A few of our favorite things …

… in & around Hanover, New Hampshire

Welcome to Hanover, Dartmouth, New Hampshire, the Upper Valley & New England!

The following list is by no means exhaustive, but after 8 years of searching for those hidden gems in New England, here’s what we’ve learned, explored, & enjoyed. (If you find a more fabulous places/events, please email them to Aubri.S.Hoffman@Dartmouth.edu.)

Enjoy!
A few of our favorite things… in & around Hanover, NH

Winter
- **Dartmouth Winter Carnival & Occom Pond Party**, Valentine’s Weekend. Ski races, ice sculptures, fraternity parties, and a big ice skating party at the pond (with food, sledding, luge races, an ice castle, and the **Polar Bear Plunge**).
- **Hanover Home Life Show** in March. Leverone Fieldhouse hosts local home & garden vendors, RV sales, etc.
- Norwich ice skating rink
- **Lake Morey Winter Weekend** – ice skating, music, & food in January
- **Taste of Lake Morey** – competitive skating and tasting tour in February

Spring
- **Shamrock Shuffle 5K** in Lebanon, NH in March
- **Harpoon Brewery BBQ Fest** in May
- **Dartmouth Green Key/Commencement** – second weekend in June.

Summer
- **Dartmouth Sophomore Summer** - second years have to stay for the summer, but they enjoy it thoroughly with all kinds of adventures (canoeing, hiking,
- **Appalachian Trail days** – Be sure to get a picture of your toes on the AT sidewalk monument (corner of Main & Lebanon streets). The trail is marked down Main Street with white blazes on the polls. “Trailies” will be hiking through Hanover May – October. There’s a map & donation box for canned foods at the post office, and coin showers at the community center.
- **Cedar Circle Farm** in Thetford, VT for strawberry (June), blueberry (August), harvest (September) & pumpkin (October) festivals
- **Hot Air Balloon Festival** – Father’s Day weekend festival at the Quechee Gorge. Driving is crazy, but the balloons are amazing landing on the bridge.
- **Covered Bridges Marathon**, June in Quechee/Woodstock
- **Prouty 5/10K Run & Bike ride in June, benefit for Norris Cotton Cancer Center**
- **Fairlee Drive-in Theater** - outdoor movies all summer long
- **Dartmouth Pow-Wow**, July.
- **Vermont Brewers Festival**, July.
- **New England Flower Festivals**
- **4th of July Festival**. Old-fashioned parade, games, food, & music on the Hanover and Lebanon town greens. Fireworks are on the Lebanon green or Wilder Dam.
- **Quechee Scottish Festival** in August

Fall
- **Dartmouth Bonfire & Homecoming Weekend**, end of October. Homecoming parade and announcement of athletic teams in front of Dartmouth Hall, followed by lighting of the bonfire on the green. Freshmen must then run around the bonfire the # of the graduating year (e.g., Class of 2012 would run 112 laps). Parking and dining in town can be busy, so plan ahead, arrive midday, and make reservations. **video/photo history**.
- **Fall Foliage**, last two weekends in September, first two in October. Keep an eye on the **Foliage Tracker**
- **Scottish Fair & Sculpture Fest** in September in Quechee/Woodstock, VT
- **CHaD 5/10K benefit run in October for the Children’s Hospital at Dartmouth**
- **Poverty Lane Orchards or Moore’s Orchard** for apple picking in August-September
- **Great Vermont Corn Maze**, August – October. Plan for 2+ hours of laughter and wandering in a huge corn maze. Best if you can go midday on a weekday.
- **Timbridge World’s Fair** in September. Rodeo, farm demonstrations, food & music. Tends to be a rainy/muddy weekend.
- **Harpoon Brewery Octoberfest**, Beer tastings, food, music, and fun.
- **Keene Pumpkin Festival** – third weekend in October. You can bring a pumpkin to donate to the tower of lights, or just enjoy the food, music, games, & fall foliage.
- **Taste of the Upper Valley** festival in November at the Enfield Shaker Museum
- **Festival of Trees & Lights** in December at the Enfield Shaker Museum
- **Green Mountain Trains** – fall foliage, shopping trips to Farm-way, wine/beer trains, haunted Halloween train, murder mystery train

Other Events Calendars
- **Dartmouth Events Calendar**
- **Lowe Theatre Movie Schedule** - located at the bottom of the Hopkins Center, next to the Hanover Inn
- **Hopkins Center** - performing arts center
- **Town of Hanover Visitor’s Site/Events Calendar**
- **Valley Net Events Calendar** - regional area events
- **Tom’s New England Almanac** by month
- **1000 Ways to enjoy Vermont & New Hampshire blog**
- **Totally Vermont Things to Do**
A few of our favorite things… in & around Hanover, NH

Local Highlights & Resources

Dartmouth Campus Tour

**Orchid Garden** – Escape to bright light and tropical humidity in the middle of winter, the Murdock Greenhouse is on the 4th floor of the Class of 1978 Life Sciences Bldg.

Dancing at Dartmouth (see Dartmouth Daily announcements)
- Free classes. Monday night **Argentine Tango**, Wednesday Night Swing, Thursday Night Salsa @ Collis Center, and **monthly dances** at the Black Community Center
- **HOP Dance classes** – kids & adults, ballet, modern, hip hop, waltz
- **Dartmouth arts, music, dance, theater, etc. classes**

Dartmouth jewelry, woodworking & pottery workshops

**Montshire Museum of Science** and walking trails along the Connecticut River: located just across the Ledyard Bridge

Covered bridges interactive map

**Fore-U** Behind Home Depot in West Lebanon. Fun little driving range, putt putt course & batting cages. Best soft serve & ice cream shop.

