barn you will find 10 acres of vines at Adair Vineyards. The more recently established family-run Robibero Winery focuses on producing small batches of artisan wines.
5. Declared a National Historic Landmark District in 1960, historic Huguenot Street gives visitors a glimpse into the lives of some of our nation's first settlers. The seven historic stone houses and reconstructed 1700s church come to life with in-character re-enactments. It's cooler than it sounds.
6. The art scene is alive and well along the Wallkill River. This is perhaps best showcased at the DM Weil Gallery, a 3,000-square-foot space that showcases the abstract work of its namesake artist. Bursting with color, these pieces deliver high art with zero pretension.
7. First held in the late 1800s, the Ulster County Fair was designed to promote agriculture and horticulture in the surrounding communities. We don't think they had funnel cake and kangaroos on display back then, but the family-friendly event comes to town every August.

—Andrew G. Rosen