Like Henry Hudson, you too will be rewarded with enchanting scenic vistas when you explore his namesake river valley. On the water or an adjacent byway, let serendipity be your guide to hidden harbors and coves. Spend a leisurely afternoon watching the interplay of light and clouds upon the restless waters. Conjure up colonial and Revolutionary eras as you wander the grounds of historic sites along the riverbanks. Delight in the region’s natural wonders on a walk into the hills bordering the valley. Discover the Hudson.

Tour the homes of early Dutch settlers, preeminent landscape painters, and American presidents who were captivated by the scenery along the Hudson. Visit the Livingston family’s Montgomery Place (left) and Clermont, Frederick Church’s Olana (right), and the homes of the Roosevelts, Vanderbilts, Rockefellers, and Washington Irving. Ask for the National Heritage Area’s brochures, visit this website: www.hudsonrivervalley.com

Champlain Memorial Lighthouse
The 1912 Champlain Memorial Lighthouse, north of the Hudson River at Coven Point, encompasses the original 1858 lighthouse. The structure is being restored as one of New York’s Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial Legacy projects.

Poughkeepsie-Highland Railroad Bridge
The Erie Railroad used the Poughkeepsie-Highland Railroad Bridge, the first span across the Hudson south of Albany, from 1888 through World War II. The bridge, a Quadricentennial Legacy project, is being renovated as a walkway.

Step back in history at battlefields and museums bordering the river. Ask for the National Heritage Area’s American Revolution brochure and tour the Saratoga Battlefield (above, top), Kingstown (above), Fort Montgomery, and Stony Point.

Governors Island
In 1624 the Dutch established a settlement on Governors Island before moving to Manhattan. Two War of 1812-era forts on the island’s north end protected the New York Harbor and the mouth of the Hudson River for nearly two centuries. The rest of the island, a Quadricentennial Legacy project, is being developed as a parkland.

More Information
For information about 32 designated heritage sites in the Hudson River Valley and how to obtain theme-related travel brochures, visit this website: www.hudsonrivervalley.com
For information about the Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial, visit this website: www.exploryny200.com