

River Valley's

Fall Driving Tours



Enjoy the natural beauty of the changing seasons
in Connecticut's River Valley!

River Valley / CONNECTICUT

www.visitctriver.com
(800) 793-4480



FALL in love with **River Valley / 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.

Nine driving tours are offered, each showcasing a different part of our 46-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.visitctriver.com or call (800) 793-4480.



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, following several miles to I-91.

Highlights:

Bielonko Farm	(860) 745-6395
Brown's Harvest	(860) 683-0266
Halladay Farm	(860) 668-7466
Kuras Farm	(860) 668-2942
Metacomet Trail	www.ctwoodlands.org
Noden-Reed House & Barn	(860) 627-9212
Northwest Park & Nature Center	(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:

Easy Pickin's Orchard	(860) 763-3276
Johnny Appleseed's Farm	(860) 875-1000
Trinity Farm	(860) 745-0751



EAST OF THE RIVER TOUR

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.

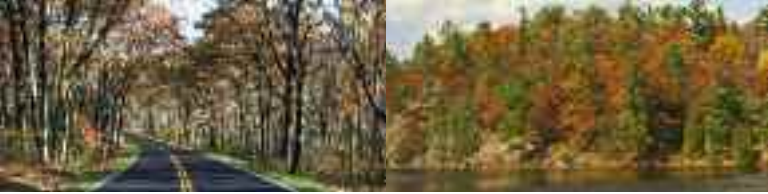
Highlights:

Berruti's Harvest Farm	(860) 663-7663
Belltown Hill Orchards	(860) 633-2789
Botticello Farms	(860) 649-2462
D. Scaglia Fruit Farm	(860) 633-9055
Dondero Orchards	(860) 659-0294
E. Draghi and Son	(860) 633-2197
Fish Family Farm	(860) 646-9745
Futtner's Family Farm	(860) 563-4138
Gay City State Park	(860) 424-3200
Gram's Tricka Farm	(860) 633-7933
Hurst Family Farm	(860) 646-6536
Rose's Berry Farm	(860) 633-7467
Scott's Orchard & Nursery	(860) 633-8681
Woodland Farm	(860) 663-2742
Wright's Orchard	(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	(860) 677-0343
Flamig Farm	(860) 658-5070
Hall's Farm Roadside Stand	(860) 658-4511
Pickin' Patch	(860) 677-9552
Rosedale Farms	(860) 658-6348
Talcott Mountain State Park	(860) 242-1158
Tulmeadow Farm	(860) 658-1430

QUINNIPIAC RIVER AND METACOMET TRAIL TOUR

Southington, Plantsville, Cheshire, Meriden

Starting at 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:

Farmington Canal Heritage Trail	www.fvgreenway.org
Hubbard Park and Castle Craig	(203) 630-4259
Metacomet Trail	www.ctwoodlands.org
Shuttle Meadow Reservoir	www.netrail.org

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:

Blue Hills Farm	(860) 828-5869
Chotkowski Farm	(860) 828-5016
DeMaria Family Farm	(860) 828-6724
Karabin Farms	(860) 621-6363
Laviana Orchards	(860) 828-5251
Lewis Farms	(860) 628-9736
Rogers Orchards	(860) 229-4240
Zarella Farms	(860) 793-8611

OLD WETHERSFIELD, CT RIVER FERRY AND BROWNSTONE QUARRY TOUR

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

From 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 Quarry	www.brownstonepark.com
Draghi & Sons Farm	(860) 633-2197
Gram’s Farm	(860) 633-7933
Hurd State Park	(860) 424-3200
Q-P Farm Market	(860) 342-5030
Rocky Hill-Glastonbury Ferry	(860) 443-3856
Webb-Deane-Stevens Museum	(860) 529-0612

**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	(860) 873-8566
Gillette Castle State Park	(860) 526-2336
Haddam Meadows State Park	(860) 424-3200

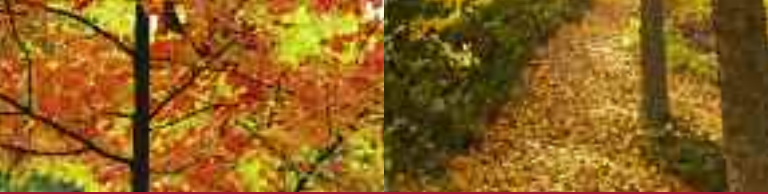
CONNECTICUT RIVER TIDELANDS TOUR

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	(860) 767-0103
RiverQuest Cruises	(860) 662-0577
Scott's CT Valley Orchard	(860) 526-9633
Scott's Farm & Greenhouse	(860) 767-7059



OTHER WAYS TO DO SOME LEAF PEEPING:

OLD SAYBROOK CONNECTICUT RIVER TOURS

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

ESSEX RIVERQUEST

(860) 662-0577, www.ctriverexpeditions.org
Daily Essex Harbor Excursions, Specialty Cruises, Educational
Expeditions, Private Charters.

