



Basin Harbor

FALL SEASON DRIVING GUIDE



DISCOVER VERMONT BY ROAD: A FALL SEASON DRIVING GUIDE



Experience the magic of Vermont in autumn with this curated fall driving guide. As the Green Mountains blaze with fiery hues of red, orange, and gold, Vermont's scenic byways transform into breathtaking corridors of color. This guide takes you through charming small towns, past covered bridges, historic farms, and along winding dirt roads that lead to panoramic mountain vistas.

Whether you're exploring Route 100, the legendary Smugglers' Notch, or the lesser-known backroads of the Northeast Kingdom, you'll find perfect photo ops and peaceful moments around every bend. Packed with local tips, foliage photo ops, and must-stop spots for cider, cheese, and maple treats, this guide is your essential companion for a classic New England fall road trip.





LINCOLN GAP ROAD

Warren, VT

Lincoln Gap Road in Vermont is a top destination for fall foliage enthusiasts, renowned for its dramatic scenery and status as one of the steepest roads in the state. As it winds through the Green Mountains, the road offers breathtaking views, tree-lined tunnels, and plenty of scenic spots to pull over and take in the brilliant autumn colors.



BASIN HARBOR
4800 Basin Harbor Road
Vergennes, VT 05491



0 HR 47 MIN (27.1 MILES)
via VT-17



LINCOLN GAP ROAD
44.095, -72.921



FORT TICONDEROGA

Ticonderoga, NY

Nestled between the majestic Adirondack and Green Mountains, Fort Ticonderoga becomes a truly captivating destination in the fall. With the surrounding landscape against the historic stone walls of the fort offer visitors a unique blend of natural beauty and rich colonial history. From the fort's elevated vantage points, you can take in sweeping panoramic views of Lake Champlain and the rolling hills beyond. Whether you're exploring the historic grounds, walking through wooded trails, or simply pausing to admire the scenery, Fort Ticonderoga in the fall is the perfect place to embrace the season's beauty.



BASIN HARBOR
4800 Basin Harbor Road
Vergennes, VT 05491



0 HR 47 MIN (30.8 MILES)
via Lake Rd



FORT TICONDEROGA
43.842, -73.388



ROBERT FROST INTERPRETIVE TRAIL

Ripton, VT

For a glimpse of the stunning landscape that inspired Robert Frost, visit the nearby Robert Frost Interpretive Trail in the Green Mountain National Forest. This easy, universally accessible path lets you wander through nature while discovering many of his poems displayed on posts along the way.



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0 HR 50 MIN (30.3 MILES)
via US-7 S and Vermont Rte 125 E



**ROBERT FROST
INTERPRETIVE TRAIL**
43.959, -73.011



BURLINGTON BIKE PATH

Burlington, VT

If you've got some extra time to explore, hop on a bike and cruise the Burlington Bike Path, which winds along the beautiful waterfront. The fall foliage is stunning, and you'll even get a view across Lake Champlain all the way to New York! Stretching 14 miles north to the Colchester Causeway, the path leads you through a narrow strip of land surrounded by water on both sides.



BASIN HARBOR
4800 Basin Harbor Road
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0 HR 55 MIN (30 MILES)
via US-7 N



BURLINGTON BIKE PATH
44.481, -73.220



MAD RIVER BYWAY

Mad River Valley, VT

The Mad River Byway takes you on a scenic journey through the heart of Vermont, winding past charming towns, working farms, iconic ski areas like Sugarbush and Mad River Glen, and rich historical sites. For a more relaxed experience, you can stroll along the Mad River on the beautifully designed Mad River Path, which loops through and around Waitsfield, offering easy access to nature and stunning views.



BASIN HARBOR

4800 Basin Harbor Road
Vergennes, VT 05491



1 HR 1 MIN (38.1 MILES)
via VT-17



MAD RIVER BYWAY

44.189, -72.819



THE GREAT CLIFF

Rochester, VT

Fall is the perfect time to hike to the Great Cliff of Mount Horrid. While the trail is short, it's steep and challenging, but the effort is well worth it—offering breathtaking views from the summit.



