

Day 1

Flying Southwest Airlines to BWI was such a \$\$\$ saver (it's one of their hubs, so it may be worth it to fly here)

Ellicott City was a cute little downtown with many shops and a nice food scene (Ellicott City Manor Hill Tavern was a great lunch stop)



Gettysburg was a worthwhile stop. We should have done a tour, but we didn't due to lack of time. We took some pictures and walked the small museum they had and taught the kids the basics about what happened there.

Hershey Chocolate World was fantastic! The tour runs every 30 min, so anytime you go is a good time because if you happen to miss one, you can shop the massive candy shop.

Dinner - Irv's Pub - great restaurant!

Holiday Inn Express West Harrisonburg - I kind of wish we stayed inside Hershey because the town of Hershey is very cute, but we had points, so this was the closest hotel. It was fine - we had free breakfast - the rooms were actually huge, but a 25 minute drive.

Day 2

Hershey Park - probably my favorite theme park besides the Disney ones. It was really that great! Very clean and organized. The tickets were also very affordable and they had a huge array of rides for the entire family. Also the food options and quality was surprisingly good. This is a MUST DO!

Found a place called Duck Donuts - you can customize your own - so good, we went twice

Day 3

Ithaca - Cornell University (it was raining, so we just drove around). Ithaca didn't impress me. The university was very nice though.

We did not end up in any of the intended places due to the pouring rain that day! We will definitely try to go back to the Finger Lakes area again.

Stay at Hyatt Regency Rochester - great hotel (even better that it was free with our points) - but I didn't expect Rochester to be a "big city" and it had many tall buildings, not quaint.

Day 4

Niagara Falls - very important to book ahead of time and print your tickets- Maid of the Mist ride (saved us a lot of time)

Lunch - Third Street Retreat (very good)

Lockport Cave Tour - it was a cool experience - the cave itself is small, but you get to go on a little boat ride and learn about the history of the creation of the cave and how this lock helped shape the business of the Erie Canal (worth it)

Dinner - Tap and Mallet (great beer place and food was good too)

Day 5

Rochester museum of Play - a lot of fun! Kids loved it and so did the adults

Cooperstown - visit Hall of Fame - I enjoyed it. Its a cute little downtown and the museum was interesting. My daughter (who is not interested in baseball was a bit bored)

Dinner - Mel's at 22 - great!

Stay at Holiday Inn Johnstown - this place fine (it was free again with points). It is in the middle of nowhere, but we picked it because it was a halfway point to tomorrow's destination.

Day 6

Fort Ticonderoga - was gorgeous! The views from the top are unreal! We did the family tour and everyone enjoyed it. We could have stayed longer, and done a boat ride included with the admission, but the kids got hungry. We probably should have packed a picnic lunch and eaten here.



Burlington, VT - great little town - had a nice beer and food scene . Their downtown was cute and it's a place I want to stay longer at next time we are around. Lunch - Farmhouse Tap and Grill (spectacular)

Ben and Jerry's factory tour - yes very touristy, but so worth it. It's like \$4 pp and even though the tour is like 15 minutes, it is entertaining and at the end the sample was delicious. The line at the shop outside though was ridiculously long, so we skipped that. Cabot Cheese and Champlain Chocolates - Waterbury (great stops, we sampled cheese and chocolate) - then had stomach aches lol

Dinner - Blackback Pub (very good)

Fairfield Marriott Waterbury - it is beautiful from the outside and was a great hotel in the middle of everything we needed (even better was that it was free with points)

Day 7

Augusta, ME to have lunch - Tio Juan's Margarita's (fine, nothing special) - the bridge going into and out of Augusta was spectacular

Bar Harbor (2h) and check into Wonder View Inn - the city is amazing! We are going back at some point in our lives. The hotel was fine. It was clean and it was the cheapest accommodation I could find because everything in that city was expensive. I was actually thinking it was going to be awful, but the reviews said it was good (I still expected the worse and I was surprised - it was not bad at all) Nice part is we had a balcony that we sat and had some wine around 5pm.

Hike - Ocean Path Trail and Bar Harbor Trail low tide (amazing hikes - loved them)

Dinner - Geddy's (loved it) - highly recommend

Sunset Cadillac Mountain - gorgeous

Day 8

Bubble Rock Trail Hike - fun hike!

Lunch - went to Bar harbour downtown and had a lobster roll somewhere

Drive to Portland stop at Vineyard Vines Outlet in Freeport (great outlet stop)

Dinner - Nosh - very good

Ended up seeing a Portland Sea Dogs (minor league baseball game) - pretty fun

Holiday Inn Express Biddeford (good hotel, again even better that it was FREE)

Day 9

Breakfast - Holy Donut (amazing)

Drive to North End area Boston - park and walk around (we used Panda Park app - so expensive to park in this city)

Lunch - Pauli's (sandwich place and Mike's Pastry for cannoli)

Pilgrim Memorial State Park - Plymouth Rock (pretty cool to see, but it is literally just a rock)

Cape Cod Factory - kind of lame - the tour is literally just walking - it took 1 minute and you got a free bag of chips (the only real positive) - kind of a let down

Saw Providence, RI - and Brown University (really enjoyed that, very pretty campus)

Check in Courtyard Providence Warwick (FREE again and a good hotel)

Day 10

Newport, RI - gorgeous town (want to come back), we did the waterfront trail where you hike along a path on the ocean cliff and walk by all the huge mansions

Decided to stop in New Haven to eat lunch and see Yale (great town, again want to come back and explore more)

Central Park - always a fun thing to do in NY

Top of the Rock - it was our first time doing this, great views of Central Park and Empire State (really enjoyed it) - but I learned a lesson - you must print your ticket if you buy ahead of time - they made us go on a goose chase to find a place to print our tickets (we were very unhappy needless to say)

Times Square - fun at night, but so packed

Day 11

Drive to New Jersey Terminal Liberty State Park - so much smaller than the NYC terminal (this was a good idea)

9am Statue of Liberty tour - we booked ahead of time online (like 3 months) and were able to gain access to the inside of the statue and pedestal - very cool - had I gotten tickets even more ahead of time, I would have been able to tour the crown (be aware - many steps)

Philadelphia

Stop in Staten Island for lunch - G-Knows Cheesesteaks (bad idea - there was a huge toll and this place was very average)

Day 12

9am - Liberty Bell and Independence Hall (mess up - I didn't get tickets to Independence ahead of time, so we didn't go in)

Lunch - Independence Beer Hall

Drive back to Baltimore Dinner at airport - Flight 6:40pm