

**5  
DAY**

# Hidden Treasures



**DUTCHESS  
TOURISM**

[WWW.DUTCHESSTOURISM.COM](http://WWW.DUTCHESSTOURISM.COM)

Bannerman Castle

**(S)** Seasonal attraction or activity

**(SE)** Open during scheduled events

## HIDDEN TREASURES: 5 DAY ITINERARY

These five days will bring you to the smaller towns and villages throughout Dutchess County, to give you a taste of rural living, independent business spirit, and offbeat adventures you won't easily find elsewhere in a Hudson Valley getaway or upstate New York!

### DAY 1: MILLERTON AND AMENIA

#### VILLAGE OF MILLERTON

A hybrid of historic and eclectic, **Millerton** is a walkable district with the type of independent shops, cafes, and art galleries you won't find anywhere else. At **Gilmor Glass**, a spacious gallery and studio, you can watch the age-old techniques of creating art glass. The spirit of the independent book seller is alive and well at **Oblong Books & Music**, established in 1975 and still the largest in the mid-Hudson Valley.

Step back in time at two of the oldest stores in town: **Saperstein's**, an old-fashioned clothing and shoe store established in 1946; and **Terni's**, which opened in 1919 as a place to shop for hunting gear and fishing tackle. You can still order a milkshake at the marble ice cream counter made in the 1930's mixer.

#### WETHERSFIELD HOUSE & GARDENS, AMENIA (S)

Visit the former country estate of conservationist Chauncey Devereux Stillman, set at the highest elevation in the area to enjoy far-reaching views. The highlights include the carriage house, trails, the 1939 Georgian-style brick mansion and impressive collection of paintings, and two acres of formal gardens inspired by the Italian Renaissance, complete with resident peacocks, fountains, and a sculpture garden. [www.wethersfieldgarden.org](http://www.wethersfieldgarden.org)

#### MOVIE AT THE AMENIA DRIVE-IN (S)

When was the last time you watched a movie outdoors, from your car? Settle in for a drive-in movie in Amenia at a great location complete with state-of-the-art equipment. Owned by the Four Brothers restaurant family, they'll deliver food to your car, and even clean your windshield! [www.playeatdrink.com](http://www.playeatdrink.com)

## DAY 2: MILAN AND CLINTON CORNERS

### WILCOX MEMORIAL PARK, MILAN

This tucked away, 615-acre county park was formerly the estate of Mrs. Frederick P. Wilcox, and its 18th century complex of farm buildings still stand today. Bring a picnic and enjoy the views of its two lakes, or rent a boat and go fishing! Birdwatchers will spot the resident heron as well as many other species. There are also more than five miles of hiking trails, with a scenic overlook of Stissing Mountain and the Catskills. [www.co.dutchess.ny.us/CountyGov/Departments/DPW-Parks/PPwilcox.htm](http://www.co.dutchess.ny.us/CountyGov/Departments/DPW-Parks/PPwilcox.htm)

### CLINTON VINEYARDS, CLINTON CORNERS

The European tradition of exclusively growing and bottling an "estate" wine was introduced in this rural pocket of Dutchess County in 1976. Specializing in award-winning Seyval Blanc and sparkling Seyval Naturel, Clinton also produces handcrafted fruit and dessert wines. Visit the historic barn where the wine is made, enjoy a sample in the tasting room, and explore the landscape of gardens and vines. [www.clintonvineyards.com](http://www.clintonvineyards.com)

## DAY 3: MILLBROOK

### INNISFREE GARDEN, MILLBROOK (S)

You'll find one of the "world's best gardens," here in central Dutchess County. Largely the work of landscape architect Lester Collins, its design is influenced by a Chinese style dating back 1,000 years, but it remains a distinctly American stroll garden. Explore the paths connecting these 185 acres to a large lake surrounded by cliffs, low hills, waterfalls and streams. [www.innisfreegarden.org](http://www.innisfreegarden.org)

