

Fabulous Fall Foliage of Vermont!

🍁 Cider Mills - Maple Sugar Shacks - Covered Bridges - Country Inns 🍁
 Lake Champlain - The Trapp Family Lodge - and Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream too!
 October 3 - 9, 2022 7 Days and 6 Nights

You'll find nothing so enchanting as Mother Nature's kaleidoscope of colors during Fall foliage season in Vermont's Green Mountains!
 Explore charming Bennington with its quaint covered bridges and the historic homes of Norman Rockwell and Robert Frost. Visit the ancestral home of Robert Todd Lincoln, decorated as it would have been over a century ago. You'll be entranced by the sights and sounds of the Trapp Family Lodge, owned by the Von Trapps of "Sound of Music" fame! The picture-postcard town of Stowe offers shopping of all sorts and countless delicious treats, as Vermont is well known for specialty foods ranging from Cabot Cheese to Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream. Enjoy visits and samples, and bring some home as gifts! Near the scenic shores of gorgeous Lake Champlain, savor the New England hospitality of the "Bob Newhart" Inn at lunchtime, and warm your heart as you get to meet up-close the delightful four-legged residents of the Morgan Horse Farm!

Don't hesitate to join us for the vivid October foliage, plus the tasty culture and rich heritage of beautiful Vermont!

Itinerary

October 3, 2022 - Vermont Welcomes You!

You'll depart today for New England and the beautiful Green Mountains of **Vermont**, and be met and assisted with your transfer to your hotel. Along the way, enjoy some time taking in the sights and sounds of **Church Street Marketplace in Burlington**. Shops, boutiques, galleries, buskers ... this pedestrian mall has it all! You'll then visit the **Shelburne Museum**, commonly referred to as "**New England's Smithsonian**," a unique conception blending American history, art, and design. This gem was designed for the joy of discovery and exploration, with thirty-nine structures on forty-five acres, each filled with beautiful, fascinating, and whimsical objects. Your next stop is a **special wine tasting** overlooking breathtaking Adirondack views, as you sample unique award-winning fruit wines such as Peach Blossom, Strawberry Blush, and Buddy's Apple Crisp. Tonight's **Welcome Dinner** will take place at a local sugarhouse (think everything maple!), a truly special experience that's sure to please. This is an **authentic Maple dinner**, complete with maple salad dressing, maple ham and a maple dessert!
 Overnight: Burlington, VT (D)

October 4, 2022 - Just a Few of Our Favorite Things!

This morning after breakfast, you'll enjoy a **beautiful morning hayride** on 108-acre farm filled with all things Fall! Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, it was originally the **Murray Homestead**, built by some of Williston's first settlers of 1788. This family farm now shares 19 generations of its Vermont heritage, offering maple syrup, pick-your-own blueberries, raspberries, and pumpkins, as well as a corn maze. Next you'll discover the **largest deep-hole dimension granite quarry in the world** on your **Rock of Ages** tour, full of passion for all things granite: its history, the area's cultural heritage, artistry, geology and more. You'll also visit nearby **Hope Cemetery**, established in 1895 and known as the "**Granite Capital of the World**." Stonecutters from all over, especially Italy, flocked to Vermont and turned Hope Cemetery into an artists' canvas in granite. Enjoy lunch on your own afterward in **Vermont's State Capital of Montpelier**, the **smallest capital city in the nation**. Then you'll visit the **Trapp Family Lodge**, where the Von Trapps made their home after leaving their beloved Austria in World War II, settling here in Stowe in the 1940s with sweeping mountain vistas reminiscent of their homeland. You'll hear about the real Von Trapp family history - actual vs. the "**The Sound of Music**" movie version, and also about the lodge's history plus the family's early years in America.

Enjoy tonight's dinner at a local favorite, then check in to your inn.
 Overnight: Stowe, VT (B/D)

October 5, 2022 - Vermont Apple Cider and Maple Sugar!

