

equestrian

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lifestyle

Home to the Vermont Summer Festival, nestled just outside the village, Manchester is the perfect destination for summer horse showing.



TRAVEL

Summer Fun

→ in Manchester, VT

BY LINDSAY BROCK/JUMP MEDIA

Manchester, VT, is the kind of place that captures the heart and keeps families coming back summer after summer. In addition to excellent shopping and dining opportunities, there's the charm of a gentle pace of life, the family-friendly atmosphere, and six weeks of equine-inspired entertainment.

When the weather begins to warm in the Northeast, the equestrian community seeks out unique and charming spots for summer showing. One of the most popular spots for cool mountain breezes and hot competition is Manchester. Home to the Vermont Summer Festival, nestled

just outside the village, Manchester is the perfect destination for summer horse showing.

The Vermont Summer Festival once alternated locations between various ski towns, even running in two different locations in one year. Roughly 25 years ago, the circuit made a permanent move to the Manchester area to better serve the largest concentration of their exhibitors. The country roads of Southern Vermont lead to a relaxed atmosphere with exciting competition and an all-inclusive environment that continually ranks the Vermont Summer Festival

among the most popular shows in North America.

True to form as a mountain town, Manchester offers outdoor activities at every turn. From cycling to mountain biking to cliff jumping and climbing, Vermont won't disappoint the adventure-seeker. For the shopaholic, there is no place quite like the Manchester Designer Outlets. Quaint shops line the streets with boutique and name brand retail opportunities that are the perfect midday or after horse show retreat.

Then there is the food! Dining while visiting Manchester for the Vermont Summer Festival is an experience all its own with restaurants spanning the gamut of food options. Whether it's a wood-fired pizza from Depot 62 Bistro & Café, dinner at The Chantecler just up the road from the Vermont Summer Festival, or a night out at The Silver Fork, Manchester and its surrounding areas are a foodie's paradise. 



The picture-perfect Equinox Resort is the Manchester destination for year-round relaxation.

WHAT TO DO VERMONT SUMMER FESTIVAL HORSE SHOW

Watch the best of hunter, jumper, and equitation competition in a family-friendly atmosphere at the base of the Green Mountains in Southern Vermont.
vt-summerfestival.com

MANCHESTER DESIGNER OUTLETS

Stroll the streets of Manchester and indulge in shopping from iconic brands that include everything from Kate Spade New York to Armani.
manchesterdesigneroutlets.com

BATTENKILL BICYCLES

In need of bike rentals?

Battenkill Bicycles has you covered if you need parts or repairs too!
battenkillbicycles.com

WHERE TO STAY KIMPTON TACONIC HOTEL

Voted one of the “Best Hotels in Vermont, 2018” by *U.S. News & World Report*, Kimpton Taconic Hotel is a nod to the grand leisure inns of days past.
taconichotel.com

THE DORSET INN

The Dorset Inn has thrived for more than 220 years as a quintessential Vermont lodging and dining experience. During your stay, walk over and visit artisanal bakery, Dorset Rising, for a morning coffee and pastry.

dorsetinn.com

THE EQUINOX RESORT

Experience luxurious accommodations, upscale on-site dining, and a picture-perfect location at The Equinox Resort, the Manchester destination for year-round relaxation.
equinoxresort.com

WHERE TO EAT DEPOT 62 BISTRO & CAFÉ

Try classic wood-fired pizza, like the arugula brick oven pizza, and Mediterranean fare before browsing an incredible selection of one-of-a-kind home furnishings for sale.
depot62.com

THE SILVER FORK

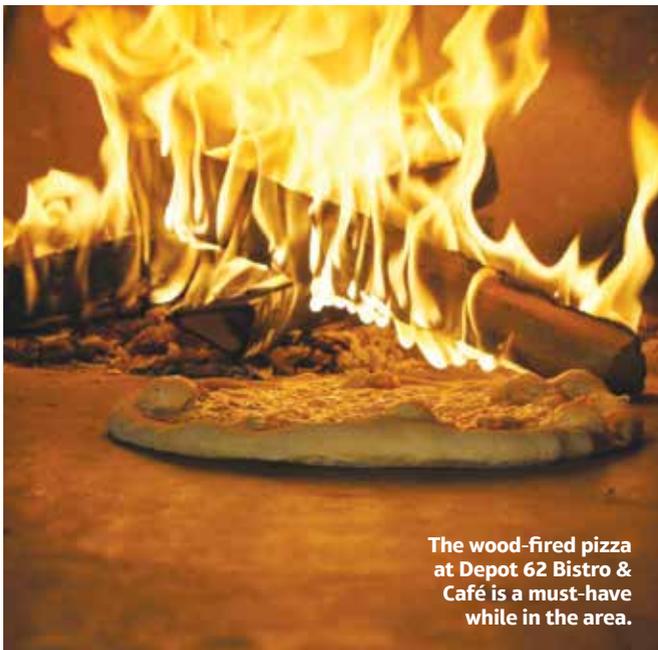
Be sure to make a reservation for this hidden gem! The chef’s fresh, international-inspired menu is well worth the wait. Our pick of the menu is the wiener schnitzel.
thesilverforkvt.com

THE CHANTECLEER RESTAURANT

A star of the local dining scene, Chantecleer sits in a remodeled dairy barn and offers fine American cuisine with European sophistication. We recommend the parmesan crusted halibut.
chantecleerrestaurant.com

PHOTO: COURTESY OF THE EQUINOX RESORT

The Vermont Summer Festival has competition for all ages, from leadline to grand prix.



The wood-fired pizza at Depot 62 Bistro & Café is a must-have while in the area.

PHOTOS: (ABOVE) JUMP MEDIA; (BELOW) COURTESY OF DEPOT 62 BISTRO & CAFE