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A trip to the Berkshires is for lovers, and here's the proof

By Diane Bair and Pamela Wright Globe correspondents · September 18, 2019, 2 hours ago



Romance truly is in the eye of the beholder. For some, it might be Netflix and chill; for others, it means snuggling in a sleeping bag in a yurt on a mountaintop. Then there's the couple's massage, which sounds wildly romantic until you actually do it. (Cue the sleep-drooling and strange moaning.)

But if you're looking for a weekend getaway that offers the promise of romantic interlude, the Berkshires region of Western Massachusetts rates five hearts. Fall and winter are best, since the tourist crowds thin. And if getting a deal makes your heart beat a little faster, know that prices drop at local hotels and inns after the last scarlet maple leaf has drifted from the trees. Here's some inspiration.

Bubbly 2

If your favorite bubbles are the kind you find in a tub of 120-degree water, preferably after dark, welcome to the hot tub at the Red Lion Inn (www.redlioninn.com). Yes, everybody knows this delightfully "Olde New England" inn, a Stockbridge landmark since forever, but you might not realize its romantic potential. Once the tourist hordes have decamped from the rocking chairs on the Red Lion's porch, this hotel feels cozier. The host will seat you at "your" table in the dining room, and offer heartfelt advice on what to order. The staff will happily direct you to their favorite boutiques, cheese-mongers, and off-the-beaten-track hiking trails. Guest rooms are comfy and eclectic; ours was a fiesta of prints and colors with the all-important excellent mattress. But our favorite spot was that hot tub, surrounded by greenery and pretty much ours alone. Fall rates from \$215 (room with private bath).

Romance packages (you basically show up)

Down Stockbridge way, the Red Lion Inn is offering a Peak Pick Package that might a-peel (heh heh) to apple-loving couples. This one includes accommodations, a bottle of French cidre from Furnace Brook Winery, a fall dessert for two — currently, apple pie made in the inn's kitchen. From \$170; valid through Nov. 26.

www.redlioninn.com

<https://www.bostonglobe.com/lifestyle/travel/2019/09/18/trip-berkshires-for-lovers-and-here-proof/Wp0oCneKq3mXrgxIP0bazN/story.html>