



Barre, VT Getaway Guide

ADVENTURE
AWAITS IN
THE GREEN
MOUNTAIN
STATE



PERPETUAL
— RESPECT

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The Granite Center of the World

Whether you're a snow lover, leaf peeper, history buff or just need a quick getaway, a trip to Barre, VT offers something for everyone at any time of the year.

Nestled in Central Vermont along the spine of the Green Mountains, Barre is home to unique museums, expansive hiking and biking trails and ancient granite quarries that have given the region a rich history in the visual arts.

Barre gives visitors a front row seat to the natural beauty of New England and the opportunity to enjoy diverse dining and lodging opportunities, a vibrant visual and performing arts scene, and a peek into the region's designation as the "Granite Center of the World."



1.

Rock of Ages

Looking for a one-of-a-kind Vermont tour that combines the history of the region, along with awe-inspiring views, and some bowling to boot? Rock of Ages' quarry in Graniteville, VT — the world's largest deep hole quarry that's nearly 600 feet deep — offers guided tours most days (closed on Saturdays and Sundays) to the edge of the massive quarry and a state-of-the-art visitor's center that's a must see if you're in the Central Vermont area from June to the end of October. Be sure to stop at the gift shop for unique gifts made from Rock of Ages stone. Wrap up your day at the outdoor granite bowling lane, which has delighted visitors since it was first introduced in 1958. If you're looking for breathtaking natural beauty, insight into the artistry of stone cutting, or a little friendly bowling competition, you'll find it all at [**Rock of Ages**](#).



2.

Millstone Hill Biking

If hiking, biking, cross country skiing or snowshoeing is your thing, **Millstone Hill Biking** offers a network of multi-use trails that cover 1,500 acres of diverse terrain. The 30-mile system of trails snake through historic quarry lands and forests in Barre and offers adventurers scenic vistas and dramatic quarries filled with water and trails with names like “Angry Gnome” and “TNT.” Built and run by all an all-volunteer group, Millstone Hill Trails take beginners and experts alike past granite canyons and remnants from the area’s quarrying past throughout the year.



3.

Barre Town Forest Grand Lookout

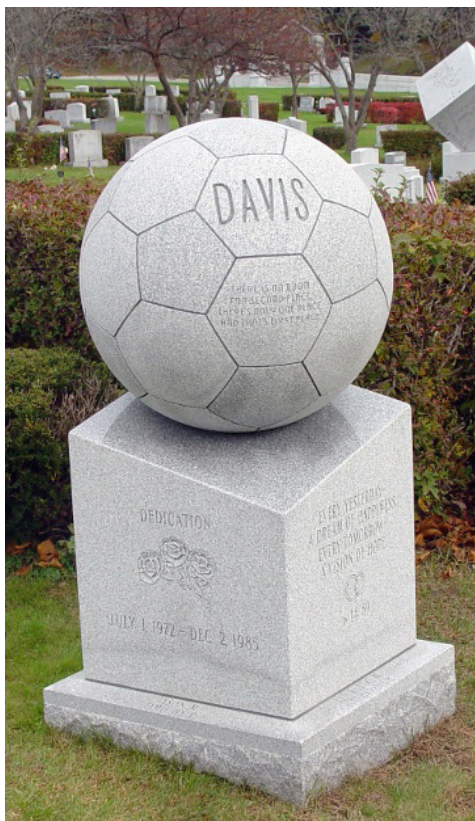
This short, out-and-back trail wanders through the **Barre Town Forest**, taking hikers along wide paths with no big inclines towards its apex at Grand Lookout. Part of the 70-mile network of hiking and mountain biking trails maintained by the Millstone Trails Association (no charge for hikers), the Grand Lookout offers views of historic, non-active quarries and the city of Barre and as far as Camel's Hump and Mount Mansfield on a clear day. The hike takes travelers past large granite blocks stacked several stories high with intricate carvings and cold spots, where temps drop sharply due to the surrounding geography.



4.

