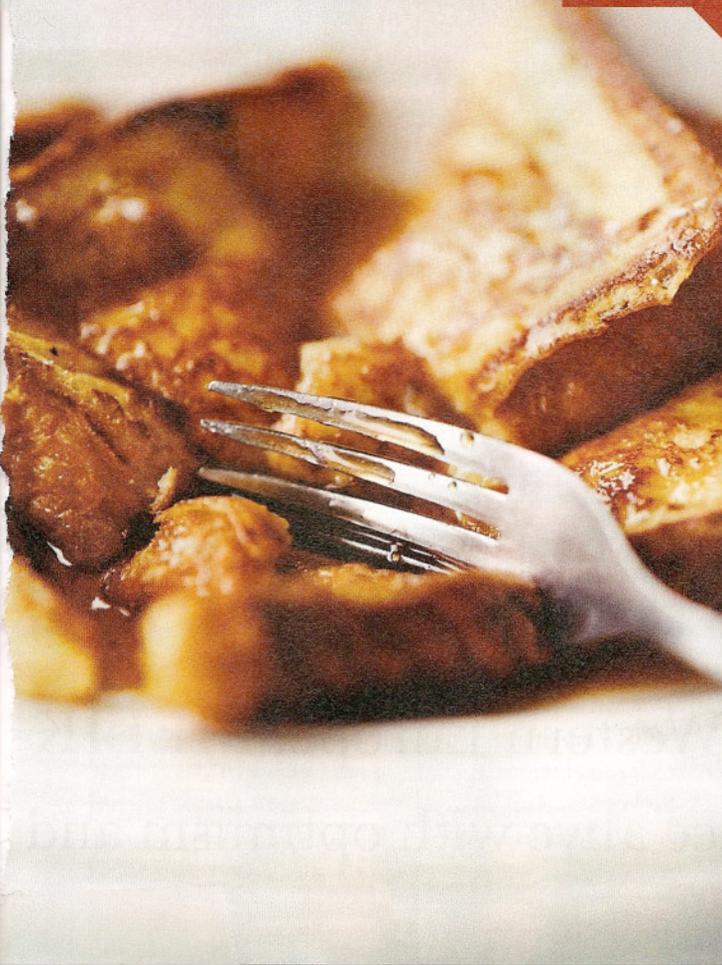


The Ultimate Fall Travel Guide.
Whether it's a wine lover's weekend
on New York's North Fork or
leaf-peeping in Vermont, here are
10 perfect trips from Cape Cod
to Canada. Plus, 20 other ideas for
antiquing, hiking, and more





Historic New England in **Keene, New Hampshire**

The National Trust calls Keene “a Currier & Ives landscape come to life,” which, if you disregard the skateboard park, is pretty spot-on. Keene’s broad, elm-shaded Main Street has cafés, lively bars, and the landmark Colonial Theatre. In the fall, the surrounding countryside is just as big a draw: the Ashuelot River, rimmed by scarlet maples and traversed by rickety covered bridges; fragrant pine forests; and 3,165-foot Mount Monadnock, which has views clear to Boston, Maine, and Vermont.

WHAT TO DO Cast for bass on **Goose Pond**, north of town (*hike in from the trailhead on E. Surry Rd., off Rte. 12A*). Then drive Route 12 northwest for 17 miles to Walpole, home to Ken Burns’s film studio and Greek Revival architecture. Return to Keene via Route 10, a stretch of road with four covered bridges. In October, join revelers at the **Pumpkin Festival** (Oct. 20). Besides fireworks and pumpkin pie-eating contests, there are four looming towers of jack-o’-lanterns, each of which rises 40 feet above the town square.

WHERE TO EAT **Lindy’s** (19 Gilbo Ave.; 603/352-4273; *breakfast for two \$10*) is a 1961 Paramount diner replete with vinyl-covered swivel stools and flannel-shirted regulars enjoying buttery French toast with maple syrup. Larry Burdick is New England’s most revered chocolate artisan, and his headquarters, **L. A. Burdick** (47 Main St., Walpole; 603/756-2882; *burdickchocolate.com*; *dinner for two \$80*) also houses a bistro that serves Provençal classics.

WHERE TO STAY Carved out of an 1890 brick building that was once Keene’s preeminent department store, the **E. F. Lane Hotel** (30 Main St.; 603/357-7070; *eflane.com*; *doubles from \$164*) is the only high-end place to stay in town. It’s on the main drag, steps from the gazebo (and, in October, the giant pumpkin towers).

INSIDER TIP “For a quiet afternoon, I drive twenty miles southeast to **Cathedral of the Pines** [10 Hale Hill Rd., Rindge; 603/899-3300],” Keene’s mayor, Michael Blastos, says. “It’s an outdoor chapel that sits on a bluff overlooking Mount Monadnock. There’s a beautiful altar made of stones donated from every state in the nation.”

—PETER JON LINDBERG

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and tents. It’s New England’s largest show, and lures dealers from as far away as Mexico. Booths straddle both sides of Route 20 for almost a mile. Sept. 4-9; Rte. 20, Brimfield; 413/245-0030; *brimfield.com*.

Historic Deerfield Antiques Show

Tucked away in the Connecticut River Valley, this highbrow exhibition focuses on Americana, with a mix of jewelry, ceramics, and silver. Its 50-plus dealers sell some of the best antiques New England has to offer. Oct. 6-7; 7 Boyden Lane, Deerfield; 413/775-7214; *adadealers.com*. —S.M.

Classic Fall Opposite, clockwise from top left: Swedish linens at Chez Manon, in Chester, Connecticut; Chester’s Main Street; one of four covered bridges on New Hampshire’s Route 10; French toast with local maple syrup at Lindy’s, in Keene, New Hampshire.

Apple Orchards with a View

MASSACHUSETTS

Nashoba Valley Winery

This orchard, winery, and brewery looks out over the central Massachusetts village of Bolton. Hand-picking from the 30 different varieties may be the best way to walk off brunch at the property's nouveau-American restaurant, J's. *100 Wattaquodoc Hill Rd., Bolton; 978/779-5521; nashobawinery.com.*

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Alyson's Orchard

A family-owned hilltop retreat in the Connecticut River Valley growing more than 60 types of apples, including a rare heirloom variety called Hudson's Golden Gem. The 20,000 apple trees are dwarfs, so you can pick your apples without balancing on a ladder. You can also explore the farm's 500 acres on a nature walk or fish for wide-mouth black bass in Lily's Pond. *57 Alyson's Lane, Walpole; 800/856-0549; alysonsorchar.com.*

NEW YORK

Stone Ridge Orchard

Over 200 years old, this 115-acre farmstead is the largest apple orchard in the Catskill Mountains' Rondout River Valley. Rooted in history, it's still run by pioneers, who work with Cornell researchers to test new varieties—organically grown, of course. After harvesting a bushel, picnic under the centuries-old oak tree. *Rte. 213, Stone Ridge; 845/687-2587; stoneridgeorchard.com.*

VERMONT

Shelburne Orchards

A second-generation grower, owner Nick Cowles is committed to sustainable agriculture. His 80-acre farm, with views of Lake Champlain and the Adirondacks, produces heirlooms like Roxbury Russets and Tolman Sweets. *216 Orchard Rd., Shelburne; 802/985-2753; shelburneorchards.com.*

—SUZANNE MOZES