Your Next Weekend Escape: Troy, New York

By EMILY CAPPIELLO | OCT. 15, 2018

While certain parts of the Hudson Valley are so well trodden they can feel a little like Williamsburg North, venture a little farther and you’ll encounter another world entirely. Troy, a little gem outside of Albany, is well worth the three-hour drive (or train ride plus short cab ride) for its mix of Empire State history, gorgeously preserved architecture and a revitalized dining scene. Here’s how to spend a weekend exploring the Capital District town.

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STAY

There are plenty of major hotel chains in town, but wouldn’t you rather stay in a Victorian-Gothic–style mansion? The ivy-covered Olde Judge Mansion dates back to 1892 and now operates as a cozy B&B, filled with original architectural details and antique furniture. If
you’re looking for a bit more luxury, head just across the river to The Century House, a stunning three-star property set on an historic estate whose grounds include a lush nature trail. (Keep an eye out for the gravestones of the family who farmed the land centuries ago.)

DINE

Troy is in the middle of a cultural revival and that includes a thriving restaurant scene, so come hungry. Stop by Rare Form Brewing to sample its rotating tap of experimental beers, paired with meat and cheese boards from local purveyors. If you’re lucky, you’ll be in town for one of the brewery’s pop-up events with local chefs. Speaking of local, be sure to check out the farm-to-table fare at Plumb Oyster Bar. Besides an extensive selection of oysters, the restaurant serves serious cocktails (try the C’est Votre Monde, with gin, elderflower and basil) and dishes like beet tartare and a buttermilk fried chicken sandwich. Don’t leave the area without stopping for The Dutch Udder Craft Ice Cream. Flavors are updated often, but look for favorites like apple cider sorbet, the beer-inspired Wit (a malt base with coriander, orange peel and banana) and an ever-changing mystery flavor.