

River Valley & Greater New Haven

Fall Driving Tours 2010



Enjoy the natural beauty of the changing seasons
in Connecticut's River Valley & Greater New Haven!

River Valley / CONNECTICUT

Greater New Haven / CONNECTICUT

www.centerofct.com



FALL in love with...

River Valley / CONNECTICUT

Greater New Haven / CONNECTICUT

You are invited to explore the autumn landscape of our beautiful rivers, hills and valleys. Visit one of our many pick-your-own farms, enjoy a hayride, or discover a local treat. Just select a tour and set out on your fall adventure to see why we truly are the gateway to New England.

Twelve driving tours are offered, each showcasing a different part of our 65-town region. Activities along the route are listed with each tour. Some may require a short detour from the driving loop. For more information, visit www.centerofct.com.



CONNECTICUT RIVER - METACOMET RIDGE TOUR

Windsor, Windsor Locks, East Granby, Suffield

From Hartford: Travel I-91 North, take Exit 36 and make a right onto Rte. 178 East and go to end of road/intersection with Rte. 159. Turn left and pass through Windsor Center, following Rte. 159 North for several miles up to Windsor Locks. In Windsor Locks, take Rte. 140 West to intersection with Rte. 75 North. Turn right, driving into Suffield. Take Rte. 168 West to West Suffield and continue on Rte. 168, Mountain Rd. Turn left onto Phelps St., then left (South) onto Newgate Rd. At intersection, turn left onto Rte. 20 East. At intersection with Rte. 75 South, turn right, and follow several miles to I-91.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Brown's Harvest	Windsor	(860) 683-0266
Kuras Farm	West Suffield	(860) 668-2942
Newgate Farms	East Granby	(860) 653-4758
Windham Gardens	Granby	(860) 798-7989
Bushy Hill Orchard	Granby	(860) 653-4022
Metacomet Trail	Suffield	www.ctwoodlands.org
Noden-Reed House & Barn	Windsor Locks	(860) 627-9212
Northwest Park & Nature Center	Windsor	(860) 285-1886

TOBACCO VALLEY TOUR

Enfield, Somers, Stafford, Ellington, East Windsor, Windsor Locks

From I-91: Take Exit 47 East - Rte. 190 through Hazardville, Somersville, and Somers, and into Stafford Springs. At junction of Rte. 190 and Rte. 140, take Rte. 140 West and continue through Ellington. Stay on Rte. 140 for several miles, cross Rte. 5 then pass under I-91 through Warehouse Point and across the Connecticut River. Then pass over the Windsor Locks Canal bridge and make left onto Rte. 159 South. Follow for about a mile to entrances for I-91.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Dzen Brothers Farm	South Windsor	(860) 872-3677
Easy Pickin's Orchard	Enfield	(860) 763-3276
Elm Knoll Farm	Ellington	(860) 749-9944
Irish Bend Farm Orchard	Somers	(860) 698-6429
Johnny Appleseed's Farm	Ellington	(860) 875-1000
Rushmore Farm	Somers	(860) 655-3211
Worthington Pond Farm & Gardens	Somers	(860) 763-3538





EAST OF THE RIVER TOUR

Glastonbury, South Glastonbury, Hebron, Andover, Manchester

From Hartford: Travel Rte. 2 East (crossing the Connecticut River) to Exit 7. Take Rte. 17 South, make a left onto Hopewell Rd., bear right at fork onto Matson Hill Rd., follow Matson Hill Rd. (which turns into Woodland St.) to the end. Make right onto Hopewell Rd., and at stop sign make a right onto Chestnut Hill Rd. Cross over New London Tpke., make left onto Manchester Rd. (Rte. 83). At light at intersection, make a right onto Hebron Ave. (Rte. 94), make a left onto Rte. 85, follow Gay City State Park sign. Just past Park entrance take next right onto Daly St. and follow until the end. At stop sign, make left onto London Rd., make left onto Boston Hill Rd., make left onto Rte. 6 West and follow until the end where it merges into I-384 West. Follow and merge onto I-84 West toward Hartford.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Berruti's Harvest Farm	South Glastonbury	(860) 663-7663
Belltown Hill Orchards	South Glastonbury	(860) 633-2789
Botticello Farms	Manchester	(860) 649-2462
Dondero Orchards	Glastonbury	(860) 659-0294
E. Draghi and Sons Farm	South Glastonbury	(860) 633-2197
Fish Family Farm	Bolton	(860) 646-9745
Futtner's Family Farm	East Hartford	(860) 563-4138
Gay City State Park	Hebron	(860) 424-3200
Hurst Family Farm	Andover	(860) 646-6536
Old Maids Farm	South Glastonbury	(860) 918-5442
Riverview Farms	South Glastonbury	(860) 657-9197
Rose's Berry Farm	Glastonbury	(860) 633-7467
Scaglia Fruit Farm	South Glastonbury	(860) 633-9055
Scotts Orchard & Nursery	Glastonbury	(860) 633-8681
Wright's Orchard	Tolland	(860) 872-1665

