

Long thought of as an industrial river thanks to its turn-of-the-century heyday, the Black River has been redefined by paddlers, birdwatchers and anglers as an outdoor playground. Starting in the lower Adirondack Mountains near Forestport and Boonville, the Black River flows 114 miles northwest to the mighty Lake Ontario. From its origins, the wild river snakes into the lowlands, along the way becoming the place fly fishing anglers see in their dreams.

The Black River slows as it flows along the edge of the Tug Hill region – an outdoor paradise in itself! From Port Leyden to Carthage, it's obvious why the river's slow, steady currents attracted lumber companies and mills in the 1800s. Today paddlers can still see the old dams and catwalks. More than a dozen waterfront communities still keep an eye on the Black, opening their doors to visitors and sharing stories of their secret playground.





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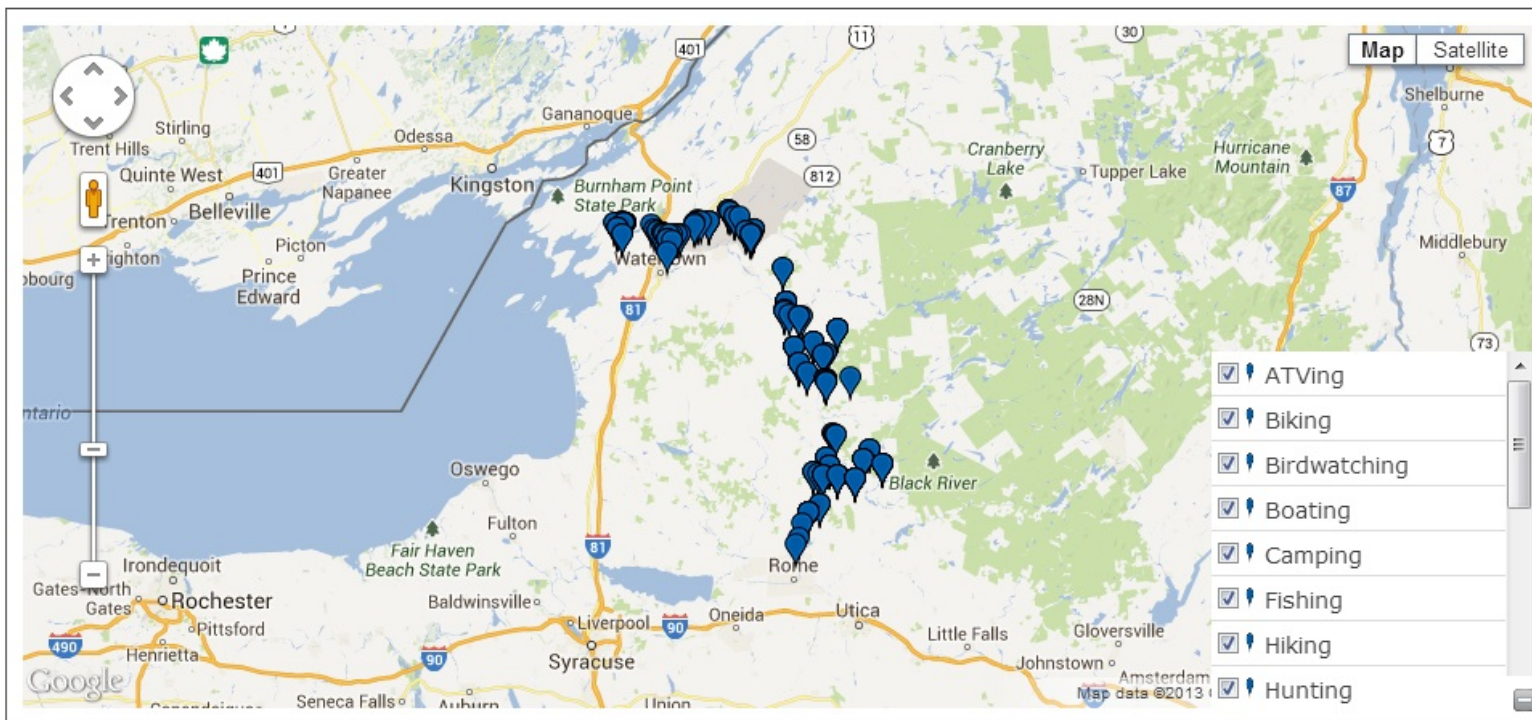
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Recreation Access Points

