

experience vermont and northern berkshires

Williamstown, Manchester, Dorset and Weston



blank**canvastours**
TRIPS THAT ENGAGE YOUR CREATIVE SIDE



vermont and northern berkshires fall foliage trip

Williamstown, Manchester, Dorset and Weston

Featuring stunning fall foliage, unique and historic art venues, impactful theatre performances and quaint Vermont and Northern Berkshires towns, this is a picturesque and entertaining fall getaway.

about this trip

- Over four days and three nights you will stay in two elegant inns, explore four quintessential Berkshires and Vermont towns, take in three plays/performances, and visit four museums.
- Three expert trip leaders will give you an insider's tour of Vermont and the Northern Berkshires. These leaders will handle everything from baggage and transportation to food and wine recommendations.
- Blank Canvas provides detailed trip planning to give you options and choice, while making sure you have the best seats, private tours and insight at top museums, theatres and concert venues.
- Transportation will be in luxury vans, with ample room and individual seating.

Call now to reserve your trip: 1.833.641.0855

2019 trip dates

- October 3-6

what's included

- Expert trip leaders
- Lodging
- Meals (with exception of alcohol and one "explore on your own lunch")
- Snacks and beverages between meals
- Entry to all venues
- Luxury van transportation
- Comprehensive travel planner with detailed pre-trip information
- Private guided tours through museums and other historical venues
- Exclusive access to performances
- All gratuities at hotels and restaurants
- Baggage transfer and portorage

getting to the berkshires

- Albany International Airport (1 hr from Williamstown)
- Boston Logan International Airport (2.5 hrs from Williamstown)
- Bradley International Airport (2 hrs from Williamstown)
- Amtrak runs many services to nearby NY locations including Albany, Hudson and more.
- Parking will be available for those who choose to drive

weather

- Average annual temperatures High 65/Low 40

pricing

- \$2,498 per person for double occupancy
- \$3,198 for single occupancy

vermont and northern berkshires fall trip 2019

Please note that this itinerary will be updated once performance details are announced for the 2019 season. Small changes to the schedule may be made as a result.

day 1: thursday

12:00pm: Arrival at The Porches Inn

In the shadows of the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art (Mass MoCA), these old mill houses turned chic inn will be our starting point. With an expansive view of Mass MoCA, this row of beautifully detailed 19th Century Victorian row houses pays homage to generations of mill worker families who once called them home.

12:30pm: Welcome Lunch

Our leaders will welcome you to Blank Canvas Tours, give you a rundown of what to expect for the trip and introduce other guests. A private buffet lunch will be served at the Porches Inn.

2:00pm: Mass MoCA

Experience a private guided tour of more than 250,000 square feet of visual contemporary art. The expansive museum includes one of the largest open space exhibits in the world, all in a uniquely renovated historic mill building. There will be time to explore the museum on your own following the guided tour.

4:00pm: Mount Greylock

For a scenic view of fall foliage from the tallest mountain in the state, you'll have the option of heading up to the summit to take in peak fall foliage in the Northern Berkshires.

7:00pm: Dinner at Mezza Bistro

Dinner will be served at Mezza Bistro, an exquisite home-turned restaurant with a focus on farm-to-table food and fine dining. This might be our team's favorite restaurant in the Berkshires!

8:30pm: A Capella

An exclusive performance for Blank Canvas guests, this trip highlight includes an intimate and fun evening with this renowned Williams College a cappella group. Enjoy throwback songs and modern hits — it's a favorite of the Blank Canvas team! Founded in 1956, The Williams College



Ephlats is an all-gender a cappella group from Williams College. The group derives its name from the college mascot (a purple cow affectionately known as Ephelia, or an Eph for short), and is the most enduring a cappella group at Williams, with an alumni network of over 300 former members. Singing a wide range of musical genres, you can find the Ephlats performing popular songs to jazz standards to original compositions.

Accommodations for the night at The Porches Inn

day 2: friday

7:30am: Breakfast at The Porches

Served in the Main Dining Room, you can dine at your leisure that morning.

10:00am: The Clark Art Institute

You will receive a private, guided tour of the permanent collection on view at this world famous art museum, which will be followed by time to roam and experience **the three summer exhibitions in the other galleries**. The Clark sits on a unique 140-acre ground and features European and American paintings, sculpture, prints, drawing and decorative arts from the Renaissance to the early twentieth century. The collection is especially rich in French Impressionist and Academic painting, British oil sketches, drawings and the work of American artists Winslow Homer, George Inness and John Singer Sargent. You can lunch at one of two on-campus cafes, and will have time to walk the scenic trails behind the museum.

1:00pm: Explore Manchester, VT or Take a Scenic Hike

We'll depart Williamstown and take the scenic drive up to Vermont, where there will be multiple options.

