



Spring Has Sprung in Sturbridge!

Are you suffering from spring fever? Do you need an excuse to get out of the house after a long winter?

Look no further than Sturbridge, Massachusetts! In Sturbridge, you'll find an endless number of springtime activities, from gorgeous parks and outdoor excursions, to unique festivals and culinary experiences! With the promise of warm and sunnier days ahead, you'll find that there's no better place to spring into the season than picturesque Sturbridge!

Day 1

Soak Up American History at Sturbridge Common Historic District

Sturbridge was founded in 1738, situated along the old Boston Post Road. In the center of town, you'll find Joshua Hyde Library, the Federated Church and Sturbridge Town Hall. Across from the library you'll find the Old Burial Ground, a resting place for many Revolutionary War Veterans. And across from the cemetery is the Sturbridge Common. During the Revolution, the Common was active and served as the site where a cavalry company was raised and sent to serve with George Washington's Continental Army. Colonel Ebenezer Crafts, who was the founding Innkeeper of the Publick House Historic Inn, located across the street from the Common, personally raised and equipped the company.

308 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA 01566

Brush Up on Your Archery Skills

Test your skills with a bow and arrow at Bay Path Archers, located just over the border in Southbridge. Whether you're interested in wielding a Crossbow, Recurve, Compound, or Long Bow, Bay Path has a wealth of instructors, friendly members, and resources to help visitors of all skill levels. Sign up for a lesson, membership, or simply visit the indoor range during public hours on Wednesday and Friday, from 6:00 to 9:00 PM.

243 Guelphwood Rd, Southbridge, MA 01550

<https://www.facebook.com/www.baypatharchersinc/about>

Homefield Kitchen & Brewery

Stop by Homefield Kitchen & Brewery, where they specialize in "farm-fresh takeout and creative comfort food" that changes with the season. In an age where foodies can browse menus online and place an order with the click of a button, Homefield's constantly shifting menu may come as a surprise. But at Homefield, they simply prefer to let their catch-of-the-day or latest farmer's market haul dictate what they put on the table. But don't worry: while things at Homefield never stay the same for long, you're always guaranteed to enjoy an indulgent, unparalleled culinary experience, powered by only the freshest ingredients available.

3 Arnold Road, Sturbridge

<https://www.homefieldkitchen.com>

**** Insider Tip:** *The brewery at Homefield is always crafting new beverages for eager fans to try, so be sure try their latest concoction when you visit, whether it's their sweet Peach Sangria or tangy Gooseberry Saison.*

Check In At... *The Publick House Historic Inn*

Consider anchoring your visit with a stay at Publick House. This historic inn has stood on the Town Common for the past 230 years, serving travelers from near and far. After a day of exploring, you'll find there's nothing better than relaxing in an 18th century atmosphere with 21st century amenities. A truly one-of-a-kind experience that you'll *only* find in Sturbridge, Massachusetts.

On-site Dining: *Historic Tap Room* – Step back in time at the inn's Historic Tap Room, where guests having been dining and socializing for centuries. This charming room still boasts its original hardwood floors and “post n’ beam ceiling.” But the real selling point is the gigantic, six-foot-long fireplace, whose open hearth will warm even the chilliest of travelers. Enjoy generous portions of traditional comfort food, like their roasted turkey dinner or Yankee Pot Roast.

277 Main St, Sturbridge, MA 01566

<https://publickhouse.com/accommodations/>

Day 2

Get Up Early To Score A Deal

When the first flowers of spring start to bloom, it's time for the annual, world famous Brimfield Antique Flea Market Show. America's Oldest Outdoor Flea Market takes place twice a year, in May, July and September, and you can find more information at: **<https://www.BrimfieldAntiquesFleaMarket.com>**

But during the rest of the year, garage sale novices and seasoned pickers can still get their fix at the Sturbridge Flea Market, open year-round. With over 150 dealers spread across three floors, Sturbridge Flea Market offers thousands of unique items you won't find anywhere else at a bargain price. Browse everything from antiques and collectibles, to artisanal goods, jewelry, country décor, and more! Even the most reluctant of shoppers in your travel party will be intrigued by the overwhelming array of goodies and knick-knacks available to peruse.

559 Main St, Sturbridge, MA 01518

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

Stop by 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>

Grab Brunch at Cedar Street Café

A popular coffee and breakfast place, this eatery boasts handcrafted coffees, pastries made from scratch, and a great 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>

Celebrate 75 Years of Old Sturbridge Village

Spring is one of the best times to visit Old Sturbridge Village, when the farm is buzzing with newborn arrivals, The Towne Garden is blooming with floral delights, the trees are being tapped for maple syrup, and the pesky throngs of summer tourists are still far out of sight. This year, come and be a part of OSV's 75th anniversary celebration! Already the largest outdoor living history museum in New England, OSV has recently overhauled its outdoor programming to allow for maximum social distancing *and* customer enjoyment. Many of their popular indoor exhibits can now be viewed outside, along with several new, never-before-seen installations. Step back in time as you walk through this quaint slice of early American life, where horse-drawn carriages roam the streets and blacksmiths hammer away in coal forges. Guaranteed to be a delightful, unforgettable experience for both history buffs and novices, old and young. Visit their website for COVID operations and to book your tickets in advance.

