

July 26, 1788

New York Becomes a State

When studying New York, it is sometimes hard not to get overwhelmed by New York City. With its many museums, theaters, restaurants, and more, it can seem that the state is one large, urban center. It is hard to think of New York also having mountains covered in beautiful forests; clear, sparkling lakes; sandy beaches and many areas of wilderness. There are areas where people enjoy outdoor sports such as fishing, skiing, snowmobiling, ice skating, and more. There are also many areas of historical interest, as New York has been deeply involved in the history of the nation since its beginning. Even during the American Revolution, about one-third of the battles were fought in New York. Many famous people are from New York, including Sojourner Truth, Donald Trump, Lou Gehrig, Michael Jordan, Barbara Bush, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Rudolph Giuliani, Grace Hopper, L. Frank Baum, Grandma Moses, Eleanor Roosevelt, E.B. White, Almanzo Wilder, Emma Lazarus, Nancy Reagan, Julia Ward Howe, Norman Rockwell, Walt Whitman, Washington Irving, Theodore Roosevelt, Gertrude Ederle, Martin Van Buren, and William Seward.

Look at the map of New York below. Label the capital of New York. Locate the cities of Buffalo, New York City, Rochester, Niagara Falls, Yonkers, Syracuse, Ithaca, Cooperstown, Ogdensburg, Malone, Tupper Lake, Watertown, Saratoga Springs, Amsterdam, Troy, Poughkeepsie, Hancock, Monticello, West Point, Olean, Jamestown, Utica, Binghamton, Chester, Brooklyn, and Tarrytown, and label them on the map. Now label the Appalachian Mountains, Taconic Mountains, Adirondack Mountains, Catskill Mountains, Shawangunk Mountains, Helderberg Escarpment, Mount Marcy, Algonquin Peak, Slide Mountain, and Hunter Mountain. Also, locate the Hudson River, Mohawk River, St. Lawrence River, Genesee River, Oswego River, Seneca River, Susquehanna River, Lake George, Finger Lakes, Tear-of-the-Clouds, Otsego Lake, Chautauqua Lake, and Lake Placid, and label them. Lastly, label the states, provinces, or bodies of water that border New York. When you have finished, move on to the timeline of New York history on the next page and the research prompts that follow.



Timeline of New York History

1609

1624

1664

1725

1777

1785

1788

1789

1818

1825

1836

1901

1917

1918

1941

1946

1959

1961

1964

2001

1. The New York State Museum is founded in Albany, New York
2. New York becomes the 11th state in the Union
3. The United Nations chooses New York City as the site of its headquarters
4. Fort Orange (now known as Albany) is founded
5. A Pan American Exposition is held in Buffalo
6. The New York State Canal System is completed
7. The first newspaper in the state is established in New York
8. The World Trade Center in New York City is attacked by terrorists
9. The Erie Canal opens
10. The Niagara Power Plant opens
11. George Washington is inaugurated in New York City as the first United States president
12. The St. Lawrence Seaway opens
13. The area of present-day New York is claimed for the Netherlands by Henry Hudson
14. The Battle of Saratoga is fought
15. New York City is the port that many military personnel leave from to fight in Europe in World War I
16. The English take control of present-day New York
17. The Verrazano-Narrows Bridge opens
18. New York City becomes the capital of the United States
19. America's first commercial television station begins operations in New York
20. The New York State Library is founded in Albany, New York

Timeline of New York History Answer Key

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