### WING'S CASTLE, MILLBROOK (S)

At first glance, this stone structure looks ancient, but you'll learn that it's closer to 40 years old, and was built by hand by its owners using salvaged materials from antique buildings. The 30-minute tour brings you around the façade and inside the castle for a look at the artwork and artifacts. After that, you're welcome to walk the grounds, and check out the moat! [www.wingscastle.com](http://www.wingscastle.com)

### THE CARY INSTITUTE OF ECOSYSTEM STUDIES, MILLBROOK (S)

While it's true that this facility is an environmental research center, you're free to explore the grounds. The campus



features four leisurely hiking trails through wooded meadows and sugar maple stands. More than 126 bird species have been spotted on the lowlands landscape. Bring your picnic to Fern Glen, and enjoy the meandering boardwalk, pond, and observation deck overlooking Wappinger Creek. *Open April through October.* [www.caryinstitute.org](http://www.caryinstitute.org)

## DAY 4: POUGHKEEPSIE

### FRANCES LEHMAN LOEB ART CENTER, POUGHKEEPSIE

Cézanne, Matisse, O'Keeffe, Picasso, and Pollock. Works by these masters are tucked away in this manageably-sized museum on the Vassar College campus. Even better, they're free to see! The collection of more than 18,000 works are curated around themes and time periods, beginning with Middle Eastern and Asian antiquities, progressing through the Hudson River School painters and the 21st century. [www.flac.vassar.edu](http://www.flac.vassar.edu)

### GET YOUR ITALIAN FOOD FIX IN POUGHKEEPSIE

Known locally as the Mount Carmel district, the neighborhood that sits under the Walkway Over the Hudson along Verrazano Boulevard, Mill Street, and Mt. Carmel Place is where to get the best Italian pastries around. Let your sweet tooth lead you to **Caffè Aurora**, or **La Deliziosa Italian Pastry Shoppe**. Italian immigrants, who arrived here in the late 1800s, built this neighborhood as well as the Walkway, then known as the Poughkeepsie Railroad Bridge, and brought their culture and their flavors to Dutchess County. Voted Best Sandwich and Best Deli by Hudson Valley Magazine readers year after year, **Rosticceria Rossi & Sons**, on South Clover Street, is known for its authenticity and freshly made deli meats and cheeses. Looking for a sit-down meal? Try **Milanese Italian Restaurant** or **Amici's**, both on lower Main Street.

### LOCUST GROVE, POUGHKEEPSIE

Originally the home of artist and Morse Code inventor Samuel F. B. Morse, this 200-acre estate includes an Italianate villa designed in 1851 by architect Alexander Jackson Davis. Today you can tour the museum and walk through the formal gardens and nature preserve. Art and antiques fans will love the collections amassed by subsequent owner Annette Innis Young displayed in the 25-room mansion. [www.lgny.org](http://www.lgny.org)



## DAY 5: FISHKILL AND BEACON

### MOUNT GULIAN, FISHKILL (S)

To learn what a soldier's life was like during the Revolutionary War, come to this circa-1730 colonial homestead. The Verplanck family turned it over to the Continental Army during the War for Independence, because of its strategic riverside location. General Fredrich Von Steuben—“Drillmaster of the Continental Army”—trained local farmers to fight with bayonet-tipped muskets. [www.mountgulian.org](http://www.mountgulian.org)

### BANNERMAN CASTLE TOUR FROM BEACON (S)

From Beacon's ferry dock, you can board the boat that transports you to this tiny island in the middle of the Hudson River. Native Americans thought it was haunted, but that didn't stop Frank Bannerman from building a castle as a warehouse for his military surplus business. Bannerman Castle Trust now offers tours of the island, where you can enjoy 360° river views while supporting its efforts to preserve the building. [www.bannermancastle.org](http://www.bannermancastle.org)

### TOWN CRIER CAFÉ, BEACON

First opened in 1972, this celebrated performance space for live American roots, jazz and world music recently re-opened in the middle of buzz-worthy Beacon. You'll still be able to catch big-name artists, but now you also can enjoy a farm-to-table menu made from organic ingredients. [www.townecrier.com](http://www.townecrier.com)



Mount Gulian