The Secrets of the Tri-State Area

Things to do in the vicinity of Maplebrook School
Introduction

There is so much to do in and around Maplebrook School and a plethora of activities for each season.

Maplebrook School is located at the foothills of the beautiful Berkshire Mountains. This area is a paradise for the athletically inclined and people who simply like to take in fresh, clean air.

The hiking is superb, golf courses are strategically placed and there are a multitude of water bodies in which to kayak or canoe. Not many areas are more breathtaking in the autumn for leaf peeping and enjoying the various fall festivals and fairs. In the winter, skiing, snowboarding and snowshoeing are the activities of choice for many.

The Berkshires is world-renowned for its art, culture, health and wellness, shopping and outdoor adventure. Just a short drive from Albany, NY or Hartford, CT and a very doable day trip from New York City and Boston will bring you to our area and you will not be disappointed.

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This reference is an excellent guide to anyone visiting the area.

~ Roger A. Fazzone, Ed.D.
1. **Bash Bish Falls** – Falls Road, Mt. Washington, MA 01258
A scenic waterfall in the Taconic Mountains of Southwestern Massachusetts approximately 25 minutes from Maplebrook.
https://hikethehudsonvalley.com/hikes/bash-bish-falls/

2. **Copake Community Park** – 230 Mountain Rd, Copake, NY 12516
A beautiful, well-maintained inviting environment for the community as well as visiting tourists.

3. **Kent Falls State Park** – 462 Kent Cornwall Rd Kent, CT. (Route 7)
Wander across the covered bridge, hike the falls, and feel the mist on your face as water cascades 250 feet down on it as you join the Housatonic River. Kent Falls State Park is a public recreation area located in the town of Kent, Connecticut approximately 30 minutes from Maplebrook.

4. **Lake Taghkanic State Park** – 1528 NY Route 82 Ancram, NY.
Located in the southern part of Columbia County, Lake Taghkanic State Park has tent and trailer campsites, two beaches, picnic areas and boating. The park also offers hiking, biking, swimming and fishing.
https://parks.ny.gov/parks/38/hunting.aspx

5. **Macedonia Brook State Park** – 159 Macedonia Brook Road, Kent, CT 06757
This public park is a recreation area of more than 2,300 acres located in nearby Kent, CT. Visitors can camp at A51-site campground and fish, hike the blue blazed Macedonia Ridge Trail, which crosses Cobble Mountain and other peaks.
6. **Millerton Town Park** – also known as Eddie Collins Memorial Park is located at 5991 N. Elm Ave Millerton, NY just 15 minutes away from Maplebrook. Dedicated in memory of Hall of Fame baseball player, Eddie Collins who was born in Millerton.  [http://www.villageofmillerton.net/parks---recreation-1.html](http://www.villageofmillerton.net/parks---recreation-1.html)

7. **Poets Walk Park** – located in Red Hook, NY just North of the Kingston/Rhinecliff Bridge. It is intended to celebrate the connection between landscape and poetry. The parks mown and gravel paths are variously lined with benches and provide access to the 120 acres of fields and forest as well as river views.  [https://www.scenichudson.org/parks/poetswalk](https://www.scenichudson.org/parks/poetswalk)

8. **Taconic State Park** – 253 NY Route 344 Copake Falls, NY located in Columbia and Dutchess County NY. This park is located within one of the largest unfragmented forests between Virginia and Maine, and features hiking, biking, cross country skiing and other recreational activities.  [https://parks.ny.gov/parks/83/details.aspx](https://parks.ny.gov/parks/83/details.aspx)

9. **Rudd Pond** – located in Millerton, NY approximately 15 minutes from Maplebrook, this beautiful scenic park offers campers and day visitors a wide variety of activities including swimming, picnicking, hiking, boating and biking.  [https://parks.ny.gov/parks/141/hunting.aspx](https://parks.ny.gov/parks/141/hunting.aspx)
Performing Arts

Since the end of World War I, the mid-Hudson Valley has been a leader in summer stock and other theatrical performances that would be "tested" locally before moving on to larger venues closer to New York City and eventually, on to the Broadway circuit.