Whitewater Recreation

Area Information

Watertown, NY



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The map shows the Lyons Falls area with several blue location pins. A dropdown menu is open, listing various recreation activities with checkboxes:

- AT
- Biking
- Birding
- Boating
- Camping
- Fishing
- Hiking
- Hunting

The city list in the dropdown includes: Black River, NY; Boonville, NY; Brownville, NY; Carthage, NY; Castorland, NY; Deferiet, NY; Dexter, NY; Felts Mills, NY; Forestport, NY; Glenfield, NY; Great Bend, NY; Greig, NY; Hawksville, NY; Herrings, NY; Lowville, NY; **Lyons Falls, NY** (highlighted); Port Leydon, NY; Remsen, NY; Rome NY.

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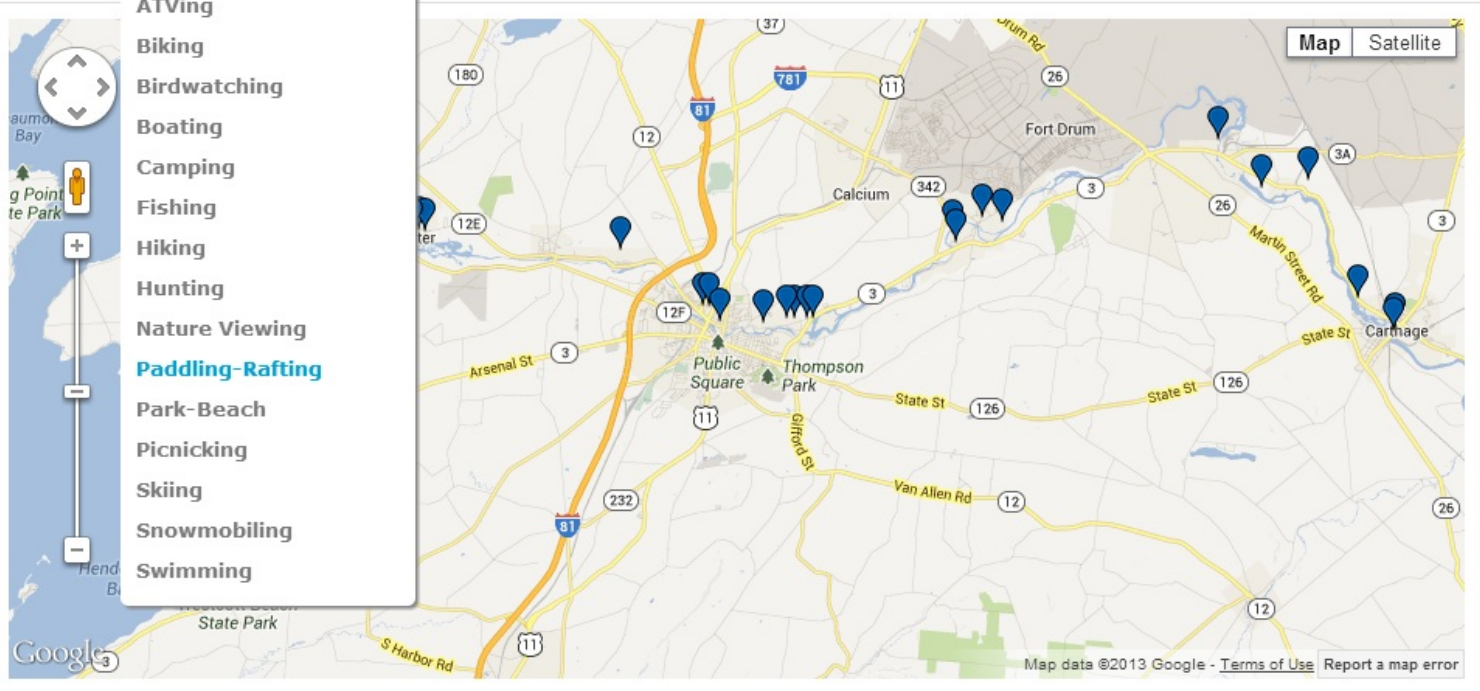
Recreation Access Points