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1 HR 2 MIN (41.5 MILES)
via US-7 S



THE GREAT CLIFF
43.846, -72.964



LAKE ST. CATHERINE STATE PARK

Poultney, VT

Once a children's summer camp and farmland, this beloved park now features tent and lean-to sites, expansive grassy fields, wooded areas, and a beautiful lake, making it a great spot for outdoor enjoyment.



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4800 Basin Harbor Road
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1 HR 19 MIN (57.5 MILES)
via VT-22A



**LAKE ST. CATHERINE
STATE PARK**
43.482, -73.205



MISSISQUOI NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Swanton, VT

The final stretch of the Missisquoi River becomes a vibrant, lively scene every autumn, offering more than just stunning foliage. Spanning over 6,700 acres where the river meets Lake Champlain, the Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge serves as a vital stop for migrating waterfowl.



BASIN HARBOR
4800 Basin Harbor Road
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1 HR 28 MIN (68.5 MILES)
via US-7 N and I-89 N



MISSISQUOI NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
44.966, -73.200



GIFFORD WOODS STATE PARK

Killington, VT

Gifford Woods State Park is a favorite fall getaway, celebrated for its stunning autumn colors, particularly due to its proximity to Killington and Pico peaks. The park features a beautiful old-growth hardwood forest and is conveniently close to both the Appalachian and Long trails.



BASIN HARBOR
4800 Basin Harbor Road
Vergennes, VT 05491



1 HR 29 MIN (60.1 MILES)
via US-7 S



**GIFFORD WOODS
STATE PARK**
43.676, -72.811



SPARROW FARM ROAD

Montpelier, VT

Take a scenic detour that winds through a stretch of farmland, where lush meadows meet fiery orange and red foliage. This picturesque road offers some of the best views of Vermont's Worcester Mountain Range—and if you're lucky, you'll spot cows grazing peacefully in the distance!



BASIN HARBOR
4800 Basin Harbor Road
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1 HR 30 MIN (68.6 MILES)
via US-7 N and I-89 S



SPARROW FARM ROAD
44.304, -72.556



JAY MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS

Lewis, NY

Jay Mountain, tucked within the heart of the Adirondacks, is a hidden gem for leaf-peepers seeking an unforgettable fall experience. As one of the best places to witness the changing colors of the season, the Jay Mountain Trail rewards hikers with multiple 360° panoramic views that unfold along the ridgeline.



BASIN HARBOR
4800 Basin Harbor Road
Vergennes, VT 05491



1 HR 32 MIN (61.0 MILES)
via State Hwy 9N N



**JAY MOUNTAIN
WILDERNESS**
44.298, -73.668



LAKE GEORGE

Lake George, NY

Whether you're cruising along winding scenic roads or setting out on a more adventurous journey by foot or horseback, autumn experiences are always within reach. Every twist and turn reveals the landscape in breathtaking detail. Hiking trails lead through quiet forests blanketed in fallen leaves, while horseback rides offer a peaceful, rhythmic way to take in the vibrant scenery.



BASIN HARBOR
4800 Basin Harbor Road
Vergennes, VT 05491



1 HR 33 MIN (76.2 MILES)
via I-87 S



LAKE GEORGE
43.426, -73.714



STERLING POND TRAIL

Stowe, VT

The Sterling Pond Trail in Vermont is a fantastic spot for taking in fall foliage, especially when paired with a scenic drive through Smugglers' Notch. This trail offers beautiful views of the serene pond and the surrounding landscape, which comes alive with vibrant colors during the autumn season.



BASIN HARBOR
4800 Basin Harbor Road
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1 HR 36 MIN (61.5 MILES)
via VT-15 E



STERLING POND TRAIL
44.557, -72.794



MOUNT MANSFIELD

Underhill, VT

Mount Mansfield, Vermont's tallest peak at 4,393 feet, offers a challenging hike that rewards you with stunning panoramic views. The Long Trail South, the most popular route, stretches about 6.3 miles round trip and climbs 2,800 feet, providing incredible autumn vistas at the top that make the tough terrain totally worth it.



