

Northeast Traveler

Rocking the Bushnell

TINA!

LOBSTAH in Portland Maine
NYC's Other Art Scene
NH's Flume Gorge
Old Sturbridge Village

May 2023



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Rocking the Bushnell
**TINA: The Tina
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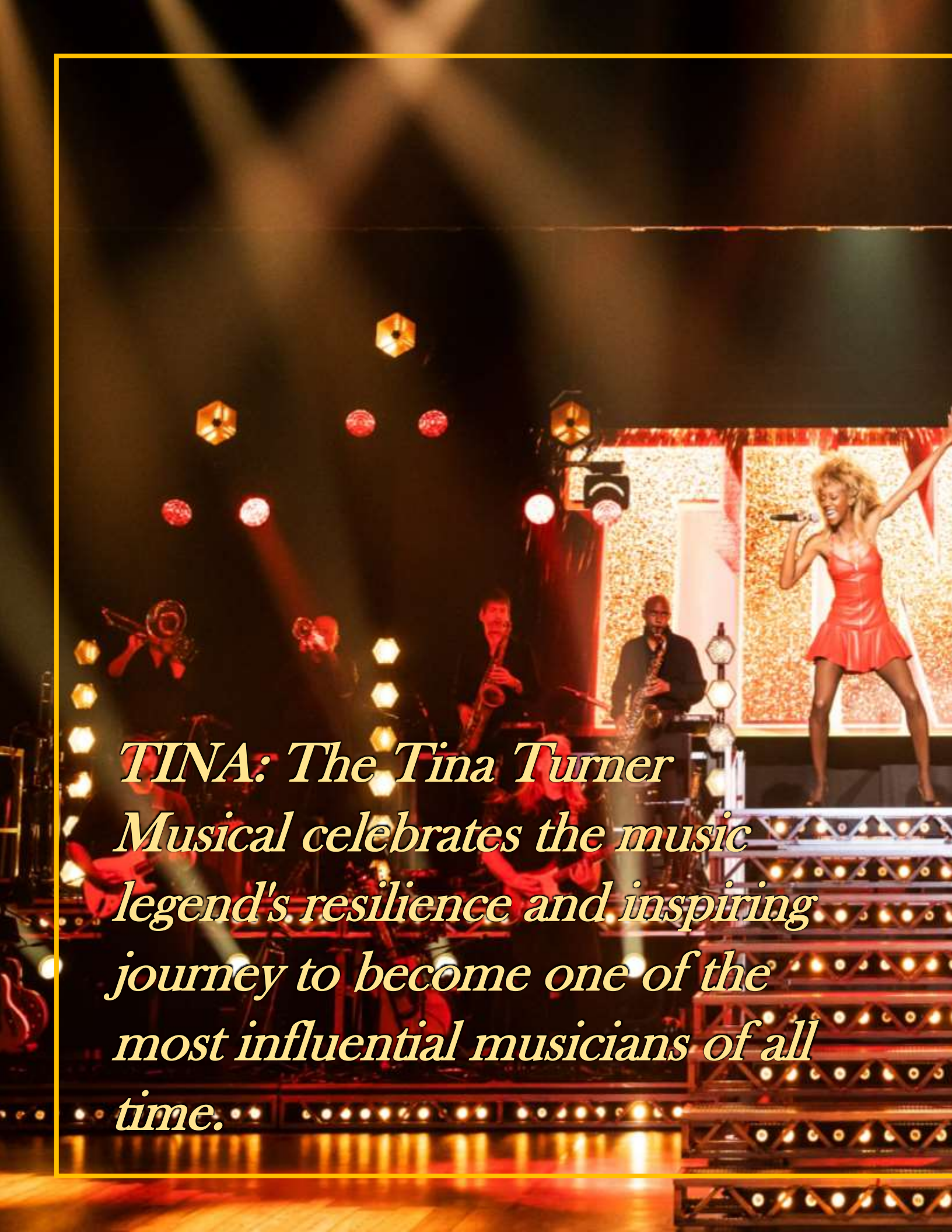
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Lucy the Elephant in Margate City, NJ
Photo by Jim McIntosh

A vibrant stage performance from the musical 'Tina'. The scene is set on a stage with a backdrop of shimmering gold sequins. A lead singer, a woman with blonde hair, is performing in a bright red, form-fitting dress, holding a microphone and striking a dynamic pose with one arm raised. Behind her, a band of musicians is visible, including a trumpeter, a saxophonist, and a bassist. The stage is illuminated with warm, golden lights, and the overall atmosphere is energetic and celebratory.

TINA: The Tina Turner Musical celebrates the music legend's resilience and inspiring journey to become one of the most influential musicians of all time.

Rocking the Bushnell

TINA!



Feature by Paul Pence
Photos by Matthew Murphy
and Evan Zimmerman



A

s **TINA: The Tina Turner Musical** cranked up the pace and volume and rocked the venerable Bushnell Theater to the high octane "What's Love Got to Do With It", the energy in the theater skyrocketed. My wife, a diehard Tina Turner fan, was practically vibrating with excitement. She was mesmerized by the performance, barely able to contain herself from jumping up and dancing along.

And it was no wonder - Zurin' Villanueva's portrayal of Tina was nothing short of electrifying. With every move and every note, she fully embodied the spirit of the music legend. Her vocals were raw and powerful, sung with skill and

passion. Her stage presence was commanding, playful, and seductive all at once, just like Tina herself. Watching her perform, it was easy to forget that we were sitting in a theater and not at an actual Tina Turner concert.

Hartford's Bushnell Theater typically holds symphonies, operas, and ballets, so I'm sure that its 2800-seat theater rarely experiences this level of energy, but the North American touring company of TINA had perfected the art of capturing and holding our imaginations. With Zurin Villanueva alternating shows with Ari Groover, both talented and passionate performers, and a cast and crew, the production was immersive and compelling.

The effect on the crowd was palpable. As "What's

Love Got to Do With It" reached its climax, the theater erupted into applause.

My wife was practically in tears, overcome with emotion at the experience of seeing one of her idols come to life on stage. And I have to admit, even I was caught





up in the energy and excitement.

The song was a major turning point in Tina Turner's career.

Written

by Terry Britten and Graham Lyle and was initially offered to several other artists before Tina finally agreed to record it, “What’s Love Got To Do With It” propelled Tina back into the spotlight and marked a significant shift in her musical style from R&B to rock. It helped to



solidify Tina's status as a music icon and ultimately led to her in-duction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

The energy in the theater was palpable as Zurin strutted across the stage, belting out the lyrics with all the ferocity and passion of the original Tina Turner.

My wife, a big Tina Turner fan, was impressed with the play's attention to detail and how it accurately portrayed Tina's personal and professional struggles. She felt that the play did an excellent job of following Tina's actual history and conveying the emotional impact of her story on stage.

The play tells the story of Tina Turner's life from her childhood in Nutbush, Tennessee, to



her rise to stardom as a music icon, showing her perseverance in the face of adversity throughout.



The show's first act focused on Tina's early years and her tumultuous relationship with Ike Turner, played by Garrett Turner so well that I had to remind myself that he wasn't the real Ike. The second act explores Tina's journey to success as a solo artist and her triumphant comeback after leaving Ike.

Throughout the play, Tina's songs are woven into the storyline, serving as both a reflection of her personal experiences and a means of advancing the plot.

The music in the play is carefully curated to reflect the different phases of Tina's career, with songs like "A Fool in Love" and "Proud Mary"

representing her early years with Ike, while "Private Dancer" and "The Best" showcase her



successful solo career. Blended in so well, in fact, that I had to look up the song list to assure myself that with only two exceptions the songs were not written specifically for the play. These songs are used to tell the story of Tina's life and convey the emotional impact of her experiences, from the pain of her abusive marriage to the joy of finding success on her own terms.

Throughout the performance, the use of costumes also played a key role in reflecting the different stages of Tina's career, with frequent changes to highlight her various styles and eras of music. At times the costume changes were important to the storyline, at times the changes

were cues to the changing world that Tina lived in. But just the coordination of the costuming, occa-



sionally onstage, deserves special recognition.

But costuming is hardly the only technical aspect of note, I could go on and on about the integration of the musicians into the

storyline, the use of a gigantic digital backdrop, and the metaphoric touches within the script.

One of the key themes of *TINA* is Tina Turner's resilience. Throughout her life, she faced numerous challenges and struggles, including an abusive and neglectful family life, an abusive husband, and racial discrimination in the music industry and society at large.

The play portrays how Tina grew up in poverty with a mother who abandoned her and a father who was distant and abusive. Despite these hardships, Tina found solace in music and began singing in church at a young age. However, as she pursued a career in music, she encountered further obstacles, including racism and sexism in the industry.

Perhaps the most well-known struggle of Tina's life was her abusive marriage to Ike Turner, which



is depicted in the play in great detail. The play shows how Tina endured years of physical, emotional, and psychological abuse at the hands of Ike, culminating in a violent altercation that led her to finally leave him and strike out on her own as a solo artist.



Throughout the play, Tina's struggles are depicted with sensitivity and empathy, highlighting the emotional toll of the abuse and discrimination she endured. However, the play also celebrates Tina's strength and resilience, showing how she overcame these challenges to become one of the most beloved and influential musicians of all time.

One of the most memorable parts of the performance was the audience's reaction to the familiar songs from Tina Turner's extensive catalog.