Whitewater Recreation

Area Information

Watertown, NY

- ATVing
- Biking
- Birdwatching
- Boating
- Camping
- Fishing
- Hiking
- Hunting
- Nature Viewing
- Paddling-Rafting**
- Park-Beach
- Picnicking
- Skiing
- Snowmobiling
- Swimming



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Paddling-Rafting

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NYSDEC Cartop
Launch/Wetland Access
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Adirondack River Outfitters
 140 Newell St. Watertown, NY
 13601
 315-788-2297 or 800-525-7238

Map | Satellite

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Adirondack River Outfitters

By Black River on 02/25/13

No Comments



Whitewater rafting guides, based on Newell Street in Watertown, NY, has an experienced and personable guide staff. The Black boasts solid Class III/IV rapids and trips are available from May through mid October and is unique as it offers reliable whitewater even during the drier summer months.

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Address: 140 Newell St. Watertown, NY 13601

Website

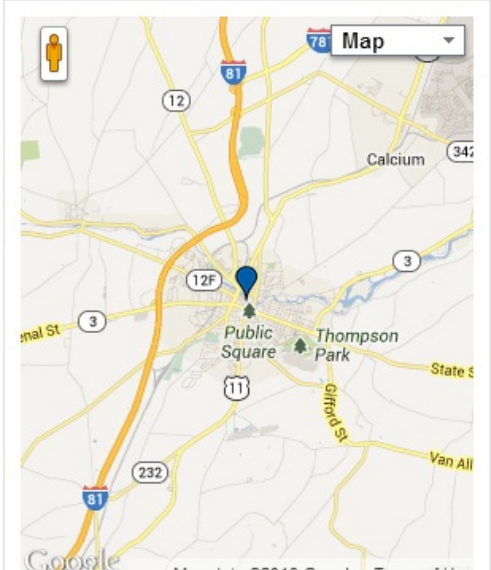
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[Black River Outfitters](#)

BRO - Black River Outfitters - is conveniently located right on the shores of the Black River in Watertown, NY. With launch for 7-mile, 12-rapid, guided raft trips right from their backyard. The Black boasts solid Class III/IV rapids and trips

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[B.O.B. Rafting](#)

B.O.B Rafting, of Dexter, NY, offers fully licensed N.Y.S. guides, complete paddling instruction, all necessary safety equipment and Bar-B-Que's at the end of the trip. The Black boasts solid Class III/IV rapids and trips are available from May through mid October

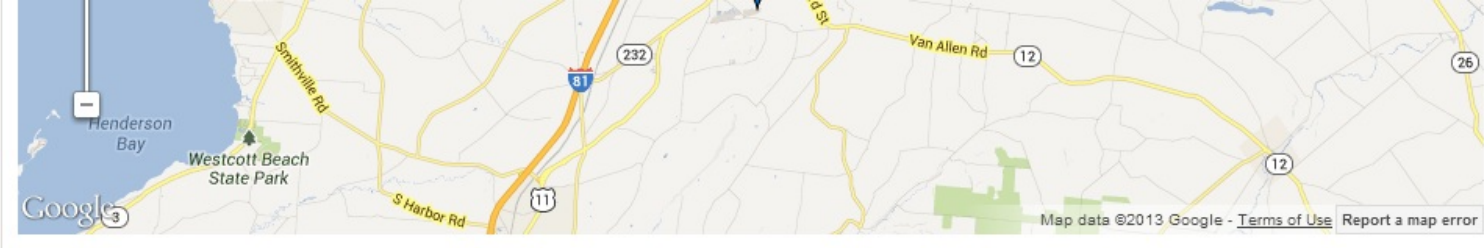
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[Whitewater Challengers, Inc.](#)