FARMINGTON VALLEY TOUR

Farmington, Avon, Simsbury, Collinsville

From I-84 East or West: Take Exit 39 - Rte. 4 in Farmington. Continue straight on Rte. 4 to the center of Farmington (junction of Routes 4 and 10). Turn right on Rte. 10 North (Waterville Rd.) Continue on Rte. 10, Crossing Rte. 44 (Rte. 10 turns into Nod Rd.). Continue down Nod Rd. to the end and turn right onto Rte. 185. Make the first left onto East Weatogue St. Make a left on Riverside Rd., turn left on Drake Hill Rd., turn left on Rte. 10 South and take an immediate right on Rte. 309 (also Rte. 167, West St. and Farms Village Rd.). Continue back on Farms Village Rd. (Rte. 309) to Rte. 179. Turn left on Rte. 179 (Cherry Brook Rd.). Follow the signs and cross Rte. 44 onto River Rd.





(still on Rte. 179). Continue on River Rd./Rte. 179) as it turns right onto Maple and Bridge Streets, passing through Collinsville and crossing the Farmington River. Turn left and continue on Rte. 179. Continue straight through the intersection onto Rte. 4 where Rte. 179 turns right. Continue on Rte. 4 East until I-84.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Avon Cider Mill	Avon	(860) 677-0343
Flamig Farm	West Simsbury	(860) 658-5070
George Hall Farm	Simsbury	(860) 658-9297
Pickin' Patch	Avon	(860) 677-9552
Rosedale Farms	Simsbury	(860) 658-6348
Talcott Mountain State Park	Simsbury	(860) 242-1158
Tulmeadow Farm	West Simsbury	(860) 658-1430

QUINNIPIAC RIVER AND METACOMET TRAIL TOUR

Southington, Plantsville, Cheshire, Meriden

Take I-84 East or West, take Exit 34, then go West on Rte. 372. Continue on Rte. 372 to Rte. 177 South to Southington. Then take Rte. 10 South through Southington, Plantsville and Cheshire. Turn right onto Higgins Rd. (near Farmington Canal Heritage Trail), right onto Oak St. and right onto Cornwall Ave. Turn left at traffic light onto Rte. 68 & 70. Take Rte. 70 North toward Meriden; continue on Rte. 71 North. Turn left onto Rte. 364 West; turn right onto Andrews St. Bear right onto Reservoir Rd., left onto Shuttle Meadow Rd. and then right at traffic light back toward Rte. 372.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Bishops Farms	Cheshire	(203) 272-8243
Drazen Orchards	Cheshire	(203) 272-7985
Farmington Canal Heritage Trail	Farmington	www.fvgreenway.org
Hickory Hill Orchards	Cheshire	(203) 272-0181
High Hill Orchard	Meriden	(860) 203-294-0276
Hubbard Park and Castle Craig	Meriden	(203) 630-4259
Metacomet Trail	Meriden	www.ctwoodlands.org
Norton Bros. Fruit Farm	Cheshire	(203) 272-8418
Zentech Farm	Cheshire	(203) 272-0444

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT TOUR

New Britain, Berlin, Kensington, Southington

From Hartford: Travel I-84 West to Exit 27 - I-691, take Exit 5 (Rte. 71 North- Chamberlain Hwy.) and at end of exit, make left onto Chamberlain Hwy. Stay on Chamberlain Hwy., then bear





left onto Rte. 71A. At second light, make left onto Rte. 372 West (Corbin Ave.), at light make left onto Shuttle Meadow Rd. At second stop sign, bear right, make right onto Reservoir Rd. At end of road, bear left onto Long Bottom St. At intersection, bear right onto Andrews St. (heading toward Karabin Farms). At end, make left onto Kensington Rd. Make right onto Rte. 71 South-Chamberlain Hwy., follow to I-691 entrance on left. Take Exit 2 off of I-691 to get to I-84 East toward Hartford or continue on I-691 for I-84 West.