When the bass player began the iconic opening riff of "Proud Mary" as a quiet background to the dialog of the play, members of the audience immediately recognized it and began applauding in anticipation.





As the song built to its famous chorus, the energy in the theater was electric. My wife and I looked around and saw that many of the other audience members were swaying in their seats, mouthing the words, and tapping their feet. It was clear that Tina's music had a profound impact on everyone in the theater, many of whom had grown up listening to her songs and knew them by heart.

This was not an isolated incident either. Throughout the play, the audience reacted strongly to many of the songs, from the soulful ballad "I Can't Stand the Rain" to the high-energy rocker "Nutbush City Limits." It was clear that Tina's music had a special place in the hearts of the audience members and that her songs had the power to

transport them back to important moments in their own lives.

Overall, the audience's reaction to the familiar songs in





TINA was a testament to Tina Turner's enduring legacy and the impact her music continues to have on people of all ages and backgrounds.

As TINA approached its climax, the intensity of the music and the audience reaction continued to build, culminating in the rousing finale song "The Best."

Throughout the play, Zurin Villanueva's powerful vocals and electrifying stage presence had captivated the audience, but it was during the final number that she truly brought the house down. As the opening chords of "The Best" rang out, the audience erupted in cheers and applause.

The energy in the theater was palpable as Zurin strutted across the stage, belting out the lyrics with all the ferocity and passion of the original Tina Turner. My wife and I were swept up in the moment, clapping and cheering along with the

rest of the audience, barely able to contain our excitement.

As the song reached its explosive conclusion, Zurin held a final, triumphant note, eliciting an ecstatic roar from the audience. It was a truly unforgettable moment, and one that left us both feeling uplifted and inspired.

It's clear that the power of Tina Turner's music is as strong as ever. The way the show wove together her iconic songs with her personal story was masterful, creating a truly immersive and moving experience that left a lasting impression on us both.

As my wife and I left the Bushnell Theater and made our way back to the car, we were both still buzzing with excitement from the incredible performance we had just witnessed. The energy of





the crowd and the power of Tina Turner's music had left an indelible mark on us both, and we knew that we would be talking about the show for days to come.

As we settled into the car and started the drive home, my wife pulled up a stream of Tina Turner music on her phone, singing along at the top of her lungs. It was clear that the show had left a profound impact on her, and I couldn't help but smile as I listened to her belting out the lyrics to "What's Love Got to Do With It" and "Proud Mary."

Reflecting on the experience, I realized that the Bushnell Center for Performing Arts had truly lived up to its reputation as one of Connecticut's premier performing arts venues. From the historic and beautiful surroundings to the exceptional acoustics and the incredible talent on display, the theater had provided us with a truly unforgettable evening.

As we drove home, still lost in the music of Tina Turner, I knew that we would be back at the Bushnell before long, eager to experience the magic of live performance once again.

For More information:

- TheBushnell.org
- TinaTheMusical.com


More about the Bushnell Center for Performing Arts

The Bushnell in the heart of Hartford is a hub of cultural activity, hosting a diverse range of performances, from Broadway shows to classical music concerts.

- The Bushnell was opened in 1930 and named after the Reverend Horace Bushnell, a prominent theologian and abolitionist from Hartford.
- The venue has a seating capacity of 2,799 and features a variety of performances including Broadway shows, concerts, opera, dance, and comedy.
- The Bushnell has hosted many famous performers over the years, including Duke Ellington, Ella Fitzgerald, Frank Sinatra, and more recently, Lin-Manuel Miranda and John Legend.
- In addition to performances, the Bushnell also offers educational programs for students of all ages, including workshops, lectures, and master classes.
- The Bushnell has undergone several renovations over the years, including a major renovation in 2001 which added a new lobby, expanded the backstage area, and updated the sound and lighting systems.
- The venue is a nonprofit organization and relies on donations from individuals and corporations to support its mission of bringing the arts to the Hartford community and beyond.

From its stunning Art Deco design to its rich cultural heritage, the Bushnell is a true gem of the performing arts world. Whether you're a seasoned theatergoer or a first-time visitor, a trip to this iconic venue is sure to be an unforgettable experience.

Learn more about the Bushnell at www.thebushnell.com



*Soak up the coastal Maine
vibe and lots of local
cuisine in Portland.*



Portland Maine:
More Than Just
Lobstah!

Feature By Debbie Stone



It's lobstah, not lobster, when you're in Maine. That's the first thing you learn upon boarding the Lucky Catch trawler. But it will certainly not be the last, as by the time your excursion is over, you'll be a font of knowledge about this notable crustacean.

Taking a trip with the Lucky Catch was one of the highlights during my stay in Portland, Maine. This fishing boat plies the waters of Casco Bay, giving visitors a taste of the daily routines of a Maine lobsterman/woman, while cruising near picturesque lighthouses, historic civil war forts and the "Seal Rocks."

You'll hear about lobster habits and become a walking, talking lobster lexicon, spouting off lingo like shells, shedders, shorts, culls and keepers. And you'll participate in the preparation of baiting the traps and the excitement of hauling them up, as you anticipate a bumper payday.

Before rejoicing at the sight of a cage packed with glossy orange and black-speckled creatures, however, your guide will explain that each lobster has to be measured (from eye socket to end of carapace) to determine if it's of legal size - and thus, a keeper. If it's too small, or oversized, or a female with eggs, it's tossed back.

Often, a variety of marine life will enter the trap, including



rock and hermit crabs, snails and starfish. The captain will put them in the see-through live tank on board for observation. At the end of the day, they'll be thrown back into the sea.

You can purchase any of the lobsters caught on your Lucky Catch adventure for wholesale or



“boat” price. If you don’t have a kitchen or pot at your disposal, you can take them across the pier to the Portland Lobster Company and they’ll cook them up and serve you a fresh lobster dinner.

Lobster is big business in Maine. There are about 7,000 licensed lobstermen and women with upwards of three million traps in the state. The traps are made of wire and attached by a line to the colored buoy on the surface of the water. Each lobsterman/woman has his/her own individually painted buoy for identification.

The state’s average lobster harvest in a year is about 100 million pounds. What most people don’t realize is that lobstering is a physically grueling job, where you work long hours, often in inclement weather. Plus, the investment





to get started in the business is sizeable.

It's interesting to note that lobster as a food wasn't always popular.

Folks actually turned up their noses at eating these creatures. They were used for compost for gardens, fed to the hogs, prisoners and domestic staff. Some job contracts even stipulated that employed help could not be fed lobster more than twice a week.

Over the years, this crustacean's reputation and esteem has risen substantially and today, it's viewed as a delicacy (and a luxury) in



many restaurants, and is usually the most expensive entrée on the menu. On the coast of Maine, this sought-after food is

ubiquitous. It's a lobster-palooza with lobster shacks everywhere you go, each one claiming to be the best. You'll also find lobster in every form and preparation possible, from Lobster Benedict and Lobster Mac 'n' Cheese to Lobster Pot Pie and Lobster Carbonara. But despite its prolific presence in this part of the country, you'll still pay a price for the fresh stuff.

One of the best ways to get a taste of the town's culinary scene is to do a walking food and beverage tour.

Portland is definitely nirvana for seafood aficionados. But this small city is much more than that. It's a veritable foodie haven, and a craft beer mecca. It has become the East coast's must-visit foodie city, boasting a highly touted farm-to-fork philosophy and practice.

One of the best ways to get a taste of the town's culinary scene is to do a walking food and beverage tour in the Old Port area with Maine Foodie Tours. This leisurely-paced excursion offers a great introduction to the local food and drinks, while providing interesting and entertaining information about the geography and history of this colorful section of Portland.

You'll learn, for example, that there are 2,500 islands off the coast of Maine, of which only fifteen are inhabited, and 3,500 plus miles of coastline. Within Casco Bay alone, there are 200.

You'll also hear about the Great Fire of July 4,



1866, which was accidentally ignited by a firecracker. It decimated the town, destroying 1,800 buildings, the majority of which were residences, leaving both rich and poor homeless. Aid poured in and in

the following two years, the city was almost completely rebuilt, giving it the characteristic brick, Victorian architecture that's still prominent today.

Your personable and knowledgeable guide will take you to several artisanal shops, restaurants and pubs, where you'll sample a mix of classic Maine, Maine-inspired, up-and-coming, fancy foods and beverages. The narration is lively with the inclusion of lots of additional recommendations on where to dine and imbibe. Don't miss a trip to The Holy Donut (go early!) for donuts made with Maine potatoes. The potatoes give these yummy creations a moist texture that makes them melt in your mouth. You'll have twenty flavors to choose from, like fresh lemon, maple bacon, dark chocolate sea salt and toasted coconut with coconut milk glaze.

On our tour, Timothy, a Portland native, was the guide. The group was comprised of people from all over the country, most who were first

time visitors. First stop was the Portland Beer Hub. No, we didn't actually start the day with beer, but rather with a traditional Maine drink called Moxie.

At one time, Moxie was marketed as a medicinal beverage, before becoming more mainstay. I would describe it as a cross between Dr. Pepper and cough syrup. Our sample of Moxie was accompanied by savory meatballs from Micucci Grocery, a famed Old World Italian market in Portland.

Second stop was Gilbert's Chowder House, where the offerings included New England clam chowder, seafood chowder or a chicken corn chowder. I had the seafood chowder, which was packed full of lobster, clams, shrimp, haddock and potatoes.

