



Savor the Fall Season in Sturbridge

This past summer, we planned dozens of day trips, took the scenic route, and discovered hidden gems in our own backyard. This fall, keep that adventurous spirit alive when the crisp weather and dazzling foliage beckons you to cozy Sturbridge, Massachusetts.

Get a Hobby

Shorter days and colder temperatures means spending more time indoors – give yourself something fun to do this season with a craft from Hog Heaven Hobbies. A full line hobby shop, Hog Heaven offers a variety of model trains and toys, as well as RC airplanes, cars, helicopters, and drones.

494 Main St, Fiskdale, MA 01518

<http://www.hogheavenhobbies.com/about-us.html>

Enjoy the Autumn Harvest

Pick up some snacks for your journey and celebrate the fall harvest at the Sturbridge Farmers Market! Support local farmers by browsing their bounty of colorful veggies, plump berries, and dazzling flowers. Peruse goodies from 18 different vendors, who sell everything from honey and skincare, to baked goods and locally-roasted coffee. Kids especially will love picking out their own unique snack, and will have a greater appreciation for the farms and orchards that they'll see around town. The Farmer's Market is held on the Town Common every Sunday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, now through October 11th.

Town Common, 308 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA 01566

<https://www.sturbridgefarmersmarket.com>

Apple Picking...With a Twist

Nothing says "fall" quite like apple picking – pick your bunch at Hyland Brewery & Orchard, a third-generation, family-owned farm situated on 150 acres of pristine land. Starting September 20th, the Orchard will open on weekends to the public for their annual fall festivities. Whether you prefer Granny Smiths, Cortlands, or good 'ol Macintosh, you can pick your perfect mix from over 2,000 apple trees. Bring a picnic to enjoy on the scenic lawn while you listen to live music, or jump on a hayride and pet the friendly barnyard animals. Craft beer fans should also stop by the Orchard's rustic 1940's apple barn, which houses the main brewing operations for local favorite: Rapsallion Beer. Rapsallion also operates an 18-hole disc golf course on the property, which visitors of *all* ages can enjoy.

199 Arnold Rd, Sturbridge, MA 01518

www.hylandorchard.com

<http://drinkrapsallion.com/sturbridge/>

Get Your Pumpkin Spice Fix

After a morning of farm life, head back into town to grab a pick-me-up on fabled Main Street – Sturbridge’s thoroughfare of food and indulgence.

❖ **Saw Dust Coffee House & Dessert Bar**

Stop by the newest addition to the Sturbridge coffee scene to fuel up on Panini’s, quiche, fresh baked goods and more! Be sure to also visit during the evening to sample their sizzling cocktail menu, and on Sunday mornings for their famous acoustic brunch.

371 Main St, Sturbridge, MA 01566

<https://www.sawdustcoffeehouse.com>

❖ **Sturbridge Coffee House**

Beloved by locals, this coffee shop pours anything with caffeine, from double espresso shots to spicy chai teas and lattes topped with pure maple syrup.

407B Main St, Sturbridge, MA 01566

<https://www.sturbridgecoffeehouse.com/>

❖ **Cedar Street Café**

Another popular coffee and breakfast joint, this eatery boasts handcrafted coffees, pastries made from scratch, and a wild selection of lunch and breakfast items. Take your beverage to go or dine inside their renovated, historic farmhouse, or on their outdoor patio.

***Note:** Due to COVID-19, the café is currently only open for patio service and To Go orders. Order online to skip the line.*

420 Main St, Sturbridge, MA 01566

<https://cedarstreetcafesturbridge.com>

❖ **Jimmy D’s Ice Cream**

Don’t let the name deceive you – this 1950’s-themed ice cream shop also serves savory options like soups, specialty sandwiches, salads, and seasonal treats! Unique and charming, a trip to Jimmy D’s is sure to satisfy all your cravings, be they salty or sweet.

***Note:** Due to COVID-19, Jimmy D’s is currently open for pick-up only. Order online or by phone.*

413 Main St, Sturbridge, MA 01566

<https://jimmydsicecream.com>

Browse the Local Antiques Scene

Every September, kids dig out their backpacks, the leaves begin to change, and 130,000 people flock to Central Mass for the world famous Brimfield Antique Flea Market Show. While the show was canceled this year due to COVID-19, garage sale novices and seasoned pickers can still get their fix at the year-round Sturbridge Flea Market. With over 150 dealers spread across three floors, Sturbridge Flea Market offers thousands of unique items at a bargain price. Don’t make the mistake of underestimating this “flea market” – they boast a surprising selection of quality goods and rare finds that you won’t find anywhere else. Browse everything from antiques and collectibles, to artisanal goods, jewelry, country

décor, and more! Even the most reluctant of shoppers will be intrigued by the overwhelming array of goodies and knick-knacks available to peruse. Check their Facebook page for the latest finds and deals available.

559 Main St, Sturbridge, MA 01518

<https://www.facebook.com/STURBRIDGEFLEAMARKET/>

Sturbridge Pottery

If you enjoy rare crafts, be sure to also visit Sturbridge Pottery studio and gallery. Known for their beauty and craftsmanship, Sturbridge Pottery is collected across the United States and Europe. Each piece is hand sculpted and fired in the kiln at 1800 degrees for 12 hours, before being meticulously glazed and fired for another 30 hours. The end result is a unique piece of art that will last for years to come, reminding you of your colorful trip to this charming New England town.