**Cedar Circle Farm** – 5 miles north in Thetford. Organic farm with an educational focus. Coffee & snacks at the Hello Café, which also has WiFi. Dinners in the garden, blueberry picking, and their festivals are great.

**St. Gaudens National Park** – 10 miles past West Lebanon plazas. $5 entrance fee (two free days each year, check website). Beautiful historic home and sculpture gardens, with surrounding hiking trails. Lovely place for a summer concert.

**Shaker Museum** in Enfield, NH – a peaceful retreat with hiking trails & museum

**Big Money Bingo** benefits - $20 to play (~ 10 rounds of 6 bingo cards). Watch the calendar.

Trivia Nights – **Salt Hill Lebanon** (Sun@7) & **Hanover** (Wed@9), **Gusanoz** (Tues@8),

**King Arthur Flour** – baking classes, store & cafe

Visit Hanover.com

New Hampshire Highlights

**Valley News** newspaper & online calendar, classifieds, etc.

Hanover Magazine & Upper Valley Life Magazine,

Churches & Religious Clubs

**Christ Redeemer Church** meets next to campus in the Hanover High School, sp it’s a popular church for the college students. Lots of young families. Small groups meet during the week for BBQs, etc.

**Valley Bible Church** in White River Junction is family-oriented and very active in the community. Popular for the “MOPS” mothers’ group activities.

**Riverbank Church**, new contemporary church, meeting in the Lebanon Opera House.

**St. Denis Catholic Parish**, in Hanover next to the football stadium

**Aquinas House** is the Catholic student center and hosts a lot of weekly dinners, etc.

**Dartmouth religious & spiritual groups & services**

**Tucker Foundation** is the main organization dedicated to service on campus. They have several opportunities if you are looking to volunteer here or abroad.

Music & Arts

**The Hopkins Center** – Dartmouth’s venue for live performances

**Dartmouth Ensembles** – symphony, chamber, drum, jazz, choirs, etc.

**The Hood Museum of Art & the Montshire Museum of Science**

**The Lebanon Opera House**

Lessons at **Upper Valley Music Center** & **Hanover Strings**

**Classicopia** chamber music, **VT Symphony Orchestra**, **Open Fiddle/Traditional Irish session** at Salt Hill Pub Lebanon Tuesdays @6pm

Open Mics- **Salt Hill Hanover** Mon@9, **Skunk Hollow** Wed@8, **Jesse’s** Thurs@7

Live music at **Salt Hill Leb/Hanover** (Fri/Sat) or **Canoe Club** (most nights)

**Meadowbrook/US Cellular Pavilion** – major concerts

**Live concerts in the Upper Valley**
A few of our favorite things… in & around Hanover, NH

Dartmouth Outing Club (“The DOC”)  

12 DOC clubs – hiking, canoeing, cycling, organic farming, woodsmen, climbing, skiing, winter sports, etc.

Dartmouth Cabins – 18 cabins across the state, which you can rent ($5-15/night). Most have wood-fired stoves, full kitchen supplies, and bunks. Bring your food, sleeping bags, clothes & board games. Some turn off their plumbing in the winter, but have outhouses. I recommend Billings Lodge – bathrooms, full kitchen & great hikes across the street.

Moosilauke Ravine Lodge – Rustic lodge on Mt. Moosilauke where you can rent a room in one of the cabins for $5/night, enjoy a family-style meal for $8, and take in the hikes, bonfires, board games, and nature talks.

DOC Gear Rentals

DOC list of local walks and nature areas

DOC List of local hikes

Outdoor Adventures

Hanover to Lyme Bike Loop – Up the river on the NH side (Route 10), cross at Lyme, stop in Thetford at Cedar Circle Farm’s Café, then back down on the VT side (Route 5).

Mountain biking & festivals are held at most of the ski resorts during the summer.

Ledyard Canoe Club - Swimming, sunbathing, and canoe/kayak rentals. From Goldstein, walk down Main Street towards the Dartmouth Green. At the intersection, turn right down Lebanon Street to the river. Turn right through the gates before you reach the Ledyard Bridge and cross the dirt parking lot to reach the Ledyard Canoe Club.

Whaleback – paintball and biking in the summer, skiing in the winter.

LL Bean Discovery Series hiking & canoeing trips. Call (603) 298-6975 for dates.

Hanover Country Club & Golf Course ~$30 green fees, pleasant course

Dartmouth Climbing Gym & VT Climbing Centers & several places in Vermont

Rail Trail – 23 miles of maintained trail from Lebanon to Enfield, NH. Great website. Walking/jogging/biking in the summer, snow shoeing/cross country skiing in the winter.

Lake Sunapee Beach & Park - $6 for a nice beach with lifeguards, clubhouse, canoes, etc.

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Hikes & Walks

Oacom Pond – 1 mile from main street and 1 mile loop around. Take Main Street north past the library. Left at Rope Ferry, which winds right at the pond. DOC House is at the end. Keep looping clockwise and you’re back to Main Street.

Pine Park – From the DOC House, face the golf course & look left for a gravel path into the forest. Follow the path downhill along the Connecticut River. There are several trails within—some lead you back across a wooden bridge through the golf course (be mindful of golfers and pause if they are teeing off) and back to Lyme Road. Right on Lyme takes you back to town.

Storrs Pond – extensive hiking trails around the pond, free swimming beach/playground, and a swimming pool with lifeguard ($5). Either a 20 minute walk from campus up Route 10, or take the Brown Line shuttle (see below)

Hanover Trails Maps & Upper Valley Trail Finder

Mount Cardigan: great beginner’s hike (about 1.5 hours each way) with panoramic views of the upper valley, White Mountains and Green Mountains.