<https://www.osv.org/plan-your-visit/>

1 Old Sturbridge Village Road, Sturbridge, MA 01566

Note: Due to COVID-19, tickets must be purchased and/or reserved online for a specific time slot to maintain a safe capacity in accordance with state guidelines. Old Sturbridge Village is open Wednesday through Sunday for the spring/summer season.

Dine at Enrico's Brick Oven Pizza

If you need an excuse to saddle up to Enrico's bar, it's for the direct view you'll have of their 900-degree, wood-burning brick pizza oven. Featured on *The Phantom Gourmet* and certified by The Association of True Neapolitan Pizza, Enrico's pies are as authentic as it gets. If you're not in the mood for pizza, you can also indulge in a variety of pastas, salads, sandwiches, and desserts, along with your seasonal draft of choice. Conveniently located on Main Street, Sturbridge's premier thoroughfare of shops, dining, and entertainment.

500 Main St, Sturbridge, MA 01566

<http://www.enricosbrickovenpizzeria.com>

Day 3

Start Your Day Off Right

Fuel up for a day spent outdoors, enjoying the warm weather. Grab a hearty bite at any one of these fabulous breakfast eateries, whose plates are sure to power you through the day:

❖ **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/>

❖ **Saw Dust Coffee House**

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>

❖ **Annie's Country Kitchen**

Treat your family to a delicious breakfast at Annie's Country Kitchen, where they serve classic American comfort food, cooked to perfection, at an unbeatable price.

140 Main St, Sturbridge, MA 01566

anniescountrykitchen.com

Play a Round or Two

For some people, the best way to spend a beautiful spring day is on an 18-hole fairway. If you're one of those people, head to Hemlock Ridge Golf Course. This luxurious course is set on acres of rolling hills and sparkling waterways, surrounded by statuesque oak, elm, and hemlock trees. Enjoy the peaceful, gorgeous scenery of The Last Green Valley as you work on your back swing and score that hole-in-one. Non-members can call ahead for available tee times and openings.

220 Holland Rd, Fiskdale, MA 01518

<https://hemlockridgegolfcourse.com/>

Welcome Back Spring

Looking to reconnect with the great outdoors? There's no better time to go for a nature walk than springtime, when plants and animals alike are emerging from their winter slumber. Delight in hearing the cheerful calls of returning songbirds, as the first buds of the year poke through the ground and bloom into color. Whether you're a novice or an avid hiker, there's a trail in Sturbridge waiting for you.

❖ **Wells State Park**

There's a reason why Wells State Park is the most popular park in Sturbridge. With over 1,400 acres of oak-hickory forest and freshwater, there's something for every kind of nature lover! Explore its 12 miles of trail on foot, mountain bike, or horseback. Dip your toes in Walker Pond, which also offers kayaking, canoeing, an assortment of fishing, and a campers-only swimming beach. Be sure to visit Carpenter Rocks, whose summit boasts a scenic lookout over the surrounding forest.

159 Walker Pond Rd, Sturbridge, MA 01566

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

❖ **Leadmine Mountain Conservation Area**

A robust, multi-purpose area, Leadmine Mountain boasts five marked trails totaling 11 miles, spanning everything from oak and pine forest to submerged wetland. Visitors are invited to use the trails for hiking, mountain biking, cross-country skiing, horseback riding, and wildlife viewing (motorized vehicles are not allowed). The Raven Rookery Trail is an easy hike that takes you to an emerald lagoon. Fishing and hunting are also permitted on the property, so be sure to wear bright orange during the hunting season.

197 Leadmine Road, Sturbridge, MA 01518

www.sturbridgetrails.org/leadmine-mountain.html

❖ **The Trustees' Tantiusques Reservation**

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Tantiusques Reservation is an outdoor excursion and history lesson rolled into one. The reservation was once a great source of graphite and was mined for centuries by the native Nipmuc tribe and local English colonists until it was abandoned in the late 1800's. Today, hikers can still see an open mine shaft and partially-filled mine cut, the only remnants of New England's first-ever mining operation.

493 Leadmine Rd, Sturbridge, MA 01566

<https://thetrustees.org/place/tantiusques/>

**** Insider Tip:** Looking for trails that are ADA accessible? Sturbridge boasts a plethora, including Grand Trunk Trail, Burgess Discovery Trail, and the Heins Farm Conservation Lands.

For a full guide to all of Sturbridge's public lands, visit:

https://www.sturbridge.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif3881/f/uploads/stur_trail_guide_final_2019_v2.1_2.pdf

Treat Yourself

After exhausting yourself on a long hike, stop into town for a well-deserved feast. Sturbridge boasts a mind-boggling variety of restaurants that are sure to satisfy any palette, whether you're looking for vegan, Italian, or anything in between.

If you're leaving **Leadmine Mountain** or **Old Sturbridge Village**, you can easily find generous portions of southern-style, smoked barbecue right up the road at **B.T.'s Smokehouse** (btsmokehouse.com). Nearby is another noteworthy neighbor, **Sturbridge Seafood**, who proves that you don't need to live on the coast in order to score a great bowl of chowder (sturbridgeseafood.com). Or treat yourself to a gourmet Italian meal at **Avellino**, whose open concept kitchen allows you to watch as chefs expertly prepare your culinary masterpiece (avellinorestaurant.com).

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

Sturbridge has a number of lodging properties to accommodate all types of travel. 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>