

Orleans County Total Eclipse

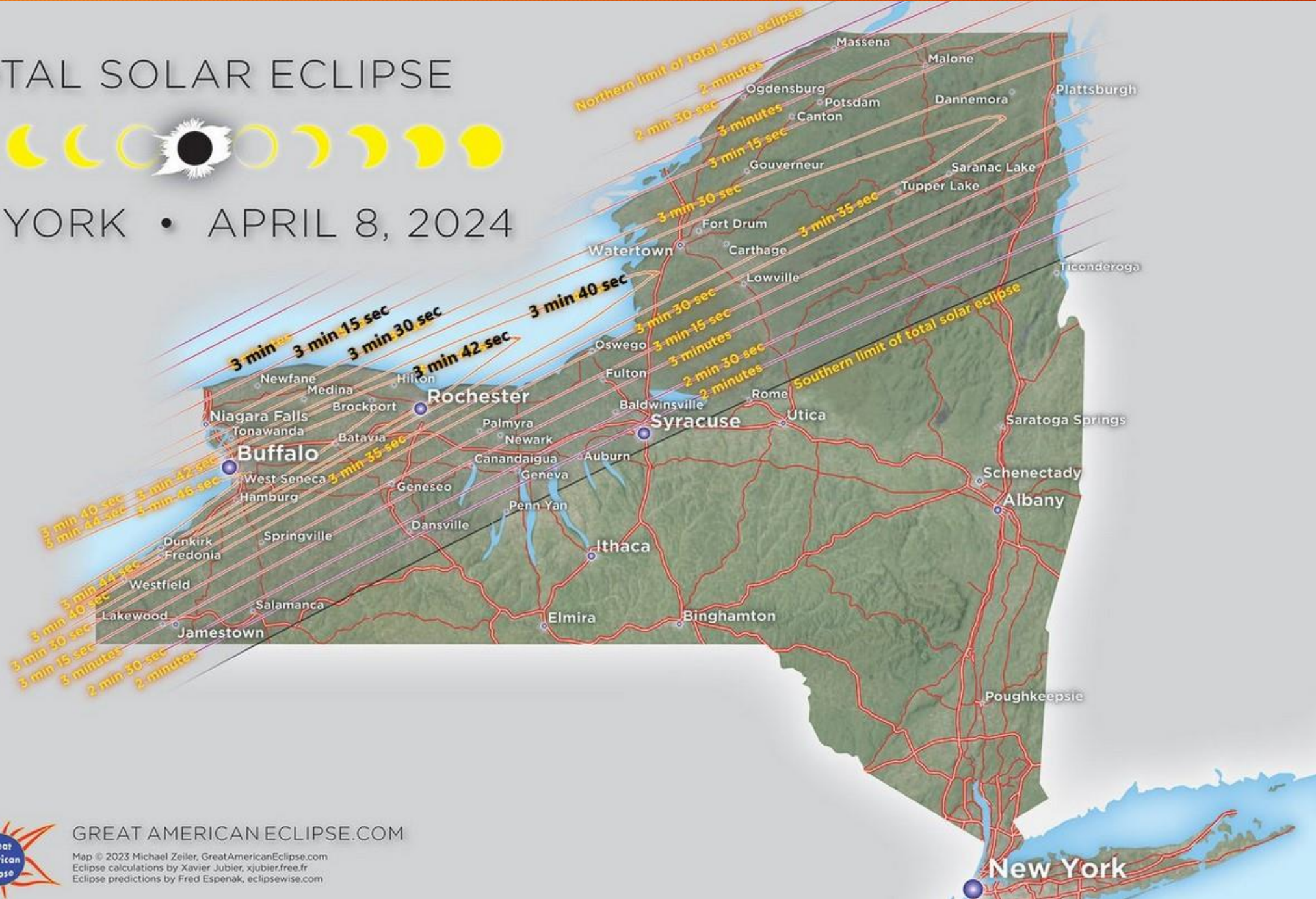


Coming Soon to the sky near you
Monday April 8, 2024

TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE



NEW YORK • APRIL 8, 2024



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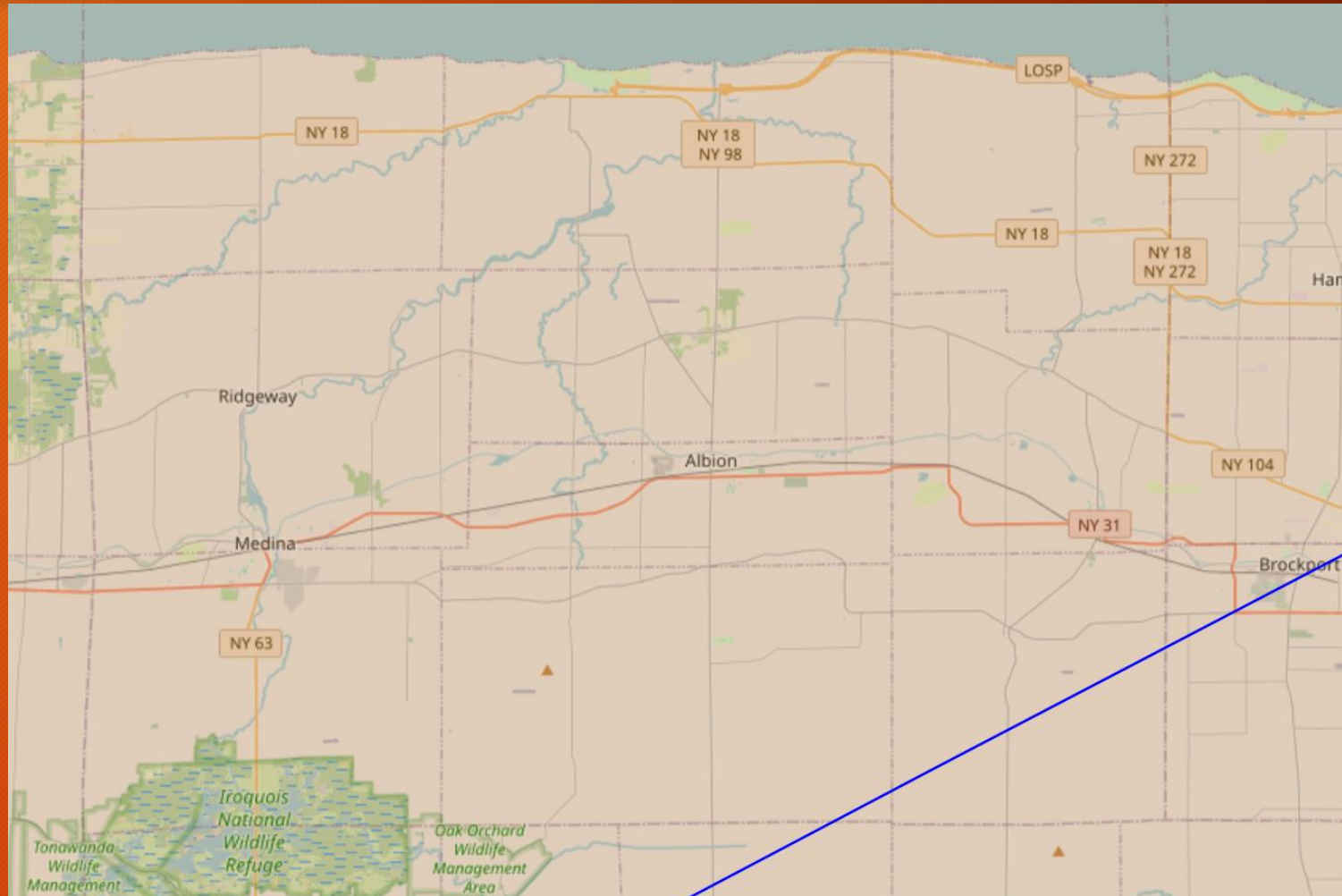
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Eclipse calculations by Xavier Jubier, xjubier.free.fr
Eclipse predictions by Fred Espenak, eclipsewise.com

New York

NYS Total Eclipse Path 2024



NYS Total Eclipse Path 2024



Eclipse Overview

2024 Total Solar Eclipse



- The **total solar eclipse** will occur on **April 8, 2024**.
- Orleans County is in the 120-mile path of totality
- The eclipse will **begin** about **2:06 PM**
- **Totality** will begin around **3:19 PM**
 - Where the Moon completely covers the sun in the sky
- **Totality** will last until around **3:23 PM**
- Partial Eclipse **ends** around **4:34 PM**

2024 Total Solar Eclipse



- If weather is clear, it is not a question of if people will show up, but how many. Latest estimates from OEM are around 500,000- early planning estimates
- Eclipse-chasers often are not committed to view from any one location and will favor mobility, confirming their viewing plans the day before - or even the day of the eclipse - based on the weather forecast.
- There will be both sanctioned and unsanctioned events. Sanctioned events are those that have been recognized by the County and/or local municipalities and will be promoted by same. Unsanctioned events are both site specific as well as general gathering of squatters (POP-UP).