Appalachian Trail & Appalachian Trail Conservatory (ATC): Information on hiking, renting cabins/huts, and natural areas throughout the Upper Valley.

Green Mountain Club (Long Trail) & White Mountains, and

Mt. Washington – hike up and take the cog railway down. Respect the weather reports.

Running, 5/10Ks, & Marathons

Rip Road Loop popular 4 mile loop in Hanover

Upper Valley Running Club meets for weekly runs & workouts

RunningtheUSA list of all local races

Shamrock Shuffle 5K in Lebanon, NH in March

Covered Bridges Marathon, June in Quechee/Woodstock

Skip’s Run 5K in Lebanon, NH Father’s Day weekend in June

Prouty 5/10K Run & Bike ride in June, benefit for Norris Cotton Cancer Center

Turkey Trot 5/10K on Thanksgiving in Hanover

CHaD 5/10K benefit run in October for the Children’s Hospital at Dartmouth
Skiing

Note: always ask about Dartmouth discounts (some consider postdocs as students/trainees)

**Dartmouth Skiway**, Lyme, NH – 20 min drive north on Route 10. Nearby, affordable, decent little runs. Hourly bus leaves from the Hanover Inn bus stop. 100 acres over 2 hills. Nice lodge & cafeteria or try the **Lyme Inn Tavern** for good food afterwards. $20 student pass, kids/senior free. $25 lessons or rental package.

**Storrs Hill** in Lebanon, NH – 10 mins on Route 120. Affordable little hill. Good for kids & lessons. (Note: This is in Lebanon, NOT Storrs Pond in Hanover)

**Whaleback**, Lebanon, NH – 20 mins south to Exit 19 of I89. Nice little mountain just down the road. $40/day, lots of evening/night/weekday deals. Ladies ski free on certain days too. Popular for concerts and parties.

**Mt. Sunapee**, NH – 40 mins, Exit 12 off I89. $50/day. Nice views & usually good snow. Great for a sunny half-day escape. Check the [Steals&Deals](http://www.skiNH.com).

**Okemo** – 45 mins south on I91 to exit 8. $77/day. Check the [Steals&Deals](http://www.skiNH.com) and [OnlineOffers](http://www.skiNH.com).

**Sugarbush**, VT – 1 hr north to Exit 9 on I89. Mt Ellen (FAVORITE) is less crowded than Lincoln Peak. Dinner at American Flatbread afterwards is awesome – call ahead for reservations because they do set seating times.

**Stowe Mountain**, VT – 1.25 hrs north to Exit 10 on I89. Nice town, elegant resort. Two mountains. Good for night skiing. Eat at the Hourglass Tavern afterwards (best burger!) Combine with the Day Trip to Waterbury (see below) for a great weekend.

**Jay Peak** – good for group/family trips (has an indoor waterpark for people who don’t ski), but plan on staying overnight because of the long drive

**Tuckerman Ravine** – legendary bowl, but hasn’t been safe the past few years. If you must attempt it, go with someone who’s been there before and can show you where to hike in/out. See the [New Hampshire Skiing & Snowboarding](http://www.skiNH.com) website for more options…

**SkiNH.com** list of resorts

**Ski Vermont.com** list of resorts

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Cross Country Skiing, Snowshoeing, Ice Skating

**Dartmouth XC Ski** - 25K of groomed trails + backcountry across the golf course, rugby fields, Storrs Pond area and up on top of Oak Hill. Pass required. Gear rentals at the DOC House on Occom Pond. $25 classes for new skiers on Saturdays. Check the website for hours & conditions.

**Dexter’s Hill** in Sunapee – 40 minute drive, but nice groomed trails & allows dogs.

**Huntington Hill** – Relatively unknown gem of a wilderness area. Miles of interconnecting tails, some open backcountry, some groomed by the residents of the house to the left of the trailhead parking.

**Eastman Cross Country Ski Center, Cross Country/Nordic Centers in NH & VT, Backcountry Skiing & Snow Shoeing**

**Morton Private Land Trails** – Find a local to take you to “The Greens” on Dorchester Road in Lyme.

**Sledding** – on the hill across from the DOC House & the Hanover Country Club. Fun when the snow’s good; can get really icy at times.

**Occom Pond Ice Skating** – Free, $10 skate rentals/sharpening at the DOC House, bonfire with snacks

**Lake Morey Ice Skating** – 20 minutes north on I91 to Exit 14. 4.5 miles of groomed ice skating on the lake. Some weekends have live music, BBQs, & marshmallows. Annual skate fest in March.

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Gyms & Fitness Centers

**Dartmouth Alumni Gym** – the main college gym in Hanover, but can be crowded and each class is extra $$$.

**CCBA** – the gym in Lebanon, great programs for kids/teenagers

**Upper Valley Aquatic Center** – little pricey & crowded, but fun day trip in winter.

**River Valley Club** – a nice fitness club in Hanover, with full gym, 95 fitness classes, climbing wall, indoor tennis courts, and great pools & Jacuzzis. Kids aren’t allowed, but there’s free drop-in daycare. Talk to Chris Acker for great deals.
Living in Hanover

Parking

Free parking in Hanover after 5pm, Sundays & holidays. There are spots in the long-term lot on Maple Street, and on School & Allen streets that are usually open when town is packed.

Hanover Parking Ban – no parking 12:01am – 7:00am November 15 – April 30th for snow removal (they will ticket and tow!)

Dartmouth Parking Office sells passes for the Dewey Lot

DHMC Security sells passes for the hospital lots.

