



FOUR SEASONS HOTEL *Boston*

VERMONT EXCURSION

The Green Mountain State, the second largest in New England, is also one of the most picturesque. It is known for quaint small towns, dairy farms, mountain and forest scenery that can be breathtaking in any season and a rational and progressive approach to life. Maintaining the unique character of the state continues to be a priority and visiting offers a singular and rewarding experience to the traveler.

A suggested route:

From Boston take Interstate 93 north into New Hampshire until it intersects with Interstate 89 at Concord. Follow Interstate 89 north through New Hampshire until you cross the Connecticut River into Vermont. This will place you in the center portion Vermont. Exit 1 on Interstate 89 will take you onto US Route 4. Following this road west will take you by some worthy places of interest. These include:

The Quechee Gorge, Vermont's deepest gorge, formed by glacial activity approximately 13,000 years ago. Visitors can look down at the Ottauquechee River, flowing 165 feet below viewing points along Route 4. The Simon Pearce Restaurant in Quechee is worth a visit.

www.simonpearce.com/category/restaurants/quechee.do.

The town of Woodstock, once voted the prettiest small town in America. The town is dominated by the Woodstock Inn and resort. Tel: 802.457.1100, www.woodstockinn.com. Woodstock is in some respects a gateway to the Green Mountains. The town has lots to offer in the way of strolling, shopping, and dining.

From Woodstock head west along route 4 to Killington, Vt and if desired further to the city of Rutland. This is the city focused around Killington Peak, one of the tallest in Vermont and the largest ski area is the eastern United States. The downtown is on the National Register of Historic Places. It is the second largest city in Vermont albeit with population of only 17,000 it is not a major metropolis.

An alternative route bypassing Rutland would be to continue up from route 4 onto Vermont route 100. This road will take you through a central valley up to the Mad River Valley. The Warren Country store in Warren, Vermont is worth a visit along this route.

www.warrenstore.com.



Further north you will find the town of Waitsfield with its covered bridge just north of the Sugarbush Ski Area. Continuing on route 100 will take you into Waterbury, Vermont along US Route 2. There is a well known pub here called "The Alchemist", www.alchemistbeer.com that uses only locally grown ingredients and brews very good beers. Waterbury is also home to the Ben and Jerry's

Ice Cream Factory which offers tours. This is quite a tourist attraction, however.

From Waterbury if you wish you can continue north along route 100 into Stowe, VT which is where you would find Mt. Mansfield the highest peak in Vermont - also a major ski resort. The Green Mountain Inn in the center of Stowe is a good place to stay and their pub restaurant “The Whip” is always a good stop, tel: 888.476.6879, www.greenmountaininn.com. The general store in the center of the town is a classic.

Stowe has just about everything to offer and the river recreation path from the center of the town towards Mt. Mansfield is a nice stroll with great views of the mountain.

From Stowe or Waterbury along route 100 or route 2 you can get back onto interstate 89 to head back to Boston. Exit 8 will take you into Montpelier, the smallest state capital city in the U.S. The downtown is typically picturesque and the Main Street Grill, the restaurant of the New England Culinary Institute has great food at very reasonable prices. www.neci.edu/about/restaurants-classrooms.



Part of the charm of Vermont is its back roads. If you are feeling adventurous and with a good map, you can come across some great views by following the locals and veering off the main routes into some of the smaller towns. At this time of year however beware of dirt roads that get very soft – mud season!