Theatre & Playhouses

1. **Bardavon Opera House** – 35 Market St. Poughkeepsie, NY
   The Bardavon 1969 Opera House is the oldest continuously operating theatre in NY State. Former first lady Eleanor Roosevelt provided the narration for Prokofiev’s *Peter and the Wolf*.  http://www.bardavon.org/

2. **Center for Performing Arts** – 661 Route 308 Rhinebeck, NY
   Located in the village of Rhinebeck, the center features plays such as *42nd Street*, musical performances by The Northern Dutchess Symphony Orchestra and a Saturday morning family series.  http://www.centerforperformingarts.org/

3. **The Chance Theatre** – 6 Crannell St, Poughkeepsie, NY
   A concert and theatre complex located in downtown Poughkeepsie, in close proximity to restaurants and bistros.  http://thechancetheater.com/

4. **Ghent Playhouse** – 6 Town Hall Place, Ghent, NY
   House in the former Ghent Town Hall this little theatre group presents five productions each year and is the home of the *Pantoloons’ Annual Thanksgiving Panto*, a delightful British holiday tradition.
   https://www.ghentplayhouse.org/

5. **Landmark Community Theatre** – 158 Main St. Thomaston, CT
   Housed in the old Thomaston Opera House. The Opera House was built in 1884 and has been quite handsomely refurbished. It presents a number of plays and musicals each year.  http://www.landmarkcommunitytheatre.org/
6. **Sherman Playhouse** – 5 Route 39, Sherman, CT.
Located in the small town of Sherman, this venue offers up to ten plays per year in a converted church.  http://shermanplayers.org/

7. **Palace Theatre** – 100 East Main St, Waterbury CT.
Founded in the 1920s by Sylvester Z. Poli, the theatre’s opulent décor features a grand lobby and ornate dome ceilings, all in a palatial setting fit for a king. Originally a movie/ vaudeville house, the Palace evolved with the times over its 100 years of operation.  https://www.palacetheaterct.org/

8. **Theatreworks** – 5 Brookside Ave, New Milford, CT
This award winning, volunteer, non-equity theatre company, provides Western Connecticut’s best and regional live theatre.  http://theatreworks.us/

9. **Millbrook Arts Group** – Millbrook, NY
This group offers a summer concert series at the Millbrook library. This is a true small town experience.  http://www.millbrookartsgroup.org/

10. **Sharon Playhouse** – 49 Amenia Rd, Sharon CT.
This theatre attracts amazing talent and puts on well produced shows that are a step above most of the local summer stock.  https://www.sharonplayhouse.org/

11. **UPAC Theatre** – 601 Broadway, Kingston, NY
A Classical Revival building built in 1926, it is the only unaltered pre-World War II theater left in the city, and one of only three from that era in the Hudson Valley. It is also the largest proscenium theater between Manhattan and Albany.

12. **Warner Theatre** – 68 Main St. Torrington, CT, is an Art-Deco style movie palace that opened in 1931 as part of the Warner Brothers Theatre chain. Today it is the largest performing arts center in Northwest Connecticut.
https://www.warnertheatre.org/

13. **Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center** – 244 Main St. Great Barrington, MA
This Performing Arts Center offers an exciting night out in the Berkshires. The historic theatre offers music, dance, theatre, movies and family programs.
http://www.mahaiwe.org/
The early settlers of Dutchess County were Dutch and German. From 1730 until 1775 there was an influx of settlers from England, Ireland and Scotland. During the 18th century, several politicians and prominent statesmen came from New York State, including Franklin D. Roosevelt, who lived in Hyde Park overlooking the Hudson River. Nearby, his neighbors were the Vanderbilts and the Astors who also had homes in this breathtaking area.