Winter Driving Recommendations – “Preparation & Patience”
- In November/December, get snow tires, ice scrapers, salt/sand, & tune-ups (anti-freeze, windshield washing fluid, & tire pressure).
- Pack a bag of extra clothes, gloves, hat, scarf, shoes, blankets, towels, protein bars, candles, first aid, etc. in case you get stuck or wet.
- Give yourself twice the driving time and twice the space between vehicles.

Weather.com – pay attention to the forecast daily. The town may wait until after a storm finishes to plow roads, so go home before a storm if you can.

Shuttles, Buses, & Trains

Hanover Advanced Transit
- Note: runs roughly 7am – 7pm, so plan accordingly
  - Downtown Shuttle – connects Hanover Inn/downtown, Geisel Medical School and the Dewey Parking Lot.
  - Blue Line – Geisel Medical School to the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center
  - Brown Line – Geisel Medical School to the Golf Course (exit CRREL and cross the street, walk down the left to the end of the school grounds and you will see a hiking path to Storrs Pond ~2 minute walk). The Brown Line also travels to Norwich, Vermont where you may enjoy dining at Carpenter & Main or The Norwich Inn Alehouse.

Dartmouth Coach –
- $60 round-trip to Boston, but often cheaper and less stressful than driving/parking. You can get on at the Hanover Inn stop, but you buy tickets either online or at the Lebanon stop. Runs every 2 hours to Boston Airport & South Station (train & subway hub), but only runs 5am – 12pm, so plan flights accordingly. Has movies, pretzels, bathroom, WiFi, & plugs for your computer.

- $150 round-trip to New York City (again, can be cheaper than gas + parking in NYC)

Greyhound Bus – Daily trips to Boston, Manchester, Burlington, & NYC

Amtrak Northeast Trains – The Vermonter goes up to Burlington and down to NYC. Everything else is a bus connection.

Airports

Lebanon, NH (LEB) – 15 mins away, but few flights and often canceled in winter

Manchester, NH (MHT) – 1.5 hrs south on I89. Surprisingly convenient and not too crowded with affordable parking. Hotel park& fly deals nearby.

Burlington, VT (BVT) – 1.5 hrs north on I89. Also nice & easy place to fly out with affordable parking.

Boston-Logan, MA (BOS) – 2.5hrs south on I89/93. Major international airport with most direct flights, but can cost more and parking is expensive. Take the Dartmouth Coach if you can schedule your flights when it runs (e.g. no flight before 11am).
A few of our favorite things… in & around Hanover, NH

Housing

Look for:

- **Short drive on a main road.** Even if it costs a little more in rent, you'll save in travel time and frustration when the snow storms hit!
- **Walking distance to a town green, shops, restaurants** so you feel more connected in a community (rent's cheaper a few miles out, but you can feel really isolated out there)
- **Newer place** less chance of poor insulation (= $$$, dark & mold in the winter)
- **Utilities included.** Propane heat is cheapest, but oil is okay if it's a newer place. Only the new places have AC. Trash/recycling, yard maintenance & snow plowing is a bonus. **Free, covered parking,** if possible.
- **Access to walking/hiking/biking trails**, lakes, beaches, ski hills, etc. are a perk - so you can get some sunshine and vitamin D easily when you're stressed/rushed.
- **Not too much into the woods** so you don't have pine pollen all over all summer
- **A patio, porch or backyard** for BBQs and bonfires.
- **Anything that will save time and energy** – make home life simple, happy & active!

Towns:

Hanover, NH – Two areas: downtown & near DHMC/Centerra. Wide variety of rentals, mostly from Dartmouth. Confirm what’s included in your rent & where you can park.

Norwich, VT – 1 mile across the river. Small but wealthy town. Nice place if you can be close to the little downtown area (it's get very rural very quick and distance roads are less likely to be plowed in the snow). Lots of investment property rentals.

Lebanon, NH – 5 miles south. Fairly affordable, but a little drive to campus. Make sure you're near the town green. If you look at a map, you’ll see that it's shaped in a big U – down Route 120, across Route 4, and up Route 10). The town green is off Route 120 and Bank Street and these little streets would all be good places.

Wilder, VT – 5 miles, just south of Norwich, but more affordable. Longer drive, but there are a couple newer apartment places that might be worth checking out.

Lyne, NH – Nice town 10 miles north. Very small downtown/green, but I know people who enjoy living up there for the hiking/hiking. Mostly older houses for rent.

West Lebanon, NH – The only good part of West Leb is that they're expanding the shopping plazas (it's the ONLY place within an hour for clothes, etc.) I wouldn't recommend the few housing units there, as they tend to be run down, noisy, and not the best crowd. However, there could be an exception I haven't heard of yet….

White River Junction, VT – 5 miles south. Nicknamed "The Junk", but they are gentrifying the downtown. Very affordable, but find a place in a decent neighborhood.

Quechee or Woodstock, VT – 15 miles west. Cute little towns. Very expensive and very affordable rentals. Check the golf course condos. Freeway drive = well plowed in winter.