Whitewater rafting guides, based in Dexter, NY, offering trips on the Black River. Every trip includes an on-river snack and an apres-rafting cookout. The Black boasts solid Class III/IV rapids and trips are available from May through mid October and is

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Skiing

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Carpenter Road Recreation Trails

By Black River on 03/11/13

carpenter road and seymour road Turin, NY

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The Carpenter Road Cross-Country Ski Trails are located on the Lesser Wilderness State Forest in the Town of Turin, Lewis County. There are 3 loops with connecting trails encompassing approximately 7.8 miles. For the most part, these trails are in

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Maple Ridge and Lewis County Fairgrounds Cross Country Ski Trails

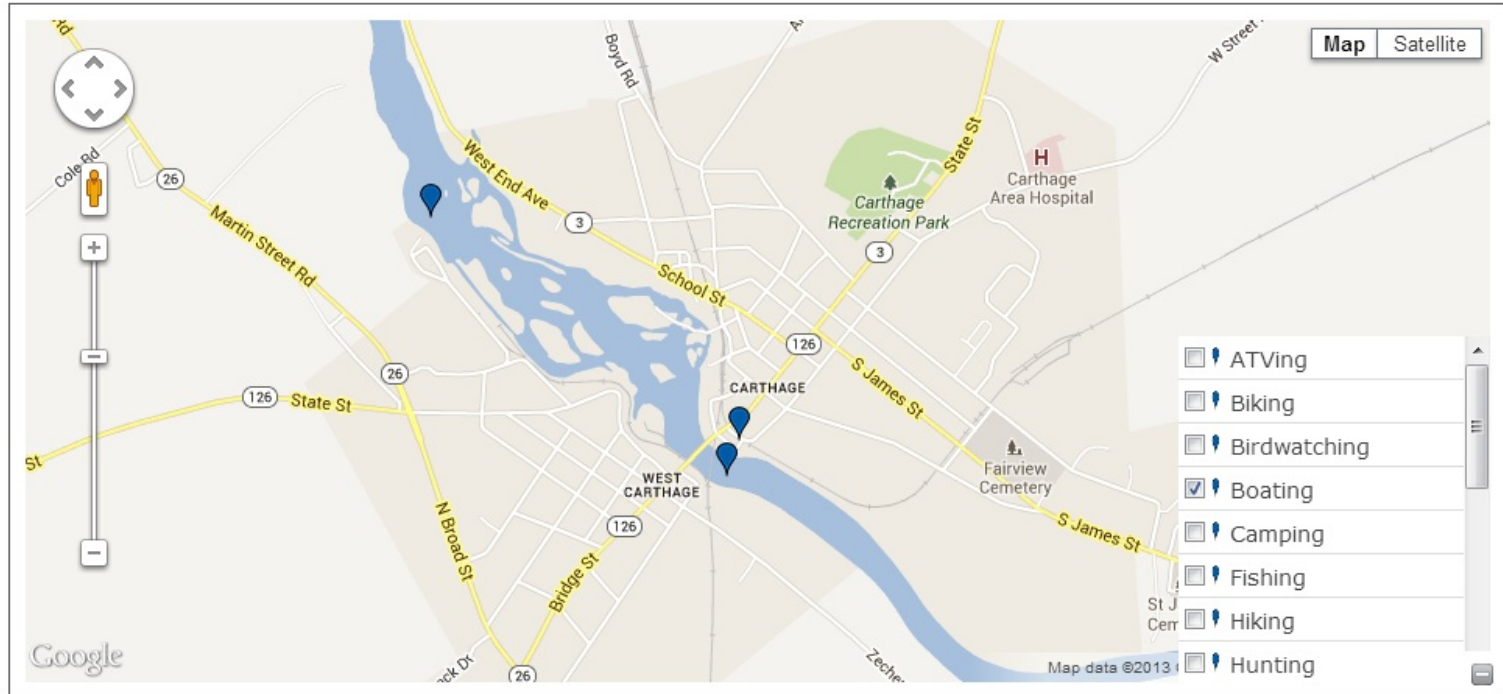
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7421 East Road Lowville, NY 13367

