Area Attractions

Antiquing

Vermont is well known as a place for finding antique treasures. Our many privately owned shops offer a wide variety of treasures just waiting to be discovered everything from fine furniture to linens and rugs as well as priceless china and art. Here at Windham Hill we have compiled a list for our guests of over thirty three of our favorite treasure haunts here in Southern Vermont. We would be happy to share our list and assist you in mapping out your own personal treasure hunt.

Farms, Factories and Shops

Billings Farm and Museum

Established in 1871 by Frederick Billings, a native Vermonter, known for his work in conservation, reforestation, and scientific farm management. Today the farm is a working dairy operation and museum. Located just outside of Woodstock, Vermont they give tours from May through October from 10am to 5pm. In winter they have varying and limited hours so it is necessary to call first.

Route 12 and River Road

Woodstock, Vermont

(802)457-2355 or www.billingsfarm.org

Burdick's Chocolate Shop

In nearby New Hampshire they make wonderful handmade artisanal chocolate in Walpole. The shop and restaurant are offering chocolate tasting beginning in 2011 and it is a wonderful place have lunch and spend some time indulging in gourmet handmade confections after touring the countryside.

47 Main Street

Walpole, New Hampshire (603)756-2882 or www.burdickchocolate.com

Grafton Cheese and Retreat Farm

The Retreat Farm is a 475 acres of land located in Brattleboro, Vermont. The Windham Foundation purchased the farm in 2001 to preserve the land and open it to the public. The farm contains a seasonally operated petting farm, nature trails for hiking and is a flagship location to Grafton Village Cheese. The cheese making facility and store is a great place to pick up local cheeses and gift items as well as watching the famous Grafton Cheddar being made.

350 Linden Street, Route 30

Brattleboro, Vermont

(802)257-2240 or www.theretreatfarm.com

Grafton Village Cheese

Cheesemaking has long been a part of Vermont life. Dairy cows grazing in green pastures are a familiar sight and milk is considered one of the state's natural resources. Cheesemaking in the historic village of Grafton dates back to 1892 when The Grafton Cooperative Cheese Company was founded by dairy farmers to make cheese from their surplus milk. A fire destroyed the original factory and in the 1960's the Windham Foundation restored the company and a new era was born for the town. Enjoy watching World famous Grafton Cheddar being made and purchase cheese and specialty items to take home from their store.

Townshend Road

Grafton, Vermont

(800)472-3866 or www.graftonvillagecheese.com

Hildene

"Hildene" Robert Todd Lincoln's home, descendants of Abraham Lincoln, was occupied by Lincoln's until 1975. Take a tour of the restored Georgian Revival mansion filled with original furnishings and personal effects as well as a 1908 Aeolian pipe organ. Tour the magnificent gardens, especially during peony season, or visit the working goat farm and observe goat cheese being made.

Route 7A

Manchester Village, Vermont

(802)362-1788 or www.hildene.org

Simon Pearce Glass Blowing

From inception Simon's vision has been to create beautifully designed products using premium materials and time honored techniques intended for a lifetime of everyday use. The shop moved from Ireland to Quechee in 1981 when Simon bought and restored the old Woolen Mill in Quechee. You can observe glass being blown, potters at work, dine in the Mill Restaurant or visit the store.
(802)295-2711 or www.simonpearce.com

Museums

American Museum of Fly Fishing

Established in 1968 by a group of interested anglers, the museum was created to preserve and exhibit the treasures of American angling. The museum serves as a repository for, and conservator to, the world's largest collection of angling and angling related items. The collections and exhibits document the evolution of fly fishing as a sport, art form and craft and include the tackle of many famous Americans.
4104 Main Street
Manchester, Vermont
(802)362-3300 or www.amf.com

Bennington Museum

The museum was founded in 1852 as the Bennington Historical Association to celebrate and preserve Bennington's Colonial past and commemorate the historic Revolutionary War Battle of Bennington in 1777. The museum houses a large collection of early furniture, decorative arts, tools, toys, military artifacts as well as Grandma Moses paintings and memorabilia.
75 Main Street
Bennington, Vermont
(802)447-1571 or www.benningtonmuseum.com

Brattleboro Museum & Art Center

The museum and art center is a nonprofit organization founded in 1972, with a mission to present art and ideas in ways that inspire educate and engage people of all ages. New exhibits by regional and internationally acclaimed artists are shown each season.
Union Station corner of
Main St. & Routes 119 & 142
Brattleboro, Vermont (802)257-0124 or www.brattleboromuseum.org

Grafton Museum of Natural History

The Nature Museum is a dynamic and educational place to visit. They sponsor many off-site, naturalist-led public programs as well as teaching classes in schools and public libraries across the region. The museum grounds have walking trails and a wildlife garden that are open year round. A wonderful place to explore Vermont's natural beauty.

186 Townshend Road

Grafton, Vermont

(802)843-2111 or www.nature-museum.org

Southern Vermont Art Center

Vermont's oldest cultural organization, the Southern Vermont Arts Center is located in a National Historic Trust Mansion in Manchester, Vermont. The Center's ten galleries feature classic and contemporary art on display and for sale.