Hope Cemetery

Known as the museum of granite sculpture, the 65-acre **Hope Cemetery** showcases 10,000 memorials crafted from Barre granite that are a testament to the classic beauty of the stone and stonecutters' artistry. Opened in 1895, visitors can stroll the grounds of this popular tourist destination and enjoy unusual memorials like a half-size replica of a race car carved from granite and an armchair. Designed and planned by the renowned landscape architect Edward P. Adams, the cemetery is the final resting place for many of the artisans who immigrated from Italy in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.



5.

Vermont Granite Museum

A celebration of Vermont's granite industry, the **Vermont Granite Museum** is dedicated to providing an engaging and educational experience that documents the state's unique granite heritage. Located within an authentic turn-of-the-century granite manufacturing plant, the museum provides hands-on experience, outreach, and education that promotes an understanding of the community's granite history.



6.

Main Street Arts Stroll

Add a little culture to your walk about on the **Main Street Arts Stroll**, which takes you past 14 granite sculptures that exemplify Barre's reputation for its high quality carving granite and its resident population of stone carvers. The sculptures — large and small, old and new — help familiarize residents and visitors with the skilled artisans in the region. While on the Arts Stroll, make a stop at **Studio Place Arts**.

GET THE ART STROLL MAP



7.

The Vermont Statehouse

Montpelier might be the smallest capitol city in America, but the 160-year-old **Vermont State House** is one of the oldest and best preserved legislative halls in the country. This architectural gem is made from Rock of Ages stone and its original interiors, which are home to some of the state's most important art, have been preserved. Highlights include the Governor's Office, the Cedar Creek Reception Room, the Hall of Inscriptions, and the legislative chambers. Contact the Vermont Statehouse for current tour hours.



Photo credit: Jonathan King

8.

Barre Opera House

Central Vermont's premier performing arts facility the historic **Barre Opera House** hosts 70-100 events each year featuring local and internationally renowned entertainers. Opened in 1899, the Opera House hosted luminaries including Helen Keller and her teacher, Annie Sullivan, George M. Cohan and even John Philip Sousa and his band. Today it serves as a performance space with the largest performing arts stage in the state, showcasing The Vermont Philharmonic, The Green Mountain Youth Symphony, Moving Light Dance, Contemporary Dance and Fitness, The Miss Vermont Pageant and many other organizations.



9.

Thunder Road

Looking to quicken your pulse? Then head to **Thunder Road International Speedbowl**, a quarter-mile oval stock car racing track that's celebrating its 60th year in Barre. Its famous high-banked corners and "Widowmaker" four-wall turn promise fuel-injected fun for the whole family.



10.

The Reynolds House

For a real immersive experience, book a room at the historic **Reynolds House**, which blends Barre's historic past with a lovingly restored inn run by long-time members of the community. Owners Eric and Jeffrey Tuper-Giles welcome guests to the former hardware supply store established in the 1870s that's been transformed into a charming inn.



11.

Local restaurants

After a full day of touring, stop into one of these local restaurants for a memorable meal.

Cornerstone Pub & Kitchen is a modern American pub with inventive food and craft beers. Local Rich McSheffrey offers a menu that takes pub food to the next level.



Housed in a former firehouse, the **Ladder 1 Grill and Pub** menu has got it all — from burgers and pizzas to pastas and seafood. The recently renovated and restored Firehouse Inn lets guests experience the Victorian Queen Anne style firehouse that was built in 1904.



Photo credit: Bill McKern

Perfect whether you're traveling as a family or a girls' getaway, the **The Quarry Pub** menu is sure to have whatever you're hankering for, from salads and sandwiches to pastas and steak.



Adventure awaits in Barre

This area of the Green Mountain State gives visitors the opportunity to enjoy the natural beauty of the region and to learn about its rich history as the Granite Center of the World. From scenic hikes past towering granite, and leisurely strolls around town admiring striking works of art to an informative and awe-inspiring tours of the Rock of Ages quarry, a Barre getaway promises visitors a unique Vermont experience.

Begin your visit with a Rock of Ages guided quarry tour. Bring along this coupon and get two adult tickets for the price of one.

DOWNLOAD THE GUIDED TOUR COUPON





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