

Niagara Falls & Rochester

EQUAL RIGHTS & CULINARY DELIGHTS



GEORGE
EASTMAN
MUSEUM

NEW YORK STATE, IN 1945, BECAME THE FIRST STATE IN THE nation to enact legislation prohibiting discrimination in employment based on race, color, creed, and national origin. A visit to Western New York State will provide many opportunities to learn more about equal rights and tempt your tastebuds with wonderful culinary fare from local chefs that bring the culture of their heritage to life

DAY 1

NIAGARA FALLS UNDERGROUND RAILROAD HERITAGE CENTER

825 Depot Ave W, Niagara Falls, NY

Meet ordinary people who took extraordinary steps in the courageous pursuit of freedom. Opened in 2018, the Heritage Center preserves the historic role of the people of Niagara Falls in facilitating freedom for the oppressed. The places and stories associated with this network of freedom seekers, free African Americans, and abolitionists evoke powerful themes in American history and celebrate the bravery of the men and women who risked their own lives to achieve the most basic rights of liberty. Follow in the footsteps of Harriet Tubman as you cross the invisible

line from slavery to freedom on the recreated suspension bridge.

Next stop, Buffalo, NY for a driving tour of more Civil Rights culture.

THE FREEDOM WALL *Corner of Michigan Avenue and East Ferry Street in Buffalo, NY*

The Freedom Wall, installed at the corner of Michigan Avenue and East Ferry Street in Buffalo, features portraits of 28 notable civil rights leaders from America's past and present. No group of 28 individuals could ever possibly encompass the national and local history of civil rights, but the selection and order of the final 28 subjects here shapes a unique story about civil and human rights work in American history.

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*Niagara Falls Underground Railroad
Heritage Center*



MICHIGAN STREET AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE CORRIDOR

*Corner of Michigan Avenue and
East Ferry Street in Buffalo, NY*

The corner of Michigan Avenue and East Ferry Street in Buffalo is the northern entrance into the Michigan Street African American Heritage Corridor: a nexus of the city's deeply rooted African American history. It marks the intersection of the honorary Richard Allen and Harriet Tubman Ways, and it is home to Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church (Bethel AME). Organized in 1831, Bethel AME is Buffalo's oldest black religious institution and served as a critical station on the Underground Railroad.

GEORGE EASTMAN MUSEUM

900 East Ave, Rochester, NY

Exhibition: *Joshua Rashaad McFadden:
I Believe I'll Run On*

THROUGH JUNE 19, 2022

Artist Joshua Rashaad McFadden (American, b. 1990) uses photography to engage some of the most challenging subject matter of our time. Working across genres—social documentary, reportage, portraiture, and fine arts—he critically examines race, masculinity, sexuality, and gender in the United States. His work reveals the destructive impact of these constructs on Black Americans.



The Freedom Wall

First, fuel your appetite at Open Face at Eastman Museum. Open Face features a menu of inclusivity in their hand-crafted specialty items offering sandwiches, soups and salads. Gluten-free, vegan, vegetarian, or omnivore, folks can always eat together. The George Eastman Museum was founded in 1947 and is the world's oldest photography museum and one of the oldest film archives. The museum holds incomparable collections. There is a range of experiences for all ages including photography, motion pictures, history, gardens, architecture, and historic houses. The institution is also a long-time leader in film preservation and photographic conservation. You won't want to miss the Museum's gift shop, filled with an array

of gifts relating to photography, cinema, and George Eastman himself!

VITICULTURE WINE BAR

217 Alexander St, Rochester, NY

Viticulture is Rochester's newest wine bar. This Black owned establishment is focused on offering a well curated and rotating selection of wines from the top three wine producing regions of the world: Spain, Italy, and France. Relax in this comfortable and unique space that is made for enjoying quality wine and exceptional hospitality combined with the opportunity for wine education and engagement. A visit here will provide you a new and improved love for wine.

STRATHALLEN HOTEL & SPA *550 East Ave, Rochester, NY*

Check in at the Strathallen Hotel & Spa, a beautiful and historic Rochester hotel designed by Thomas Wilson Boyde, Jr., Rochester's first black architect and one of the first African American architects to own his own firm in the entire country.

PEPPAPOT JAMAICAN RESTAURANT

522 E Main St, Rochester, NY

After checking into the hotel, head out for dinner in the South Wedge neighborhood of Rochester at a lovely Jamaican cuisine restaurant, Peppapot. Traditional Jamaican & Caribbean meals & housemade juices offered in a warm, relaxed atmosphere. If you're a fan of spicy, it's a must try!

DAY 2

ROCHESTER MUSEUM & SCIENCE CENTER

657 East Ave, Rochester, NY

Have breakfast at the hotel and then within walking distance is your next stop, the Rochester Museum & Science Center. Learn about the Flight to Freedom and Rochester's Underground Railroad. Explore the paths that courageous freedom seekers followed through Rochester in this dramatic, inter-

active exhibition. Walk in the footsteps of Austin Steward, Frederick Douglass, Harriet Jacobs, and Reverend Thomas James as they overcome huge obstacles to build free lives. Learn how they joined Rochester activists in the fight to abolish slavery and help others seeking freedom.

MOUNT HOPE CEMETERY

1133 Mt Hope Ave, Rochester, NY

This Rochester treasure not only offers a beautiful landscape and historic headstones, but there are also some iconic American heroes buried there, such as Susan B. Anthony and Fredrick Douglass. In addition to Fredrick Douglass, Mt. Hope is the final resting place of many African American pioneers. These individuals escaped slavery, fought in wars, and broke down barriers. Some of these historic influencers include Nathan Sprague, son-in-law of Fredrick Douglass; Charles Lunsford, Rochester's first licensed African physician; and Thomas Boyde, Rochester's first black architect. Many visitors come to Mount Hope each year to visit the graves of notable individuals interred here, attend events, participate in guided tours conducted by the Friends of Mount Hope Cemetery, take photographs of the grounds, bird watch, or simply enjoy the natural landscape and relax. The cemetery is an active burial place and continues to perform burials almost daily.

ZEMETA ETHIOPIAN RESTAURANT

1015 S. Clinton Ave, Rochester, NY

Relax for lunch and enjoy traditional Ethiopian cuisine at this buffet-style restaurant. The owner Natael Bashaat came to Rochester from Ethiopia in 2002 on a Diversity Visa. Back home he owned a barbershop. But here, Natael's American friends loved his authentic Ethiopian dishes and eventually convinced him to open his own restaurants. Vegan and vegetarian options are available, so there's something delightful waiting for everyone to enjoy!

ARTISANWORKS

565 Blossom Rd # L, Rochester, NY

End your day at ARTISANworks. A Rochester treasure dedicated to being a place where people experience creativity and inspiration. Work your way through the car museum, theme rooms, paintings, sculptures, collectibles, antiques, memorabilia, and so much more. Artwork by African American artists can be found throughout the building and includes paintings by Rochester native Elroy Blue. Reminiscent of Jean Michele Basquiat, Blue explores a tremendous amount of content in a modern, bold, and brightly expressionistic manner. His paintings are charged with socio-economic commentary.