Our guide explained the differences between New England and Manhattan chowders, and also proceeded to tell us that locals sometimes put





tabasco sauce on top of their chowder for extra flavor. I opted out on this tradition, preferring to eat my chowder unadorned.

We moved on to Gritty McDuff's Brew Pub, a Maine institution and one of the earliest pioneers of the brewing renaissance in the state. We sipped a seasonal blueberry beer and a Halloween pumpkin ale, accompanied by tasty lobster rolls and handmade potato chips, while enjoying the pub's convivial English-style ambiance. Sit on the patio or window side to people watch and take in the atmosphere of charming, cobblestoned Wharf Street.

At \$3 Deweys, we had a crisp Pumpkinhead Beer, rimmed with a cinnamon sugar mixture, and fresh, haddock tacos. While sipping and munching, we heard the amusing story of the name behind Deweys. Years ago, when the sailors came to port, they would head to the bordellos. The



prices for “services” back then started at \$1 for “lookies,” \$2 for “touchies” and \$3 for “doies!”

The last stop on the tour was Dean’s Sweets. This specialty shop produces over thirty varieties of truffles, caramels and buttercreams, using the finest imported chocolate. For Dean Bingham, who left a forty-year career as an architect to open the confectionary with his wife Kristin, chocolate-making is more than a business. It’s an art.

We sampled a Needham, a traditional Maine candy comprised of chocolate, (dark chocolate in Dean’s case) sugar, coconut and potato. The potato, unbeknownst to me, is a classic staple in the state, and at one point, Maine was the top harvester of potatoes in the country. I thought it tasted like a homemade Mounds bar, and I could have easily eaten another...or two.



In addition to food, Portland is known for its lighthouses.

These coastal sentinels are beloved icons of Maine.

In Portland Harbor, there are six to choose from. Cape Elizabeth's Portland Head Light is the region's most recognized.

And it's a beaut! This famed 1787 beacon is the oldest in Maine and a darling of photographers all over the world.

The popular landmark is situated along the shores of Fort William Park, a ninety-acre greenspace with hiking and recreation opportunities and dramatic ocean





views. It includes the keepers' quarters building (now a museum with interpretative displays and a collection of lighthouse lenses), which until 1989, was home to lighthouse keepers and their families. The U.S. Coast Guard now maintains the actual light and the fog signal.

As you look out over Portland Harbor, provided it's a clear day, you'll be able to see an additional four lighthouse towers, including Spring Point Ledge, Ram Island Ledge, Halfway Rock and Cape Elizabeth.

Accommodations are plentiful in Portland, but if you want to stay somewhere really special, reserve a room at the Black Point Inn on Prouts Neck. Just minutes from downtown, this property is located on a ruggedly breath-taking section of the coast-line. Surrounded by water and beaches on three sides, it offers captivating views and

peaceful trails to meander at your leisure.

Built in 1878, Black Point was once one of the grand hotels in

Prouts Neck. Today, it's the last remaining hotel in the area. This historic grand dame has been extensively renovated over the years, but still manages to retain its quintessential character and traditions, while providing all the modern amenities and luxuries you'd expect from an upscale property.

The inn boasts an excellent onsite restaurant (The Chart Room), a cozy lobby, where





tea and cookies are served each afternoon, an all-weather sun porch and a delightful veranda to take in the picture-perfect views and listen to the surf. The latter is the ideal spot to have a

libation before dinner, as well as dine al fresco, while watching a fiery sunset and listening to live jazz.

There's something for everyone at The Chart Room, from casual pub fare and seasonal specials to creative entrees. Start your meal with the Bangs Island mussels, crispy Brussels sprouts or harvest salad with roasted butternut squash.

You'll dine on such dishes as grilled salmon, baked haddock, Maine Lobster tails, short rib stroganoff and Jamaican jerk chicken, among other notable entrees.

Definitely save room for the Maine blueberry pie a la mode or the pumpkin cream cheese torte. I can vouch for both, as my husband and I shared these



sublime desserts.

Our room was spacious, with a comfy king bed and sitting area, and a mesmerizing view of the beach and bay. Hard to leave the confines of this cozy domicile, but the outdoors beckoned.

One morning, we took the Cliff Walk, a 1.75-mile path along the shoreline's cliffs. Another day, we strolled on the sandy beaches. If you're

seeking creative inspiration, this is the place. In fact, that was the case with artist Winslow Homer, who spent over 25



years at his family's cottage on Prouts Neck painting the landscape.

And there's no place better than Portland for an adventure like that.

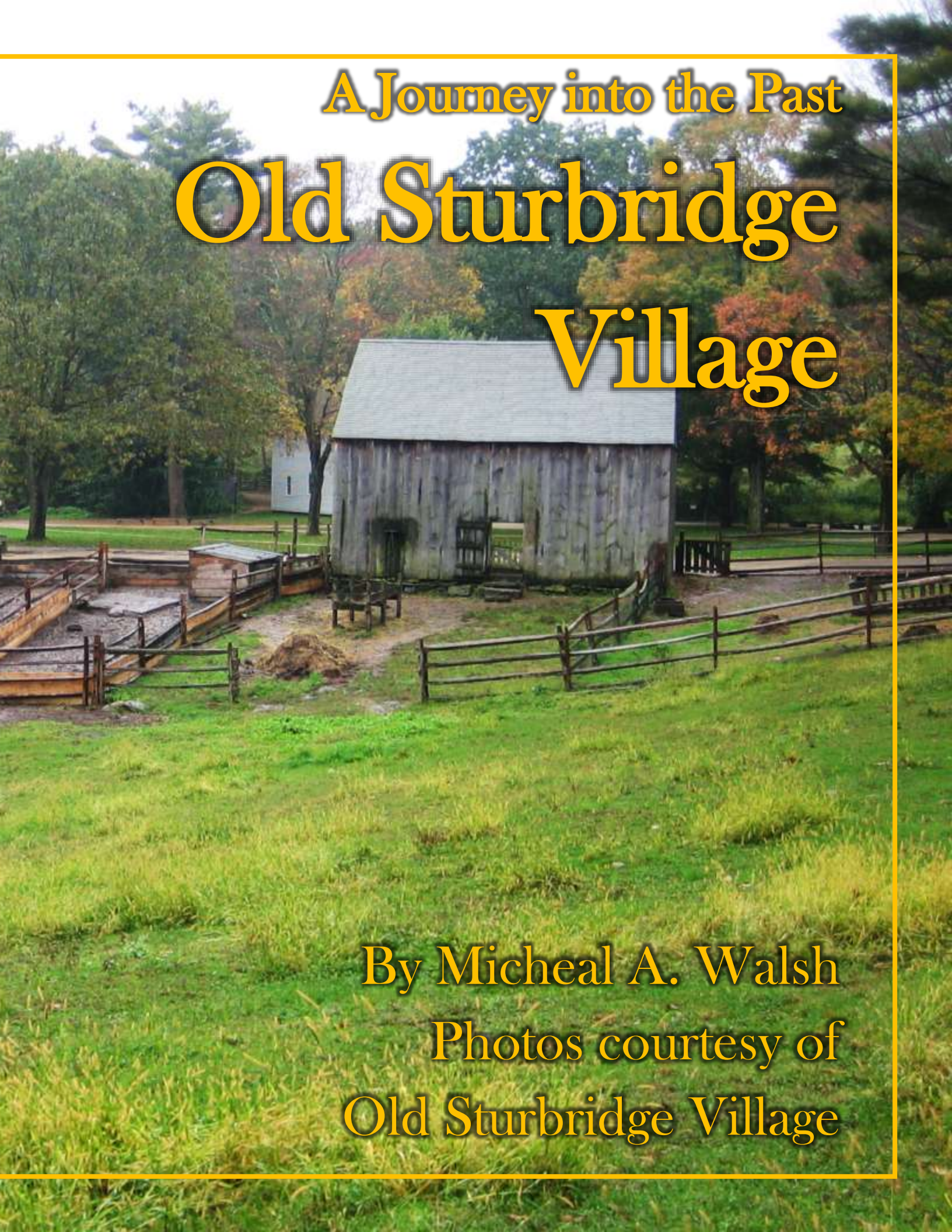
For More Information

- www.blackpointinn.com
- www.mainefoodietours.com
- www.luckycatch.com
- www.visitportland.com





Old Sturbridge Village will immerse you in the sights, sounds, and experiences of early 19th century New England.



A Journey into the Past
**Old Sturbridge
Village**

By Micheal A. Walsh
Photos courtesy of
Old Sturbridge Village



Welcome to Old Sturbridge Village, a living history museum that takes you back to the 19th century in New England. Here, you can experience what life was like in a small rural village during the early 1800s, with costumed interpreters, authentic buildings, and working farms. It's like stepping into a time machine and immersing yourself in the past.

Whether you're a history buff, a family looking for a fun and educational day trip, or simply curious about life in the olden days, Old Sturbridge Village has something to offer. From the sawmill to the blacksmith shop, from the herb garden to the meeting house, you can explore a

variety of exhibits and demonstrations that bring the past to life.

Come along and let's take a journey back in time to Old Sturbridge Village. Get ready to experience the sights, sounds, and smells of a bygone era, and discover what life was really like in 19th century New England.