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The Maple Ridge and Lewis County Fairgrounds Cross Country Ski Trails are located just north of the village of Lowville, NY. It connects through recreational easements Route 26 on the west, Lewis County Fairgrounds to the south, and



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Map

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Rafting Guides

ARO – Adirondack River Outfitters



B.O.B. Rafting



Black River Outfitters



Whitewater Challengers





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Paddling Playspots

Route 3 Wave

Easy access Whitewater Play Spot, which includes an observation area. Once kayakers get a taste of this area, they may never leave this fast and friendly feature. The site of national competitions in 2005 and 2006 where aerial freestyle displays sent top athletes to world championships, the versatile Rt. 3 wave is also the place many beginners catch their first ever front surf. Whether you're perfecting your rudder or going for big air, the Rt. 3 Wave is the spot for you.

Hole Brothers

Park and Play Whitewater Spot, which includes an observation area. A world-class playspot in its own right, Hole Brothers was the site of numerous rodeo competitions during the sport's heyday. This friendly feature, backed by a warm, calm pool is the training ground of some of the nations top freestyle paddlers. A friendly spot with a predictable ride and smooth shoulders, Hole Brothers is deep enough for large aerial tricks. There is a large eddy on either side of the hole and a sunny spot where you can watch the action when you are taking a break.

Bottom Moose

"Where the Moose and the Black Meet" While the Upper and Middle Moose offer whitewater for a range of skill levels, the Bottom Moose, where the river runs into the Black River, is world-famous for it's class V whitewater features and should not be attempted by novice paddlers. After checking in at the Hydro Office across from Crystal Falls, there is an easy access portage site off of Fowlerville Road. This 5 mile run starts immediately with Fowlerville Falls, a 40 ft slide, heads through class V rapids, drops you off Agars Falls, a world-class pool drop, and ends with the Cadillac of The Bottom Moose River, Crystal Falls or "Magilla". It is a complicated rapid over a series of ledges that climaxes over a 15 foot drop at the end. Magilla is optional with a pull out spot above and easy access for scouting.

The entire river is accessible by foot, which makes this a favorite among spectators and family members alike. Don't miss Spring Moose Fest, Mother's Day Weekend, or Fall Moose Fest, the weekend after Columbus Day.



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River Flow Information

Waterflow Forcast

USGS Data: Watertown, NY

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Videos

Black River Whitewater Video Introduction





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Area Information

What is a Blueway?

A blueway trail is a small boat and paddling route that combines recreation, to and environmental awareness. The blueway trail guides visitors to play areas, stations and land-based attractions. Blueway trails connect to villages, hamlets and main streets to encourage travelers to visit communities and generate economic activity and promote revitalization.

The Black River Blueway Trail was created because of its recreational offerings, ample lodging, and pristine nature. The Black River Blueway Trail is undergoing park and facility development and improvements to enhance use and provide proper access to one of New York State's greatest outdoor playgrounds...the Black River.