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.

MIDDLETOWN HARBOR PARK BOAT RENTALS

(860) 989-0033, www.harborparkboats.com.
Canoe, Kayak, Rowboat, Peddle Boat and Rowing Shell
Rentals located at the North End of Harbor Park.

HARTFORD LADY KATHARINE CRUISES

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

FARMINGTON VALLEY HUCK FINN ADVENTURES

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



FALL 2008 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 22-24, Chester Fair, www.chesterfair.org, 860.526.5947

August 29-31 & September 1, Haddam Neck Fair,
Haddam Neck, www.haddamneckfair.com

September 4-7, Hebron Harvest Fair, Hebron,
www.hebronharvestfair.org

September 4-7, Wapping Fair, South Windsor, www.wappingfair.org

September 6, Guitar Under the Stars, Hartford,
www.riverfront.org, 860.713.3131

September 11-14, Four Town Fair, Somers, www.fourtownfair.com

September 12-28, The Big E, West Springfield, MA,
"September 17- Connecticut Day", www.thebige.com

September 13, Discover Hartford Bicycling & Walking Tour,
Hartford, www.hartfordbiketour.org, 860.727.0050

September 13, Pilobolus, Hartford, www.riverfront.org,
860.713.3131

September 13, Wethersfield's Annual Corn Festival,
Historic Wethersfield, www.historicwethersfield.org, 860.529.7656

September 20, Riverfront Dragon Boat Races & Asian Festival,
Hartford, www.riverfront.org, 860.713.3131

**September 20-21, First Annual Taste of Fall Festival at Lake
Compounce**, Bristol, www.lakecompounce.com, 860.583.3300

**September 26-28, October 3-5, 40th Annual Apple Harvest
Festival**, Southington, www.appleharvestfestival.com, 860.276.8461

September 27, Pipes in the Valley, Hartford,
www.pipesinthevalley.com, 860.713.3131

September 27-October 26, Scarecrows on Main,
Historic Wethersfield, www.historicwethersfield.org, 860.529.7656

All Weekends in October and Columbus Day, The Pickin' Patch,
Avon, Free Hayrides to the Pumpkin Patch, 860.677.9552

**October 3-November 1, Every Thursday-Sunday,
The Haunted Graveyard at Lake Compounce**, Bristol,
www.lakecompounce.com, 860.583.3300



October 3-5, Berlin Fair, East Berlin, www.ctberlinfair.com

October 4, Annual Fall Craft Fair, Cove Park, Wethersfield, www.historicwethersfield.org

October 10-12, Hartford International Jazz Festival, www.hijf.com

October 10-25, Rails to the Darkside, Connecticut Trolley Museum, East Windsor, www.ct-trolley.org, 860.627.6540

October 10-26, Pumpkin Patch, Connecticut Trolley Museum, East Windsor, www.ct-trolley.org, 860.627.6540

October 10-12, Portland Agricultural Fair, www.portlandfair.com

Mid-October Weekends, Haunted Mansion, Veterans Memorial Clubhouse, East Hartford, 860.528.1458

October 11, ING Hartford Marathon, www.hartfordmarathon.com, 860.652.8866

October 12, Hay Day, Hill-Stead Museum, Farmington, www.hillstead.org, 860.677.4787

October 18, Annual Klingberg Antique Auto Show, New Britain, www.klingberg.org, 860.832.5526

October 22-26 & October 29-November 1, Haunted Miniature Golf, Farmington Miniature Golf & Ice Cream Parlor, www.farmingtonvalleyvisit.com, 860.676.8878

October 25, Ghost Walk, Farmington, 860.677.9222

October 25-26, All Hallows Eve Weekend, Old Newgate Prison & Cooper Mine, East Granby, 860.653.3563

November 1-2 & 8-9, Day Out With Thomas, Essex Steam Train, www.essexsteamtrain.com, 888.ESSEX.TRAIN

November 2, Connecticut Veterans Day Parade, Hartford, www.ctveteransdayparade.org, 860.724.2649 ext. 23

November 8, 3rd Annual Red Rose Tea Fair, Windsor, www.windsorcc.org, 860.688.5165

November 9, Wreath Ramble, Hill-Stead Museum, Farmington, www.hillstead.org, 860.677.4787

November 21-22, Wethersfield Antiques Show, www.historicwethersfield.org, 860.529.7656



River Valley / CONNECTICUT

Central Regional Tourism District

31 Pratt Street / 4th Floor / Hartford, CT 06103

800.793.4480 / 860.244.8181 / Fax 860.244.8180

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