



Make A Splash This Summer in Sturbridge

*From camping and antiquing, to historical reenactments and craft breweries, Sturbridge offers something for every kind of traveler. And if you're looking to see more of the region, Sturbridge makes the perfect home base. It's central location conveniently puts you just an hour outside of Boston, Lexington and Concord, and within a 45-minute drive of some of the region's most popular attractions, including **Six Flags New England, Southwick Zoo, The Basketball Hall of Fame, and the Emily Dickinson House**. So start planning your trip today, and make this Summer one to remember.*

Day 1

Celebrate your arrival in Sturbridge by touring the local craft brew scene! With three different breweries residing in the Sturbridge area, you'll have plenty of options to choose from, though we suggest sampling all three.

❖ **Altruist Brewing Company**

You'll find **Altruist Brewing** in *Sturbridge Marketplace*, a beautifully renovated historic mill on Main Street that overlooks the Quinebaug River. Using quality ingredients and hand-crafted recipes, Altruist brews their IPA's and ales patiently in small batches, ensuring that every drop is better than the last. Drawing inspiration from the 150-year-old mill, their tap room is a unique, industrial environment where friends can share a drink and enjoy live music. Alternatively, if your friends are of the four-legged variety, you can also bring them along and relax on the outdoor Beer Garden Patio.

559 Main St, Sturbridge, MA 01518

altruistbrewing.com

❖ **Homefield Kitchen & Brewery**

If you're looking for a meal to go with your drink of choice, Homefield is your best bet, where they specialize in "farm-fresh takeout and creative comfort food." Their rotating menu allows New England's local seasonal flavors to shine, and every culinary creation is crafted with only the freshest ingredients available. You'll find Homefield's brewers are equally as ambitious, and always have a new concoction for eager fans to try, from a sweet Peach Sangria to a tangy Gooseberry Saison.

3 Arnold Road, Sturbridge

<https://www.homefieldkitchen.com>

Note: Due to COVID-19, Homefield is only open for Take Out and occasional outdoor picnic table seating. Sign up for their e-newsletter or visit their Facebook page for updates on their menu, brewery, and operations.

❖ **Tree House Brewing Company**

For truly dedicated IPA fans, no trip to the Sturbridge area is complete without visiting the famous **Tree House Brewery**. Since its founding in 2011, Tree House has garnered a nationwide cult following, and their brewery now welcomes half-a-million visitors every year. Stop by during their weekday hours to pick up a few cans of their double IPA, *Haze*, or their national best seller, *Green*. Or schedule a trip for Saturday, when the tap room is open to the public for draft pours, live entertainment, and food truck delicacies.

Note: Due to COVID-19, the brewery is currently closed for draft and ordinary sales. Order online for contactless pickup.

129 Sturbridge Rd, Charlton, MA 01507

<https://treehousebrew.com>

Dine Like A True New Englander

Everyone knows that summertime in New England means only one thing: Sea Food, and lots of it. Head to critically acclaimed **Sturbridge Seafood** in the center of town for living proof that you don't need to live on the coast in order to score a great bowl of clam chowder.

sturbridgeseafood.com

376 Main St, Sturbridge, MA 01566

Camp Out Under The Stars

Make your trip one to remember with an overnight stay at **Wells State Park**. With 55 camping spots for tents and RV's, as well as several ramp-accessible yurts, this campsite can accommodate many types of travelers. Whether it's your first time pitching a tent or your fiftieth, you'll love all the amenities Wells Park has to offer, including 12 miles of hiking trails and a picturesque lake for swimming, boating and fishing. Each yurt is equipped with bunk beds, tables and chairs, in addition to water and electricity access. Regular campsites are outfitted with a fire ring and picnic table, so you can feast on your catch of the day before roasting marshmallows at night. For those looking to truly reconnect with the outdoors, this is the ultimate experience. Campsite open from Memorial Day weekend through Columbus Day.

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

159 Walker Pond Rd, Sturbridge, MA 01566

Or Check In At...

If camping isn't your thing, don't worry! There are plenty of unique retreats waiting for you in this cozy colonial town, including:

❖ **Sturbridge Host Hotel**

Tucked away on the picturesque shores of Cedar Lake, this hotel is perfect for anyone who wants a "summer on the lake," without sacrificing all the comforts of a 3-star hotel. Here, you

can spend your mornings paddle boating and reclining on the guests-only private beach, and wind away your nights telling stories around the crackling fire pit. While Host Hotel offers you privacy and reprieve, it's still just a couple of minutes from the center of town, giving you the best of both worlds.

On-site Dining: *The Oxhead Tavern* – Originally built as a meetinghouse in 1820, the Oxhead Tavern is now a casual family restaurant and bar, serving classic New England dishes and American cuisine. Enjoy outdoor dining that overlooks sparkling Cedar Lake, as you savor a piping hot bowl of clam chowder or a caramelized New York Strip steak.

