



Vermont Culinary Experiences



Vermont's scenic roadways lead to delicious, local cuisine by artisan chefs, creative food companies and passionate farmers.

In the vanguard of agriculture and culinary innovation, Vermont appeals to both discerning and adventurous culinary travelers. Meet the people and connect with the places most revered among Vermont food experiences, from cheese-makers to micro-breweries and for a taste of la dolce vita, three's maple, chocolate and ice cream certain to please. This six-day itinerary offers a sumptuous smorgasbord of enriching and appetizing Vermont agrarian and food experiences; if you are hungry for more, you will find dozens of additional Vermont culinary tours at DIGINVT.COM.

IDEAS FOR FIRST TIMERS:

1. Follow the Cheese Trail and meet small cheese makers
2. Follow the Brewery Trail; Vermont has the most micro-breweries per capita in the U.S.
3. Stop by a maple producer during Maple Open House weekend in March
4. Enjoy a meal at a restaurant that is part of the Vermont Fresh Network
5. Visit a farmers' market
6. Tour Ben and Jerry's Factory in Waterbury

IDEAS FOR REPEAT VISITORS:

1. Take a culinary class at a local inn or restaurant
2. Stay on a working farm
3. Attend food festivals and events throughout the summer
4. Stop by a local vineyard and learn about locally grown grapes
5. Visit one of the many chocolatiers, such as Lake Champlain Chocolates
6. Visit and tour one of the many distilleries



Culinary Experiences in Vermont can also be enjoyed as a group.
 A Google Map is available at VermontVacation.com/traveltrade
 A brewery map, wine and cheese trails can be found on VermontVacation.com/culinary





DAY 1

The Shires of Vermont Byway travels within Southern Vermont. Start at Hildene Farms on the grounds of the Hildene, the Lincoln Family Home, in Manchester. The solar-powered barn houses friendly Nubian goats as well as the cheese production facility. Every step of the cheesemaking process is visible along a glass corridor. In nearby East Arlington, see the wonderful world of chocolate at the Chocolatorium. The Apple Barn in Bennington is a 300 acre orchard with panoramic views; enjoy old fashioned apple pie and homemade ice cream. Follow the Molly Stark Byway to the Wilmington region and the Honora Winery. Before the wine tasting, watch a 30 minute presentation in their Jacksonville tasting room, or travel to the vineyards in Halifax for a tour and to meet the winemaker. Traveling on to Brattleboro, Route 30 takes you to Grafton Village Cheese, makers of handmade Vermont Cheddar.



DAY 2

Along Route 30, stop at Saxtons River Distillery to sample maple liqueur. Travel to Taylor Farm in Londonderry, a 180 year old, working dairy farm with a variety of Gouda. Vermont has been home to cheesemakers since the 1800s. Today, three dozen Vermont Cheese Council members produce 150 varieties of small-batch cheeses. Other samples can be enjoyed along the Route 100 Scenic Byway; visit the Plymouth Artisan Cheese

Factory, the second oldest cheese operation in the United States, at the President Coolidge Historic Site in Plymouth Notch. Then, via the Crossroads of Vermont Byway, stop at Sugarbush Farm in Woodstock, which provides 14 cheese varieties and maple products to sample. This cheese-tasting tour culminates at Quechee Gorge Village, where the Cabot Store offers generous cheese samples. Also in the village, the Vermont Spirits Distillery is open for sampling artisanal vodkas.



DAY 3

Travel to the Northeast Kingdom Tasting Center in Newport for a fine selection of more than 40 local foods as well as local wine and spirits samples. Stop at the Cabot Cheese Visitor Center for a guided tour. Finish your day in the nation's smallest state capital, Montpelier. Enjoy two maple destinations; Bragg Farm in East Montpelier, and Morse Farm in Montpelier, with eight generations of maple experience and year-round

“sugar-on-snow,” and “creemees.” Montpelier is also home to the New England Culinary Institute, a leader in the local food movement. Local, fresh and innovative meals are prepared and served by undergraduate culinary students at their restaurant, NECI on Main, as well as their bakery, La Brioche. Nearby, Fresh Tracks Farm and Vineyard in Berlin has a solar-powered tasting room where there's often live music to enjoy while sipping their wines.



DAY 4

Take a drive up temptation alley located along the Green Mountain Byway. Start at the Green Mountain Coffee Roasters Visitor Center in the historic train station in Waterbury. Learn about coffee through interactive displays and videos, and start off with a tasty breakfast treat to accompany their selection of hot beverages. A few minutes north, tour Vermont's most visited attraction, Ben & Jerry's Factory. Watch ice cream being made and finish with a free sample in the "Flavoroom." Next, learn about old-time cider-making at Cold Hollow Cider Mill, New England's largest cider producer. Sample cider and other Vermont specialty foods; they also showcase their "solar orchard" which supplies half the mill's energy. One last stop for treats is the Vermont Annex in Waterbury Center, home to the Cabot Annex Store with more than 30 cheese samples available, as well as a Lake Champlain Chocolates.