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Eat/Sleep/Shop

To find region specific lodging, restaurant and shopping information, visit one of the following information centers:

Thousand Islands Tourism Council

www.visit1000islands.com

Greater Carthage Area Chamber of Commerce

www.carthageny.com

Greater Watertown Chamber of Commerce

www.watertownny.com

Tourist Information Center

Intersection of LeRay and W. Main Streets Watertown, NY

Visit Watertown

www.visitwatertown.com

Lewis County Chamber of Commerce

www.lewiscountychamber.org

Tug Hill Recreation

www.visittughill.com

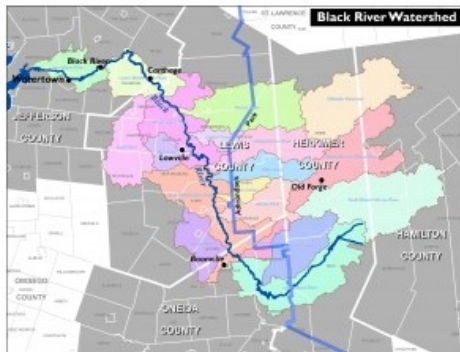
Oneida County Convention & Visitors Bureau

www.oneidacountycvb.com

Rome Area Chamber of Commerce

www.romechamber.com

Black River Watershed



The Black River Watershed encompasses approximately 1.2 million acres in Hamilton, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, and Oneida Counties. Elevations within the watershed range from 246 feet above mean sea level (msl) at the river's mouth, to 3,771 feet msl in the Adirondack Mountains. The Black River watershed can be characterized roughly into three areas: wilderness in the Adirondack mountains, agricultural in Lewis County, and somewhat

urbanized in Jefferson County. There is one city, 37 towns, and 18 villages in the watershed, many of which have signed a Memorandum of Understanding where they have agreed to work collaboratively to maintain and improve water quality.

Subwatersheds located at lower elevations are much more intensively developed than those at the higher elevations, which has serious implications for water quality. Lands owned by the NYSDEC account for almost 40 percent of the watershed, and more than 30 protected species are known to reside within the watershed. Long-term population trends in the watershed point towards an ongoing depopulation of the region, with the total population of the five watershed counties expected to decrease by almost seven percent from 2000 to 2020.





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Black River Byway



The Black River Trail Scenic Byway is a 94-mile travel and transportation corridor that begins in the City of Rome at the southern end and gently weaves travelers through quaint communities to the Village of Dexter and the Black River Bay on Lake Ontario. The Black River Valley corridor, nestled between the Tug Hill Plateau to the west and the Adirondacks to the east, invites travelers to enjoy the diverse geological, cultural, water-based industrial, working landscape, natural, and recreational history that can all be linked to the significant beauty and function of the Black River.

The Black River Scenic Byway is a series of lesser traveled highways from Rome to Dexter with a common thread that inspires users to recharge and recreate in and along the Black River, where the changing character of the River is as wonderfully diverse as its nearby communities.

Community Connections along the Black River Trail

Communities along the way between Rome and Dexter include: Westernville, Boonville, Forestport, Port Leyden, Lyons Falls, Glenfield, Lowville, Castorland, Carthage, Herrings, Deferiet, Great Bend, Felts Mills, Black River, Glen Park, Watertown and Brownville. A variety of bicycling opportunities – as well as suggestions on what to see and do – are highlighted in two segments along the Black River Trail, starting in the south.

