DAY TRIP TO DELTA

From Rome · Oneida County, New York

MILL, LUMBER AND COMPANY

Photo: Ducio1234, Wikimedia Commons, CC BY-SA 3.0

SUBMERGED; PARK OPEN

The townsite is under Delta Reservoir. Delta Lake State Park, on the shore, is open year-round, dawn to dusk.

Delta is a short half day from Rome. Nothing of the village stands above the water, so the visit is to Delta Lake State Park on the peninsula: walk the shoreline trail and look west across the reservoir to where the mill village stood until 1908. Bring a picnic.

A SAMPLE DAY

☐ 10 a.m.	Leave Rome on NY 46 north, about 15 minutes to the park.
☐ 10:15 a.m.	Park and pick up the Yellow Trail. Follow it around the peninsula's shore.
☐ Late morning	From the west side of the peninsula, look out across the reservoir toward the drowned village site.
☐ Midday	Eat a packed lunch in one of the picnic areas.
☐ Afternoon	Head back to Rome.

Coming from Syracuse? Allow about 1 hour 15 minutes each way.

WHAT TO PHOTOGRAPH

- **The reservoir from the Yellow Trail.** The trail follows the shore of the peninsula. The village lies under the water to the west.
- **Then and now.** Gillette's 1858 county map, in the guide's photos, shows Delta's main street. Pair it with your own shot of the lake for a before-and-after.
- **Drones.** Launching, landing or flying a drone in a New York state park needs a written permit from the parks agency.

USGS topographic map, 1904 (public domain). The ring and pin mark the town.

DAY TRIP ESSENTIALS

DRIVE	7 mi, about 14 min each way from downtown Rome. From Syracuse: 50 mi, about 1 h 13 min.
OPEN	The park is open year-round, dawn to dusk. The park office keeps daily hours of 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. in camping season; off-season hours vary, so call ahead.
ADMISSION	$7 a car from May 24 to September 7 in 2026. The park page lists no fee outside those dates.
TRAILS	The Yellow Trail runs 2.22 miles around the peninsula's shore, with the Fox Run Trail (0.52 mile) and the Beach Trail (0.31 mile) inside it (park trail map, July 2023). The park calls the terrain wooded and generally flat.
THE VILLAGE	Under the water to the west. An undated listing says some remains show when the lake is at its lowest; we have no dated report of what shows.
RESTROOMS	The trail map marks public restrooms around the park. The park doesn't say which stay open after the camping season.
FOOD AND WATER	The map marks a concession stand by the beach, but the page gives no hours, and the 2026 swimming season ended September 12. Bring food and water.
BOAT LAUNCH	Open from the end of April to the end of October, weather and lake levels permitting. No boat rentals.
DOGS	Up to two in day-use areas, on a leash no longer than 6 feet. Not in playgrounds, buildings, boardwalks or guarded beaches.
WEBSITE	parks.ny.gov/visit/state-parks/delta-lake-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 43.28944, −75.43639 · 43°17′22″N 75°26′11″W

Directions Google Maps

Full guide abandonedtowns.com/new-york/delta/

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