



DAY TRIP TO WATERLOO VILLAGE

From Hackettstown · Sussex County, New Jersey



Photo: Zeete, Wikimedia Commons, CC BY-SA 4.0

GROUNDS OPEN DAILY

A historic village in Allamuchy Mountain State Park. Park open sunrise to sunset; the Canal Society museum opens on summer and fall Saturdays.

Waterloo is a half-day trip from Hackettstown. Come on a summer or fall Saturday, when the canal museum and gristmill are open with docents, but check the Canal Society's site first: its posted dates are from 2025. Any day, you can walk the village perimeter and the canal on your own.

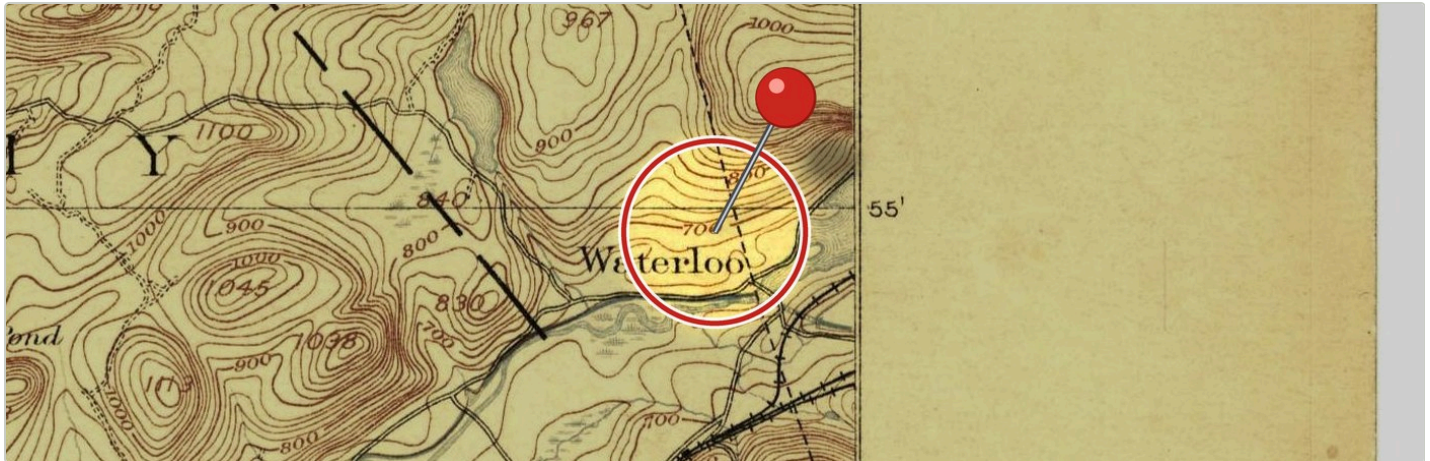
A SAMPLE DAY

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| ☐ Morning | Drive from Hackettstown, about 15 minutes on Waterloo Road. On museum Saturdays the doors open at 10 a.m. |
| ☐ Late morning | Tour the canal museum and the canal boat bow in the White Barn with a docent. |
| ☐ Midday | Visit the gristmill, then walk the canal past the general store. |
| ☐ Afternoon | Hike a stretch of the Sussex Branch Trail, which starts at Waterloo Road and runs 3 miles northwest to Cranberry Lake. |

Coming from Manhattan? The drive is about 75 minutes.

WHAT TO PHOTOGRAPH

- **The canal.** The water-filled stretch runs past the restored buildings.
- **Smith's General Store.** The store stands by the canal.
- **The canal boat bow.** Inside the White Barn. Ask a docent before photographing indoors.
- **Drones.** The state's page doesn't mention them. Ask the park office first.



USGS topographic map, 1888 (public domain). The ring and pin mark the town.

DAY TRIP ESSENTIALS

DRIVE	7 mi, about 13 min each way from downtown Hackettstown. From New York: 49 mi, about 1 h 13 min.
OPEN	Park gate daily, sunrise to sunset, with a self-guided tour of the village perimeter. Museum, canal boat exhibit and gristmill on Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; the Canal Society's posted season, June 21 to October 25, matches 2025, and we found no 2026 schedule.
ADMISSION	The state lists no entrance fee for the park. The Canal Society's page lists no museum fee.
TIME ON SITE	Neither source says.
GUIDES	Canal Society docents give historical tours of the exhibits on open Saturdays.
FOOD AND WATER	No food or water is listed. Bring your own, and carry out your trash.
NATURE	The Canal Society notes wildflowers, abundant wildlife and the Waterloo Vernal Pool, a breeding ground for amphibians.
ACCESSIBILITY	Call the park office at 908-852-3790 about access needs.
PHOTOGRAPHY	Commercial photography and filming need a NJ State Parks special use permit.
WEBSITE	dep.nj.gov/parksandforests/state-park/allamuchy-mountain-state-park

BEFORE YOU GO

- Check the status with the land manager before you go; conditions change.
- Keep out of unstable buildings and off fenced ruins.
- Leave artifacts where they lie. Removing them can be a crime.
- Carry water, a paper map and a charged phone; signal is often poor.

Coordinates 40.91556, -74.75611 • 40°54'56"N
74°45'22"W

Full guide abandonedtowns.com/new-jersey/waterloo-village/

Directions [Google Maps](#)

Details checked October 2026. Hours, prices and access change: confirm before you go.