DAY 5

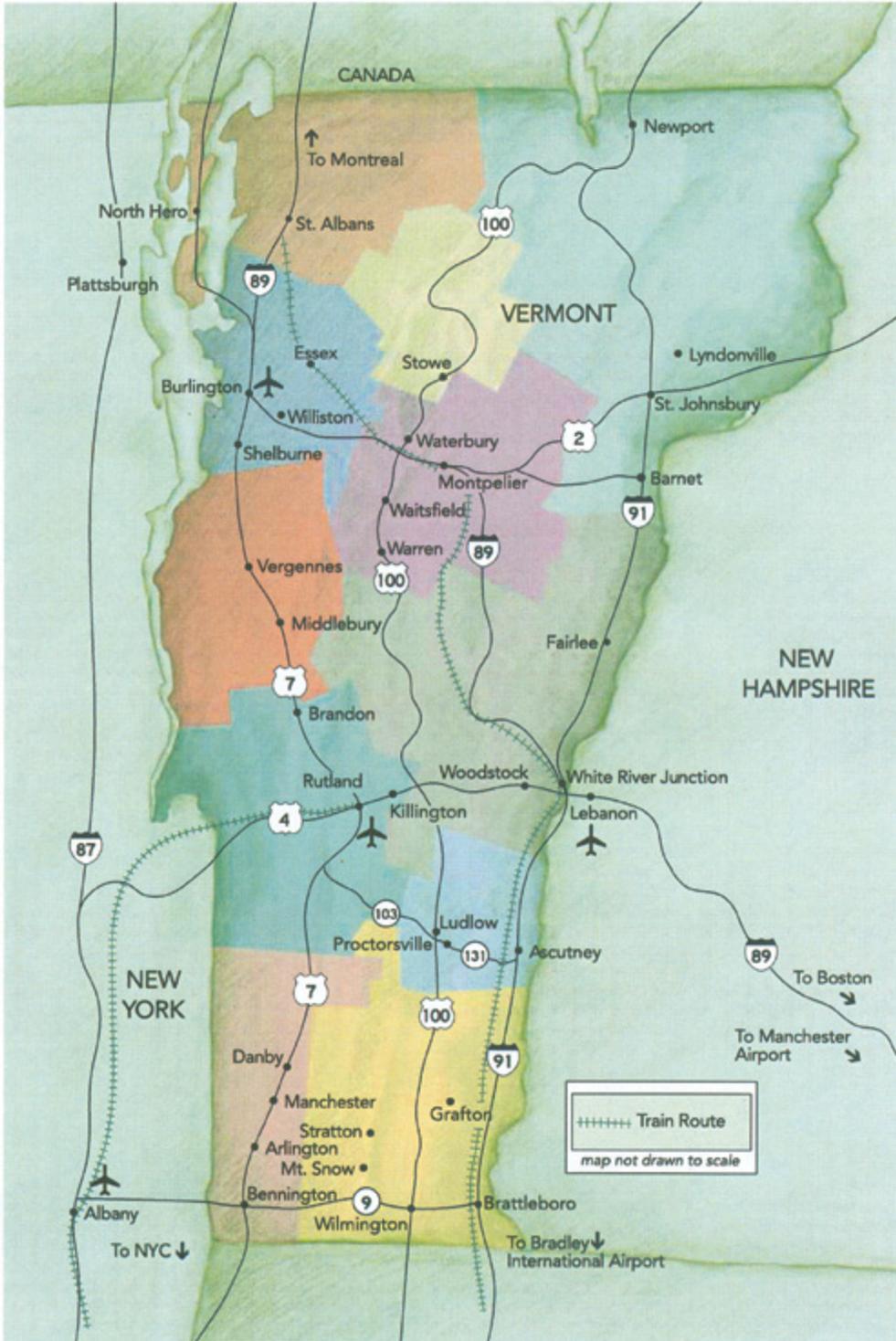
Immerse yourself in the gentle scenery of the Lake Champlain Islands. Pick apples in autumn at Allenholm Farm and take pleasure in wine tastings at Snow Farm Winery and Vineyards. Travel south along the Lake Champlain Byway toward the Burlington area, Vermont's largest city with 40,000 people. Treat yourself to a hands-on cooking class or culinary demonstration at the Cook Academy of The Essex Culinary Resort and Spa. In South Burlington, stop for a tasting and tour at Magic Hat Brewery. The Magic Hat Artifactory, the nerve center of it all and the Growler Bar is a sight to behold, with 48 taps pouring Magic Hat's beloved beers, plus some experimental brews. Visit the Lake Champlain Chocolates factory and gift shop in Burlington for samples, decadent hot cocoa, ice cream, plus an educational chocolate exhibit and windows to the chocolatiers in action.



DAY 6

The Champlain Valley tour starts at Shelburne Farms, a 1400 acre national historic site with guided tours of regal barns, gardens and cheesemaking. All this can be experienced aboard an open-air wagon or along miles of walking trails. Just down the road, Shelburne Vineyards is a state of the art winery and tasting room, nestled among the vines, with Fiddlehead Brewery's hoppy IPA's to sample directly across the street, for those who choose to amble on over. Next, take an up-close tour of the apple business at Champlain Orchards of Shoreham. Learn about the methods of growing and harvesting the fruit, as well as their unique apple brandy product. Travel south to Dakin Farm in Ferrisburgh, to take a self-guided free tour of the sugarhouse and the smokehouse, to see meat and cheese smoked to perfection using the farm's original 1800's recipe. Finish the day with cooking classes and demonstrations at the restaurant and culinary theater at Café Provence in Brandon.

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6 Day Itinerary

This map displays attraction locations mentioned throughout day trips one through six, inside this program.

Stops

- 1** Day 1
- 2** Day 2
- 3** Day 3
- 4** Day 4
- 5** Day 5
- 6** Day 6



Kathleen Kolva

Sales Manager, International & North American Markets

Vermont Dept. of Tourism & Marketing

KATHLEEN.KOLVA@VERMONT.GOV

One National Life Drive

Montpelier, VT 05620-0501

VermontVacation.com/TravelTrade