Rental Listings

Check the [Upper Valley Rentals page](http://nh.craigslist.org/) for specific listings:

- Houses for rent on Greensboro Road – near DHMC, but 2 mile walk to downtown Hanover. Nice yards on Mink Brook, trails, etc. ~$1500/month for 2 bedroom
- Gile Hill – newish & close to DHMC, but small and dark. Must qualify as low income.
- Stone Farm – anything on Wolf Road will be a bit older and darker (built in the 80s maybe?). Not bad, but not my first choice. Kind of an awkward drive too. ~1300/month
- Timberwood Commons – New and nice, but small rooms with little storage. Covered parking & storage for rent. Very convenient to DHMC (1/2 mile walk), but nothing else nearby. Community Fitness Center & BBQ patio. ~$1600/month
- Quarry Hill – Condos by DHMC, individually rented by their owners. ~$1800/month
- Dartmouth Faculty/Staff housing, ~$900-3000/month. Prefer the newer units.
  - South Street – new apartments downtown over a few of the businesses. Can be noisy, but great location for walking around downtown. Garage parking is expensive.
  - North Park – they just built 1 new building, which I would try to get. Otherwise, the rest on North Park tend to be grad student housing (noisy?) and are pretty shaded/dark.
  - Balch Street – A few years older, but very good location (walkable but not noisy, easy to park). Some have good basement storage, backyards, decks, etc. Some can be dark.
  - Sachem Village – Newer and reasonable, but smallish rooms. 2 miles down Route 10 by themselves; you’d have to loop up and through Hanover to get to DHMC. ~$1400
- Roger Clarkson Realtors – he mostly sells homes, but I rented from him when I first moved here. He had some nicer investment properties that he rents to more mature people, so it might be worth a call. ~$1000-3000/month
- Renihan Meadows very affordable, but can be noisy/questionable neighbors. ~$1000/month
- Emerson Place in Lebanon. Nice location, clean, good amenities. Near a gym (The CCBA), trails, and the shops/restaurants on the green. ~$1300-1800/month
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Farms & Food

Farmers’ Markets in the summer (May /June – September/October)
Wednesdays 3-6pm on the Hanover Green
Thursday 4-8pm on the Lebanon Green
Saturdays 9am-1pm at the Norwich Market

Sterns Produce in White River Junction, open most days, closes in winter
Cedar Circle Farm – Lovely organic farm with great produce, flowers & café with WiFi

Local Shops –
Co-op Food Stores in Hanover, Lebanon & White River Junction
King Arthur Flour – baking supplies, baking classes & bakery/deli
Hannafords, Price Chopper, Shaws & BJ’s are in West Lebanon

The closest….
CostCo is in Burlington, VT
Trader Joe’s is in Nashua, NH (or there’s 2 in Boston)

Home & Garden

Note: In May/June, there will be plenty of furniture for sale/free around Hanover, Norwich and Lebanon as the graduate students move out. Some will be out on the curb, some at yard sales, some on http://nh.craigslist.org/ and http://burlington.craigslist.org/


Allards Furniture – Richard @ main store is very helpful, sales are pretty good; warehouse store has great deals

Listen Thrift Stores – Four locations. Lebanon & Canaan are best for clothes, WRJ for furniture. Proceeds benefits low-income residents through United Way.

Brown Furniture – In West Lebanon. Clearance sales upstairs & good annual sales.

C Beston, Hanover, NH – fine furnishings, often find gems on sale.

Classifieds/Flea Market – weekly bulletins printed on Fridays, available at most grocery store entrance/exits. You’ll have to drive to pick up stuff, but often great deals.

In West Lebanon, there’s Pier 1 Imports & Home Depot

Longacres Garden Center – Largest resource for gardening, flowers, landscaping, etc.

Cedar Circle Farm – Great nursery (sometimes at the Norwich Farmers Market Saturdays)

Clothes & Shoes

Nearly New Sales, Norwich, VT (5 mins) – 3 times/year community consignment sale. $10/whatever you can fit in a bag on the last day.

Dan & Whit’s in Norwich, VT (5 mins) – “If we don’t have it, you don’t need it.” Eclectic and iconic general store. Be sure to explore the many back rooms (try the hallway to the right of the meat counter)

Upper Valley Plaza in West Lebanon (15 mins) - Home Depot, Walmart, Staples, Best Buy, EMS, TJ Maxx, Pier 1 Imports, etc.

Farm- way, Bradford, VT (30 minutes) – Beautiful drive north up the Connecticut River, Funky shop with all kinds of hiking/swimming/athletic/winter clothes & boots (Patagonia, Columbia, Ibex, etc.) Clearance loft upstairs & big seasonal sales. Dartmouth 10% discount with your ID. Recommend eating at Perfect Pear or Colatina Exit afterwards.

Ibex – Nice, warm wool clothes. Known for their great tent sale Columbus Day weekend on the Quechee Green

Steeplegate Mall in Concord, NH (1 hr south on I89) has Target and a small mall

Merrimack, NH Outlet Center (1 hour) – Bloomingdales, Ann Taylor, Loft, Ralph Lauren, Black/White, GAP/BR/Old Navy, etc. My new favorite mall – big parking lot, but nicer stores with good sale weekends. Coupon book available at the Information desk.


Burlington, VT Mall (1.5 hour) – Loft, GAP/BR/Old Navy. Indoor/outdoor mall on Church Street. Festivals in the summer. Parking in the garage is free on Sundays.

Burton Flagship Store in Burlington, VT (1.5 hour) – Look for their big sale weekends.

Mall of New Hampshire in Manchester, VT (1.5 hrs south on I89/93/293).

Prudential Center in Boston “The Pru”, MA (2.5 hrs) – Closest major mall with both high-end and more affordable shops, lots of restaurants. Lord & Taylor, Neiman Marcus, Saks, etc. Lots of indoor walking - great place to explore on cold/rainy days. Website has coupons/deals. Recommend parking in their garages and getting validation at one of the stores (then you can explore Boston). On a sunny day, eat at the Top of the Hub for a great view of Boston.

