

# CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

## CULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES

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The Yale Peabody Museum, founded in 1866, houses more than fourteen million specimens and objects in ten curatorial divisions: Anthropology, Botany, Entomology, History of Science and Technology, Invertebrate Paleontology, Invertebrate Zoology, Mineralogy and Meteoritics, Paleobotany, Vertebrate Paleontology, and Vertebrate Zoology. The renowned collections continue to enrich teaching and learning and to inform groundbreaking new research. The museum's galleries are currently under renovation and will reopen in 2024 to display thousands of objects, including the first *Brontosaurus*, *Stegosaurus*, and *Triceratops* specimens ever discovered.

The Yale University Art Gallery was founded in 1832 as an art museum for Yale and the community. Today it is one of the largest museums in the country, holding nearly 300,000 objects and welcoming visitors from around the world. The museum's encyclopedic collection can engage every interest. Galleries showcase artworks from ancient times to the present, including vessels from Tang-dynasty China, early Italian paintings, textiles from Borneo, treasures of American art, masks from Western Africa, modern and contemporary art, ancient sculptures, masterworks by Degas, van Gogh, and Picasso, and more. Spanning one and a half city blocks, the museum features more than 4,000 works on display, multiple classrooms, a rooftop terrace, a sculpture garden, and dramatic views of New Haven and the Yale campus. The gallery's mission is to encourage an understanding of art and its role in society through direct engagement with original works of art. Programs include exhibition tours, lectures, and performances, all free and open to the public. For more information, please visit <https://artgallery.yale.edu>.

The Yale Center for British Art is a museum that houses the largest collection of British art outside the United Kingdom, encompassing works in a range of media from the fifteenth century to the present. It offers a vibrant program of exhibitions and events both in person and online. Opened to the public in 1977, the YCBA's core collection and landmark building—designed by architect Louis I. Kahn—were a gift to Yale University from the collector and philanthropist Paul Mellon, '29. For more information, please visit <https://britishart.yale.edu>.

There are more than eighty endowed lecture series held at Yale each year on subjects ranging from anatomy to theology, and including virtually all disciplines.

More than five hundred musical events take place at the University during the academic year. In addition to degree recitals by graduate students, the School of Music presents

the Ellington Jazz Series, Faculty Artist Series, Horowitz Piano Series, New Music New Haven, Onepo Chamber Music Series, and Yale in New York, as well as performances by the Yale Opera, Yale Philharmonia, Yale Choral Artists, and various YSM ensembles, along with concerts at the Morris Steinert Collection of Musical Instruments. The Institute of Sacred Music presents Great Organ Music at Yale, the Yale Camerata, the Yale Schola Cantorum, and many other special events. The Norfolk Chamber Music Festival/Yale Summer School of Music presents a six-week Chamber Music Session, along with the New Music Workshop and the Chamber Choir and Choral Conducting Workshop. Many of these concerts stream live on the School's website (<https://music.yale.edu>). Undergraduate organizations include the Yale Bands, Yale Glee Club, Yale Symphony Orchestra, and numerous other singing and instrumental groups. The Department of Music sponsors the Yale Collegium, Yale Baroque Opera Project, productions of new music and opera, and undergraduate recitals.

For theatergoers, Yale and New Haven offer a wide range of dramatic productions at such venues as the University Theatre, Yale Repertory Theatre, Yale Cabaret, Yale Residential College Theaters, Off Broadway Theater, Iseman Theater, Whitney Humanities Center, Collective Consciousness Theatre, A Broken Umbrella Theatre, Elm Shakespeare Company, International Festival of Arts and Ideas, Long Wharf Theatre, and Shubert Performing Arts Center.

## RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

The Payne Whitney Gymnasium is one of the most elaborate and extensive indoor athletic facilities in the world. This complex includes the 3,100-seat John J. Lee Amphitheater, the site for varsity basketball, volleyball, and gymnastics competitions; the Robert J.H. Kiphuth Exhibition Pool; the Brady Squash Center, a world-class facility with fifteen international-style courts; the Adrian C. Israel Fitness Center, a state-of-the-art exercise and weight-training complex; the Brooks-Dwyer Varsity Strength and Conditioning Center; the Colonel William K. Lanman, Jr. Center, a 30,000-square-foot space for recreational/intramural play and varsity team practice; the Greenberg Brothers Track, an eighth-mile indoor jogging track; the David Paterson Golf Technology Center; and other rooms devoted to fencing, gymnastics, rowing, wrestling, martial arts, general exercise, and dance. Numerous group exercise classes in dance, martial arts, zumba, yoga, pilates, spinning, HIIT and cardio, and sport skills are offered throughout the year. Yale undergraduates and graduate and professional school students may use the gym at no charge throughout the year. Memberships at reasonable fees are available for faculty, employees, postdocs, visiting associates, alumni, and members of the New Haven community. Memberships are also available for spouses and children of all members. Additional information is available at <https://sportsandrecreation.yale.edu>.