Old Sturbridge Village was founded in 1946 by Albert B. Southwick, who wanted to create a museum that would showcase the everyday life of early 19th century New England. The village was built on over 200 acres of land in Sturbridge, Massachusetts, and includes more than 40 restored buildings from the 1830s, as well as farms, gardens, and craft shops.

The village is significant for its portrayal of rural life in New England during a time of great change, with the Industrial Revolution bringing





new technologies and ways of life to the region. Old Sturbridge Village captures the essence of this transitional period, showing how people lived, worked, and interacted with each other and their environment.

No matter when you visit, there is always something interesting and engaging to see and do.

Over the years, Old Sturbridge Village has undergone renovation and preservation efforts to maintain its authenticity and historical accuracy. The museum staff works closely with historians and scholars to ensure that every-thing in the village is as true to the time period as possible.

The result is a museum that provides a fascinating glimpse into the past and an opportunity to learn about history in a unique and engaging way.

When you visit Old Sturbridge Village, you can expect to be transported back in





time to the early 19th century in New England. The village is arranged in a way that simulates a small rural village from the time period, with costumed interpreters and authentic buildings that provide a glimpse into everyday life.

You can explore a variety of exhibits and demonstrations that showcase different aspects of life in the 1800s, from agriculture to



manufacturing, from cooking to education. You can also see the work of skilled craftsmen and artisans, who demonstrate traditional techniques for making pottery, weaving fabric, and more.

One of the highlights of Old Sturbridge Village is the working farms, where you can see heritage breed animals and learn about farming practices from the past. You can also visit the herb garden,



which features a variety of plants used for medicinal and culinary purposes during

the time period.

In addition to the regular exhibits and demonstrations, Old Sturbridge Village also hosts seasonal events and activities throughout the year, such as craft fairs, music festivals, and holiday celebrations. No matter when you visit, there is always something interesting and engaging to see and do.

There are many high-lights to explore when you visit Old Sturbridge Village. Here are just a few of the must-see exhibits and demonstrations:



The Sawmill: Visit the sawmill and watch as water power is used to cut logs into

lumber. You can learn about the process of making wooden planks and how they were used in construction during the time period.

The Blacksmith Shop: Watch as skilled blacksmiths use fire and hammer to shape iron into tools, horseshoes, and other items. You can learn about the importance of blacksmiths in the community and how they helped keep everything



running smoothly.

The Printing Office: Step inside the printing office and watch as a printer sets type and prints pages using an antique printing press. You can learn about the process of printing and how it helped spread information and ideas during the time period.

The Herb Garden: Take a stroll through the herb garden and see a variety of plants that were

used for medicinal and culinary purposes during the 1800s. You can learn about the different herbs and how they were used in everyday life.

The Meeting House: Visit the meeting house and learn about religion in the early 19th century. You can sit in the pews and listen to a sermon, and learn about the role of the church in the community.

These are just a few of the highlights at Old Sturbridge Village. There are many more exhibits and demonstrations to explore, and each one provides a unique and fascinating glimpse into life in the past.

As you're planning a visit to Old Sturbridge Village, dress for the weather, you'll be outside a lot. And wear comfortable shoes, you'll be doing a lot of walking.

And remember as you tour that the interpreters and demonstrators at Old Sturbridge Village are there to help you learn about life in the early 19th century. Don't be afraid to ask questions or strike up a conversation. They are happy to share their knowledge and create an immersive experience.

Old Sturbridge Village is a unique and engaging way to learn about life in early 19th century New England with a variety of exhibits and demonstrations that showcase different aspects of everyday life, from farming and manufacturing to cooking and education.




**1-Hour cruise of Ellis Island
and the Statue of Liberty**

Museum of Modern Art

Smartphone Audio App of NYC

Skip the lines at the Empire State Building!



A photograph of a white, single-story house with a grey shingled roof. A large brick chimney is visible on the left. A satellite dish is mounted on the side of the house. The house has a porch with white columns and a wooden railing. The ground is covered in snow. The text is overlaid on the lower half of the image.

*Escape to the tranquil
countryside of Barnard,
Vermont, and indulge in the
warm hospitality and Federal
charm of the Fan House Bed
and Breakfast.*

A photograph of a white, two-story house with green shutters and an American flag flying. The house is set in a snowy rural Vermont landscape. The text is overlaid on the image.

A Cozy Rural Vermont Retreat

The Fan House Bed & Breakfast

By Paul Pence



O

ur weekend getaways sometimes take us well away from civilization, to where the air is clear and the sounds of the cities are left far behind. When our romantic weekend getaway took us to Central Vermont, we discovered the village of Bernard and the warm welcome of the Fan House bed and breakfast.

Bernard is countryside -- the population of the entire township is under 1000. The town sits at the outlet Silver Lake, originally called Stebbings' Pond and later Barnard Pond. On the north shore of the Pond is Silver Lake State Park.

Along the south side are the town's general

store, post office, and most of the town's residences. Woods-tock is the next town over, twenty minutes away, and is no teeming metropolis itself.

Like most of Barnard, the Fan House dates from the mid 1800's.

Its Federal architecture is exhibited in the fireplace and polished plank floors. The fan-shaped motif

above the windows, probably added in a later age, gave inspiration for the B&B's name.

The renovations in preparation of turning the Fan House into a B&B in 2003 included

exposing the rich wood grains in the doors and floors. The Fan House's kitchen features a turn-of-century

wood cook stove as its kitchen's centerpiece,





accenting a decor throughout that strives for simplicity, with heirloom tapestries, original art and toile that nudge The Fan House from vintage New England to couturier



Each of the Fan House's three guest rooms each has its own private bath. The rooms feature high thread-count linens, oversize bath sheets, Bulgari bath amenities, and plush bath robes.



Hand-crafted breakfasts warm the mornings, while the fireplace warms the evenings. The gardens and the Vermont countryside may bring guests outdoors, vying

with the comfort of reading in the cozy library for the choice of ways to relax through the weekend.

This bed and breakfast is in good company in Barnard, home of Twin Farms, the 1930's & 40's vacation home of Nobel Prize winning novelist Sinclair Lewis. Twin Farms is now reputed by many as one of the country's finest destination resorts. Barnard was also a haven in the 1940s to the late Carl Zuckmayer, a noted German author and playwright.

On our visit, we dined at Max's Tavern which shares a kitchen with the Barnard Inn Restaurant.



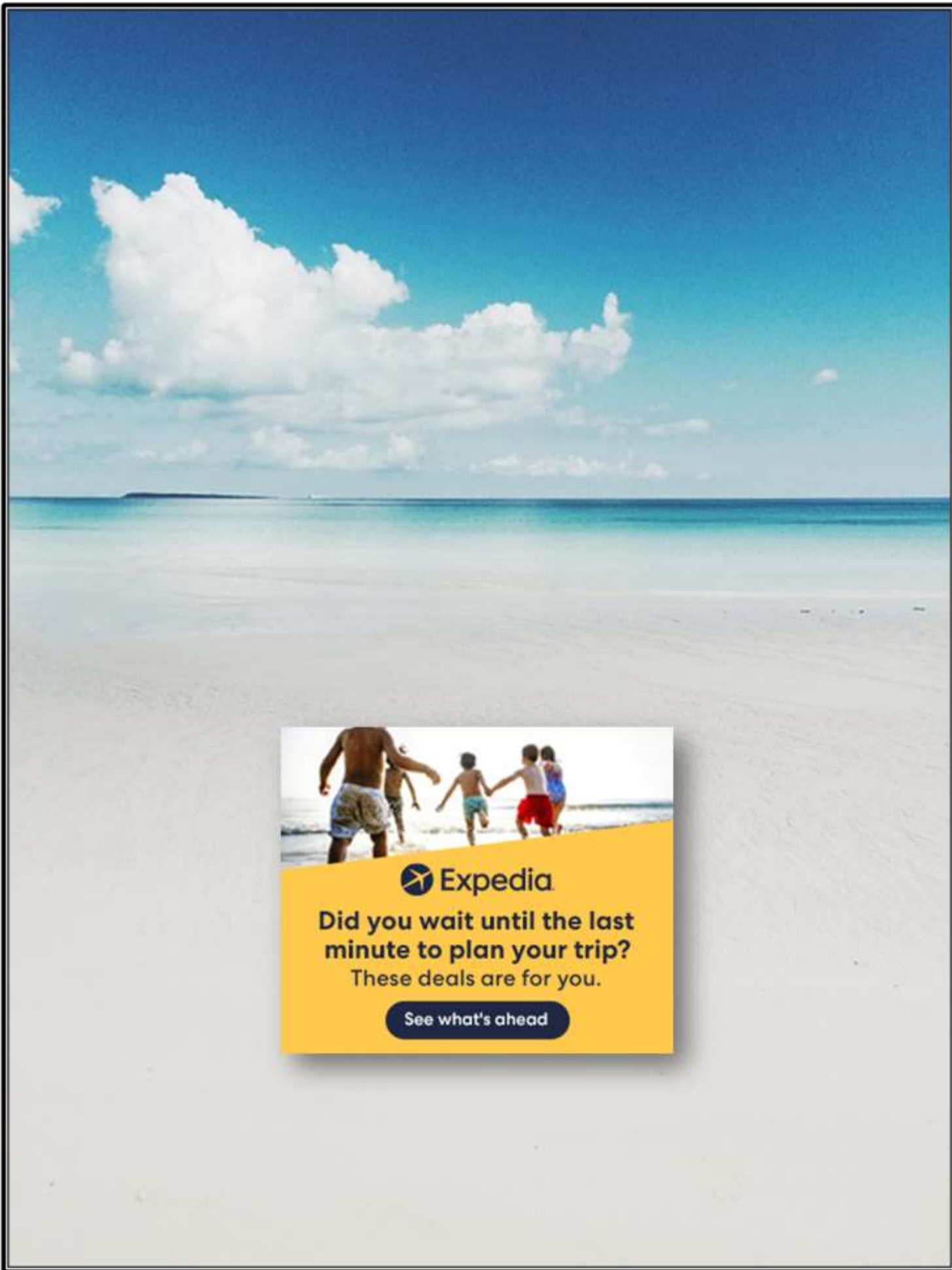


The restaurant features a gourmet fix pris menu, while the tavern has more familiar foods with a gourmet flair. We had half-pound hamburgers with Vermont cheddar on a house-made bun, but could have had crispy seared salmon or ginger chicken spring rolls with Asian vegetable salad, or any of a dozen other tempting entrees.

