

*Oh... this has been a long time in the planning!*

*Who wants to come on a knitting retreat with me and Kate Atherley in my hometown of Ithaca, NY?*

# KNIT ITHACA!

*When: Nov 10 - 13th, 2017*

*Where: Downtown Marriott  
Ithaca, NY*

I've planned an extra special intimate weekend with lots of time to expand our knitting knowledge, explore the Finger Lakes Region, eat great food, taste our local wines and spirits, and knit together! We'll be based at the brand new Marriott, right at the base of The Commons in Ithaca, NY. This means there are a plethora of amazing restaurants, shopping, coffee, used book stores, craft galleries, bars AND BEST YET? A yarn store right across the street!

We'll have the meeting rooms on the second floor of the Marriott overlooking downtown Ithaca all to ourselves. The space has huge windows and amazing natural light, perfect for knitting and people watching all at once! Our room will be open from 7am-11pm everyday for knitting/hanging/being together!

Kate Atherley, my uber talented and brilliant tech editor, will be joining us for the weekend and teaching her Experts Tips class on Saturday. Knitters of all levels will expand their knitting knowledge in her class. Plus Kate will be hanging out with us and you'll be able to pick her brain all you want (within reason, I still need her to be able to tech edit my patterns!)

I'm finally designing a shawl based on my renowned hometown waterfall Taughanook Falls.... and I'll be releasing it and teaching you its tricks at the retreat. I hike the rim trail around the falls multiple times a week, and have gained inspiration from it countless times. I cannot wait to honor it with my needles!

Space is limited and I expect the retreat to fill up rather quickly... sign ups will open March 15th at 12 pm EST. More info on the last page of this document.

# Schedule At A Glance

(Knit-Ithacans will get a full schedule in the Fall)

## Friday Nov 10th PM

- Arrival- 3 - 5pm Check In and Local Food Snack Time
- Dinner
- Welcome “Ceremonies” & Stump the Chump with Laura and Kate!
- Knit Night #1 (until 11pm)

## Saturday Nov 11th

- Breakfast
- Morning Class with Kate or Laura (see page 3 for details)
- Lunch
- Apres Lunch Cascadilla Gorge Walk or Shopping on the Commons
- Afternoon Class with Kate or Laura (see page 3 for details)
- Free Time/Dinner on your own in Ithaca  
(Laura will provide you with a list of favorite restaurants/shops and a walking map...)
- Knit Night #2 (until 11pm)

## Sunday Nov 12th

- Breakfast
- Taste of Cayuga Lake Tour (see page 4 for details)
- Dinner
- Fashion Show and Knit Night #3 (until 11pm)

## Monday Nov 13th AM

- Goodbye Breakfast Spread
- 11am- Checkout

## Saturday Classes

(Everyone will take two classes on Saturday, one with Kate and one with Laura)

### Expert Tips OR What You Can't Learn From Free Internet Videos with Kate Atherley

The great thing about knitting is that there's a huge variety of methods for everything: casting on, binding off, increasing, decrease. But this can also be knitting's biggest challenge: which method is best in which situation? The right cast on can make or break the look of a project; the right bind off is critical – should it be stretchy for blocking, or stable? Do you need an accommodating edge for a garment neckline, but that doesn't flare out? And then there's increasing and decreasing: so many methods, some visible, some not, some with decorative effects, some subtle and hidden.

Kate's session is all about expanding your knitting knowledge with some new techniques and solutions, and also providing you a better understanding overall of how knitting actually works. Along the way we'll talk a little about gauge: explaining why designers get so worked up about it, and when you can ignore them. We'll talk about finishing: from the power of a bucket of water to the pros and cons of working in the round versus seaming.

She'll also answer some knitter's FAQs – why is Continental knitting faster? What's the big deal about Superwash wool? And she'll dispel some common myths! Bring your questions, issues and conundrums. Trust me, even if you think you know it all, Kate's session will help you be better at your knitting.

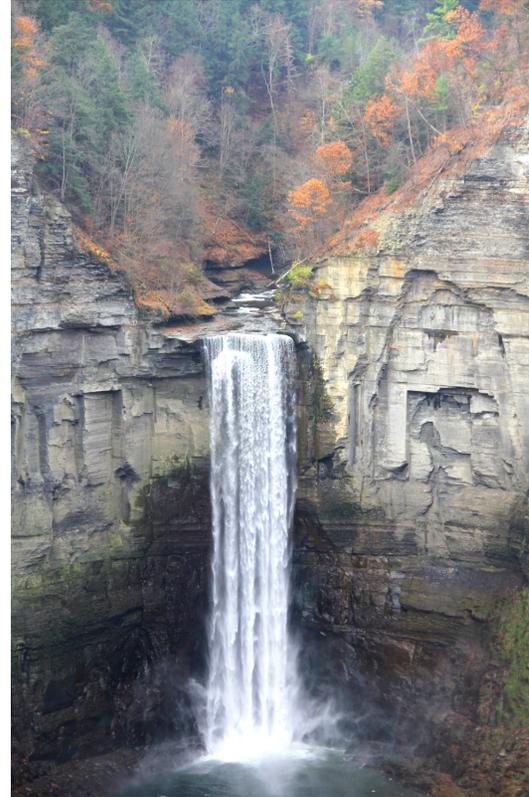
**Bonus!!!** Kate is designing a special mitten for the retreat to celebrate the release of her new Mitten book! You all will get a copy of her new pattern in your goodie bag : )!