Sanctioned Events



- Big Guy's Campground will be open for camping (aprox 40 sites booked)
- Cobblestone Society Museum (5-8 April)
- Kendall Fire Department (8 Apr)
- Lakeside Beach currently planned to be open (day use area) for viewing, but not planned to be open for camping (8 Apr)
- Orleans County Fair Grounds (2 campers & 5 tent sites reserved) (5-8 April)
- Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge (6-8 Apr)
- Celestial Luncheon at Hurd Orchards (8 Apr)
- Oak Orchard Canoe & Kayak Eclipse Event (4-8 Apr)
- <https://www.orleanscountytourism.com/events/solar-eclipse-2024>

Un-Sanctioned Events



- Pine Hill Airport
 - Eclipse Skydiving

Challenges



- Darkness in the middle of the day and the expectation that millions of eclipse tourists will flock to parts of the state in the path will present public safety challenges in transportation, infrastructure, communications, commodities, and mass gathering security (RMSC, 2022).

Weather



- Need to dress accordingly. On April 8, the temperature in Albion typically ranges from 38° F to 46° F and is rarely below 28° F or above 59° F.
- Expect a temperature swing of up to 20° F
- Lake Ontario water temperature potentially between 35° F to 40° F
- Historically in Albion on April 8, the average percentage of the sky covered by clouds does not show significant systematic variation over the course of the day, with the percentage of time that the sky is overcast or mostly cloudy remaining about 56% throughout the day.

Transportation



- Egress after the eclipse caused mass congestion on major roads and secondary roads (GTC, 2023).
- Timing of the eclipse will overlap with normal school release and end of workday travel (GTC, 2023).
- Types of vehicles travelers are utilizing (i.e., significant number of viewers traveled in RVs) (GTC, 2023).
- Communities in previous paths of totality have reported traffic jams on eclipse day lasting up to 12 hours.
 - Be prepared for the need to direct traffic and communicate any planned road closures in advance.
- FAA Expecting high number of small aircraft
 - Potential for issues on grass strips

HOSPITALITY / TRAVEL INFRASTRUCTURE



- Impossible to predict amount of people coming into region (region will be impacted by new viewers and repeat viewers from 2017) (Ohio, 2022).
- Lodging facilities of all types appear to be booked
- Local restaurants may be inundated following the eclipse (i.e., some restaurants ran out of food during egress due to the amount of public stopping to wait out traffic (Ohio, 2022)).

MASS GATHERING SECURITY



- Unknown amount of people coming to the area may exhaust local security resources before the eclipse even begins (i.e., 2017 saw many areas having to close before the eclipse happened because they were already at capacity) (RMSC, 2022).
- Multiple community gatherings in the same region may conflict with the availability of security resources (GTC, 2023).
- Operational challenge to oversee all viewing locations (i.e., the public will watch the eclipse from anywhere they can see it).
- Pop-Up events may be unsanctioned and problematic for responders.

Planning Assumptions

Orleans County Planning



City	Totally Start	Duration
Chautauqua	3:17:23 PM	3:25
Buffalo	3:18:20 PM	3:45
Niagara Falls	3:18:21 PM	3:32
Rochester	3:20:09 PM	3:39
Auburn	3:22:20 PM	1:44
Watertown	3:22:34 PM	3:39
Fort Drum	3:22:48 PM	3:38
Alexandria Bay	3:22:53 PM	3:15
Syracuse	3:23:04 PM	1:24
Canton	3:23:52 PM	3:13
Old Forge	3:24:03 PM	2:48
Potsdam	3:24:08 PM	3:11
Tupper Lake	3:24:28 PM	3:30
Massena	3:24:40 PM	2:27
Saranac Lake	3:24:54 PM	3:29
Lake Placid	3:25:08 PM	3:21
Indian Lake	3:25:19 PM	2:02
Wilmington	3:25:19 PM	3:26
Plattsburgh	3:25:44 PM	3:33



Orleans County Planning Assumptions



- This will be a **five** day event possibly April 5 - 9, 2024.
 - **April 8, 2024 Total Eclipse** - Will be monitoring through the week as number increase
- Estimated number of visitors for the event could be in the hundreds of thousands or more in the region
- Visitors will trickle in over several days prior to the event
- Lodging (hotels, bread & breakfast, RV parks) may be sold out
- Many observers will travel without planned lodging
- Many observers will attend eclipse related events as well

Orleans County Planning Assumptions



- Eclipse-chasers - not committed to view from any one location and favor mobility, confirming viewing plans the day before - or even the day of the eclipse - based on the weather forecast.
 - Where will this be?
- Weather may impact last-minute travel, if a preferred viewing area experiences cloud cover, visitors may quickly disembark to an area with clear sky.
 - There could be a last-minute influx (or exodus) of people - May create early traffic problems
- Animal activity may be abnormal, specifically for nocturnal animals

Orleans County Planning Assumptions



- Viewers will position themselves at any location they believe to be legal. Especially areas with long sight-lines:
 - Building roofs
 - Hilltops
 - Cliffs
 - Shorelines
 - Remote areas
 - State and local parks
 - Hiking trails and campsites
 - Lakes and open land
- Be prepared for viewers in areas they aren't supposed to be!