HIGHLIGHTS:

DeMaria Family Farm	Kensington	(860) 828-6724
Karabin Farms	Southington	(860) 621-6363
Laviana Orchards	Kensington	(860) 828-5251
Lewis Farms	Southington	(860) 628-9736
Rogers Orchards	Southington	(860) 229-4240
Zarella Farms	Plainville	(860) 793-8611

OLD WETHERSFIELD, CT RIVER FERRY AND BROWNSTONE QUARRY TOUR

Rocky Hill, Glastonbury, Portland, Cobalt, Middle Haddam, East Hampton, Wethersfield

From Hartford: Take I-91 South, take Exit 26. Turn right at the end of exit, then left and follow Marsh Street 1/2 mile to village center. Explore Old Wethersfield along Main St. from the Cove to the Keeney Memorial Cultural Center. Return to I-91 South; take Exit 24 and go south on Rte. 99. Turn left on Rte. 160 east, following signs for Glastonbury/Rocky Hill Ferry. Take ferry across the Connecticut River into South Glastonbury. There are picnic table and walking trails at the ferry landing. Take Ferry Ln. to intersection with Rte. 160 and turn left. At intersection with Rte. 17, turn right (South). At light, turn right onto Rte.17A and follow into the center of Portland (Rte. 17 is Main St.). Turn right onto Silver St. just before the Hess Station. Turn right onto Brownstone Ave.; take a quick right into Brownstone Quarry Park entrance. Leaving the Brownstone Quarry, return to Silver St.; cross Main St. to Rte. 66 East/Rte. 17 North (Marlborough St.). After about 3 miles take a left onto Middle Haddam Rd. This scenic road parallels Rte. 66. Turn right onto Depot Hill Rd. Go straight at the light in Cobalt Center onto Rte. 151. Take Rte. 151 South through Middle Haddam Historic District and follow signs for Hurd State Park. To return, backtrack on Rte. 151 and turn left on Rte. 66 West; cross the Arrigoni Bridge into Middletown and take Rte. 9 North to I-91 North.





HIGHLIGHTS:

Brownstone Exploration & Discovery Park	Portland	(860) 633-0377
Fair Weather Acres	Rocky Hill	(860) 529-6755
Gotta's Farm	Portland	(860) 342-1844
Hurd State Park	East Hampton	(860) 424-3200
Q-P Farm Market	Portland	(860) 342-5030
Rocky Hill-Glastonbury Ferry		(860) 443-3856

GILLETTE CASTLE AND DEVIL'S HOPYARD STATE PARKS TOUR

Middletown, Haddam, East Haddam, Chester

From Middletown: Take Rte. 9 South to Exit 10. Turn right at end of ramp onto Rte. 154 South. Take Rte. 154 through the towns of Middletown and Haddam to intersection at traffic light with Rte. 82. Following signs for Gillette Castle State Park, turn left and drive across the Connecticut River into East Haddam on the Swing Bridge. Follow Rte. 82 to intersection with Rte. 151. Turn right onto Rte. 151, then a quick left onto Mt. Parnassus Rd. which will turn into Millwood Rd. Turn right onto Hopyard Rd. Devil's Hopyard State Park and Chapman's Falls will be on the left. Continue on Hopyard Rd. to Rte. 82. Go right on Rte. 82. Bear left onto Rte. 148. Turn right on River Rd. The entrance to Gillette Castle State Park will be on the left. Leaving the park, turn right back onto River Rd. and follow back, turning right on Rte. 148. Proceed to the Ferry Landing and take the Chester-Hadlyme Ferry for the 5-minute ride across the Connecticut River. Continue on Rte. 148 through the center of Chester. Take Rte. 9 North back to Middletown.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Chester-Hadlyme Ferry		(860) 594-2551
Devil's Hopyard State Park	East Haddam	(860) 873-8566
Gillette Castle State Park	East Haddam	(860) 526-2336
Haddam Meadows State Park	Haddam	(860) 424-3200