366 Main St, Sturbridge, MA 01566

<https://sturbridgehosthotel.com/the-oxhead-tavern/>

❖ **Publick House**

If you're a fan of history, consider staying at the iconic Publick House, which has stood on the Sturbridge Town Common, serving guests and travelers, for the past 230 years. After a long day of adventure, you'll find there's nothing better than unwinding among the warm, quaint and charming atmosphere of the 18th century, with all the convenience of the 21st. 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/>

❖ **La Quinta Inn & Suites by Wyndham**

La Quinta Inn offers visitors prime location at a bargain price. With a 4-star Google Review rating, this affordable hotel is a great option for those who want to be in the center of town without breaking the bank.

478 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA 01518

wyndhamhotels.com

Day 2

Grab Breakfast at Saw Dust Coffee House

Stop by the newest addition to the Sturbridge coffee scene to fuel up on Panini's, savory quiche, fresh baked goods and more! And if you find yourself falling in love with their food—which you very likely will—come back in the evening to sample their sizzling cocktail menu, or on Sunday morning for their famous acoustic brunch.

371 Main St, Sturbridge, MA 01566

<https://www.sawdustcoffeehouse.com>

Take A Hike

Abandoned mines, stunning vistas, unique creatures, and more all await you on Sturbridge's many trails and preserves. For a full guide to all of Sturbridge's public lands, visit:

https://www.sturbridge.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlij3881/f/uploads/stur_trail_guide_final_2019_v2.1_2.pdf

❖ Wells State Park

If you chose to camp at Wells State Park, then you'll literally find adventure right at your doorstep! With over 1,400 acres of oak-hickory forest and freshwater, this famous park has something for every nature explorer! Explore its 12 miles of trail on foot, mountain bike, horseback, or cross-country ski. 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, horse back riding, and wildlife viewing (motorized vehicles are not allowed). 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/>

❖ Accessible Trails for All Explorers

Sturbridge boasts several ADA trails, so that even those with limited mobility can still enjoy a sunny day exploring the great outdoors:

- **Grand Trunk Trail** – Also referred to as “Titanic Railroad,” this unique trail follows the path of an old railroad bed. You won't see any tracks, however, as the project was shortly abandoned after its founder perished on the ill-fated Titanic (hence the trail's nickname). Instead, you'll be treated to a pleasant nature walk on a well-constructed,

fine gravel trail, whose wide width and ADA appropriate grades can easily accommodate mobility aids, strollers, and mountain bikes.

- **Burgess Discovery Trail** – Located on the grounds of Burgess Elementary School, this federal ABA compliant trail is fully handicapped accessible and offers many opportunities to “interact with nature,” including a wetland bog bridge, glacial boulders, and local wildlife.
- **Heins Farm Conservation Lands** – This 84-acre property boasts a number of trails, including the Pond View Loop (*0.7 miles*). This handicapped-accessible trail features a picturesque rest area that overlooks the pond and nearby Heins Farm. Keep an eye out for the pond’s many residents, including ducks, heron, and spotted turtles. Parking lot boasts a designated handicapped spot.

Grab Some Lunch

Stop to rehydrate and refuel at **Soup To Nuts Café**, a cozy, local favorite with nearly 30 years in the business. Using quality, local ingredients, Soup to Nuts specializes in a variety of freshly prepared soups, chowders, salads, sandwiches and famous baked quiches. Even better: this eatery is located in *Sturbridge Marketplace*, which is also home to the colossal **Sturbridge Flea Market**, where you can easily spend a whole afternoon.

559 Main St, Fiskdale, MA 01518

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

Go On A Shopping Spree

If an afternoon of shopping sounds right up your alley, then you’re in luck! Sturbridge has plenty of boutiques and gift shops for you to get lost in. **Sturbridge Flea Market** is a must-see, with 150 dealers spread across three floors, offering everything from antiques and rare collectibles, to artisanal goods, jewelry, country décor, and more! Even the most reluctant of shoppers will be intrigued by the sheer array of goodies available to peruse ([facebook.com/STURBRIDGEFLEAMARKET/](https://www.facebook.com/STURBRIDGEFLEAMARKET/)). A few minutes up the road lies another quirky spot, **The Yankee Peddlar**. You never know what you’ll find at this self-described “country store with a whole lot more,” which indeed offers an eclectic variety of home goods, souvenirs and knick knacks ([facebook.com/SturbridgeYankeePedlar/](https://www.facebook.com/SturbridgeYankeePedlar/)). For a distinctly elegant souvenir, visit **Sturbridge Pottery**, where world-renown artisans meticulously sculpt and glaze beautiful pieces of ceramic art that are fired in an 1800-degree kiln for 40 hours (sturbridgepottery.com). If you prefer a souvenir you can build yourself, head to **Hog Heaven Hobbies**, a full line hobby shop specializing in model trains and toys, RC airplanes, cars, helicopters, drones and more (hogheavenhobbies.com).