Orleans County Planning Assumptions



- A huge exodus of visitors may leave immediately at the end of totality or end of event and a significant number will wait until the following day.
 - If 2017 is a guide, most people will want to depart in the 2 hours post-totality
 - Majority leave right after the first 15 minutes post totality (this is the biggest issue!)
 - Post event traffic congestion could last for several hours.
 - Transportation networks may see congestion including total stoppage
 - Highways
 - Local roads
 - Bike and footpath

Planning

General Planning



- All Orleans County schools are closed
 - Some schools planning to block parking lots
- Local parks with good views may become crowded, this will draw crowds beyond the planned events

Communications Planning



- Increased staffing at Orleans County 911 Communications Center for days and afternoon shifts from Friday-Monday
 - 3 Dispatchers on Duty
- Cell Phone may be unreliable network usage may exceed capacity
- Monitor radios
 - Common 7 for all eclipse related requests to EMO
 - EMO will be monitoring
 - All Emergency Traffic, normal radio operations
- RACES
 - Posted around the county to observe traffic report back to EMO, neighboring EOCs, NYS Regional Ops Center and NYS Watch Center

Transportation Planning



- Increased Traffic on State Routes
 - Large events in surrounding counties (Brockport/Niagara Falls)
 - Travelers will be looking for alternative routes, heaviest traffic anticipated from the East
 - Parkway has reopened already
 - Robert Moses will be closed to Westbound Traffic at Fort Niagara, will all be routed East
 - VMS Board Placement
 - Rt 104 & Rt 31A (East Side of County) April 1-April 3
 - Rt 104 & Rt 31 (West Side of County) April 3-April 8
 - RTS Still planning to run normal routes

Water Rescue Planning



- Lake Ontario
 - Expected to be a large number of boaters on the lake. 2 OCSO boats will be on the lake with EMS on board
 - Several State and Federal Resources will also be on the lake
 - Primary and Alternate extraction points have been identified, and Helicopter landing site has been designated.
- Canal
 - Will still be empty
 - Expect observers on the canal path

Law Enforcement Planning

- Orleans County Sheriffs Office
 - Increased Road Patrol
 - Friday - Monday
 - SWAT Deputies on Duty
 - Available Resources
 - Drone
 - UTV
 - SWAT
 - Marine Patrol

Law Enforcement Planning

- Albion Police
 - Additional Patrol Units
- Holley Police
 - Additional Patrol Units
- Medina Police
 - Additional Road Patrol Units
- Several State and Federal Resources moved into the region

EMS Planning



- Emergency Medical Services
 - Transportation times to Erie, Genesee and Monroe counties will be significantly longer
 - 2 ALS Mutual Aid Ambulances will be in the county
 - Medina Fire
 - Planning to have 4 staffed ambulances from 1200-1800
 - Monroe Ambulance
 - Limited ability for surge due to events in Monroe County
 - BLS Ambulance will have extended hours

Fire Planning

- Stations Planning to have staffing
 - Albion - Monday
 - Barre - Monday
 - Carlton - Staffed
 - Clarendon - Sunday and Monday
 - E. Shelby - Monday
 - Kendall - Monday
 - Lyndonville - Unstaffed
 - Medina - Increased staffing Monday
 - Murray - Friday - Monday
 - Ridgeway - Unstaffed
 - Shelby - Unstaffed

EMO Planning

- No EOC activation planned
 - Enhanced Monitoring with EMO Staff
- RACES will be monitoring traffic, and communicating with surrounding counties
- Resources Available
 - UTV
 - Underwater Drone
 - Mobile Ops Center

Public Information Planning



- Social Media Safety Campaign
 - Already started with a couple high level messages
 - March 25th, a new safety message will be posted daily
 - Please share on your social media feeds
- Orleans Aware App QR code will be shared with all social media messaging and press releases
- VMS Boards out early on east side, will move mid week to west side

Holley

- Expecting potential spill over of people/traffic from Monroe County
- Standing up Unified Command Post at Holley P.D.
 - Staffed with Fire, LE, DPW, and Elected Leaders
- Murray JFD expecting potential for high number of mutual aid requests from Brockport Fire
 - Will be staffing station from Friday night through Monday evening

Thank You!