1. **Bannerman’s Castle** – Pollepel Island, Hudson River
   Located near Beacon, NY, the “Castle” was used as an ammunition storehouse. Earlier, the Island on which it is located was used to block the British ships from using the Hudson to attack patriot positions during the Revolutionary War. https://www.bannermancastle.org/index.html

2. **Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Home** - Route 9 Hyde Park, NY
   The birthplace, lifelong home, and burial place of the 32nd President of the USA. Known as Springwood, the place that he loved and considered home. The first US Presidential library is located here. https://fdrlibrary.org/

3. **Clermont State Historic Site** – Germantown, NY
   Visiting the Livingston mansion at Clermont is like a trip back in time. The home is beautifully decorated as it was when the last Livingston family members lived there. https://www.friendsofclermont.org/

4. **Colonel Ashley House** – 117 Cooper Hill Rd., Sheffield, MA
   The Colonel John Ashley House is a historic house museum. Built in 1735 by a prominent local leader, it is one of the oldest houses in southern Berkshire County. http://www.thetrustees.org/places-to-visit/berkshires/ashley-house.html
5. **Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site** - 4097 Albany Post Road Hyde Park, NY. Also known as Val-Kill, the site is the only National Historic Site dedicated to a first lady. [https://www.nps.gov/elro/index.htm](https://www.nps.gov/elro/index.htm)

6. **Indian Rock Schoolhouse** – 25 Mygatt Rd. Amenia, NY
Located on the grounds of Maplebrook school in the hamlet of Amenia, NY. This one room school house was built in the 1850s and restored in 2004 as a living museum. [https://ameniany.gov/community/indian-rock-schoolhouse.html](https://ameniany.gov/community/indian-rock-schoolhouse.html)

7. **The John Kane House** – 126 E. Main, Pawling, NY
One of several places known as Washington’s headquarters. The Quaker Hill

8. **Mills Mansion/Staatsburg Historic Site** – Route 9, Staatsburg, NY
The mansion is considered one of the finest examples of the great estates of the Gilded Age. [https://millsmansion.org/](https://millsmansion.org/)

9. **Olana State Historic Site** – 5720 Route 9G, Hudson NY
The estate was home to Fredric Edwin Church, one of the major figures in the Hudson River School of landscape paintings. [https://www.olana.org/](https://www.olana.org/)

10. **Martin Van Buren Historic Site** – 1013 Route 9, Kinderhook, NY
The estate and thirty-six room mansion of the eighth president of the USA. He purchased the estate in 1836 and it became his home and farm during his retirement. [https://www.nps.gov/mava/index.htm](https://www.nps.gov/mava/index.htm)

11. **Vanderbilt Mansion** – 81 Vanderbilt Park Rd, Hyde Park, NY
One of several homes owned by the Vanderbilts. The 54-room mansion overlooks the Hudson River and includes manicured lawns, gardens, woodlands and numerous auxiliary buildings. [https://www.nps.gov/vama/index.htm](https://www.nps.gov/vama/index.htm)

12. **Wethersfield Estate** – 214 Pugsley Hill Rd, Amenia, NY
Open to the public, the estate, originally the estate of Chauney Stillman, occupies 1200 acres and consists of the main house, gardens, carriage collection and horse tour. [https://www.wethersfieldgarden.org/](https://www.wethersfieldgarden.org/)
13. **FASHNY Museum of Firefighting** – 117 Harry Howard Ave, Hudson, NY
The premiere collection of firefighting objects in the world featuring over 90 pieces of apparatus on display. https://www.fasnyfiremuseum.com/

14. **Berkshire Scenic Railway Museum** – 10 Willow Creek Rd, Lenox, MA
Founded in 1994, it offers historic exhibits and operates passenger excursions between Lee and Stockbridge, MA. https://www.berkshiretrains.org/

15. **Harness Racing Museum** – 240 Main St, Goshen, NY
The museum collects and preserves the history of harness racing and serves as the Hall of Fame for the American Standard Bred Horse. https://harnessmuseum.com/

Collections devoted to the history of shipping and industry on the Hudson. Kingston was the busiest port between New York City and Albany. http://www.hrmm.org/

17. **Institute of American Indian Studies** – 38 Curtis Rd, Washington, CT
A museum and replica village devoted to native art, history, and culture. Much of it focuses on local Indians. https://www.iaismuseum.org/

18. **Mark Twain House & Museum** – 351 Farmington Ave, Hartford, CT
A bit of a ride from Amenia, but the hour and a half seems worth it to see the home described as part of steamboat, part medieval fortress and part cuckoo clock. Twain wrote *Tom Sawyer, Huckleberry Finn, The Prince and the Pauper* and *Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court* among others while living there. https://marktwainhouse.org/