Rome – Lowville, 48 miles

Lowville – Dexter, 46 miles



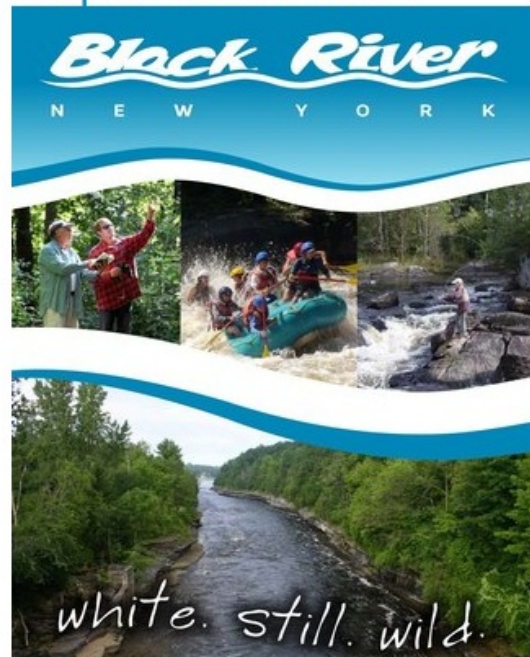
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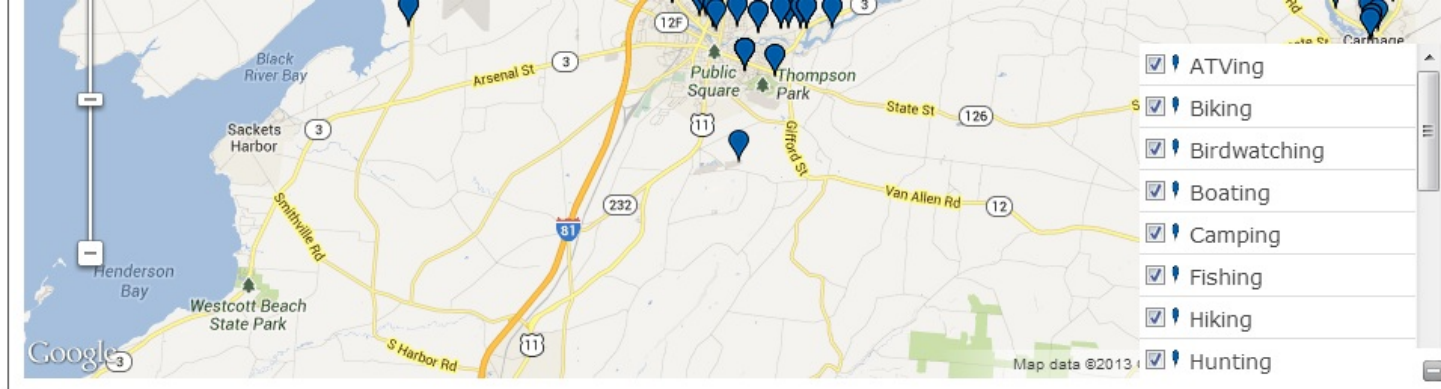
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To request a printed copy of the Black River Visitor Guide, please [click here](#).



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From Carthage, the Black River heads west through mill communities and the city of Watertown, where whitewater is king and rafting companies offer the East Coast's greatest paddling adventures. Watertown is also popular with whitewater kayakers, who flock to Northern New York's urban hub to play on its natural waves. After the Black leaves Watertown, through communities with scores of public fishing access, boat launches, trails and observation areas, it spills into Black River Bay and Lake Ontario.

With so much to offer, the Black River is heading for another heyday, as a recreational paradise. Help rediscover New York's newest outdoor playground!