### About Kate

Kate is one of the industry's best-respected and most experienced Technical Editors. She's Knitty's Managing Technical Editor, and she and Laura have been working together for nearly ten years. Her technical knowledge is both broad and deep, and she loves sharing techniques and her opinions to help make knitters better at what they do. She's also a designer in her own right, having published \*the\* book on sock knitting: Custom Fit Socks. And her latest book on mittens and gloves is already generating excitement for helping knitters keep their hands warm in comfort and style. Kate has a degree in Pure Mathematics and studied Fashion Design, and although she spent 15 years working in software, now gets to combine both her passions in her knitting career. She lives in Toronto with her husband and mostly adorable rescue dog Dexter. Dexter's claim to fame is that he once stole and chewed up a ball of yarn out of Laura's knitting bag.

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### Secrets of the Taughannock Shawl with Laura Nelkin



Join Laura for a three hour class that delves deeply into the techniques used in the Taughannock Shawl. By the end of class you will be ready to cast on for Taughannock!

Your goodie bag will contain everything you need to complete the shawl, except the needles.

About a month before the retreat you will receive an e-mail with any class supplies you'll need.

### About Laura

Laura lives outside Ithaca New York, where the sunny season is short, leaving plenty of time to be indoors knitting. Despite holding a degree in apparel design from Cornell University, she took to knitting years ago and hasn't looked back. Laura's designs and techniques are innovative, fun and will challenge you to think in new ways about your knitting.

Laura shares her skills in workshops across the country, on-line with Craftsy, and in her spare time leads knitting tours abroad.

[WWW.NELKINDESIGNS.COM](http://WWW.NELKINDESIGNS.COM)

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# Taste of Cayuga Lake Tour

Sunday November 12, 2017

If you follow me you might be familiar with some of the things we are going to do on this tour! I've rented us a motorcoach and teamed up with **Experience the Fingerlakes!** for the day to explore some of my favorite haunts!

First we'll hike to "my" waterfall (easy flat walk) with a naturalist and learn about Taughannock's formation. Next we'll head to a innovative cider house for a tasting and tour followed by lunch. Then we'll go learn how to make goat cheese, and pet some goats, and top that off with a visit/tasting to a stunning (& yummy) winery on the west side of Cayuga Lake. Finally, we'll see one more waterfall in Ithaca before heading back to the hotel to recuperate before dinner.

Visit  
**Taughannock Falls**  
with a guided  
natural history  
hike



Cider Making Tour and Cider Pairing Lunch  
at the **Finger Lakes Cider House**



Cheese tasting and time to visit with the goats at **Lively Run Goat Dairy**



Wine tasting and cheese pairing  
at **Sheldrake Point Vineyards**



Visit to **Ithaca Falls**



photo David Burbank

## Location

We'll be based at the brand new **Marriott**, right at the base of The Commons in Ithaca, NY. This means there are a plethora of amazing restaurants, shopping, coffee, used book stores, craft galleries, bars AND BEST YET? A yarn store right across the street!



**Getting To/From-** Ithaca is easy to get to, you can fly in (the hotel has a free shuttle from the Ithaca airport), you can take a bus, or drive! There is inexpensive parking (not included) attached to the hotel. Details [here](#).

## What's Included in the Retreat?

**Food and Meals-** Local Food Welcome Spread, 3 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 2 Dinners, all tastings on Sunday's tour

**Goodie Bag-** will include supplies for a special design Laura is working on for the retreat plus other great goodies!

**Accommodations (optional)-** 3 nights at the Downtown Ithaca Marriott, a lovely, modern, and newly constructed hotel right in the heart of the "city"

**Knitting Workshops-** Two 3-hour classes, one with Kate Atherley and one with Laura!

**Finger Lakes Gorge/Food Tour**

## Signing Up

Go to [www.nelkindesigns.com/knitithaca](http://www.nelkindesigns.com/knitithaca) to reserve your spot. A \$150 deposit signs you up!

*THIS LINK WILL NOT WORK UNTIL MARCH 15th at 12 pm EST!*

Your balance will be automatically charged Aug 15th, 2017.

Once you are signed up you will receive a confirmation letter with a link to a form that must be filled out. This is where you will let Laura know about your roommate choices (if you requested a double) and any dietary restrictions.

## Fees

**With Hotel Room (I encourage you to do this... it is WAY more fun for us all to be in one hotel)**

\$1085- shared/knitter per person (Two Queens)

\$910- shared/non-knitter per person

(if you are rooming with a non-knitter, you MUST register them when you register yourself as the space on the tour is limited)

\$1490- solo knitter (One King, you can share this room with your partner, but if they want to participate in meals and the tour you need to register them as a commuter/non-knitter)

## Commuters

\$700/knitter

\$500/non-knitter

**Note:** Non-knitter spots are very limited.

## Cancellation Policy

A \$75 fee will be charged for cancellations before August 15, 2017.

No refund will be given after August 15, 2017, unless your space can be filled then you will receive a full refund, less a \$75 processing fee.