**Things to explore while at Cornell and in Ithaca**

1. **CORNELL LAB OF ORNITHOLOGY** (Lab of O). This is located near the Ithaca Airport, so it's not very far at all. But it's a "nature preserve", and bird sanctuary. If you like birds and are into bird watching, this is the place to go. It's extremely relaxing. They also have lots of trails in the sanctuary that you can take a walk through. To get to the Lab of O you can take the 31 TCAT bus, which every hour between 7AM and 10PM. for more information check out [www.tcatbus.com](http://www.tcatbus.com/). If you do visit the Lab of Ornithology, you can check out **The Macaulay Library of Natural Sounds**, the world's largest archive of animal sounds and associated video -- contains 160,000 recordings covering 5,600 species of birds. Also, in the same building, is the **Cornell University Museum of Vertebrates,** where you can see one million fish, 45,000 birds, 3,200 eggs, and 15,000 each of mammals, reptiles, and amphibians, many dead for hundreds of years and some now extinct. You may visit the collections, the gift shop, and the visitor center 8:00-5:00 Monday through Thursday, 8:00-4:00 Friday, Saturday: 9:30-4:00, Sunday: 11:00-4:00. Trails are open anytime.

1. **CORNELL BOTANTIC GARDENS.** Cornell Botanic Gardens are a museum of living plants with a network of trails through campus providing natural areas for hiking and nature study. The grounds are open free of charge to individuals and families from sunrise to sunset daily. Information is available at the Garden Shop Mon-Fri. 9am-4pm, Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. 12pm-4pm. Drop-in tours beginning at the Gift Shop on Wed. & Sat. at 1pm.
2. **CORNELL BRAIN COLLECTION.** The collection includes about 26 whole human brains, including that of Edward Rullof, a convicted murderer who was hanged in 1871 (yes, that's where the Collegetown restaurant/bar got its name). The Collection is maintained by the Dept. of Psychology, and is located on the 2nd floor in Uris Hall. The building is unlocked 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday.
3. **HERBERT F. JOHNSON MUSEUM**. Currently, the following exhibits are on display: After Hiroshige: A century of Modern Japanese Prints, Contemporary Art from the Barron Collection, Frank Lloyd Wright Art Glass from the Martin House, Merrill Shatzman, Theyyam Rituals of Kerala: Photographs by Daniel Nadler, Unfolding Process: Conceptual and Material Practice on Paper. The museum is open Tuesdays-Sundays, 10:00 am till 5:00 pm.
4. **BAILEY HORTORIUM HERBARIUM.** One of the largest university-affiliated collections of preserved plant material in North America. It includes Cornell's Wiegand Herbarium (CU), which was merged with BH in 1977. The combined herbaria now number approximately 845,000 specimens of algae, bryophytes, and vascular plants. The collection is currently housed off campus. To access it, drive to the intersection of East State and South Aurora Streets at the Commons, then turn left (uphill) toward Ithaca College.  Just beyond the first traffic light (Hillview Place), turn right into a wide driveway with the sign "Emerson Power Transmission."  Immediately bear left into a large parking lot on the same level, proceed to the end, and park alongside the building.  Enter by a short sidewalk and steps near an abandoned guard booth. Curatorial offices are in rooms 202 (on the right beyond the lobby) or rooms 211-212 through the Hortorium Library (on the left beyond the lobby).  One may also walk from the Commons, using the same route, after taking the #10 or #30 bus, which runs every 10-15 minutes from the Cornell campus, getting off at the Seneca St. parking garage, and walking back along Seneca St. to S. Aurora St. Regular hours of the Herbarium are 9:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday.
5. **FUERTES OBSERVATORY**. Every clear Friday night starting at 9PM, there is public viewing at the observatory. These viewing nights are run by the Cornell Astronomical Society. Call 255-3557 to find out if we are open on a given night.
6. **MUSEUM OF THE EARTH.** A great place to visit. Located on Route 96, towards Trumansburg. Experience what life was like beneath an ancient sea, track a herd of dinosaurs dashing across NYS, or touch relics of a world carved by ice. Concentrates on the geology & paleontology of the Northeastern US. The Museum exhibits over 650 specimens from one of nation's largest and finest fossil collections, including the skeletons of the Hyde Park Mastodon, Right Whale #2030 and the 500 foot mural, Rock of Ages Sands of Time. The museum is open Monday through Saturday: 10-5 Sunday: 12-4. Admission is Adults: $8, Seniors/Students with ID: $5
7. **WINE TOURING**. Visit <http://www.cayugawinetrail.com/> for info on the different wineries surrounding Cayuga Lake, or <http://www.senecalakewine.com/> for info on the Seneca Lake wineries.
