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Woodstock, N.Y.: Where to go, dine, what to do

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WHERE

A haven for artists and musicians, Woodstock, N.Y., still sticks to its hippie heritage. The town is best known for lending its name to the Woodstock Music and Art Fair, the 1960s festival that actually took place some 50 miles away in Bethel. Woodstock, however, came to be the town associated with the peace- and love-inspired event and the free-spirit feel of the era. These days, visitors can spend hours downtown browsing shops for tie-dye T-shirts and vintage wear, visiting art galleries and antiques stores and practicing yoga at local centers.

To get there, take I-87 north to Exit 19 (Kingston) toward RT-28. Take NY-28 West to NY-375. Turn left on NY-212/Mill Hill Road. Follow 212 to Tinker Street, the main downtown road.

For visitor information, call the Woodstock Chamber of Commerce at 845-679-6234 or go to woodstockchamber.com.

ATTRACTIONS

The Center for Photography at Woodstock, 59 Tinker St. (845-679-9957; cpw.org), features work by contemporary photographers and offers workshops and lectures throughout the year. The workshops are run by master photographers. The center is open Wednesday through Sunday from noon to 5 p.m.; admission free. Courses average \$200 to \$300.

The Woodstock Artists Association, 28 Tinker St., (845-679-2940; woodstockart.org), is housed in a downtown historic landmark and showcases the work of area artists. The association, which dates from 1920, also holds artist meet-and-greets, poetry readings and musical performances. The museum is open Friday and Saturday, noon to 6 p.m., and Sunday, Monday and Thursday, noon to 5 p.m. Admission is free, with a \$5 suggested donation.

The eco-friendly Bliss Yoga Center, 6 Deming St. (845-679- 8700; blissyogacenter.com), runs yoga classes on weekend mornings and early afternoons for beginner and advanced students. Single classes are \$17. Shakti Yoga, 1685 Sawkill Rd. (845-679-0706; shaktiyoga.saugerties.com), offers several levels of yoga starting with "very beginner." There are also poolside classes at the nearby Enchanted Manor Of Woodstock. A drop-in class is \$15.

Woodstock's eclectic downtown shops offer hours of entertainment. Candlestock, 16 Mill Hill Rd. (845-679- 8711;

candlestock.com), sells hand-crafted beeswax and drip candles. In the back room there's a mountainous drip candle that has grown since 1970 into a more than 6-foot mound of colored wax. Pondicherry, 12 Tinker St.; (845-679-2926, pondi.biz), sells handcrafts and a selection of yoga props, books, music and videos, and organic cotton and hemp yoga clothing. Jean Turmo, 11 Tinker St. (845-679- 7491; jeanturmo .com), carries bath salts, bubble baths, creams, soaps and fragrances.

Karma Triyana Dharmachakra, 352 Meads Mountain Rd., (845-679-5906, ext. 10; kagyuu.org), a Tibetan Buddhist monastery, offers Buddhist retreats and teachings. The main shrine room is open Monday to Friday 1 to 6 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., except during teachings. Free guided tours are available Saturday and Sunday at 1:30 p.m.; call ahead to confirm. Free meditation instruction by appointment.

WHERE TO STAY

The Enchanted Manor of Woodstock, 23 Rowe Rd. (845- 679-9012, enchantedmanor inn.com), on 8 acres including a pond, sculptures and a waterfall, has a heated saltwater pool, a hot tub and a gym. Massages are available at \$85 an hour. Rooms, all with private bath, \$165 to \$325, breakfast included.

Woodstock Inn on the Millstream, 48 Tannery Brook Rd. (845-679-8211; woodstock-inn-ny.com), is situated on the stream a short walk from downtown. The 18 quaint rooms range from \$119 to \$245 with breakfast.

The Wild Rose Inn Bed and Breakfast, 66 Rock City Rd. (845-679-8783; thewild roseinn.com), is in an 1898 historic Victorian home. Rooms, \$150 to \$275, have private baths with whirlpool tubs. Continental breakfast is included.

Kate's Lazy Meadow Motel (845-688-7200; lazy meadow.com), run by Kate Pierson of the B-52's rock band, is about 12 miles from Woodstock at 5191 Rte. 28 in Mount Tremper. The pet-friendly motel is on the banks of Esopus Creek. The quirky rooms, \$150 to \$275, have private bathrooms with toiletries collected from Kate's tours. Kate also rents out a three-bedroom cottage five miles outside of Woodstock.

WHERE TO EAT

The Red Onion Restaurant & Bar, 1654 Rte. 212 (845-679- 1223; redonionrestaurant .com), closed Wednesdays, serves dinner from 5 to 10 p.m. The intimate, candlelit restaurant, adorned with local artwork, features house-made pastas. Entrees from \$12 to \$25.

Marion's Country Kitchen, 20 Country Club Lane (845-679- 3213; marionscountrykitchen .com), serves pasta and pizza, vegan dishes and German-inspired entrees. Dinner entrees from \$7.50 to \$21.50. The

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restaurant also serves a tasty brunch.

The delectable Lucky Chocolates (888-582-5910; luckychocolates.com), just over the Woodstock border at 1534 Rte. 212 in Saugerties, sells handmade truffles, cookies and toffees.

Eijah's Café, 54 Tinker St. (845-679-9524; elijahscafe.com), has soups, salads and healthy specialties such as tofu loaf, smoothies and organic juices. Prices from \$3.50 to \$18. Lunch from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., dinner 5-8 p.m.

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