Newbury Street in Boston, MA (2.5 hrs) – Across from the Pru, great unique shops & dining

Zappos.com – mostly shoes, good for coats, swimsuits etc., free 1 day shipping & return
A few of our favorite things… in & around Hanover, NH

Good Eats

In Hanover

Canoe Club – Known for their fries & aioli, bacon cheeseburger, steaks, gnocchi, chocolate pecan torte, and great coffee & biscotti. Even more known for their much-beloved bartender, Daniel and owner John. Best seats are the couches, high tops in the bar, or windows.

Murphy’s – Great burger, nachos, veg head pita, calamari salad, and seasonal dishes. Best vibe at the bar. Popular for watching sports. More great bartenders, Liam & Dennis.

EBAs – Everything But Anchovies’ chicken sandwich is legendary, but their pizza & full menu is darn good too. Like the chicken tenders, California wrap, Cobb salad & brownies. Friendly staff and great for catering/events (get to know Danielle!) Online ordering, pick-up and delivery. Good weekly buffets & specials.


Salt Hill Pub in Hanover or Lebanon – Hanover has a patio for the summer. The menu is good (recommend the salads, risotto, burgers & chips). Both are popular for concerts, watching sports, and trivia nights.

Umplyv’s – Pastries seem a bit dry for our taste, but delicious grilled sandwiches, winter soups, huge salads, fresh bread, croissants, chocolate truffles, and chai tea.

Market Table – well-seasoned and well-presented fresh, seasonal dishes. Nice outside patio and good service. Can be pricey.

Margaritas – Mildly spiced Amer-Mex. Dark dining room, but decent bar and patio. Popular for Ladies Night (40% off), Dartmouth night, and Full Moon Maddness.

Molly’s – American steaks, salads, etc. Good for French onion soup, spinach onion dip, cobb salad, and the CBC. Can be pricey and crowded. Popular for $2 margaritas.

Jesse’s – American steaks, salads, etc.. Popular for crab fest, and salad bar. Nice patio.


Nearby (in order of distance from Hanover)

Norwich Inn, VT (2 miles)- Good patio by the pub (black bean burger & Sunday brunch)

Lyme Inn (5 miles) – nice stop after the Skiway if you can sit in the tavern. Great drinks & tapas. Delicious Sunday Brunch ($$$). Patio seating & croquet green in summer.

Panera in West Lebanon (5 miles) – Breakfast & lunch with WiFi & bottomless coffee.

Ziggy’s in West Lebanon (5 miles) – $5 pizza, 50cent wings, beer & desserts. Coupons online.

Elvis in White River Junction, VT (5 miles)– good owners, well-prepared seasonal dishes, great desserts, fun bartender. Perfect for dinner before the theater or Date Night.

Tucker Box in West Lebanon (5 miles) – breakfast & lunch café with WiFi

Quechee Diner, VT (10 miles)– Used to be the Farmer’s Diner, but fell off for a few years. We’re hoping that with new owners & Chef Scott back in the kitchen, the delicious corned beef hash benedict, chocolate chip pancakes, egg/cheese burritos, and fabulous omelets will return. Great coffee. Sit in the caboose. If busy, put in your name and wander through the Cabot factory & antique mall.

Firestones in Quechee, VT (10 miles)- Nice patio in summer, warm and cozy in winter. Recommend the flatbread pizzas, French onion soup, and desserts.

Skunk Hollow Tavern, Brownsville, VT (15 miles)- Tavern with fireplace downstairs, linen tablecloths and taper candles upstairs. Recommend the tavern, but call to be sure it’s not open mic night (loud and crowded) Great servers & bartenders. Known for their drinks, desserts, pizzas, salads, and Carlos’ chicken.

Mickey’s Roadside Café in Enfield, NH (15 miles) – One of the few places in Enfield. Good for breakfast. Affordable burgers & pasta. Great fried dough.

Pevton Place in Orford, VT (20 miles) – fresh organic, homemade dishes in a quaint house along Route 10. Seasonal menu, but the desserts are our favorite. Romantic.

Bentleys in Woodstock, VT (20 miles)- Sit at the bar and listen to the live music and locals laughter. Popular for Sunday Brunch.

Mangowood in Woodstock, VT (22 miles) – Asian fusion, romantic dining. Known for their sticky toffee pudding.

Whistle Stop Café in Fairlee, VT (20 miles) – Good freshly made food (especially breakfast) for under $10. Crystal & Mark also own the Whippi Dip ice cream shop next door in the summer, and do smoked BBQ 1st Saturday of the month.

Miriam’s in Windsor, VT (20 miles) – African & American home cooking.

Colatina Exit in Bradford, VT (25 miles) – Family style Italian food

Flying Goose in New London (30 miles) – Good appetizers, scallops, beers, and staff.

Simon Pearce in Quechee (12 miles) – Fine dining, more affordable for lunch. Recommend the cheddar soup and lamb burger. Get Table 5 overlooking the river if you can.

American Flatbread & Larue Farms in Waitsfield, VT (70 miles) – a fun experience after skiing Sugarbush. Handmade salads, wood-fired pizzas & huge pies. Does scheduled seatings, so call ahead. Arrive early, get a glass of wine, and sit by the friendship bonfire or wander the gardens.
A few of our favorite things… in & around Hanover, NH

Afternoon in Quechee, VT

Fun for breakfast at the Diner & wandering through the antique mall on a rainy day, or touring the glass studio & fine dining overlooking the river some evening. Good place to bring visitors for a taste of Vermont.

Driving Directions, about 20 minutes

On Route 4:

Quechee Gorge – gaze over the bridge, or walk the path down to the river below (1hr)

Quechee Gorge Village – shops, antiques, Cabot cheese tasting, Quechee Diner, and a kids train in the summer.

VINS – See the hawks, & falcons or walk the nature trails. Great for kids.