8. **ITHACA BEER COMPANY** on Rt. 13 North. (606 Elmira Rd.). Ithaca's own micro-brewery. Open for tastings, tours and homebrew sales. Hours: Mon-Sat 11am-6pm. Tastings everyday with tours on Saturdays. Beer sold at brewery's retail shop.
9. **ITHACA FALLS**. On Lake St. Over 15,000 years ago, receding waters and erosion worked to form a one mile long gorge called Fall Creek. Features include six waterfalls, cascades & rapids. A small park is located on the south side of the trail for picnics.
10. **TAUGHANNOCK FALLS.** Taughannock Falls is located in Ulysses, NY, part of the popular Finger Lakes Region of central New York. The falls is part of Taughannock State Park located between the Village of Trumansburg (part of the Ulysses Township), and the city of Ithaca. The falls are formed by a rock bed creek entering the lake and surrounded by a glen with walls climbing to 400 feet (120 meters). The cataract has a drop of 215 feet (66 meters), one of the highest east of the Rocky Mountains slightly higher even (25 ft., 8 m) than Niagara (American side), but they cannot be compared because it has much smaller volume. Taughannock is interesting year round - the falls and gorge create a natural amphitheater with dense spray rising from the bottom often shrouding the lower part of the cataract in mist. The name "Taughannock" originates either from that of the Delaware Indian chief Taughannock or as the Delaware word taghkanic ("great fall in the woods"). The park is located about 8 miles North from Ithaca or 4 miles South from Trumansburg along Route 89. The park is also accessible from Route 96 in the center of Jacksonville. From Jacksonville Road (across from the Exxon Gas Station) head South about 3 miles and take a right onto Park Road just after Gorge Road. The Park is open all year Mon-Fri, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.
11. **ROBERT H. TREMAN STATE PARK**. On Rt 13 North. Enfield Glen is the scenic highlight of this park. This is an area of rustic beauty with craggy gorges and winding trails bearing names like "fire and brimstone" with waterfalls named Lucifer Falls and Devil's Kitchen. Limited cross-country skiing, summer recreation program, old mill located at upper park, picnic area, swimming, playground, camping, cabins, dump station. Summer recreation programs and winter activities available.
12. **BUTTERMILK FALLS STATE PARK** on Route 13 South. Buttermilk Creek descends more than 500 feet in a series of cascades and rapids. A natural pool at the base of Buttermilk Falls provides swimming with the feel of an old swimming hole. Upstream, a scenic trail circles Lake Treman.
13. **CASCADILLA CREEK GORGE**. Known as “the greenway connecting town and gown.” A natural greenway in the heart of an urban area, one of the dramatic natural places that makes Ithaca unique. Gorge walk is 1.3 miles with many stairs. You can take it right next to the Cornell Schwartz Theater Center, and walk it all the way downtown. The upper end of the trail in Collegetown is located just to the west of the College Avenue bridge over the gorge. Go down the walkway that leads behind the Cornell Center for the Theatre Arts from College Ave. to find the trail. The lower end of the trail in downtown Ithaca is located at the east end of Court Street. A small park next to the University Ave./Linn St. bridge marks the beginning of the trail.
14. **SIX MILE CREEK GORGE**. On Giles St. An Indian trail that offers remnants of an old mill building and the Elizabeth Mulholland Wildflower Preserve. Noted for its rich woodland flora.
15. **CARL SAGAN PLANET WALK**. From Downtown Ithaca to the Sciencenter. Tour the Solar System! In November of 1997, a unique, educational monument and memorial was dedicated. Built, in part, to honor Ithaca resident and Cornell Professor Carl Sagan, the Sagan Planet Walk is a scale model of the Solar System in the midst of the City of Ithaca. The model starts with the sun at the center of the Downtown Ithaca Commons and stretches north to the Sciencenter ending with Pluto, 3/4 mile, 1.2 km away.
16. **CAYUGA NATURE CENTER** on Rt 89 towards Trumansburg. Discover nature by climbing into the forest canopy of Treetops Tower, viewing our summer butterfly house, and by exploring our interactive displays featuring our live animal collection. Our team building ropes course is a popular activity for groups and students. Visit our lodge situated on 120 acres surrounded by more than five miles of scenic hiking trails, natural gorges, and native wildlife. An excursion on snowshoes or skis allows you to enjoy the wonderful Tompkins County Winter. Lodge is open Mon.- Fri. 9am-5pm. Trails open daily dawn-dusk. On the Discovery Trail.

**Cornell Events Calendar:**

http://www.cornell.edu/events/