During the year, various recreational opportunities are available at the David S. Ingalls Rink, the McNay Family Sailing Center in Branford, the Yale Outdoor Education Center (OEC) in East Lyme, the Yale Tennis Complex, and the Yale Golf Course. All members of the Yale community and their guests may participate at each of these venues for a modest fee. Up-to-date information on programs, hours, and specific costs is available at <https://myrec.yale.edu>.

Approximately fifty club sports are offered at Yale, organized by the Office of Club Sports and Outdoor Education. Most of the teams are for undergraduates, but a few

are available to graduate and professional school students. Yale students, faculty, staff, and alumni may use the OEC, which consists of 1,500 acres surrounding a mile-long lake in East Lyme, Connecticut. The facility includes overnight cabins and campsites, a pavilion and dining hall available for group rental, and a waterfront area with supervised swimming, rowboats, canoes, stand-up paddleboards, and kayaks. Adjacent to the lake, a shaded picnic grove and gazebo are available to visitors. In a more remote area of the facility, hiking trails loop the north end of the property; trail maps and directions are available on-site at the field office. The OEC is open from the third week in June through Labor Day. For more information, including mid-September weekend availability, call 203.432.2492 or visit <https://sportsandrecreation.yale.edu/outdoor-education-center-o>.

Throughout the year, Yale graduate and professional school students have the opportunity to participate in numerous intramural sports activities, including volleyball, soccer, and softball in the fall; basketball and volleyball in the winter; softball, soccer, ultimate, and volleyball in the spring; and softball in the summer. With few exceptions, all academic-year graduate-professional student sports activities are scheduled on weekends, and most sports activities are open to competitive, recreational, and coeducational teams. More information is available from the Intramurals Office in Payne Whitney Gymnasium, 203.432.2487, or online at <https://myrec.yale.edu>.

## CITY AND COUNTRYSIDE

Only a short bike ride away from the center of New Haven lies the countryside of a state that is over one-half forest land. Farms, parks, lakes, trails, beaches, and nature preserves all await students seeking to spend a few hours away from their studies.

The most spectacular local features are the region's traprock ridges, the largest being East Rock, West Rock, and the Sleeping Giant. All three of these have been preserved as parks. East Rock and West Rock actually extend into New Haven, and their rusty-orange cliffs form a dramatic backdrop for the city. Sleeping Giant lies a pleasant ninety-minute bicycle ride from town.

New Haven is also surrounded by water supply forests. For a small annual fee, the Water Authority's twenty thousand acres of woods, traprock ridges, lakes, and streams are open for hiking, cross-country skiing, and fishing.

Tucked away in pockets off the main corridors of development lie some of the country's most fertile farmland. The Central Valley of New England, in which New Haven is situated, was once famous for its tobacco, onions, potatoes, apples, and seed growers. The remaining acres are now mostly in dairy farms and pick-your-own orchards, providing the region with rural scenery and fresh produce.

Farther out from the city, the land gets progressively hillier and less inhabited. The most dramatic region of the state is the Northwest Highlands of Litchfield County, where the School maintains its Great Mountain Forest Camp. Just a two-hour drive from New Haven, the Northwest Highlands boast the Appalachian Trail, New England's largest caves, a portion of the Taconic Mountains, and the vibrant fall colors of the Litchfield Hills.

But there is no need to travel so far to experience nature's bounty. New Haven itself is fortunate to have five major parks, including Edgewood Park, designed by Frederick

Law Olmsted, Jr. Seventeen percent of New Haven is parkland, a figure that few cities in the world can match.

With so much nature near at hand and foot, New Haven comes close to maintaining the elusive ideal balance of the convenience and culture of the city with the pleasures of the countryside.