On Quechee Main Street:

Simon Pearce – Glass & pottery studio. Venture downstairs to chat with the glassblowers and see the water rushing over the dam. Delicious restaurant for special events (try to get Table 5 overlooking the river), more affordable for lunch.

Quechee Club – country club golf course & ski resort.

The Quechee Inn at Marshland Farm – cozy Vermont restaurant in a historical inn.

Quechee Scottish Festival in September

Vermont Symphony Orchestra plays some great outdoor concerts in summer

The covered bridge was damaged in the 2011 flood, so you’ll backtrack to make a loop across Deweys Mills Road (Note: you could also loop through Woodstock, about 30 minutes)
A few of our favorite things… in & around Hanover, NH

Afternoon in Woodstock, VT

Nice little town for a carefree afternoon walking through the shops, taking a short hike/tour, picking up delicious organic treats from the Farmers Market, and finishing off with a fabulous dinner at Mangowood.

Driving Directions, ~30 minutes from Hanover

Wireless Woodstock is a new online resource for Woodstock events & information.

Public Restrooms are located across from Bentleys, around behind Mountain Creamery at the Information Center on Mechanic Street.

Free parking on Elm & Pleasant Streets and you can walk from there through all the shops & restaurants. Note: some businesses “validate” your extra time if you get a ticket from a meter.

Restaurants – Yelp looks pretty accurate here. My favorites are:
- Mangowood for Asian-inspired dinner (good for Date Night),
- Bentleys for a Friday night group of friends (live music)
- Woodstock Inn – Great Sunday Brunch if you can splurge.
- White Cottage Snack Bar – Next to the Farmers Market. Fun place for burgers & hot dogs.
- Mountain Creamery – Breakfast/lunch upstairs, handmade ice cream downstairs. There’s a little garden with picnic tables a block to the left next to the small bridge & creek.
- Long Trail Brewing Company is another 15 minutes up Route 4. Nice tour & pretty good food. Recommend the patio in the summer.

Popular Sites

Middle Covered Bridge – near the middle of the green on Mountain Avenue. If you cross over, you can walk to the right on River St to a little cemetery by the river that is very peaceful or you can loop to the left back to Route 4 and the Green.

Gillingham & Sons – Fun general store with a great room of toys & wines (??)

Farmers’ Market – GREAT market with fresh produce, local cheeses/treats, and a wonderful deli & bakery.

SculptureFest in September. “Poetry on Land” Walk around a beautiful farm in fall colors while sipping wine and enjoying the sculptures installed across the property.

Billings Farm – Nice museum of sustainable farming with lots of events for kids and annual festivals. Best if you can go early

Billings Mansion – Take a tour of the Rockefeller Estate. Call to find out when the emergency shelter tours are running.

Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park - miles of hiking trails

Sugarbush Farm – fabulous cheese tasting & farm tours.
A few of our favorite things… in & around Hanover, NH

Day Trip to Waterbury Center & Waterbury, VT

Good as a stop on the way to Burlington or Stowe, or as a
day trip on it’s own.
Waterbury Center has cheese,
chocolate, coffee, wine & ice
cream tastings. Waterbury has
coffee & train museums, with
two fun restaurants. Nearby,
Camels Hump is a great hike
on the Long Trail.

Driving directions, about 1 hr, 15
minutes northwest on 189 to exit 10

Waterbury, VT (south side of I89)
Green Mountain Coffee (A, below) – Outlet w/ discounted Kcups. Good coffee & hot cocoa.

La Strada Bakery – Little door in a back parking lot up the road from Green Mountain
Coffee, but the most wonderful foccacias, croissants, etc.

Restaurants in Waterbury – we like Hen of the Wood & Ocha Thai

Hike Camel’s Hump

Waterbury Center, VT (north side of I89)

Cold Hollow Cider Mill – If you’re just visiting Waterbury today, drive the 5 miles on Route
100 to Cold Hollow first, then backtrack your way home. One of our favorites places to visit.
Fun little shop of curiosities, with local maple syrup. Don’t miss the fresh baked apple cider
donuts (get them HOT). In the foyer, pick up the coupons for all the other places…

Lake Champlain Chocolates – Great hot cocoa and homemade marshmallows. Decent ice
cream & mocha chip shakes too. Along the wall there’s bins of discounted “seconds” –
chocolate on sale because the wrapper didn’t print correctly. Next to Danforth Pewter. Nice
kitchen store downstairs, and Cabot cheese next door.

Cabot Cheese – Free cheese tastings, along with local wines & foods. (Note: public
restrooms are outside by Dunkin Donuts.)

Ben & Jerry’s Ice Cream – Nice tour, but can be crowded – pick an off day.
A few of our favorite things… in & around Hanover, NH

Day Trip to Stowe, VT

When it’s still dreary in NH in March, Stowe can be warm and beautiful due to the altitude and bright sunshine; the Lodge & Spa atop the mountain makes a great mid-week escape. In fall, the Notch is a stunning drive, and there’s festivals all year long.

Driving Directions, about 1 hr, 45 mins

Stowe Mountain Lodge – luxurious getaway in all seasons. Beautiful rooms, but you don’t have to stay. Good for anniversaries and weekend escapes, as well as for hosting conferences. Check for [vacation packages](http://www.google.com/maps?f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=), concerts,

- **Hourglass & Solstice** – Solstice is one of the nicest restaurants in the Upper Valley and perfect for a special occasion, but Hourglass serves delicious burgers, sandwiches & salads for half the price. Can sit next to the fireplaces (sometimes there’s bonfires & marshmallows outside)

- **Spa** – Definitely a luxury, but GREAT for a day off or ladies weekend. Book a massage and get full access (or $40 day pass) to the gym, classes, [pools & Jacuzzis](http://www.google.com/maps?f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=).