The Fan House enjoys a central Vermont location just minutes from premier ski resorts, lakes, the Appalachian Trail, art galleries and boutiques, and The Chateauguay, miles of unspoiled wilderness just across a creek bordering the property.

For more information

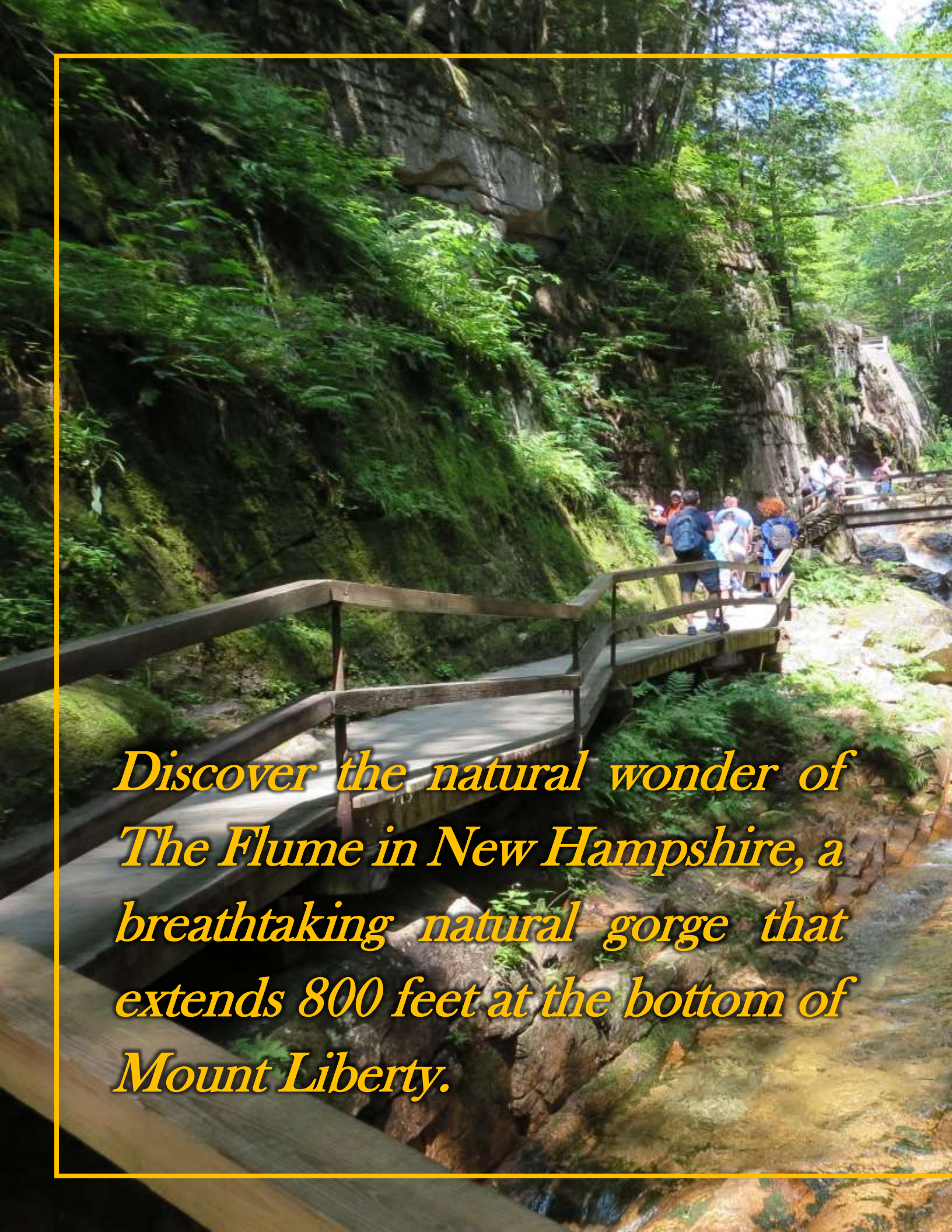
- www.thefanhouse.com



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*Discover the natural wonder of
The Flume in New Hampshire, a
breathtaking natural gorge that
extends 800 feet at the bottom of
Mount Liberty.*

A scenic view of a rocky gorge with a waterfall and a wooden bridge. The scene is filled with lush green trees and ferns, creating a vibrant and natural atmosphere. The water flows over large, moss-covered rocks, and a wooden bridge with railings is visible in the background, where a few people are walking. The overall setting is a beautiful, hidden natural treasure.

One of God's Hidden
Treasurers
The Flume Gorge

By Linda Eagleson



Exploring new and exciting places is always something I strive for when going on a trip. I am not one of those travelers that ‘follows the travel guide’ that much at all. I tend to go on a few detours along the way and much to my surprise, it usually ends up with something new and exciting to visit. And, that is what I found when I visited **The Flume Gorge in New Hampshire!**

About 25 years ago, I visited part of The Flume Gorge with my 3 young boys. At that time, I was so frantic about keeping them safe, not falling off the cliff, bumping their

head and a ride to the emergency room that I really didn't get to appreciate the sheer beauty of this place. Plus, I usually didn't get to finish the trek up The Flume because one of my three boys would usually complain about having to walk so far that it resulted in us having to go backwards, which really didn't sit well with others along the way.

This time was different: no kids, no worries, no bad weather - just my hubby and me out for a walk in one of



Mother Nature's finest places.

Before I tell you about our experience, I want to tell you what exactly is The Flume Gorge. It is not an amusement park ride but it is a 'ride of your life' that's for sure!

The Flume Gorge is a natural gorge that extends 800 feet at the bottom of Mount Liberty in New Hampshire. The granite rises to a height of approximately 90 feet and at times only 20 feet wide.

The entrance to The Flume Gorge starts at the Visitor Center where tickets can be purchased. There are two ways to see The Flume Gorge either by walking through the Gorge or doing the two-mile loop. There are lots of stairs and uphill climbing so be prepared for a good amount of exercise. Plus, a spectacular view of Mother Nature's work right at the tip of your fingers.

Now, not being a native to New England with its wealth of beauty, my husband was in total awe of this spectacular sight. He's from 'down south' in good ol' Texas where seeing something like The Flume Gorge is





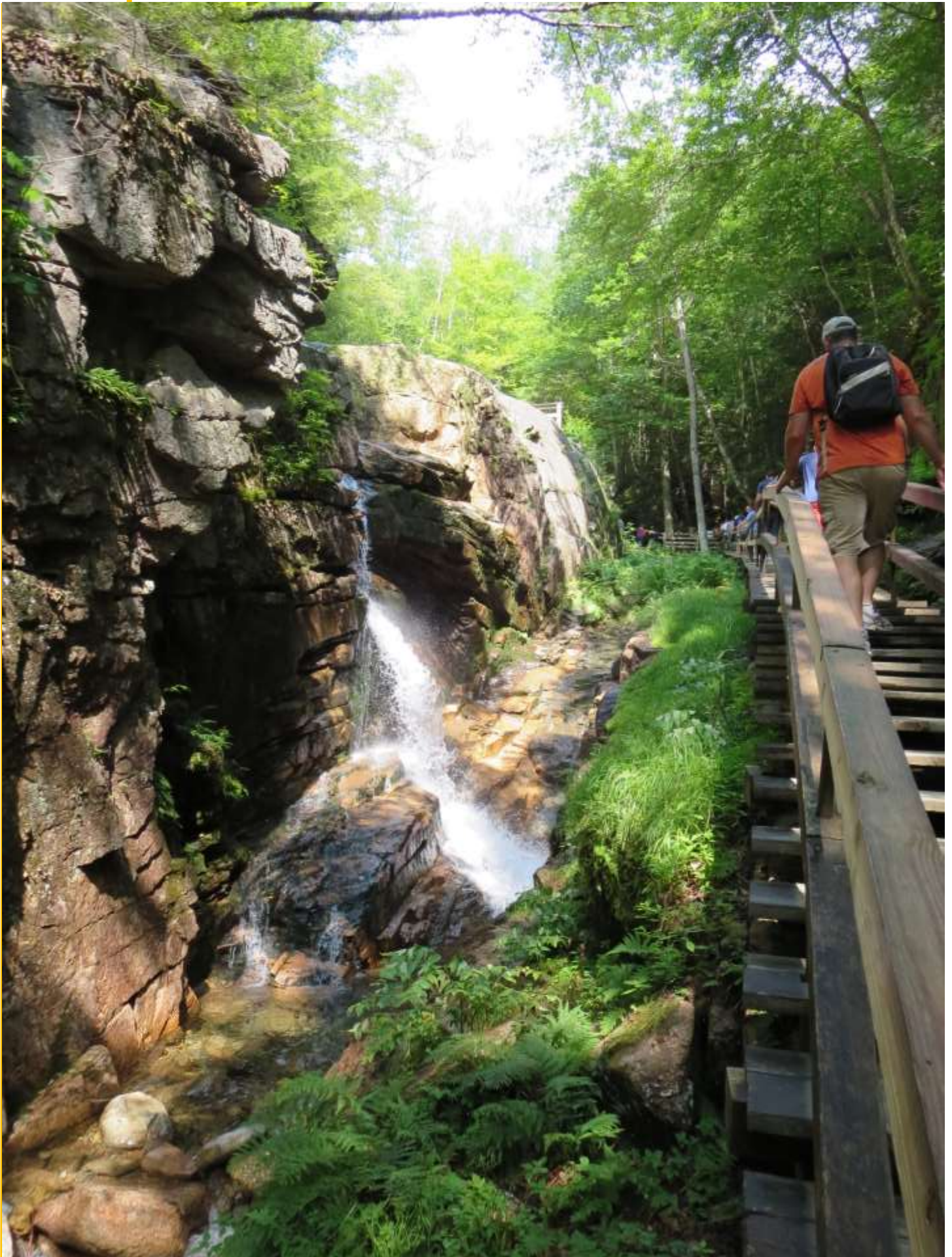
pretty close to nil (though Texas does have its own wondrous sights).