Solve a Mystery

In Sturbridge, Saturday nights are for sleuthing! Test your detective skills at **Escape the Pike**, an award-winning escape room that is guaranteed to get your heart racing and your blood pumping! Find clues and solve puzzles in this immersive mystery experience, in which you and a group of friends race against the clock to “escape” your mystifying surroundings. Perfect for families and friend groups of all ages.

179 Main St, Sturbridge, MA 01566

<https://www.escapethepike.com>

Note: Due to COVID-19, all escape rooms will be private sessions with your group only. Reservations are required at least two hours in advance. Walk-ins not accepted.

Treat Yourself (and your tastebuds!)

You might have to dip into your wallet to dine at **Sturbridge Porterhouse**, but the food at this historic stable-turned-steakhouse is well worth the investment. With steaks cooked perfectly to-order and a host of tantalizing entrees and appetizers, you'll find a trip here is worth every penny. On Friday and Saturday nights, you can head to the second floor after your meal to unwind in the exclusive piano bar and lounge area.

<https://www.sturbridge-porterhouse.com>

407 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA 01566

Day 3

Start Your Day Sunny Side Up

There's no better place for a classic, homestyle American breakfast than **Annie's Country Kitchen**, where they serve comfort food, cooked to perfection, at an unbeatable price.

140 Main St, Sturbridge, MA 01566

anniescountrykitchen.com

Eat Local

Pick up some snacks for the day at the **Sturbridge Farmers Market**! Support local farmers and browse a wide selection of fresh veggies, plump berries, and baked goodies, alongside artisanal crafts like hand-made soap, honey, and locally-roasted coffee. Kids will especially love picking out their own unique snack, and will have a greater appreciation for the farms and orchards that color the town. The Farmer's Market is held on the Town Common every Sunday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, from June 6 through October 10.

Town Common, 308 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA 01566

<https://www.sturbridgefarmersmarket.com>

Turn Back the Clock at Old Sturbridge Village

This summer, escape to a simpler time at Old Sturbridge Village, the largest outdoor living history museum in New England. See firsthand how early Americans lived as you walk through this slice of 19th century life, where horse-drawn carriages roam the streets and blacksmiths hammer away in coal forges. The warm weather is the best time to enjoy OSV's redesigned outdoor programming, which allows for maximum social distancing *and* customer enjoyment. Summer also means the return of OSV's *Discovery Adventures*! These popular programs allow kids to jump into various aspects of village life in an immersive, multi-day experience. From working with animals as an 1830's farm hand, to donning a minute men uniform and learning real 18th century practice drills, your kids will have so much fun, they won't even realize they're learning! Programs open to children ages 6-14 (*the 14-17 program is currently*

on hold due to CDC and Massachusetts guidelines; please check the OSV website for any future updates regarding this programming).

Come and visit Old Sturbridge Village today and see why this iconic landmark has been a beloved tourist attraction for 75 years.

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

<https://www.osv.org/event/summer-discovery-adventures-2021/>

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.*

Grab Some Sushi

A self-described “East meets West” Japanese-fusion experience, **Kaizen Sushi Bar & Grill** is a place where you can enjoy high quality sashimi, sushi, and sake, alongside premium cuts of steak and a cold pint of Guinness. A casual, friendly atmosphere where you can strike up a conversation with the professional sushi chefs or sit back and mingle with friends.

479 Main St, Fiskdale, MA 01518

<https://www.kaizen479.com>

Note: *Due to COVID-19, Kaizen is currently only offering Take Out.*

Hit A Hole-In-One

For some people, the best way to spend a gorgeous summer 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 play your best game of golf yet. Non-members can call ahead for available tee times and openings.

220 Holland Rd, Fiskdale, MA 01518

<https://hemlockridgegolfcourse.com/>

Enjoy a Dinner Duo

Walk by 502 Main St and you’ll see a unique building that offers you two dining options in one place. Half 19th century barn, half Modern Greek revival, this property is the home of two acclaimed restaurants: **The Duck** and **Avellino**. At **Avellino**, you’ll find a one-of-a-kind Italian dining experience, spearheaded by Chef Rico Giovanello. This beloved eatery is known for its “open kitchen” format, which allows you to see into the kitchen and watch as Chef Rico deftly prepares your food. The result is an interactive experience that lets you engage with the staff and savor all the “aromas, sounds, and activity of the kitchen.”

Looking for American fare in a more casual environment? Then loosen your tie and head to **The Duck**, where you can listen to live music at the fully stocked bar and sink your teeth into a mouthwatering stuffed cheeseburger under The Duck’s charming barn ceilings and antique-style Edison lights.

<http://www.avellinorestaurant.com/index.php>

<https://theducksturbridge.com>

502 Main St, Sturbridge, MA 01566

Note: Due to COVID-19, both Avellino and The Duck are only offering patio service; tent seating; To Go service with contactless curbside pickup; and extremely limited indoor seating (call ahead to make reservations).

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>