After today's breakfast, you'll visit New England's largest producer of apple cider, the **Cold Hollow Cider Mill**, a Vermont legend since 1974. Learn about cider making while enjoying free samples of cider and other local products. There's a glass observation beehive in the honey section, or you may choose to visit the year-round Christmas Shop, or taste the many flavors of homemade fudge, or even watch them make cider doughnuts and then taste one hot out of the oven! Afterward, you'll get to choose between two Vermont experiences - **Green Mountain Centerpiece Making**, or the **International Coffee Lab**. If making a centerpiece using items in your yard brings you joy, this one-of-a-kind garden store is where you should spend your hour! Walking in the door, the wonderful aromas of the outdoors hit you, as you take part in a **Fall arrangement demonstration** at this family owned nursery, and watch as a hand-made centerpiece is created from scratch and finished right before your eyes. You can also shop here, leaving with a complimentary Vermont gift. Or if you prefer, experience the International Coffee Lab's one-hour class on the complex process from bean selection to the understanding of a coffee's bouquet once roasted as you taste the differences for yourself. After lunch on your own in **Waterbury**, you'll find nothing says Vermont quite like maple sugar, and this afternoon you'll visit the **Morse Farm Maple Sugarworks**, where 200 years of family tradition make this maple syrup the best you've ever tasted! Starting in the sugarhouse where you learn it takes 4 trees to make one gallon of pure maple syrup, you'll be entertained by "Burr" Morse talking of his family's maple sugarin' adventures, and see his folk art, the creations he's coaxed out of sugar wood - with a chain saw! The gift shop also offers a wide variety of Vermont specialty foods and gifts. Next up you'll return to your inn in lovely **Stowe**, with dinner on your own tonight.
 Overnight: Stowe, VT (B)

October 6, 2022 - The Many Great Tastes of Vermont!

After breakfast at the inn, you'll see why no visit to Vermont is complete without a stop at the **Ben and Jerry's** factory, where you'll learn how two high school friends became unlikely entrepreneurs in the ice cream industry. Your Ben and Jerry's tour will fill you with plenty of ice cream knowledge - and a little ice cream too! After lunch on your own in the town of **Shelburne**, you'll visit **Dakin Farm**, an authentic Vermont taste experience. First you enter the sugarhouse and learn about the challenging maple syrup industry, a significant part of Vermont's culture,

before visiting the store and tasting room. In their USDA-inspected meat plant, **meats and cheeses are smoked** using the Vermont farm's original 1800's recipes, and tasting the famous Vermont cream here is a must! You'll then check in to the resort, where your cottage by **Lake Champlain** awaits you in this special location made for relaxation, surrounded by the mountains and the sounds of the water lapping up on the shores of the lake. Breathe deep, relax and enjoy your evening, with tonight's dinner included.

Overnight: Vergennes, VT

(B/D)

October 7, 2022 - Lake Champlain Cruise & Morgan Horse Farm!

Today after breakfast, you'll embark on a narrated **morning cruise of Lake Champlain**. Cruising along the clear and refreshing waters with magnificent views of the Adirondack Mountains in New York and Vermont, you'll see bald eagle nests and spot osprey on Otter Creek. Afterward you'll find nothing more majestic than watching the Morgan horse in all its glory! Your visit to the **Morgan Horse Farm** is a special treat, with staff dedicated to nurturing and training Vermont's state animal. You'll learn about the Morgan's all-American history, as well as seeing these beautiful horses up close and personal! Your next feast for both the eyes and taste buds is your included lunch in **Middlebury** at the quaint **Waybury Inn** often referred to as the "**Bob Newhart Inn**," famous for inspiring Newhart's 1980's hit TV show. Next, you'll visit the **Vermont Country Store**, first opened in 1946 in Weston and listed in the National Register of Historic Places as the **first restored rural general store in America**. Also known as "**Purveyors of the Practical and Hard to Find**," this old time country store offers quality merchandise from around the block and around the world! Then you'll travel through the Green Mountains to **Hildene**, the ancestral home of the only child of Abraham Lincoln to survive to adulthood, **Robert Todd Lincoln**. Built on a promontory overlooking Battenkill Valley, Hildene commands **sweeping views of the valley** and the Taconic and Green Mountain ranges. Construction began in 1903 of this **24-room**

Georgian Revival mansion, preserved intact with original furnishings and Lincoln's personal family effects. There's a working **1,000 pipe Aeolian organ** in the entrance hall whose rich tones you'll get to hear on your self-guided tour, along with gardens, walking trails, a 1903 Pullman Palace car, and many Lincoln exhibits. You'll also visit **Hildene Farm**, whose solar-powered barn houses goats and a cheese-making facility, where each step of the process is visible. Tonight's dinner is on your own after checking in to your hotel.

Overnight: Latham, NY

(B/L)

October 8, 2022 - Covered Bridges and Norman Rockwell Home!

After breakfast at the Inn, you'll travel to **Bennington** and visit **Norman Rockwell's Vermont home** near a small covered bridge. The inspiration for Rockwell's work is apparent in these surroundings, as you take a quick historical tour of this perfectly restored home that includes Rockwell's art studio. Then you'll wind through back roads on your guided tour of **Bennington's iconic covered bridges**, taking in several of Vermont's most picturesque examples while hearing stories of the people and places of the Green Mountains. You'll also make a quick stop to pay your respects to **Robert Frost**, one of America's poetry icons. After lunch on your own, you'll get to explore the fascinating **Bennington Museum**. Founded in 1852 to celebrate Bennington's colonial past and commemorate the Revolutionary War's Battle of Bennington in 1777, the museum celebrates the rich heritage of southern Vermont, and houses the world's largest collection of Bennington pottery. Tonight you'll enjoy your **Farewell Dinner** at a charmingly restored 3-story horse barn, relocated to a scenic apple orchard overlooking the village of Bennington, the Battle Monument, and the lush rolling hills.