19. **Art Nest – Wassaic Project** – 37 Furnace Rd, Wassaic, NY
Free art making space for kids located in the historic Maxon Mills. https://www.wassaicproject.org/education/art-nest/

20. **Sloane Stanley Museum** – 3 Kent Cornwall Rd, Kent, CT
Features the studio and antique hand tool collections of Eric Sloane. The property includes the Kent Iron Furnace and a museum building which served as Sloane’s art studio. http://www.ericssloane.com/museum.htm
21. Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome – 9 Norton Rd, Red Hook, NY
The creation of Cole Palen who regularly flew many of the vintage World War I aircrafts under his alter-ego “The Black Baron of Rhinebeck” These airshows continue mid-June – mid October and by plane rides are available before and after the shows. https://oldrhinebeck.org/

22. Shaker Museum – 202 Shaker Rd, New Lebanon, NY
An historic site associated with Shakers, a Protestant denomination located in New Lebanon. They built a village that covered several thousand acres and served hundreds of believers. https://shakerml.org/pages/welcome

23. Trolley Museum of New York – 89 East Strand St, Kingston, NY
A growing collection of trolley and subway cars. http://www.tmny.org/

24. Beekman Arms - 6387 Mill St, Rhinebeck, NY
The property has operated continuously since 1766, making it the oldest inn in America. This historic getaway spot retains much of its colonial charm and character. https://www.beekmandelamaterinn.com/

25. Norman Rockwell Museum - 9 Glendale Rd, Stockbridge, MA
Significant collection of the artist’s original work & memorabilia on display in his hometown. https://www.nrm.org/
Beautiful and Bountiful
Nestled along the banks of the majestic Hudson River, the Culinary Institute of America takes full advantage of the bounty of its valley home. Food tourism is huge here, with an abundance of farms, vineyards, and restaurants, many owned by renowned CIA alumni.

Because so many fine chefs who have graduated from the CIA, located in Hyde Park, NY, decided to start their own restaurants in Dutchess County, we have an abundance of culinary choices in the area starting with the fine restaurants located on the CIA campus:

The Bocuse Restaurant: https://www.bocuserestaurant.com/?_ga=2.192960111.317247457.1539021358-643513762.1539021358

American Bounty Restaurant: https://www.americanbountyrestaurant.com/?_ga=2.192960111.317247457.1539021358-643513762.1539021358

Ristorante Caterina de' Medici: https://www.ristorantecaterinademedici.com/?_ga=2.224432472.317247457.1539021358-643513762.1539021358

Post Road Brewhouse: https://www.ciarestaurantgroup.com/post-road-brewhouse/

Apple Pie Bakery Cafe: https://www.applepiebakerycafe.com/?_ga=2.192960879.317247457.1539021358-643513762.1539021358

These restaurants receive much acclaim and require reservations in advance.
Depending on your food preference and palate, there are many independent (non-chain) eateries in Dutchess County. We encourage you to travel throughout the county, pick your favorites and share them with us.

Near Maplebrook, in downtown Amenia, are some wonderful choices for dining. Located right in town is Monte's Local Kitchen & Tap Room serving a locally-sourced menu of American plates. https://www.monteskitchen.com/
In nearby Millbrook, NY, you will find many options such as the highly rated French restaurant, Les Baux: http://www.cafelesbaux.com/index.html. For less sophisticated fare, you only need to look on the corner of Route 22 & 44 in Amenia for a favorite of Maplebrook students, Four Brothers Pizza which also houses the only drive-in movie theater in the area. http://playeatdrink.com/

**Take Your Pick**
The region has a great selection of “pick-your-own” farms, whether you’re looking for fresh apples with which to bake or that perfect decorative pumpkin for carving, it's all right here. Many festivals and fairs happen to accompany leaf-peeping that appeal to all interests. Some popular local options include:
Wrights Farm: http://www.eatapples.com/
Minard Farms: https://www.minardsfamilyfarms.com/
Dubois Farms: http://duboisfarms.com/
Sprout Creek Farm, famous for its cheeses. https://sproutcreekfarm.org/