CONNECTICUT RIVER TIDELANDS TOUR

Essex, Old Saybrook, Westbrook

From Hartford area: Travel Rte. 9 South to Exit 3 for Essex. Following signs for the Connecticut River Museum, turn left onto West St. and then onto Main St., following it to the end at Steamboat Dock. Backtrack on Main St., bearing right where it becomes one way and back out to intersection with Rte. 154. Take Rte. 154 South into Old Saybrook (becomes Main St.) and





follow to the end at Saybrook Point. Take Rte. 154 across the causeway into the Borough of Fenwick and continue along the shore into Westbrook. In the center of Westbrook, take Rte. 153 North to intersection with Rte. 154 and Rte. 9.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Essex Steam Train & Riverboat Ride	Essex	(860) 767-0103
RiverQuest Cruises	Haddam	(860) 662-0577
Scott's CT Valley Orchard	Deep River	(860) 526-9633
Scott's Farm & Greenhouse	Essex	(860) 767-7059

RIVER VALLEY COUNTRY TO SHORE TOUR

Middlefield, Durham, North Branford, Guilford, Madison, Killingworth

From Middlefield: Take Rte. 147 South in Middlefield until you come to Rte. 17 South. This will take you through Durham into North Branford. From here take Rte. 22 East to Rte. 80 East. This will take you through N. Branford, Guilford and Madison. Continue on Rte 80 East to Rte 81 South to Clinton. You may continue on Rte 81 South to Rte. 1.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Bishop's Orchards	Guilford	(203) 453-2338
Chamard Vineyards	Clinton	(860) 664-0299
Chatfield Hollow State Park	Killingworth	(860) 663-2030
Clinton Crossing	Clinton	(860) 664-0700
DeFrancesco & Son Farm	Northford	(203) 484-0687
Lyman's Orchards	Middlefield	(860) 349-1793
Overlook Farm	Killingworth	(860) 663-3282
Tanger Outlet Center	Westbrook	(860) 339-8656

BACKROADS OF NEW HAVEN TOUR

New Haven, Orange, Woodbridge, Bethany, Cheshire, Hamden, Wallingford

From New Haven: Take Rte. 34 West. Follow Rte. 34 West through Orange to Rte. 114 North to Woodbridge. Continue on Rte. 114 North to Rte. 63 North. Follow Rte. 63 North into Bethany to Rte. 42 East and continue on to Rte. 10 South. You may continue on Rte. 10 South or switch over to Rte. 91 North.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Clover Nook Farm	Bethany	(203) 393-2929
Fenwicks Farm Market	Bethany	(203) 393-3717





Gouveia Vineyards	Wallingford	(203) 265-5526
Lock 12 Historical Park	Cheshire	(203) 272-2743
Sleepy Giant State Park	Hamden	(203) 789-7498
Yale Bowl	New Haven	www.yale.edu

SHORELINE TOUR

Branford, Guilford, Madison, Clinton, Westbrook, Old Saybrook

From Branford: Take Rte. 1 North. Stay on Rte. 1 North until you come to Rte. 146 East through Guilford. Continue on Rte. 146 East and then get back on Rte. 1 North following through Madison, Clinton, Westbrook and Old Saybrook.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Bishop’s Orchards & Winery	Guilford	(203) 453-2338
Dudley Farm	Guilford	(203) 457-0770
Hammonasset State Park	Madison	(203) 245-2785
Maynard’s Farm Market	Old Saybrook	(860) 395-0664
Medlyn’s Farm Market	Branford	(203) 488-3578
Rose Orchards Farm Market	North Branford	(203) 488-7996
Scott’s Orchard Farm Market	Old Saybrook	(860) 388-1751
Thimble Island Tours	Branford	(203) 488-8905 or (203) 481-3345

**OTHER WAYS TO DO SOME LEAF PEEPING:
(ALPHABETICAL BY TOWN)**

BRANFORD

Action Sports

(203) 481-5511, actionsportsct.com

Kayak and bike rental

Thimble Island Cruises at Stony Creek Town Dock

Thimble Island Cruise aboard the Sea Mist (203) 488-8905, www.thimbleislandcruise.com

Thimble Island Tours aboard the Volsunga IV (203) 488-8905, www.thimbleislands.com, Daily and private evening charters; bus groups; dinner cruises, foliage cruise and private seal watches.

