

# HAUNTED HISTORY TRAIL *of New York State*

## ABOUT THE CATSKILLS REGION

The Catskills encompass vast forests with meadows, lakes, springs, waterfalls, cliffs, fire towers, wildlife and hiking trails in the southeastern part of New York State. You'll also find fall foliage, farmers' markets and a wide variety of recreational and cultural activities year-round. Abundant natural resources, a getaway for artists, charming historic Main Streets – they all convey the rich history and lore of the Catskill region.

## DAY 1

Start your haunted journey at the **Shanley Hotel**, a historic treasure chest filled with timeless rooms and after-life activity year-round. Featured on "Ghost Hunters" and other shows, ongoing research continues to uncover documentation about inhabitants and events that happened at the hotel. Once a bordello, guests here experience doors that open and close shut, footsteps at all hours, and secret rooms, along with stories of booze raids, mysteries and gambling that make your hair stand up. Go on a ghost investigation, a ghost pajama party, a spiritual event, or just book a room for the night.

Shanley Hotel  
56 Main St., Napanoch, NY 12458  
[www.shanleyhotel.com](http://www.shanleyhotel.com)

Enjoy lunch at **Mohonk Mountain House**, one of the Historic Hotels of America where local legend has it was the inspiration for the Overlook Hotel in Stephen King's thriller, *The Shining*. You must see it to believe its grandeur. Mohonk Mountain House is also a National Historic Landmark and was founded in 1869 by Albert Smiley. After lunch, you can hop on a horse-drawn carriage ride to tour the grounds or visit The Barn Museum to learn about Mohonk's history.

Mohonk Mountain House  
1000 Mountain Rest Road, New Paltz, NY 12561  
[www.mohonk.com](http://www.mohonk.com)

On weekends in October and for groups by appointment, you'll find fresh interpretations and interactive activities for guests of all ages at **Haunted Huguenot Street**. Special night-time tours will span across the National Historic Landmark District. Guests will be taken to the burial ground, Jean Hasbrouck House and Deyo House to experience haunting tales about the macabre and paranormal, featuring stories and legends taken directly from the Historic Huguenot Street archives, including 18th-century diary entries and 20th-century New Paltz police reports.

Historic Huguenot Street  
81 Huguenot St., New Paltz, NY 12561  
[www.huguenotstreet.org](http://www.huguenotstreet.org)

## DAY 2

Visit **Downtown and Uptown Kingston** and discover the historic character of Kingston, including a scenic downtown, the Rondout Historic Waterfront District, to the Stockade District uptown. Guided walking tours May – October. Printable brochures available on the Friends of Historic Kingston website. Be sure to ask about the hobgoblin that haunts the Old Dutch Church’s steeple in Uptown Kingston.

Friends of Historic Kingston  
63 Main St., Kingston, NY 12401  
[www.fohk.org](http://www.fohk.org)

For lunch, consider **The Hoffman House** – this historic highlight of Kingston’s Stockade District, built prior to 1679 and a historic landmark on the National Register. It’s an excellent example of an early American Dutch house with fireplaces in each of the main rooms and an enticing menu. Some patrons insist that colonial-era ghosts roam the historic Uptown restaurant that once served as a fort against Indian attacks and a lookout for the British.

The Hoffman House  
94 North Front St., Kingston, NY 12401  
[www.hoffmanhousetavern.com](http://www.hoffmanhousetavern.com)

Each October, you can take a **Historic Cemetery Tour at Old Dutch Church** as it comes alive with the ghosts of Revolutionary Kingstonians, all with vivid memories of the burning of their hometown by the British.

Old Dutch Church  
272 Wall St., Kingston, NY 12401  
[www.theatreontheroad.com/cemetery-tour.html](http://www.theatreontheroad.com/cemetery-tour.html)

**NOTE:** The Burning of Kingston is a biennial October event that goes back in time with various re-enactments throughout Kingston, recreating scenes from 240 years ago during the American Revolutionary War. Details here: [www.burningofkingston.com](http://www.burningofkingston.com)

**Hurley Heritage Society Ghost Walk** will have you tour Hurley’s Main Street with historic burial grounds and 10 stone houses harboring secrets from the 1600s, encountering Hurley ghosts while following your guide through the historic village. Ghost walk occurs in October. Also, visit the Hurley Historic Society Museum, 52 Main St., open May – October.

Hurley Reformed Church  
11 Main St., Hurley, NY 12443  
[www.hurleyheritagesociety.org](http://www.hurleyheritagesociety.org)

**Alternate Stop: Headless Horseman Hayrides & Haunted Houses/Great Room Escape** - Named No. 1 Haunted Attraction in America. New theme each season. Ten attractions, four gift shops and five food cafes. Reservations required. Open from dusk to 11 p.m. mid-September to early November. The new Great Room Escape, open year-round, is a full-interactive and immersive experience with only 60 minutes to escape from a themed room.

Headless Horseman Hayrides & Haunted Houses/Great Room Escape  
778 Broadway, Ulster Park, NY 12487  
[www.headlesshorseman.com](http://www.headlesshorseman.com)

### TOUR AT A GLANCE

**Timeframe:** 2 Days

**Distance Day 1:** Approx. 26 miles

**Distance Day 2:** Approx. 8 miles

**Stops:** 7

**Alternate Stops:** 1

**NYS HAUNTED HISTORY TRAIL: CATSKILLS REGION**