The twisty path leading up to The Flume Gorge was an experience as we huffed and puffed our way up.

Seeing the sheer expanse of the gorge literally, took my breath away. Were we ready for this? Well, if we weren't, it was too late!

Along the way up the gorge, green ferns and rich dense moss sprouted up between the rocks. Trickle of water glistened the granite while sparkles of marcasite gleamed. It seemed that every other minute I was snapping away pictures to make sure I didn't miss anything.

We read every plaque about the gorge, not wanting to miss anything. I was more than fascinated about how The Flume Gorge was discovered and wanted to share a bit of that to my readers. Back in the year 1808, Jess Guernsey went fishing for the day. Along the way to find a beautiful spot to drop her hook she discovered The Flume Gorge. She persuaded her family to come with



her to see this beautiful sight.

At that time, there was a very large egg-shaped boulder that hung between the walls of the flume. The boulder measured approximately 10 feet high and 12 feet wide. Unfortunately due to a rainstorm in June of 1883, the storm washed away the boulder, never to be found to this day.

Pretty amazing!

We did make it to the top, not without a few stops along the way. It was every-thing that I expected and then some! The sheer beauty was more than I could imagine. With a whisper of the wind, leaves gently fell to the ground as I captured one last picture of what laid before me.





My husband was delighted that he traveled the expanse and witnessed Mother Nature at her best.

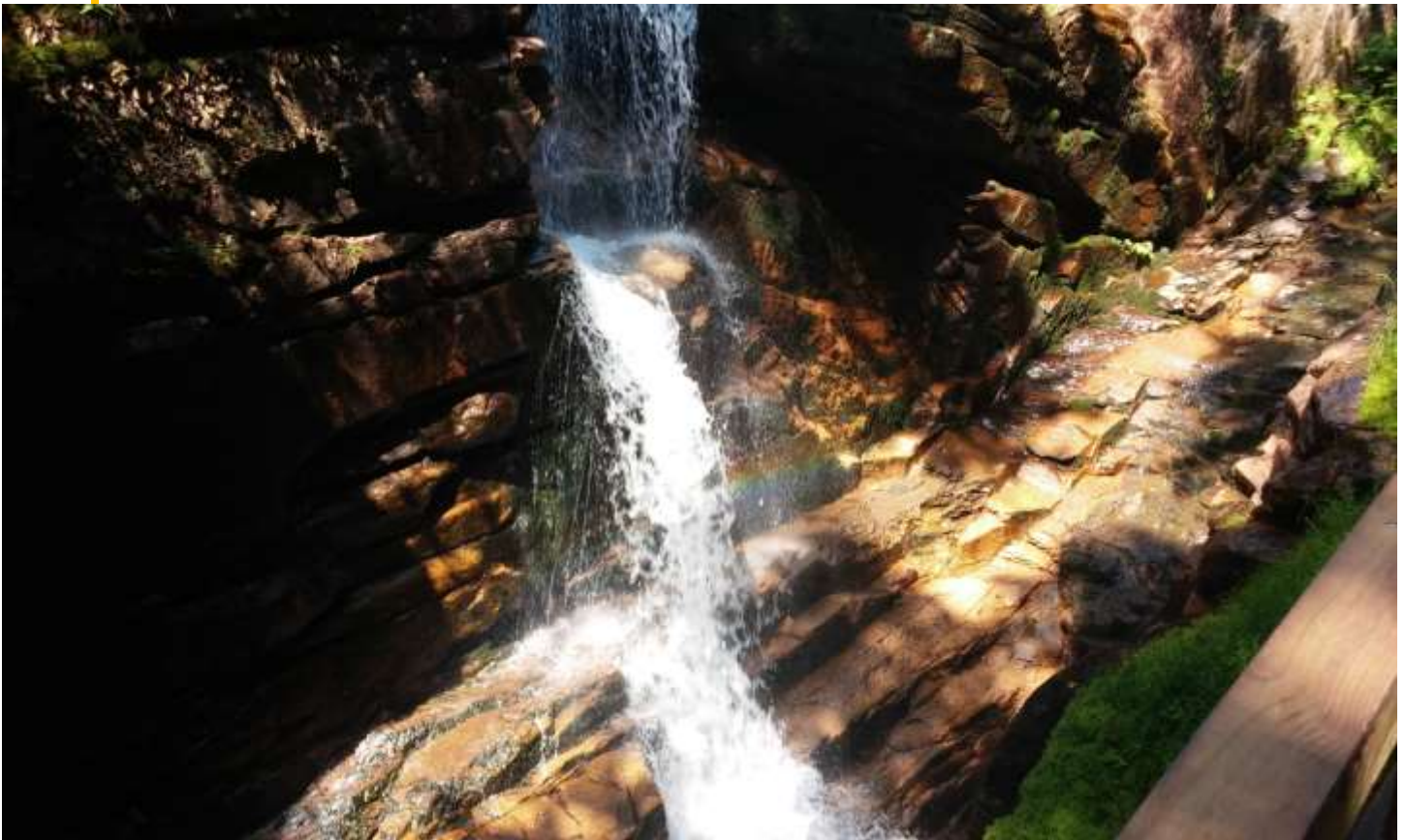
As we made our way down the winding roads of the gorge, I was much more relaxed than I was 25 years ago. I didn't have to worry about one of my children running off the edge of the cliff, (well, maybe my husband... a little)! Or, getting lost in the dense forest. Or, deciding that they didn't want to make their way to the top!

Instead, I could just let

my
imagination
drift away and
wonder how
this gorge all
came about
millions and
millions of
years ago.

The Flume
Gorge is
located in
Lincoln, New
Hampshire
and is right off
of Route 3 so it
is very easy to
find. Even I
found it and I
am
directionally
challenged! It
is maintained
by the
Department of
State Parks and
Recreation in
New
Hampshire
and is open in
late spring,
around May
9th until early
autumn,
around





October 26th, weather permitting. There is an admission charge of \$15 for adults, children (6-12) \$12 and children under 5 are free.

*NE
Traveler*

For More Information:

- www.nhstateparks.org





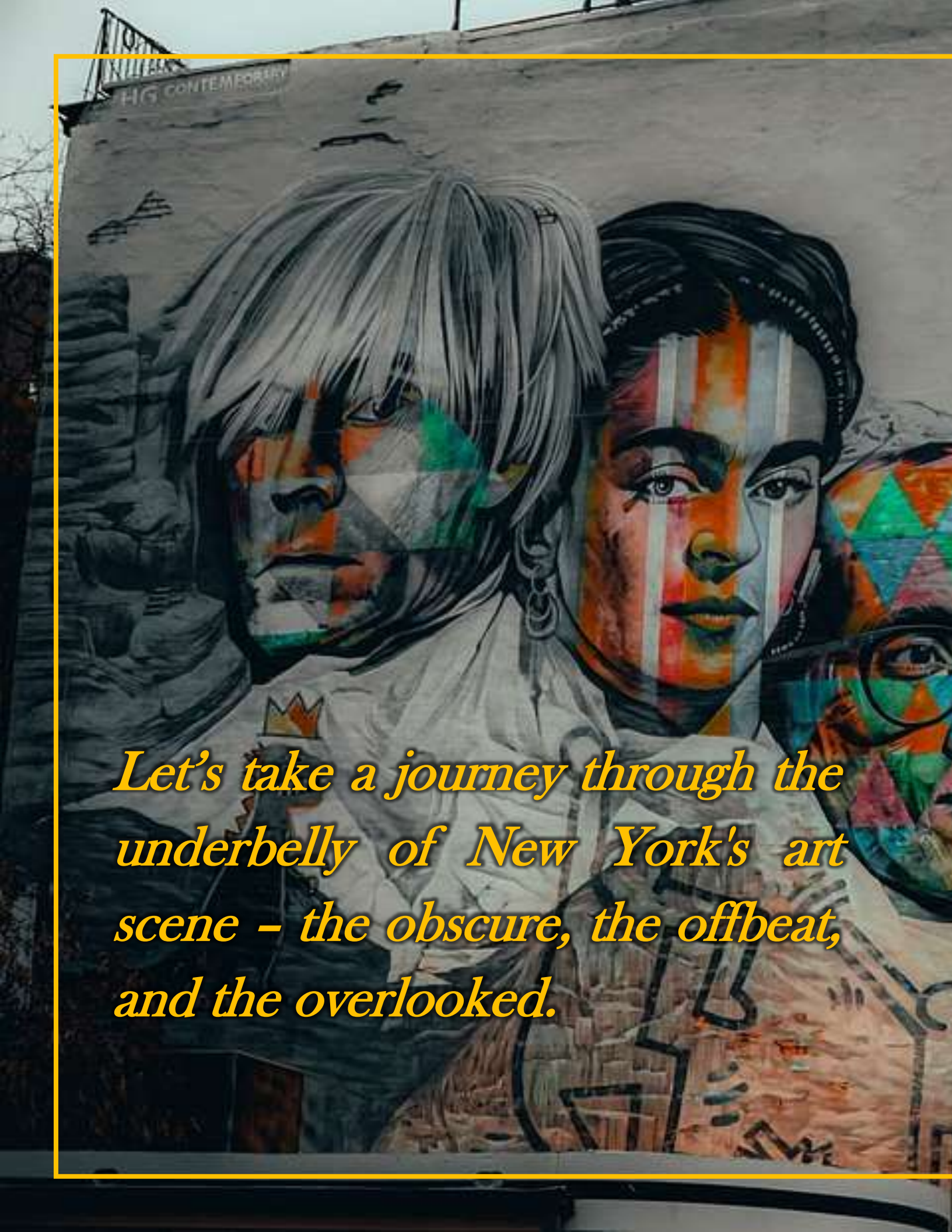
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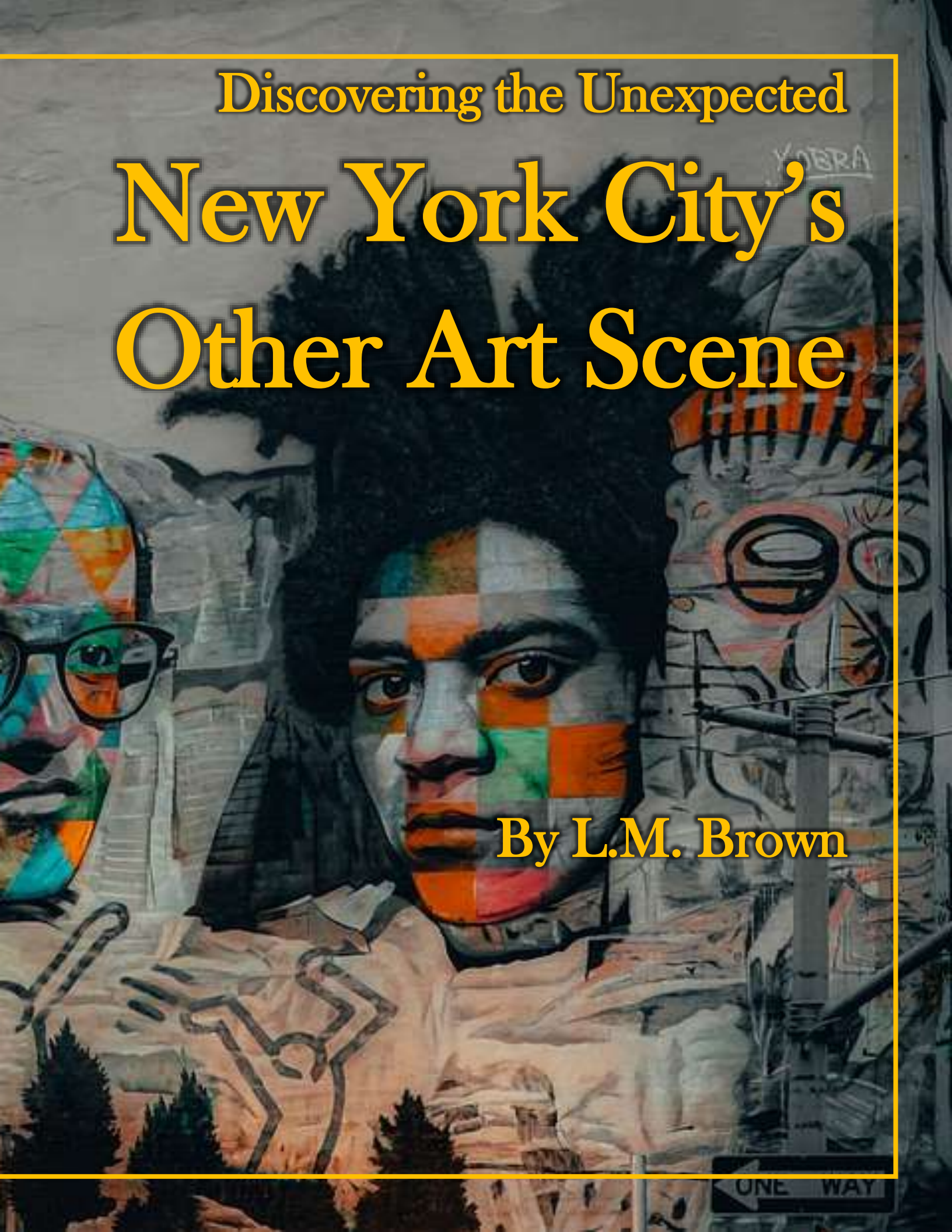


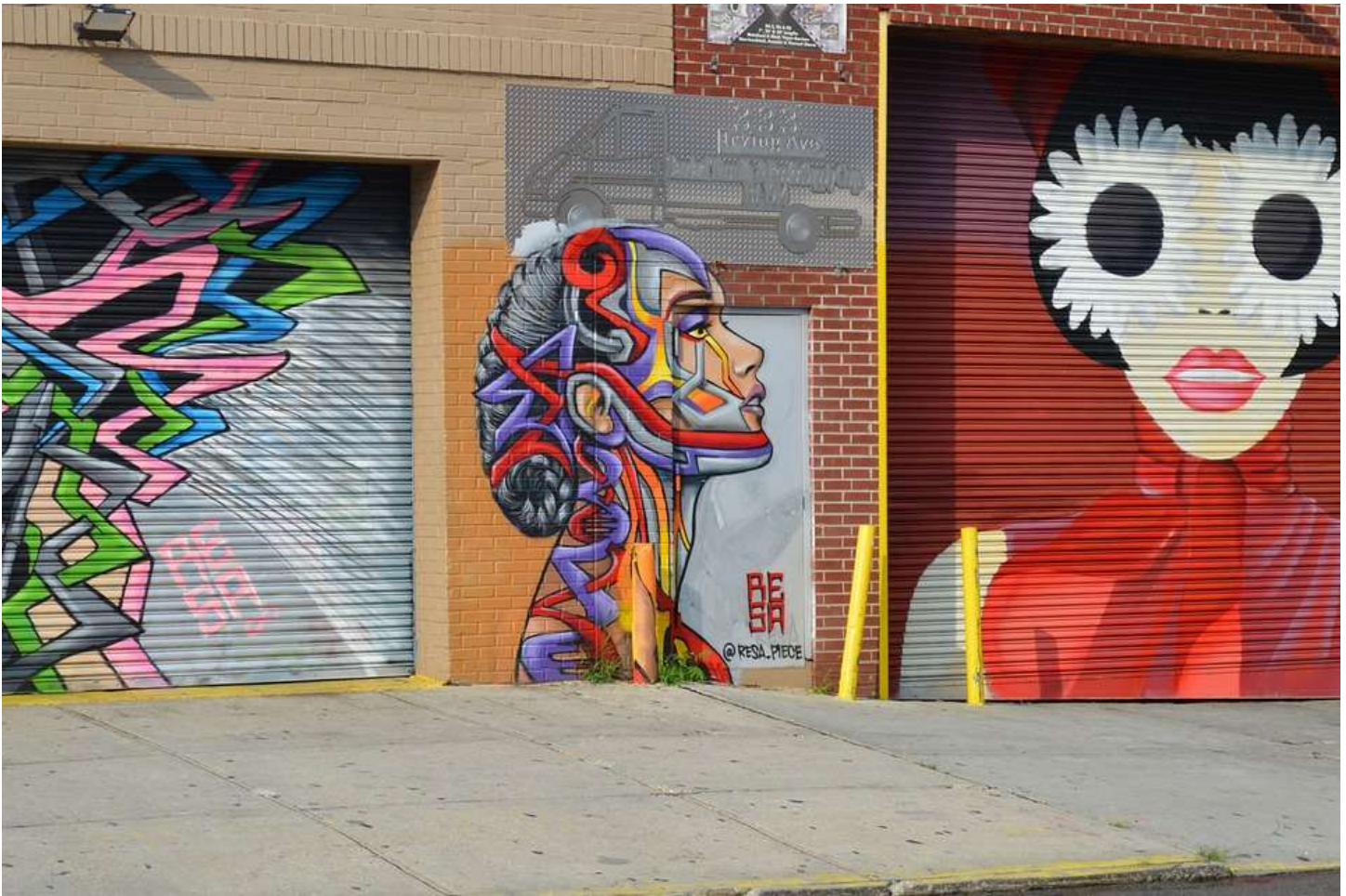
Let's take a journey through the underbelly of New York's art scene - the obscure, the offbeat, and the overlooked.