99 New Boston Rd, Sturbridge, MA 01566

<https://www.sturbridgepottery.com>

Baba Sushi

For dinner, head back into town to Baba Sushi. Though known for their flavorful raw fish dishes and poke bowls, they also offer a wide spread of Asian cuisine, including a tantalizing array of customizable Chinese Hot Pots. You'll find fans of Baba Sushi all over MA – its flagship restaurant in Worcester has been voted *Best Sushi Restaurant* in town nine years in a row! See what all the fuss is about and book a table today at Baba Sushi.

<https://babasushi.com/sturbridge/>

453 Main St, Sturbridge, MA 01518

Enjoy the Fall Foliage at Wells State Park

Everyone in New England knows that the best part of autumn is the splash of amber, crimson, and sienna that adorns every treetop. After you finish browsing the storefronts on Main Street, spend the rest of your afternoon observing this stunning regional phenomenon at Wells State Park. For a stunning view, hike to Carpenter Rocks – a large granite outcropping that overlooks the nearby pond and surrounding, multicolored forest.

159 Walker Pond Rd, Sturbridge, MA 01566

<https://www.mass.gov/locations/wells-state-park>

“Fall” Back in Time at Old Sturbridge Village

There's something about the first chill of autumn that makes us harken back to the days of yore, when quaint cottages were heated by roaring fires, and children were told stories by flickering candlelight. Think you know everything about Old Sturbridge Village? Think again – their exciting lineup of fall events and hands-on programs prove that you can always learn something new.

❖ Evening at The Village – Saturday, September 19, 2020

Savor the final days of summer with a night at the village. Visit OSV on September 19 to explore the town after-hours and stroll through the scenic, lantern-lit streets. Enjoy a fun evening of

period music, horse-drawn wagon rides, kiln firing, and other festivities. Bring a picnic to eat on the Town Common, or purchase snacks, beer, or wine from the food stand. Children get in for free (up to three kids per adult), but this event is limited capacity, so please register in advance. <https://www.osv.org/event/evening-at-the-village-september-19/>

❖ **Historical Craft Classes**

Who says hands-on learning is just for kids? OSV's Historical Craft Classes are a series of adult workshops that teach students period-era skills, such as blacksmithing, weaving, furniture making, food harvesting and more! No prior experience is needed, and students get to take home whatever treasure they create. To ensure the safety of both visitors and instructors, classes have a limited capacity and work stations that allow for social distancing. Advanced registration is required for all classes (registration closes one week before event).

<https://www.osv.org/event/historical-craft-classes/>

1 Old Sturbridge Village Road, Sturbridge, MA 01566

Go on A Safari

Need an excuse to turn your getaway into a three-day weekend? Look no further than Southwick Zoo, which offers "Drive Thru" tours every Monday and Wednesday this fall. The largest private zoo in New England, Southwick is well worth the 45-minute drive from Sturbridge. Forget red lights, chaotic merges and deer crossings – here you'll be driving past swarms of chattering Capuchin Monkeys while an African Lion roars over your radio. Take advantage of this unique, unprecedented opportunity to explore the region's premiere zoo without having to leave the comfort and safety of your own vehicle. For the full experience, you can download special tour guide audio from the zoo's website to play as you cruise past Bengal Tigers and through forests of Elk. Guaranteed to be your family's most unforgettable road trip, and the *only* one where your kids won't be asking: "Are we there yet?"

Note: *The zoo is also open for regular walking visits every Tuesday and Thursday-Sunday, with standard COVID-19 precautions and sanitizing procedures in place. Per state requirements, all visitors (drive thru and walking) must purchase their tickets in advance for a specific date and time; tickets will not be sold at the entrance. Outside food, coolers, and large bags are not permitted in the zoo at this time. The zoo's 2020 season will run until October 31.*

2 Southwick Street, Mendon, MA 01756

<https://southwickzoo.com>

There are a number of great places to dine in Sturbridge. For more information on where to dine, go to: <https://www.sturbridge.gov/businesses/pages/business-directory>

Where To Stay

Sturbridge offers a number of lodgings to fit a variety of budgets, tastes, and travel groups. Book a room at the **Super 8 by Wyndham** if you want a central location at a bargain price. If you're disappointed that the colonial-themed lodgings of Old Sturbridge Village are closed for the season, consider checking in to **Publick House Historic Inn** instead, where travelers have been staying for over 200 years! And parents with young children should look no farther than **Comfort Inn & Suites**, which offers free breakfast, WiFi, and an indoor and outdoor pool.

Following is a list of accommodations in Sturbridge:

[Days Inn Sturbridge](#)

[Econo Lodge](#)

[Hampton Inn Sturbridge](#)

[Holiday Inn Express & Suites](#)

[LaQuinta Inn & Suites Sturbridge](#)

[Publick House Historic Inn](#)

[Sturbridge Host Hotel](#)

[Super 8 Sturbridge](#)

For more information on where to stay, go to: <https://www.sturbridge.gov/businesses/pages/business-directory>