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White

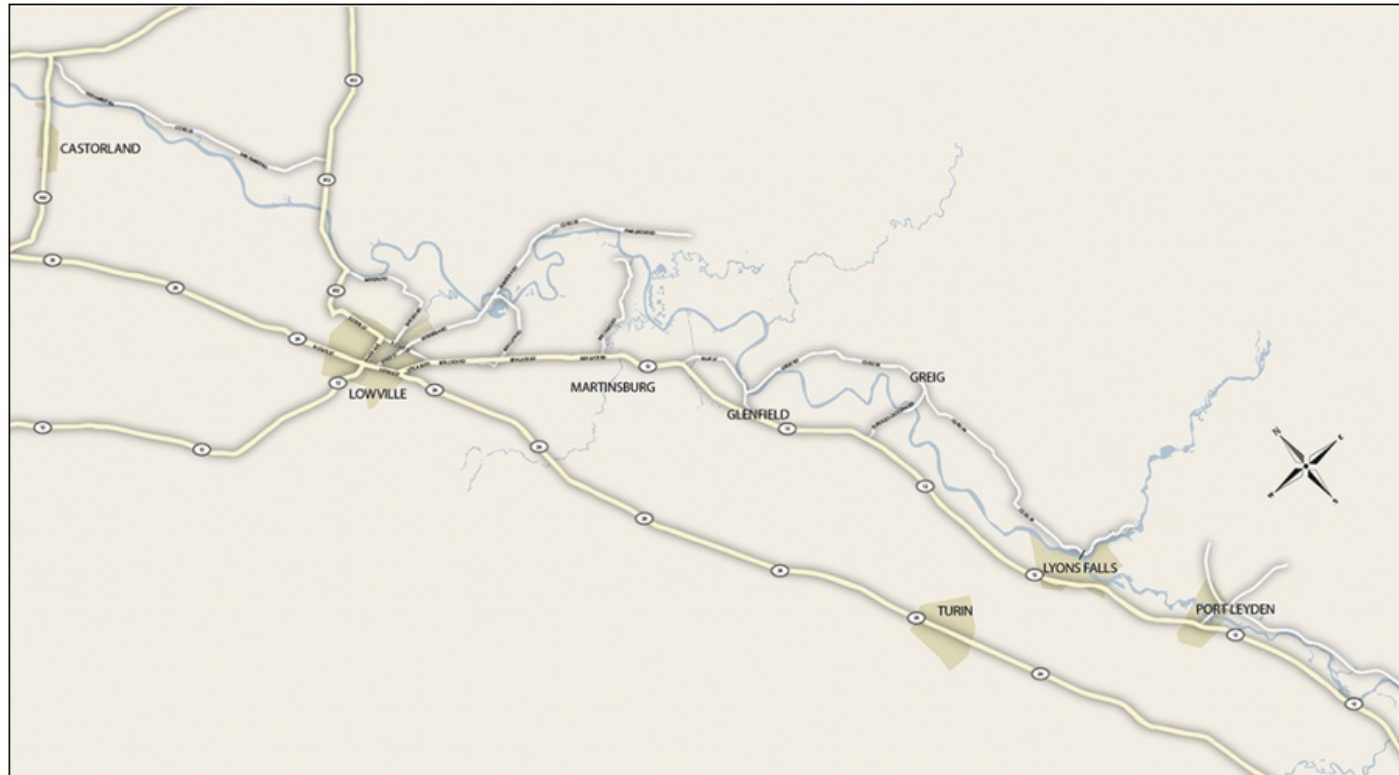


Home to world-renowned whitewater play areas, the Jefferson County portion of the Black River is the most populated. From Carthage to the mouth of Black River Bay and Lake Ontario, the river drops almost 500 feet in this 30-mile stretch. The rapid flow creates whitewater runs and play areas that have attracted four rafting companies and kayaking outfitters.

Watertown is the urban hub and home to restaurants, shopping and an array of accommodations. The city has created riverwalk parks and observation areas to view kayakers and rafting parties. Watertown has hosted the North American Freestyle Kayak Championships and has been the first stop on the Kayaking World Cup multiple times.

Also stationed along the Whitewater area is more than a half dozen small communities with boat launches, public fishing decks and parks.

Still



Known locally as the Black River Flats, this 42-mile stretch covers all of Lewis County and runs to Carthage, Jefferson County. This is where the Black River slows into a gentle, meandering flow. The "Flat" section was deepened in the 1850s to allow for transportation to the Black River Canal. The addition of dams, jetties and pilings created deep sections that slowed the flow. This section drops only 15 feet over 42 miles. Because of its slow and deep flow, this section is popular among motor boaters – boat launches are sprinkled throughout – and casual kayak and canoe paddlers take advantage as well. Calm water fishing is also popular.

The area is comprised of flat agricultural land that's sparsely populated except for Lowville, the Lewis County seat and best bet for visitor services.

Home » Wild

Wild



Aptly named, the Black River's headwaters cascade over boulders and natural falls to produce one of the most unspoiled waterways ever experienced. Beloved by fly fishing anglers and hikers, the southern end of the river is surrounded by dense forests that have preserved the river's natural beauty. The "Wild" area stretches more than 40 miles from Boonville and Forestport in Oneida County to

www.BlackRiverNY.com

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