Option A: Shop in Manchester/Dorset

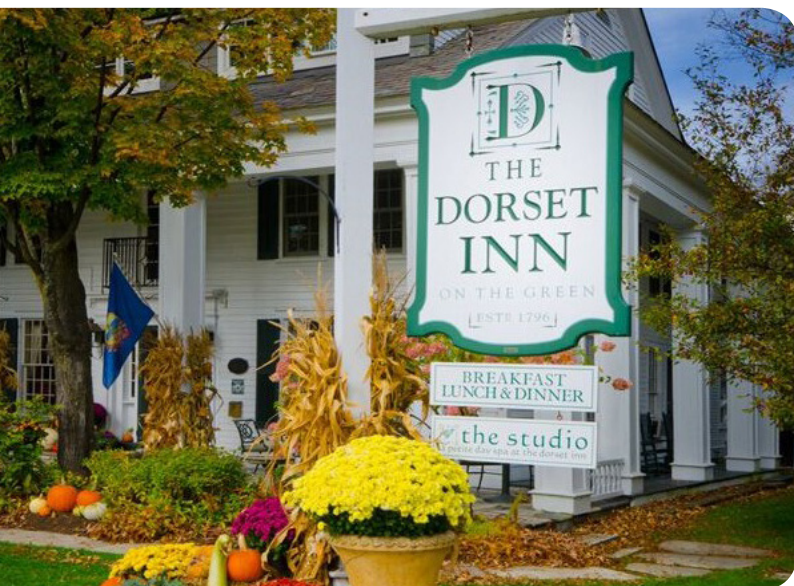
You can explore Manchester and its many outlet stores, all situated within a picturesque town in the mountains of Vermont.

Option B: Hike Prospect Rock Trail

Prospect Rock Trail is a 3.1 mile out and back trail that features a waterfall and is rated as moderate. You can enjoy lovely flora and fauna, babbling mountain streams, and rewarding summit foliage views.

3:30pm: The Dorset Inn

Get settled into your room and relax before an evening of fun. The Dorset Inn is quintessential Vermont, with charming rooms located in the quaint town of Dorset. The Dorset Inn has been rated by Yankee Magazine as one of the top 18th century inns in the country!



5:30pm: Dinner at The Barrows House

With gourmet dining right down the road, you'll enjoy a three-course meal specially catered for our group. The Barrows House is an American gastropub with a modern twist on traditional New England fare that pairs great food with craft beers, wine and cocktails. The menus and beverages showcase Vermont's abundance of local products and celebrate its farms and producers.



7:30pm: Performance at the Dorset Players

A historic barn turned theatre, the Dorset Playhouse has been around since 1927 and is a staple of New England theatre. Offering a wide variety of plays and performances, the Dorset Players will be an exciting highlight for our group. A talkback with the actors will be available following the performance, exclusive to Blank Canvas guests.

Accommodations for the night at The Dorset Inn

day 3: saturday

7:30am: Full American Breakfast at the Dorset Inn

Served in the dining room, you can dine at your leisure.

10:30am: Hildene, The Lincoln Family Home

Our group will take a private tour of Hildene, the historic home of Robert Lincoln, the only son of President Abraham Lincoln and his wife Mary Todd Lincoln. Hildene remained occupied by descendants of the Lincoln family until 1975, when the next to last descendant of the Lincoln-Harlan family, Mary Lincoln Beckwith, passed away there. The estate features 412 acres, half of which includes meadows and wetlands while on the inside, the Hildene is furnished almost entirely by Lincoln family furniture, and contains artifacts belonging to Robert Todd Lincoln and his parents.

12:15pm: Lunch at Hildene

A catered lunch at Hildene overlooking the grounds will be served.

1:30pm: Oldcastle Theatre, Southern Vermont Arts Center or Shop

Option A: Oldcastle Theatre

Located in downtown Bennington, The Oldcastle Theatre Company will be celebrating its 48th season in 2019! Originally formed by five New York actors in 1972, the OTC presents at least one new play each season and has premiered plays by well-known writers as Elliot Hays, Reginald Rose and Bob Shanks. Tony winning actresses such as Karen Ziemba and Emmy winning actors and directors such as Richard Thomas, James Goldstone, Melissa Leo, Larkin Malloy and others have worked with the company over the years.

Option B: Southern Vermont Arts Center

Enjoy a private guided tour of the Southern Vermont Arts Center, a historic estate turned gallery-space featuring sculptures, local artists and regional works. A true hidden gem.

Option C: Shop in Manchester/Dorset

You can explore Manchester and it's many outlet stores, all situated within a picturesque town in the mountains of Vermont.

5:30pm: Dine at the West Town Eatery

Chef's Rogan and Abby Lechthaler bring an inspired, locally-sourced, of the moment menu for our group! The restaurant is located on property at the Weston Playhouse and will allow you to enjoy top-flight food, spirited cocktails, and warm hospitality; all complemented by the best view in town—Weston's historic mill & falls.

7:30pm: Weston Playhouse

Vermont's oldest and longest-running professional theatre, the Weston Playhouse offers some of the best summer theatre in the state. From classics like West Side Story, to world premieres, the playhouse continues to grow its footprint every year, adding a brand new Center of the Arts that is soon to be unveiled. Depending on production announcements, this may be swapped for the Dorset Theatre Festival.

Accommodations for the night at The Dorset Inn



day 4: sunday

7:30am: Breakfast at the Dorset Inn

Served in the dining room, you can dine at your leisure.

10:00am: Bennington Museum

Experience a private guided tour of the Bennington Museum, home to the world's largest collection paintings from famed folk artist, Grandma Moses. The *New York Times* said of her: "The simple realism, nostalgic atmosphere and luminous color with which Grandma Moses portrayed simple farm life and rural countryside won her a wide following. She was able to capture the excitement of winter's first snow, Thanksgiving preparations and the new, young green of oncoming spring... In person, Grandma Moses charmed wherever she went. A tiny, lively woman with mischievous gray eyes and a quick wit, she could be sharp-tongued with a sycophant and stern with an errant grandchild."

12:30pm: Depart in Williamstown

We'll say our goodbyes after a fun adventure and offer shuttles to local airports.