

## My Favorite Local Summer Respite Destinations Updated

1. **Letchworth State Park in New York**, the Grand Canyon of the East. Amazing destination of waterfalls hiking and Bed & Breakfasts.
2. **Harpersfield**, Ohio Wine Country. All different kinds of wineries and vineyards that range from France, (Harpersfield Winery to Napa, (River Road Winery) with 30 in between and now a new whiskey distillery, yea!
3. **Westfield/Mayville**- New York Wine Country near Lake Chautauqua. Beautiful vineyards on the south ridge that overlooks Lake Erie. I can never visit this area enough. B&B Captain Storm House Awesome!!
4. **Laurel Highlands/ Ohio Pyle**, Favorite part of Pa! If you love whitewater rafting, hiking and mind blowing scenery, you will not be disappointed! The Yough. Rocks!
5. **South Bass Island**- A must visit at least once a summer. An amalgamation of Geneva on the Lake and Harpersfield- Super fun weekend!
6. **Geneva on the Lake**- Still a cool destination, Great dining on the lake,( The Lodge), Great dining and winery experience,( Lake Shore Winery) not to mention world famous Eddie's Grill, Madsen Donuts and many other conversation experiences!
7. Wendy Park at Whiskey Island. **Downtown Cleveland** painted in the background of all day and night bands and fun.
8. **Groewood** section of Cleveland. Between the Beachland Ballroom , Millard Fillmore and several eclectic art studio's and stores. You can't go wrong. Similar to West side Market Area and Coventry- The Beautiful People destinations.
9. **Presque Isle- Pa**. There is no place like it along the North Coast. Any kind of sun and fun you could want.
10. **Northeast**- Pennsylvania Wine Country. More of a mellow excursion. Beautiful vineyards and scenery nestled along the Lake Erie.
11. Lumber barons were the rule in the **Ridgeway- Benzette Pa**. Elk County region In the center of the Alleghany Mountains near the Clarion River. One of the most beautiful areas on Earth. Largest elk herd east of the Mississippi roams free. Wapiti Woods cabin site truly beautiful area along the Clarion River. B&B, The Towers Victorian.... Awesome baby...
12. A little longer trip that is a rugged journey near the Algonquin National Forest in Ontario, Canada is the town of **Bancroft, Ontario**, the rock and mineral capital of North America. Lovely little town, **"Maynooth"** in a stunning settlement with a rocky, wilderness setting.
13. A little longer still....North of Montreal, Canada is **Mont Tremblant**, one of the most beautiful resorts in North America. Here you step back into Old France with a sterling mix of culture, fun, mountainous adventures, beautiful lakes and dining.
14. McConnells Mill on Rock Creek in Portersville PA. Just off 422. Lovely afternoon of hiking and site seeing in McConnells State Park. Nice day or afternoon trip...

15. An awesome trip is into the Alleghany mountains on Rt. 6 to the Kinsua Dam near Warren Pa. Then farther east and then north around the river into New York onto the Seneca Reservation. Salamanca off of Route 86 in NY is an example of how American Indians on the reservation live a rough life.. Amazing trip though. Also another route is 6 to Meadville and take 77 north east to Spartanburg then on to Kinsua Dam. Beautiful drive as well. Many cool little towns around the Alleghany to discover.... Beautiful history and old French forts everywhere....

16. Westside Market area around West 25<sup>th</sup> including cool restaurants and the Velvet Tango room.....

17. A little farther drive, a nice weekend or 3 day trip would be to the beautiful town of Spruce Pine N.C .Lovely area in the middle of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Asheville close by as is northern Georgia and South Carolina. Rock and Mineral capitol of the United States. If you like hunting for gems, Spruce Pine is a great start with many other gem locations nearby.

Lastly I love Oglebay in Wheeling, WV. The rolling hills of Northern West Virginia is a favorite golfing, spa and dining destination. Super fun! Historically cool as well

Hope at least a couple of these are new to you.

Best Regards, John

PS-**The Blue Nile, The Ocean Blue, Young the Giant, and as a solo artist Lewis Capaldi.** as well as previously mentioned bands. These are fresh new bands to check out...