BASIN HARBOR

4800 Basin Harbor Road
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1 HR 38 MIN (70.4 MILES)
via US-7 N and I-89 S



MOUNT MANSFIELD

44.544, -72.814



SMUGGLERS NOTCH

Stowe, VT

If you're someone who craves a bit of adventure, Smugglers Notch is a spot you can't miss. This narrow mountain pass, flanked by towering cliffs, delivers breathtaking views—especially when the fall foliage is at its peak.



BASIN HARBOR

4800 Basin Harbor Road
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1 HR 44 MIN (61.7 MILES)
via VT-15 E



SMUGGLERS NOTCH

44.556, -72.796



MOREAU LAKE STATE PARK

Gansevoort, NY

As the crisp autumn air settles in and leaves begin their vibrant transformation, Moreau Lake becomes a breathtaking seasonal escape. Surrounded by a sandy beach, the lake is nestled within a patchwork of forests that come alive with the rustle of fallen leaves, creating the perfect backdrop for peaceful hikes along winding trails. Nearby, campgrounds and picnic areas offer a chance to relax and soak in the serene beauty of the season.



BASIN HARBOR
4800 Basin Harbor Road
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1 HR 44 MIN (90.5 MILES)
via 1-87 S



**MOREAU LAKE
STATE PARK**
43.239, -73.730



WHITEFACE MOUNTAIN

Wilmington, NY

Whiteface Mountain, the fifth-highest peak in New York State and one of the renowned High Peaks of the Adirondack Mountains, rises proudly above the charming town of Wilmington. This iconic summit offers awe-inspiring views of the Adirondack landscape. Whether you're hiking one of the nearby trails or simply enjoying the crisp mountain air, Whiteface Mountain in the fall is an unforgettable experience that captures the wild beauty and vibrant soul of the Adirondacks.



BASIN HARBOR
4800 Basin Harbor Road
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1 HR 47 MIN (72.1 MILES)
via State Hwy 9N N



WHITEFACE MOUNTAIN
44.367, -73.903



GREEN RIVER RESERVOIR STATE PARK

Hyde Park, VT

The 653-acre Green River Reservoir features nearly 19 miles of shoreline, making it one of Vermont's longest stretches of undeveloped coastlines. Visitors can take in breathtaking fall foliage while exploring the peaceful shores of the reservoir.



BASIN HARBOR
4800 Basin Harbor Road
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1 HR 49 MIN (75.3 MILES)
via 1-89 S and Vermont Rte 100 N



**GREEN RIVER RESERVOIR
STATE PARK**
44.621, -72.526



BEAVER MEADOW ROAD

Norwich, VT

Imagine a seemingly endless road lined with golden-yellow trees, completely quiet with no cars or people in sight. The branches arch overhead, forming a glowing natural canopy, while leaves gently drift past your window as you drive. South of Montpelier, this serene route connects the towns of Sharon and Norwich, offering some of the most dramatic foliage in Vermont—an ideal backdrop for stunning portrait photos.



BASIN HARBOR
4800 Basin Harbor Road
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1 HR 50 MIN (75.1 MILES)
via Vermont Route 125 E



BEAVER MEADOW ROAD
43.760, -72.364



QUEECHEE STATE PARK

White River Junction, VT

This state park is home to the stunning Quechee Gorge, Vermont's deepest ravine, reaching a depth of 165 feet. Formed over 13,000 years ago by glacial movement, the gorge is surrounded by lush maple trees, providing spectacular views of fall foliage over the Ottauquechee River.



BASIN HARBOR
4800 Basin Harbor Road
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1 HR 54 MIN (80.9 MILES)
via Vermont Rte 125 E



QUEECHEE STATE PARK
43.637, -72.401