

Central Massachusetts & the Berkshires

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Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Meze Bistro & Bar (p206)
- ➔ Nudel (p203)
- ➔ John Andrews Restaurant (p196)
- ➔ Chez Albert (p190)
- ➔ Castle Street Cafe (p196)
- ➔ Chef Wayne's Big Mamou (p184)

Best Places to Stay

- ➔ Lord Jeffery Inn (p190)
- ➔ Stonover Farm B&B (p202)
- ➔ Canyon Ranch (p202)
- ➔ Guest House at Field Farm (p205)

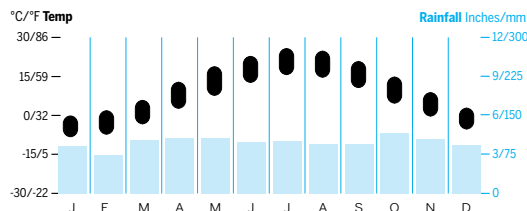
Why Go?

The Berkshires draw you in with a tantalizing mix of cultural offerings, verdant hills and sweet farmland. You can ramble through estate homes of the once famous, listen to world-class musicians from a lawnside picnic blanket, and feast on farm-to-table cuisine at chef-driven restaurants. You could easily spend an entire summer hopscotching the patchwork of wilderness areas while taking in a dance festival here, an illustrious music series there and summer theater all over the place.

Head further afield and you'll come across peppy college towns with shady campuses, a wealth of cafes and exceptional art museums. Stretch your quads on hiking trails up Massachusetts' highest mountain and through nature preserves of all stripes. Those lucky enough to be here in autumn will find apples ripe for the picking and hillsides ablaze in brilliant fall foliage.

When to Go

Worcester



Summer Cultural attractions, summer theater, dance and concert festivals.

Fall A gorgeous time to be here, but avoid weekends, when traffic jams up.

Oct–May During these quieter months you'll find worthy nightlife in the region's college towns.

Central Massachusetts & the Berkshires Highlights

- 1** Listening to the Boston Symphony as you picnic at **Tanglewood** (p201), Lenox
- 2** Cruising the cafe and club scene in uber-hip **Northampton** (p185)
- 3** Rambling hoops at USA's largest contemporary art museum at **MASS MoCA** (p206), North Adams
- 4** Relishing the hot dogs at a classic **Worcester** diner (p178)

- 5** Shooting hoops at Springfield's **Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame** (p182)
- 6** Scouring the stalls for treasures at the **Brimfield Antique Show** (p179)
- 7** Enjoying stellar art museums and summer theater in rural **Williamstown** (p204)

- 8** Ascending to the summit of **Mt Greylock** (p207) for a wild vista of five states
- 9** Munching on farm-fresh vittles in **Great Barrington** restaurants (p194)

