

September 2026

Harvest festivals, mountain beer gardens, and the
very first turn of the leaves near Mt. Snow.

Things to do near Mt. Snow, VT · September 2026 · Deerfield Valley Inn

HARVEST FEST

EVENTS

FOLIAGE

HIKING

DINING

FAMILY



The Wine & Harvest Weekend

SEPT 18–20 · THREE DAYS, TWO FESTIVALS

★ THE VALLEY'S BIGGEST FALL WEEKEND

17th Annual Vermont Wine & Harvest Festival — plus the Wildlife Festival

The Deerfield Valley Chamber's signature autumn event, split between downtown Wilmington and Mount Snow, with the Vermont Wildlife Festival rounding out the Sunday. Early foliage, harvest food, and a full weekend without leaving the valley.

visitvermont.com · Rain or shine · Tickets non-refundable · No dogs at Mount Snow events

FRI SEP 18

Wine Stroll & Soup Contest · Downtown Wilmington · 4–7 PM

Sample and judge 15+ soups from valley chefs alongside 20 wines while strolling the historic village, with live music and shops open late. Check in at the Chamber Visitor Center (21 West Main St.) for your tasting glass and stroll passport — the passport is required to taste.

SAT SEP 19

Wine & Harvest Festival · Mount Snow · 11 AM–5 PM

Over 70 Vermont vendors under the tents in the Main Base Area — 20+ wineries, distilleries, cideries and breweries plus artisan foods, crafts and live music. Ride the Bluebird lift mid-afternoon for a summit view of the first foliage (lift ticket sold separately).

SUN SEP 20

Vermont Wildlife Festival · Mount Snow · 10 AM–4 PM

Live animal presentations, guided hikes and local vendors from the Vermont Museum of Natural History. Admission by donation — the best family day of the weekend.



Also in September

NEAR & DAY-TRIP

SAT SEPT 5 · RIGHT NEXT DOOR

31st Annual Mount Snow Brewers Festival

The Main Base Area becomes a high-altitude beer garden — dozens of Vermont breweries, cideries and seltzer makers, live music from Fever plus DJs, food trucks, games and contests. 12–6 PM, 21+.

Mt. Snow Main Base Area · Ticketed · mountsnow.com

FRIDAYS · FREE

Mt. Snow Friday Block Party

Live music in the Main Base Area every Friday from 5 PM with yard games, local food vendors and ice cream from The Scoop. Runs through Sept 26 — the last of the season.

Fridays from 5 PM · Mt. Snow · Free · Leashed dogs welcome

SAT SEPT 5 · BENNINGTON

Garlic Town USA

Bennington's largest event and one of Vermont's most popular festivals — a whole downtown given over to garlic, agriculture, food vendors and live music. 10 AM–5 PM.

Downtown Bennington · ~50 min · garlictownusa.com

SAT SEPT 19 · STRATTON

The Wailers · Mountain Music Series

Stratton's outdoor stage hosts The Wailers on their 50 Years tour, closing out the mountain's summer music series. A good alternative if the wine tents aren't your thing.

Stratton Mountain · ~45 min · stratton.com

EVERY WEEKEND

Wilmington Antique & Flea Market

Southern Vermont's largest weekend market runs every Saturday and Sunday through mid-October — 10 acres of antiques, collectibles, plants and artisan crafts.

Sat & Sun · 236 VT-9, Wilmington · Free

HARVEST SEASON

Apple Picking at Scott Farm Orchard

A historic orchard in cultivation since 1791, growing 130+ heirloom apple varieties. Pick your own through October, browse the farm market, and walk the 1.25-mile loop trail over the covered bridge. Next door to Kipling's Naulakha.

707 Kipling Rd., Dummerston · ~45 min · scottfarmvermont.com

 **Foliage & Scenic Drives**

FIRST COLOR OF THE SEASON

FRI–SUN

Bluebird Express Foliage Rides

Ride to 3,586 ft for long views over Somerset Reservoir and, on clear days, Mt. Monadnock and Mt. Washington. Running Fri–Sun through October.

Mt. Snow base · Ticketed

SCENIC BYWAY

Molly Stark Trail · Route 9

One of Vermont's classic drives, running Wilmington to Brattleboro. Stop at Hogback Mountain for the famous 100-Mile View.

Route 9 East · Free

SCENIC BYWAY

Route 100 North

The quintessential Vermont road right outside our door — farm stands, covered bridges and villages all the way up the spine of the state.

From the Inn · Free

Southern Vermont color usually begins to turn in the last week of September and peaks in early-to-mid October — a late-September stay catches the first turn with far fewer crowds on the roads.

 **Hiking & Outdoors**

BEST HIKING MONTH OF THE YEAR

Mt. Olga Fire Tower 360° views of VT, MA & NH from the tower — the single best foliage payoff for the effort anywhere near the Inn.	0.6–1.8 mi loop	200 ft elev.	EASY
Valley Trail · Dover to Wilmington Flat 5-mile path through the valley — crisp mornings and no bugs make September its best month.	5 mi one way	Flat terrain	EASY
Mt. Snow Summit Trail Hike up and ride the Bluebird down, or the reverse. Cool air and early color at elevation.	3.5 mi round trip	1,700 ft elev.	MODERATE
Hoot, Toot & Whistle Trail Old rail bed along the Deerfield River to Harriman Reservoir — beautiful reflections once the maples turn.	2 mi one way	Flat terrain	EASY

September is prime hiking weather — cool, dry and bug-free. Bring a warm layer for summits and note that daylight fades noticeably by month's end.

 **Restaurants & Dining**

WILMINGTON & WEST DOVER

Dot's Restaurant

CLASSIC DINER · \$

Open from 6 AM under the famous neon sign — the right start to a cold-morning hike.

Try: Berry-Berry Pancakes

1846 Tavern & Restaurant

AMERICAN TAVERN · \$\$ · WEST DOVER

Historic stagecoach stop on Rte. 100. Hand-cut steaks, fresh seafood and Vermont craft beer by candlelight — ideal once evenings turn cool.

Try: Prime sirloin or salmon BLT

Valley Craft Ales

BREWERY + PIZZA · \$\$

The Old Red Mill (1828) on the Deerfield River. Deck season winding down — the fire-warmed room takes over.

Try: Fall seasonal on tap

19 South Main

BRICK OVEN · \$\$

Brick oven pizza, comfort mains and seasonal cocktails, with live music on weekend evenings.

Try: Seasonal cocktails

La Casita

MEXICAN · \$\$

Tucked behind The Anchor — flautas, burritos, homemade salsas and the margaritas locals swear by.

Try: Flautas + margaritas

Anchor Seafood Restaurant

SEAFOOD · \$\$

Fresh seafood beloved by locals — the chowder comes into its own this time of year.

Try: Chowder or lobster roll

 **Coming in October** — Mount Snow's Oktoberfest returns across two Saturdays, Oct 3 and Oct 10, with free admission, German beer and food, and peak foliage overhead. Ask the front desk for the October guide!

Deerfield Valley Inn · West Dover, VT 05356 · visitvermont.com

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Updated monthly — ask the front desk for the latest!