



AMHL



## Things to Do in Worcester at SALIS/AMHL 2017!

Coming to Worcester (rhymes with "Rooster"! ) for SALIS/AMHL 2017 this May? Be sure to set aside some time for sight-seeing, because Worcester is jam-packed with don't-miss museums, shopping, parks, and a **surprising number of cool special libraries!**

### The Blackstone Canal District

The location of the historic Blackstone Canal (1828-1848), this is **Worcester's main entertainment district**. Here's where to find restaurants, clubs, bars, shopping, and their year-round Farmer's Market on Saturdays. Take a wagon tour of the area to get all the historical background about Blackstone Canal and Worcester in general.

*[Check out this profile of the Canal District in The Atlantic!](#)*



### Worcester Art Museum

The **second-largest art museum in New England**, the WAM world-renowned for its outstanding collection of art spanning more than 50 centuries. It features a collection of over 35,000 pieces across a variety of mediums, from painting, sculpture, prints, and photography to decorative arts, drawing, and media.

The collection includes works by Gauguin, Monet, Goya, Cassatt, and Whistler, and its floor features mosaics from the ancient city of Antioch. The WAM also has a cafe, museum shop, **museum library**, and more!



### Museum of Russian Icons

Features the **largest collection Russian icons** (sacred paintings used for veneration in the Orthodox tradition) in North America, as well as the largest private collection of Russian art outside of Russia. Spanning 6 centuries, it includes important historical paintings dating from the earliest periods of icon writing to the present.

The Museum has several galleries displaying theme exhibitions from the permanent collection and rotating exhibits from venues worldwide. Also features a gift shop, Russian Tea Room, and a variety of workshops, classes, concerts, and -- guess what -- **a library** (by appointment only).



### Old Sturbridge Village

These kinds of **"living history" museums** are very popular in New England! Old Sturbridge Village features a recreation of an 1830s rural New England town, depicting life in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century and featuring costumed historians, antique buildings, water-powered mills, and a working farm. You can view antiques, meet heritage-breed animals, and take part in hands-on crafts.

The Village **also has a huge library** (by appointment only) encompassing more than 35,000 volumes, focusing on the history and material life in rural New England between the American Revolution and the Civil War.



## Salisbury Mansion

Built in 1772 by Stephen Salisbury I, the mansion is a major historical resource. **Open for tours** and restored to recreate the home life of the Salisbury family in the 1830s. The Mansion is owned by the:

Worcester Historical Museum, which has a **large historical library** (open to the public) with thousands of manuscripts, photographs, books, maps, and other documents relative to the study of Worcester history, as well as a **museum featuring a collection of artifacts spanning the region's history**, including the correspondence of abolitionist Abby Kelley Foster, Civil War era diaries and letters, weaponry from the colonial era through WWII, paintings and sculptures, and a significant costume and textile collection.



**WORCESTER**  
**HISTORICAL MUSEUM**

## The EcoTarium

This family-friendly and unique **indoor/outdoor science and nature museum**, featuring three levels of hands-on, interactive exhibits intended to engage and encourage exploration of the natural world. Thanks to a partnership with the National Geographic, the EcoTarium also has a superb planetarium – the first digital planetarium in Massachusetts – using images from NASA and the Hubble Space Telescope to create a 3-D solar system projected onto a 40-foot dome. Great for kids!



The EcoTarium, by the way, started out as the "Worcester Lyceum and National History Society," founded in 1884 by the National History Department of the **Young Men's Library Association**. When it first open, it had: two snakes, two owls, and one alligator!

## Massachusetts Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Dedicated in 2002, the **4-acre park** includes walking paths, a pond and fountain, and the memorial itself, which is divided into four sections: the Place of Flags, the Place of Names, the Place of Words, and the War Dogs Monument. Public tours are conducted daily at 9am.



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