Overnight: Latham, NY

(B/D)

October 9, 2022 - Fond Farewell to Vermont!

This morning after breakfast you'll transfer to the airport for your flight home. **Your memories of the Fabulous Fall Foliage of Vermont will surely last a lifetime!**

(B)

****Please note that itineraries are subject to change.**

Fabulous Fall Foliage of Vermont!

\$3,998.00

per person / double occupancy

Single supplement is an additional \$998.00

Trip cancellation/interruption Travel Protection is available and recommended.

Inclusions

- Roundtrip airfare from Houston to New England (please inquire for other gateway cities; checked baggage fees are not included)
- Transfers from airport to inns to airport
- 6 nights deluxe lodging at Vermont hotels and inns with breakfasts daily
- 4 regional dinners and 1 lunch
- Private motor coach for the entire itinerary
- All sightseeing and admissions as listed in the detailed itinerary including Norman Rockwell Home, Lake Champlain Cruise, Lincoln's Hildene Estate, Morse Sugar Farm, Ben & Jerry's Tour, Morgan Horse Farm and more!
- Services of a local guide
- Porterage of 1 suitcase per person
- All taxes, government fees, & service charges
- TRIPS ticket wallet, and luggage tags
- Full time escort throughout your tour

Call today to reserve your space!!!

CST # 2057913-10

Reservations for "**Fabulous Fall Foliage of Vermont**" are accepted on a first come/first served basis. An initial **\$650.00** deposit is required to hold space on this tour. This deposit is fully refundable up to June 24, 2022.

Final payment is due in the TRIPS office on or before June 24, 2022.
Therefore, please make sure that payment is submitted at least 10 days prior to this date.

100% non-refundable as of June 24, 2022.

Payments may be made by checks made payable to **TRIPS**

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or by credit card by visiting Lamar.edu/cardinaladventures and following the link for this trip.

Your Lamar University contact is Laurie Ritchel, University Travel Programs Coordinator,

who may be reached at (409) 790-4307 or laurie.ritchel@lamar.edu. You may also contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at alumni@lamar.edu.

Mikki Walker at TRIPS may also be contacted at (818) 253-5472 or mikki@gotripsinc.com with questions regarding this trip or to make a reservation.

The taxes, fuel surcharges, and other fees imposed by airlines and cruise lines have been included in the cost of your tour as of printing on March 9, 2022. Any increases in these fees or baggage fees imposed by any air carriers or cruise lines are the responsibility of the individual passenger. TRIPS makes arrangements with airlines, hotels and other independent parties to provide travel services you purchase. We do not own or operate any of the accommodation, transport or other facilities used in connection with our programs. We therefore cannot accept liability for negligence of the staff of these organizations. These parties are independent suppliers over whom we have no direct control. TRIPS is not liable in the event of any failure by any person or company to render any transportation, accommodation or other travel service provided on tours, or for expenses incurred due to delays caused by weather, strikes, war, civil disturbances, natural disasters, flight delays, government actions, mechanical failures or any acts of God. TRIPS cannot assume any responsibility for flight delays, cancellations or missed connections and is not liable for any expenses or consequences resulting therefrom, and such expenses are to be borne by the traveler. Specific airline Conditions of Carriage will apply. These conditions are the subject of International Agreements and may limit or exclude liability. The participant waives any claim against TRIPS for any damage to, or loss of, property or injury to, or death of, due to any act or negligence of any airlines, surface transportation companies, hotels or any person rendering any of the services or accommodations included. TRIPS cannot be held responsible for any claims, losses, damages for delay of baggage or other properties, inconvenience, loss of enjoyment, upset and disappointment, distress or frustrations, whether physical or mental, resulting from the act or omission of any party providing services. The participant assumes and understands that all travel has inherent risk that may result in injury or death and that participation in activities, including but not limited to: driving, hiking, walking, touring, visiting archaeological sites, walking on uneven surfaces, riding on rough roads, rafting, boating, riding in helicopters, on trains, boats, swimming, horseback and any other activities. The information contained in this brochure and online has been compiled with all reasonable care, is accurate to the best of our knowledge and is given in good faith. All services are subject to the laws of the countries in which services are rendered. Payment for any TRIPS tour shall constitute consent to all provisions in these Terms & Conditions and is binding on all travel participants.