



Ithaca & Surrounding Area Guide — Welcome to Your New Home



Grocery, Shopping & Essentials

Place	What's Good / Useful Info
Wegmans — 500 S Meadow St, Ithaca	Large grocery store with wide selection: fresh produce, meats, deli, bakery, sushi, hot meals, prepared foods, organic products — great for full grocery runs. (Tip: Wegman's has a great app!)
Tops Friendly Markets (Triphammer Rd) — 2309 N Triphammer Rd, Ithaca	Convenient supermarket near Triphammer/ mall-area, good for weekly groceries or quick shopping; also includes pharmacy and basics.
The Shops at Ithaca Mall (Lansing) — near Triphammer/Route 13 intersection	For stores such as Target or BestBuy (Tip: TCAT bus route runs to the mall with frequent trips)



Food, Restaurants & Student-Friendly Eats

If you're a student or just want casual, affordable eats / takeout / easy hangouts, these areas and spots are popular:

- **Collegetown, Ithaca** — this neighborhood near campus is packed with restaurants, cafes, and student-friendly services.
 - Favorites in/near Collegetown: [Visit Ithaca+1](#)
 - Bagels, sandwiches, coffee at **Collegetown Bagels**
 - International / student-budget restaurants like **Dos Amigos & Tres Leches** (Cali-Mex / casual food)
 - Late-night, budget-conscious or grab-and-go meals are common in this area — good for busy students or residents. [Cornell Arts & Sciences+1](#)
 - **Downtown Ithaca Commons** — shops, restaurants, cafes, nightlife, and a hub for social life beyond campus. Great for exploring, meeting friends, night-outs, and local events.
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Getting Around & Transit

- Public transit around town is handled by **TCAT** bus system — many of the grocery stores, shopping centers (like Aldi, Cayuga Mall, shopping malls), and campus/neighborhood hubs are on their routes. [TCAT+1](#)
- [Ithaca Carshare](#) - When you need a car, simply reserve one online, unlock it with your keycard, drive, and return it.
- [Ithaca Bike Share](#) – Bike rental through an app!
- Uber & Lyft

Recreation, Nature & Chill Spots

[Ithaca](#) (and the surrounding area) isn't just about food and shopping — there's a lot of beautiful nature, relaxing escapes, and outdoorsy options:



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Spot / Area

What's Good / Why Go

Buttermilk Falls State Park

Gorgeous waterfalls, hiking, swimming (in warm weather), trails — perfect for a weekend escape. [Wikipedia+1](#)

Robert Treman State Park, Taughannock Falls State Park and other nearby parks

Nature, waterfalls, hiking and beautiful scenery around the Finger Lakes region — easy to reach for a day trip or weekend adventure. [Tripadvisor+2Travel + Leisure+2](#)

Stewart Park (Cayuga Lake shore)

Great for walks by the water, relaxing afternoons, outdoor activities, lake views — a calm retreat near town. [Wikipedia+1](#)

Downtown / Commons + Ithaca Farmers Market

Fun local vibe, shopping, events, fresh local produce/food, a nice social or chill atmosphere to explore. [Visit Ithaca+2HR at Cornell+2](#)