West Road

Manchester, Vermont

(802)362-1405 or www.svac.org

Sterling and Francine Clark Art Museum

A ways away but if you are going by on your way home it is definitely worth stopping. In 1950 Sterling and Francine Clark chartered the Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute as a home for their extensive art collection. Opened to public in 1955, the Institute has built upon this extraordinary group of works to become one of the most beloved and respected art museums in the world, known for its intimate galleries and stunning natural environment. One of the few institutions in the United States that combines a public art museum with a complement of research and academic programs including a major art history library.

225 South Street

Williamstown, Massachusetts

(413)458-9545 or www.clarkart.edu

Williams College Museum of Art

One of the finest college art museums in the country, houses eleven thousand works that span the history of art. The collection emphasizes contemporary and modern art, American art from the late 18th century to the present and non-western art.

Main Street

Williamstown, Massachusetts

(413)597-2429 or www.wcma.org

Outdoor Adventure

Bromley Sun Mountain Adventure Park

If you thought winter skiing was Bromley's only gig, guess again ! Sun Mountain Adventure Park is Vermont's Sun and Fun Park. The Alpine Slide, Sun Mountain Flyer Zip Rider, Miniature Golf and Big Splash Water Slide rides are loads of outdoor fun. A KidZone for children and many more attractions, make Bromley the Vermont amusement park to visit each summer.

Route 11

Manchester, Vermont

(802)824-5522 or www.bromley.com

Equinox Skyline Drive

A scenic 5.2 mile drive to the summit of Mount Equinox, 3,835 feet above sea level, providing a breathtaking 360 degree view of 5 mountain ranges, four states and Canada.

Route 7A South of Manchester Village.

Stratton Mountain Gondola Rides

Scenic ride to the top of Stratton Mountain in a gondola. Spectacular views particularly in fall foliage season. Weather permitting.

Stratton Mountain, Vermont

(802)297-2200 or www.stratton.com

State Parks & Nature Services

Jamaica State Park

Hiking, fishing, canoeing, kayaking, swimming, camping and picnicking. Long scenic trail along the West River provides a wonderful hike to Hamilton Falls, Ball Mountain Dam and Jamaica overlook.

Just off Route 30

Jamaica, Vermont

(802)874-4600 or www.vtstateparks.com

Merck Forest and Farmland Center

An environmental and educational organization with over 3,100 acres available to explore and enjoy in the heart of the Taconic Mountain Range in Southwestern Vermont.

Rupret, Vermont

(802)394-7836 or www.merckforest.org

Townshend State Park

A visit to Townshend State Park, located at the foot of Bald Mountain on a bend of the West River, feels like a step back in time. The park was constructed during the Great Depression by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), a public works program aimed at putting young men to work. There are camp site and hiking trails as well as a nice swimming hole on the West River. A wonderful place to take a day and explore the great outdoors.

2755 State Forest Road

Townshend, Vermont

(802) 365-7510 or www.vtstateparks.com

Townshend Lake Recreation Area

Spectacular dam, hiking trails, swimming beach, boating and picnic areas.

Route 30

Townshend, Vermont

(802)874-4881 or www.recreation.gov

Theatres & Music

Dorset Playhouse

Year-round theatre entertainment in a fabulous country setting. Dorset Players offers four community productions over eight weekends, fall thru spring. The Dorset Theatre Festival offers five professional productions six days a week, mid June through mid September.

Dorset, Vermont

(802)867-5777 or www.dorsetplayers.org

Marlboro Music Festival

Since its founding in 1951, Marlboro has transformed the world of chamber music and played a vital role in developing generations of new musical leaders. Marlboro was created by eminent pianist Rudolf Serkin, its Artistic Director until his death in 1991, and co-founders Adolf Busch, Hermann Busch and Marcel, Blanche and Louis Moyse. Marlboro Music's 60th Anniverisary will be in the 2011 summer season taking place July 16th – August 14th. Performances feature chamber music for diverse instrumental and vocal combinations from all musical periods.

Marlboro, Vermont

(802)254-2394 June 20th – August 15th www.marlboromusic.org

Saxtons River Playhouse

One of the few remaining barn playhouses in Vermont. The season begins in June and runs thru August. Childrens theatre, comedy, cabaret and musicals are preformed each season.

Westmister West Road

Saxtons River, Vermont

(802)869-2030

Vermont Jazz Center

The history of the Vermont Jazz reaches back to the early 1970's, when the late founding Director, jazz guitarist Attila Zoller, would invite numerous musicians from New York City to unwind and create at his home in Newfane, Vermont. In 1997 Zoller past the torch to pianist, Eugene Uman, who together with his wife, Elsa Borrero developed the jazz center into a year 'round program that hosts monthly concerts.

72 Cotton Mill Hill, Studio 222

Brattleboro, Vermont (802)254-9088 or www.vtjazz.org

Weston Playhouse

Vermont's oldest professional theatre company. In 1935, while Franklin D. Roosevelt was coping with the Great Depression, Weston-born architect Raymond Austin was putting the finishing touches on a playhouse that one New York critic would later call "the most beautiful theatre in New England." Weston Playhouse produces a broad spectrum of dramatic works and educational programs. Their season runs from mid June thru mid September.

730 Main Street

Weston, Vermont

(802)824-5288 or www.westonplayhouse.org