- **Skiing, snowshoeing, dog sledding, sleigh rides, & yurt tours**
  - [No Bull Ski Report](http://www.google.com/maps?f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=) for mobile phones

- **Summer Alpine Slide & Bungee Trampoline**

- **Concerts & Performances at Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center**

- **Gondola** to the [Cliff House Restaurant](http://www.google.com/maps?f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=)

Smugglers Notch – beautiful drive in fall colors. Very curvy & tight so be careful. Closes when there’s snow, so check first.

Mt. Mansfield – ski it in the winter, hike it in the summer, drive the [toll road](http://www.google.com/maps?f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=) in the fall, and take the gondola up for lunch any time.

Rec Path – 5.5 miles of greenway winding along the river. Lovely bridges & picnic areas.

Trapp Family Lodge – Take a tour of the lodge of the famous family from Sound of Music

Surprisingly good thrift stores

**Restaurants:** We recommend - The Whip Bar & Grill & The Dutch Pancake

Version: August 18, 2012, ASH
Day Trip to Burlington, Vermont

Burlington, Vermont: http://www.ci.burlington.vt.us/
Waterfront promenade, ferries across the lake to New York, indoor shopping mall, and outdoor walking mall with restaurants.

**Driving Directions** 1.5 hours north on I89 to exit 14B
To break up the drive, you can stop for breakfast at Eatons Sugarhouse for breakfast, visit Waterbury Center for tastings, or have dinner at Waterbury on the way back.

Downtown

**Waterfront Park** – Nice green park, and boardwalk with swings. Can be warmer & sunnier than Hanover due to the lake effect. restaurants, ice cream shop & ECHO Aquarium, and dock for the Spirit of Ethan Allen dinner cruises (fun murder mystery, watch out for Champ the lake monster!)

**Burlington Mall & Church Street Market** Banana Republic, Old Navy, Loft, etc. with lots of restaurants, food carts (kettle corn, crepes & dumplings!), music & festivals. Free parking under the mall on Sundays.

**Favorite Restaurants**

- **Penny Cluse** for breakfast
- **American Flatbread** - can be busy, but very good pizzas, salads & desserts
- **Vermont Pub & Brewery** for beers on the patio
- **Stone Soup** for vegetarian
- **Leunigs** on Church Street for fine dining & music

Nearby Attractions

- **Majestic 10** movie theater in Williston, VT
- **Shops at Williston** – Old Navy, Sporting Goods, Home Depot, iParty, etc.
- **Williston Goodwill Store** – big and popular for kids clothes
- **Shelburne Farms** – Historic Inn and farmland museum with festivals & tours

**Lake Champlain Chocolate Factory Tours**

Version: August 18, 2012, ASH
Day Trips to Boston
Historical buildings (Faneuil Hall, Quincy Market), gardens (Boston Commons), museums, aquarium, waterfront, Italian district (North End), Harvard, Fenway, shopping malls (Prudential Center and Newbury Street), and a variety of dining.

Directions, 2.5 hours southeast on I89 & I93 ($2 in tolls)

Dartmouth Coach Given the difficulty driving and parking in Boston, the Coach is the best way to travel for a day trip. The Coach picks up every two hours (4:55am, 6:55am, etc.) in front of the Hanover Inn for a 2.5-hour ride down to Boston’s South Station (the main train/subway station). From Hanover, it stops briefly in Lebanon, for passengers to purchase tickets (round trip is $45). To return from Boston, catch the bus at Gate 17 of the South Station Bus Terminal.

Boston Subway (known as “the T”) will get you most anywhere you need to go in the Boston area. Buy a day pass and print a map to carry with you.

Map of Boston’s 21 neighborhoods (e.g. Back Bay, North End, Beacon Hill, etc.)

Recommended hotels: Hilton Back Bay (location), The Westin, or Midtown (cheap)

Boston City Pass – admission packet for 6 Boston area attractions, good for 9 days

Duck Tours are a good way to see all the sights of Boston on your first visit.

Faneuil Hall/Quincy Market - Walk or subway (Orange Line towards Oak Grove) from South Station to State Street and you’re in the middle of historical buildings, shopping, restaurants, etc. Spend a day walking the Freedom Trail.

Long Wharf – Visit the Aquarium/IMAX & eat chowder at Legal Seafoods.

North End – from South Station, it’s a 10 minute walk to North End, a fun Italian district of shops and restaurants. Be sure to get cannolis at Mike’s Pastry

Boston Common & Public Gardens – Historical park in the center of Boston. Walk the gardens & paddle a swan boat around the pond.

Prudential Center and Newbury Street – Always a favorite. Take the Red Line to Park Street, then the Green E-Line to the Prudential Center, a major shopping mall with a restaurant at the top of the tower. Exit the Prudential Center on Huntington Avenue, and cross one block to Newbury Street. Lovely walk, unique shops and international restaurants.

Harvard Square & Cambridge – Take the Red Line towards Alewife to Harvard Station, where you can walk around Harvard & MIT, visit the Peabody Museum, and enjoy the Natural History Museum, eclectic shops and diverse restaurants of Harvard Square. If it’s sunny, take a walk along the Charles River waterfront. Dine at Henrietta’s Table

Museum of Fine Arts is great but expensive, so plan for a full day. You can get discounted $7 passes from the Howe Library in Hanover. Taste & Bravo are good restaurants inside.

Museum of Science offers some amazing exhibits, concerts, and open stargazing nights.

Fenway Park go cheer the Red Sox and see the heart & soul of Boston.