



## **Hammondspport among top ten in final round of voting for “Coolest Small Town”**

Voting opened this week for the second and final round of *Budget Travel*'s “Coolest Small Town” contest, with Hammondspport among the top ten vying for the title. Although a record 647 small towns across the country were nominated in round one, Hammondspport pulled out on top, with two other Finger Lakes towns, Penn Yan and Naples, trailing closely behind.

**Hammondspport is the only New York town in the final top ten.**

Voting is permitted every 24 hours, so remember to return and vote again!

Voting ends January 31.

<http://www.budgettravel.com/contest/americas-coolest-small-towns-2012,11/>

In order to be considered for “Coolest Small Town,” there were a few requirements. Population had to be below 10,000, and the town had to have “that indescribable ‘something,’” according to the tourism-promoting site. “In other words, cool doesn’t necessarily mean quaint: We want towns with an edge and a heart.” **Hammondspport received 8,036 votes in the initial round.** The next highest contender was Weaverville with 999 votes, followed by Beaufort with 468.

“We are very happy here in Hammondspport to be one of the Top Ten for this honor and the only town in New York!” said Marybeth Haar, manager of the Hammondspport Chamber of Commerce. “It’s very exciting to know that people from all over the world will see this on the Budget Travel website and the kind of exposure it can bring, not only to Hammondspport, but to the entire Finger Lakes region. The winner will also be featured in the 2012 September/October issue of Budget Travel – just the time of year that many people begin planning their next year’s vacations,” she added. “So this could influence travel plans well in to 2013! I encourage everyone who lives here, those who grew up here and anyone who has enjoyed their visit here, to cast their vote every day for Hammondspport!”

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