So grab a large bag, get out there, and start pickin'!
Shop the Farmers’ Markets

There are dozens of farmers’ markets in the area, including the Hyde Park Farmers Market held June through October just a short drive from the Maplebrook School campus. http://www.hydeparkfarmersmarket.org/

Be sure to also check out the bustling Rhinebeck Farmers’ Market during the summer and fall. http://www.rhinebeckfarmersmarket.com/

The Millerton Farmer’s Market is host to a number of local farmers and food artisans who promote local farms and sustainable and organic farming. http://www.millertonfarmersmarket.org/

Ellsworth Hill Orchard and Berry Farm reflects the same character it wore in the latter part of the eighteenth century when the Ellsworth Society was formed. In nearby Sharon, CT, you can pick your own pumpkins, apples, and berries in the summer. http://www.ellsworthfarm.com/farm-history.php

Be sure to stop by the Hudson Valley Farmers Market @ Greig Farm in Red Hook, NY. It's been serving the area for 60 years with farm fresh produce and many attractions for the whole family. http://www.greigfarm.com/

Plus, there are many more food-related events to savor. Take a sampling of the Valley’s bounty home with you!
Beer Here!

Craft and local beers are all the rage around the country, and the Hudson Valley is no exception. There are plenty of great places to sample the region’s beers, such as:
The Hyde Park Brewing Company:  http://hydeparkbrewing.com/
Mill House Brewing Company:  https://www.millhousebrewing.com/
Blue Collar Brewery: http://www.thebluecollarbrewery.com/
New Paltz Brewing Company:  http://pfalzerbrau.com/

Taste the Vintage Region

We have our very own wine country right here in the Hudson Valley! In fact, it’s America’s oldest wine-making and grape-growing region. Choose from more than 25 area wineries that offer tours, tastings, and special events. Some of the best include:

Adair Vineyards in New Paltz: http://www.adairwine.com/
Benmarl Winery in Marlboro, NY: http://benmarl.com/
Brotherhood Winery in Washingtonville, the oldest winery in the U.S: http://www.brotherhood-winery.com/
Millbrook Vineyards & Winery:  http://www.millbrookwine.com/
Cascade Mountain Winery & Restaurant: https://www.cascademt.com/

You can customize your own wine trail through the Valley! Have fun, and remember to always drink responsibly!
Various Outdoor Attractions

1. **Audubon Sharon** - 325 Cornwall Bridge Rd, Sharon, CT
   Consists of the Sharon Audubon Center and the Emily Winthrop Miles Wildlife Sanctuary, is a wildlife sanctuary of the National Audubon Society in Sharon, Connecticut. [http://sharon.audubon.org/](http://sharon.audubon.org/)

2. **Dover Stone Church** - 3128 NY-22, Dover Plains, NY
   The Pequot Indian tribe considered it a sanctuary and holy place. The excitement mounts as you approach the stream and see the arched opening to the cave ahead. A wonderful hike and picnic area. [https://hikethehudsonvalley.com/hikes/dover-stone-church/](https://hikethehudsonvalley.com/hikes/dover-stone-church/)

3. **Walkway Over the Hudson State Historic Park** - 87 Haviland Rd, Poughkeepsie, NY
   The Walkway over the Hudson is a steel cantilever bridge spanning the Hudson River between Poughkeepsie, New York, on the east bank and Highland, New York, on the west bank. [https://walkway.org/](https://walkway.org/)

4. **Innisfree Garden** - 362 Tyrrel Rd, Millbrook, NY
   The 150-acre garden has streams, waterfalls, terraces, retaining walls, rocks and plants based on principles of Chinese landscape design. [http://www.innisfreegarden.org/visit.html](http://www.innisfreegarden.org/visit.html)

5. **Action Wildlife** - 337 Torrington Rd, Goshen, CT
   Come, take a walk, enjoy nature and learn about their unique collection of animals from around the world. They have animals whose origins span 6 of the 7 continents! [https://www.actionwildlifefoundation.com/](https://www.actionwildlifefoundation.com/)
Rhinebeck Farmer's Market

Innisfree Garden

Greeter at Action Wildlife

Norman Rockwell Museum

Dover Stone Church