Discovering the Unexpected

New York City's Other Art Scene

By L.M. Brown





N

ew York City is a mecca for art lovers, attracting millions of visitors each year to its world-renowned museums and galleries. But what about the hidden gems, the secret spaces, the unexpected art that lies off the beaten path?

We've all heard about the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art, and the Guggenheim. But do you know about the small, independent galleries that dot the city's streets, showcasing emerging artists and pushing the boundaries of contemporary art? Or the public art installations that pop up unexpectedly, transforming the city's landscape into a canvas for



creativity? And what about the art left over from previous eras, hidden in plain sight and waiting to be rediscovered?

When it comes to art museums, few cities can rival New York's world-renowned institutions. The Metropolitan Museum of Art is one of the largest and most comprehensive museums in the world, housing over 2 million works of art



spanning 5,000 years of human history. The Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in Midtown Manhattan, is home to a vast collection of modern and contemporary art, including works by iconic artists such as Pablo Picasso, Vincent van Gogh, and Andy Warhol. And the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, located on the Upper East Side, boasts a stunning collection of modern and contemporary art housed in a Frank Lloyd Wright-designed building that's as much a work of art as the pieces it contains.



But let's get away from the commonplace, to art that hasn't become a tourism cliché. Not the

Studio Museum in Harlem or the Neue Galerie New York, but to truly obscure art museums that even many New Yorkers may not know about. Did you know that the Jacques Marchais Museum of Tibetan Art on Staten Island, the Poster House, that features the art and history of posters from around the world, the Africa Center?

By creating works that reflect the culture and history of the area, street artists help to create a sense of place and identity.

The city's art galleries might seem off the beaten track, since they are smaller, more intimate spaces than the art museums, offering a chance to get up close and personal with works by up-and-coming artists and established names alike. The most well-known galleries like the Gagosian Gallery and the Pace Gallery with diverse rosters of well known artists have more obscure cousins that many visitors and locals alike may not have heard of. One such space is the Bureau of General Services—Queer Division, a small bookstore and gallery in the East Village that showcases queer art and literature. The Postmasters Gallery in TriBeCa is known for its cutting-edge exhibitions that push the boundaries of what art can be, while the Cuchifritos Gallery in the Lower East Side offers a platform for emerging artists working in a variety of media.



But even that isn't obscure enough for this adventure.

There is a thriving scene of public art that adorns the city's streets and buildings. From massive murals to whimsical sculptures to the free spirit of informal street art, the public art of New York City offers a chance to experience art in a unique and accessible way.

Of course, some of the most famous examples of public art in the city are the ones that have become iconic symbols of the city itself, such as the Wall Street Bull and the Statue of Liberty. But for those interested in exploring the lesser-known public art of the city, there are plenty of options, from the bas-relief of the Fireman's Memorial to the half-forgotten statues of once-famous men in the city's parks.

And while public art in New York City often

takes the form of officially sanctioned murals and sculptures, the city is also home to a thriving scene of street art that is constantly evolving and changing. From graffiti to wheatpaste posters, street art can be found on walls, doors, and sidewalks throughout the city. While some of the most famous street art pieces in the city have gained international recognition, there are countless hidden gems waiting to be discovered by those willing to explore.

Some of the most well-known examples of street art in the city include the works of Banksy, whose stenciled pieces have popped up in various locations throughout the city, and the Bowery Mural, a rotating mural on the corner of Houston Street and Bowery that has featured the work of numerous acclaimed artists over the years. Another iconic street art location was the 5 Pointz



graffiti mecca in Queens, which was covered in vibrant murals until it was controversially whitewashed in 2013.

That impermanence is a big reason why street art is so fascinating. Even if it is left untouched by the property owners and somehow evades being defaced by the next artist, it's almost always exposed to the elements, It can't be moved, it can't be mass produced, and it can't even be claimed by the artist without risk of punishment. From the most basic of wall scrawl to the complex works showing masterly talent, it's the artist's statement of a specific time and place. "I am here"

For the artist, street





art is a way to create without constraints, to express themselves freely, and to share their art with the world. Unlike traditional art forms, it is a direct way to communicate with the public.

For some artists, street art is a form of activism, a way to challenge the status quo and bring attention to issues that are often ignored.

For the audience, street art is a way to experience art in a new and exciting way. Unlike traditional art forms that are displayed in museums or galleries, street art is often unexpected and surprising. It can be found in unexpected places, transforming ordinary



buildings and streets into vibrant and colorful works of art.

Street art often provides a sense of connection to the local community. By creating works that reflect the culture and history of the area, street artists help to create a sense of place and identity. For tourists, street art provides a unique way to experience the local culture and get a glimpse into the lives of those who live there.

The Bushwick Collective, located in the Bushwick neighborhood of Brooklyn, features a constantly changing array of murals and street art pieces by local and international artists. The Freeman

Alley street art gallery in the Lower East Side is a hidden gem that showcases the work of up-and-coming artists in a small alleyway. And the street art installations on the High Line, an elevated park built on an old railway line, offer a unique and ever-changing perspective on the city and its artistic expression.



Viewing street art can be an exhilarating experience, but to fully appreciate it, you need to



know how to look. Here are some tips on how to best view street art:

Take a walking tour: Many cities including New York City offer guided

walking tours of their street art scenes. These tours are a great way to see a lot of street art in a short amount of time and get insights from local experts.

Get off the beaten path: Some of the best street art can be found in less-touristy areas. Venture off the beaten path to explore neighborhoods that aren't on the typical tourist route.

Look up and down: Street art isn't just on walls. Look down for stencils on the pavement or up for murals on the sides of buildings.

Be respectful: Re-member that street art is often created illegally, so be respectful of the artwork and the artists. Don't touch or deface the artwork, and don't reveal the location of hidden pieces.

Bring a camera: You'll want to capture the



stunning street art you come across. Be sure to bring a camera with you, and consider taking a photography tour to learn how to take better photos of street art.

Street art has become an important part of the artistic landscape, providing a platform for artists to express themselves freely and engage with the community, while also providing a unique and exciting way for audiences to experience art.



But you are very unlikely to take street art home, so seek out one of the city's art fairs for your own piece of New York City art.

The Armory Show, which takes place annually in March, features a wide range of contemporary and modern art from galleries around the world, and Frieze New York, which presents cutting-edge contemporary art in a stunning waterfront location on Randall's Island. The Affordable Art Fair, held

twice a year in Manhattan, offers a more accessible option for those on a budget, with works priced between \$100 and \$10,000.

And since we are looking for the obscure and lesser known, plan on visiting the Other Art Fair, held biannually in Brooklyn, features works by emerging artists that are both affordable and



original. The Market Art + Design fair, held annually in Bridgehampton, showcases contemporary art and design from over 80 exhibitors, including many local galleries. And the Greenpointers Indie Makers Market in Brooklyn offers a chance to meet and buy directly from local artists and makers in a fun and festive atmosphere.

However you end up exploring New York City's art scene, the world of art can be a deeply personal and rewarding experience, and discovering the hidden gems of the NYC art scene can make it even more special. Whether you're a seasoned art enthusiast or just starting out, there is always more to discover and appreciate. The art world is vast and constantly evolving, with new artists, galleries, and exhibitions emerging all the time. So take the time to seek out the obscure and the unexpected, and make your art journey truly unique and personal.





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ABOUT THE AUTHOR PAUL PENCE

Paul not only writes many of the articles in the pages of this magazine, he is also the publisher and editor of all of the magazines in the Amygis Publishing's family of travel magazines. He loves



exploring, traveling the back roads, experiencing the world, and finding what is unique and memorable about the places he visits.

And he loves writing - poetry, short stories, essays, non-fiction, news, and, of course, travel writing.

For over 20 years, he has shared his explorations with readers in a wide variety of outlets, from groundbreaking forays into the first stirrings of the dot-com boom to travel guides, local newspapers, and television, including Runner's World, Travel Lady, Providence Journal, and Northstar Travel Media. He currently publishes and writes for Amygis Publishing's magazines Jaunting, Northeast Traveler, and Rhode Island Roads.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR DEBBIE STONE

Debbie is an established travel writer and columnist, who crosses the globe in search of unique destinations and experiences to share with her readers and listeners. She's an avid explorer who welcomes new



opportunities to increase awareness and enthusiasm for places, culture, food, history, nature, outdoor adventure, wellness and more.

Her travels have taken her to all fifty states and nearly 100 countries, spanning all seven continents.

Her stories reach over three million readers and listeners, and appear in numerous print and digital publications, including Luxe Beat Magazine, Big Blend Radio & TV Magazine, Parks & Travel Magazine, Northwest Prime Time, Woodinville Weekly, Santa Fe Fine Lifestyles Magazine, Edmonds Beacon, Outdoors Northwest, Southwest Stories Magazine, Go World Travel and Travelworld International Magazine, among others. She can also be heard sharing her travel adventures on Big Blend Radio.

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