



The Discover Clifton Park logo, which greets travelers at the Southern Saratoga Information Center on the I-87 Northway, steering them to the area's burgeoning hotel, restaurant and shopping district.

"Discover Clifton Park" and its Neighboring Communities!

by **Pete Bardunias**,
President/CEO, the Chamber of Southern Saratoga County



Clifton Park hotel guests can find some interesting attractions within a few minutes' drive from downtown, such as the restored XO Train Tower in Mechanicville, a testament to New York State's transportation heritage.

A funny thing happened in the 50 years since the Chamber of Southern Saratoga County was founded, in part, to attract a name brand hotel to Clifton Park in upstate New York's Saratoga County – some 1000 hotel rooms have appeared! Coupled with the nearly 500 rooms in nearby Malta, this little stretch of former "flyover country" between Albany and the resort towns of Saratoga Springs, Lake George and the Adirondacks has become a new Upstate destination!

At Exit 9 on the I-87 Northway is the hotel district of Clifton Park. These facilities (and the ones nearby in Malta) offer very competitive rates without the higher occupancy taxes charged elsewhere. This means real savings especially when a block of rooms is needed or, in the case of many company representatives who frequent the Tech Valley corridor between Westchester and Montreal, a long term stay is desired for a project, new facility opening or corporate relocation.

Clifton Park is a wonderful community with great shopping, restaurants, trails, historic sites and activities, but to fully enjoy this area local hotel guests should check out the many adjacent towns, cities and villages. For example, Halfmoon, literally next door, has several farm stores within a mile or so of Exit 9's hotels, as well as some great town parks and a stretch of the historic Champlain Canal that looks as if Sal the Mule could start pulling a boat once again. Nearby Mechanicville has a restored train tower that once commanded the 3rd largest rail yards in America. Malta to the north is home to GLOBALFOUNDRIES, one of North America's mightiest new manufacturers, while just to the

west, the historic hamlet of Ballston Spa has quaint restaurants, museums and a wonderful cultural experience. Burnt Hills/Ballston Lake and Glenville have a mix of everything from farms to shopping and are easy to reach. Slightly more distant is Charlton, well worth a drive to explore rolling farmland and a very different, relaxed lifestyle.

Finally, don't forget the River Towns! Glenville, Clifton Park, Halfmoon, Waterford, Mechanicville, Stillwater and Schuylerville are easily accessible by land or water and have much to see and do. Schuylerville still celebrates its connection to the 1777 Battle of Saratoga. Finally, travel agents working with Amtrak have developed a Tugboat Roundup tour package this September for those wishing to visit by train, stay in a local hotel and enjoy the festivities.

For more information visit the Chamber of Southern Saratoga County website at www.southernSaratoga.org, stop at the Southern Saratoga Information Center at the Clifton Park Rest Area on the I-87 Northway at Exit 9 or call (518) 371-3763.

-Pete Bardunias, President/CEO, the Chamber of Southern Saratoga County



Clifton Park townspeople came out en masse to greet the contestants of Fireball Run in September 2016.



The Farmer's Wagon, located at the intersection of Moe and Grooms Road in Clifton Park, is one of many area farm stands which offer locally grown produce, meats, dairy products, gifts and more.