CLINTON

Indian River Marina

(860) 664-3704 Kayak rental

EAST HAMPTON

Happiest Paddler on Lake Pocotopaug

(860) 267-1764

Boat and Kayak rentals.





ESSEX

CT River Museum

(860) 767-8269, www.ctrivermuseum.org
Schooner daily and sunset cruises.

Essex Steam Train & Riverboat

(860) 767-0103, (800) 377-3987, www.essexsteamtrain.com
Steam Train & Riverboat Excursion, Gillette Castle Hiking Adventure, Outdoor Walking Tour, Essex Clipper Dinner Train, Private Events.

FARMINGTON VALLEY

Huck Finn Adventures

(860) 693-0385, www.huckfinnadventures.com
Outside Family Trips, Inside Tunnel Trips, Canoe and Kayak Rentals.

GUILFORD

Segway Tour

(203) 453-5799, www.segwaytoursandrentals.com
Experience a Segway Glide, tour consists of a training session followed by a guided ride.

Haddam at Eagle Landing State Park

RiverQuest
(860) 662-0577, www.ctriverquest.com
Daily CT River Excursions, Specialty Cruises, Educational Expeditions, Private Charters.

HARTFORD

Lady Katharine Cruises

(866) 86-RIVER, www.ladykatecruises.com
Lunch, Dinner & Sunday Brunch, Mystery, Comedy and Entertainment Cruises.

MILFORD

Tony's Bikes & Sports

(203) 878-5380, www.tonysbikes.com
Kayak and bike rental

OLD SAYBROOK

Connecticut River Tours

(860) 575-9888, www.ConnecticutRiverTours.com
Sight-Seeing Tours, Sunset Cruises, Private Charters, Water Taxi Service.

Maynard's Farm Market

(860) 395-0664 kayak rental





SOUTH GLASTONBURY

H.P. Kayak & Boat Rentals at Seaboard Marina

(860) 989-0033, www.harborparkboats.com

Kayak & Boat Rentals

Don't forget about the themed trails throughout Connecticut for hiking, biking and indulging the senses.

For more information on these trails, visit:

www.arttrail.org • www.ctbikeroutes.org • www.ctwine.com

www.netrails.org • www.walkct.org

FALL 2010 CALENDAR OF MAJOR FAIRS

August 27-29, Chester Fair,

www.chesterfair.org, (860) 526.5947

September 3-6, Haddam Neck Fair,

www.haddamneckfair.com, (860) 267-5922

September 9-12, Hebron Harvest Fair,

www.hebronharvestfair.org, (860) 228-0892

September 9-12, North Haven Fair,

www.northhaven-fair.com, (203) 239-3700

September 9-12, Wapping Fair, www.wappingfair.org

September 16-19, Four Town Fair, www.fourtownfair.com

September 17-18, Guilford Agricultural Fair,

www.guilfordfair.org

September 18 - October 3, The Big E,

www.thebige.com, (413) 737-2443

September 18 & 19, Orange Country Fair,

www.orangectfair.com

September 23-26, Durham Fair,

www.durhamfair.com, (860) 349-9495

October 1-3, Berlin Fair, www.ctberlinfair.com, (860) 828-0063

October 1-3 & 8-10, Southington Apple Harvest Festival,

www.southington.org/content/2018, (860) 276-8461

ACCOMMODATIONS & EVENTS

Please visit our Fall Festivities page at www.centerofct.com for a complete listing of fairs, festivals, events, and packages, specials and discounts at area accommodations, ranging from quaint bed & breakfasts to comfortable inns to larger hotels.

Useful Links

www.centershore.org • www.ctfairs.org • www.ctvisit.com

www.farmingtonvalleyvisit.com • www.stateparks.com





Central Regional Tourism District

1 Constitution Plaza / 2nd Floor / Hartford, CT 06103
860.787.9640 • www.centerofct.com

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