

THOMAS DANE GALLERY

Lilit Marcus, "Escape to Storm King Art Center, Playground of Giants," *Architectural Digest*, 21st September 2015

Condé Nast Traveler heads to Storm King Art Center, just one hour north of New York City



View of the South Fields, all works by Mark di Suvero. Photograph by Jerry L. Thompson, courtesy of Storm King Art Center. [↗](#)

WHAT TO KNOW

New York City has no shortage of art destinations, from behemoth institutions like the Metropolitan Museum of Art to smaller galleries in neighborhoods like the Lower East Side. But just an hour north of the city is Storm King Art Center, in the hamlet of New Windsor, New York. This 500-acre outdoor sculpture garden features enormous pieces from bold-faced names such as Alexander Calder, Maya Lin, Donald Judd, Richard Serra, and Louise Bourgeois. Against the stark, serene backdrop, you feel a bit like a Lilliputian walking among the relics of giants. Even if you're not an art lover, it's impossible not to be swept away by the beauty of it all—in the most surprising of places. Walk past a creek, for example, and you're suddenly face to face with a giant canoe painted by Roy Lichtenstein.

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Lynda Benglis. *Bounty*, 2014. Private collection. *Fruited Plane*, 2014. Courtesy the artist and Cheim & Read, New York. *Amber Waves*, 2014. Courtesy the artist and Cheim & Read, New York. © Lynda Benglis / Licensed by VAGA, New York, NY, courtesy of Storm King Art Center.



WHY YOU SHOULD GO NOW

Storm King's current exhibition—"Lynda Benglis: Water Sources" (through Nov. 8)—is a collection of dripping, oversized works by the Guggenheim Grant recipient. Born in Louisiana bayou country, Benglis grew up surrounded by lakes and marshes, and her artwork is drenched as a result; she creates many large-scale fountains, several of which are on display at Storm King. Benglis, an outspoken feminist, chose sculpture because it was a male-dominated field and experimented with materials such as latex and polyurethane foam before they were readily available. Three 25-foot columns—entitled *Bounty*, *Fruited Plane* [sic], and *Amber Waves*—get their names from "America the Beautiful" and toy with the concept of America as a dominant world power. Another piece, *Hills and Clouds*, is made from a phosphorescent material that glows in the dark—which you can experience firsthand by signing up for one of Storm King's guided moonlight tours.

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Mark di Suvero Pyramidian, 1987/1998 Steel, 65' x 46' x 46' Gift of the Ralph E. Ogden Foundation, Inc. Beethoven's Quartet, 2003 Steel, stainless steel, 24' 7" x 30' x 23' 3" Lent by the artist and Spacetime C.C., New York. Photograph by Jerry L. Thompson, courtesy of Storm King Art Center.

HOW TO GET THERE

If you're not driving, the most scenic route is via the Metro-North train from Grand Central Terminal to Beacon. On the way up, try to sit on the left side for a magnificent view of the Hudson River. From Beacon station, you'll need to take a 20- to 30-minute taxi to Storm King. Coach USA offers a bus that goes straight from Port Authority to the outdoor gallery (\$46 per person, round trip, including Storm King admission and a docent-led tour).

If you want to extend your day trip, a visit to Storm King combines nicely with a trip to another iconic outdoor art site, Dia: Beacon, or an afternoon stroll around the antique shops and cafes in downtown Beacon. If you're overwhelmed by Storm King's scope—and it's natural to be—hop on board the tram or rent a bicycle for \$40/day to cover more ground.

This piece originally appeared on Condé Nast Traveler.

<http://www.architecturaldigest.com/story/storm-king-art-center>