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Press Release

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[Metro-North](#)

IMMEDIATE

Make It Farm Fresh with Metro-North's Discount Getaway Packages

What better way to spend the day than exploring the wonderful, locally produced food and drink of Dutchess County. Enjoy a scenic ride on Metro-North to stations along the Hudson and Harlem Lines where you will board the Dutchess County Farm Fresh Link bus to various farms, shops and markets for a truly, tasty experience.

Farm Fresh Beacon

Apple Picking & Cheese – Saturday, August 20 and Sunday, August 21

Apple Picking, Cheese & Ice Cream – Saturday, September 10 and Sunday, September 11 ([check link here for more info](#))

Enjoy the city of Beacon when you make your first stop on Main Street after picking up the Dutchess County Farm Fresh Link bus at Beacon Station. While there, explore the city's restored historic districts, growing arts movement, many eateries and specialty shops.

Your next stop is [Sprout Creek Farm](#) where you'll sample artisanal cheeses produced by a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America. The working farm encompasses 200 acres, raising free-range cows, sheep, goats, wild turkeys, guinea fowl, chickens and pigs.

The next shuttle stop is [Fishkill Farms](#) where you'll be greeted by a spectacular view of the apple orchard and Catskill Mountains beyond. Whether picking your own peaches, apples and vegetables, enjoying hayrides, or seeing the farm's flock of pasture-raised hens, the relaxed atmosphere and beautiful surroundings will lift your spirits. Don't leave without trying the famous apple cider donuts or freshly pressed cider. Hayrides will be available for \$3 per person.

Farm Fresh bus reservations are required and must be made at least 48 hours in advance by visiting <http://www.dutchesstourism.com/> and confirmed before you purchase a train ticket.

A credit card is required to hold your shuttle bus reservation. Seats are limited. If you wish to cancel, you must email info@dutchesstourism.com by Wednesday at midnight the week of your tour, otherwise a \$20 per person fee will be charged to your card if you do not show up for the tour. After you've made your reservation, purchase your rail/bus ticket at any Metro-North ticket office or full-service ticket machine (excluding Beacon Station).

Some activities may require an additional fee. For more information, visit <http://www.dutchesstourism.com/>.

Note: Dutchess County Tourism has the right to substitute a farm or related itinerary stop to ensure the quality of the overall program and the individual getaway experience.

The deal

- Package price from GCT/Harlem-125th Street: adults \$31.50, Seniors, \$26; kids 5-11, \$7; kids under 5, \$5.
- Package price from other stations: check online here for price from your boarding station.

Purchase your package from any Metro-North ticket office, full-service ticket vending machine (excluding Beacon Station).

Getting there

Take the [Hudson Line](#) to Beacon Station where the shuttle will meet the train arriving Beacon at 11:11 a.m. Check here for an [ITINERARY](#).

Farm Fresh Poughkeepsie

Apple Picking & Wool – Saturday, September 3 and Sunday, September 4

Apple Picking & Moonshine – Saturday, September 17 and Sunday, September 18 ([check link here for more info](#))

Cheese & Bourbon – Saturday, September 24 and Sunday, September 25 ([check link here for more info](#))

The Dutchess County Farm Fresh Link shuttle will meet you at the Poughkeepsie Train Station and take you north to the charming, historic Village of [Red Hook](#) where you can eat an early lunch before heading to [Hudson Valley Sheep & Wool Farm](#). There you'll see over 130 acres of farmland inhabited by

Shetland and Icelandic sheep. You'll also see supplies and demonstrations related to spinning, weaving, felting, dying and rug hooking.

The last stop is [Mead Orchards](#), a picturesque 180-acre fruit orchard and vegetable farm growing nearly 40 varieties of apples, as well as peaches, pears and berries. The farm has been in the Mead family for three generations and pride themselves on their continued safe, effective and innovative methods of raising their crops. After you pick your own apples you can visit the farm stand and pick up honeys, jams and sauces.

The deal

- Package price from GCT/Harlem-125th Street: adults \$34.75, seniors, \$28.50; kids 5-11, \$7; kids under 5, \$5.
- Package price from other stations: check [online here](#) for price from your boarding station.

Purchase your package from any Metro-North ticket office, full-service ticket vending machine (excluding Beacon Station).

Getting there

Take the [Hudson Line](#) to Poughkeepsie Station where the shuttle will meet the train arriving Poughkeepsie at 10:44 a.m. Check here for an [ITINERARY](#).

Farm Fresh bus reservations are required and must be made at least 48 hours in advance by visiting <http://www.dutchesstourism.com/> and confirmed before you purchase a train ticket. A credit card is required to hold your shuttle bus reservation. Seats are limited. If you wish to cancel, you must email info@dutchesstourism.com by Wednesday at midnight the week of your tour, otherwise a \$20 per person fee will be charged to your card if you do not show up for the tour. After you've made your reservation, purchase your rail/bus ticket at any

Metro-North ticket office or full-service ticket machine (excluding Poughkeepsie).

Some activities may require an additional fee. For more information, visit <http://www.dutchesstourism.com/>.

Farm Fresh Wassaic

Tea, Coffee, Organic Farm & Maple Syrup – Saturday, October 8 & Sunday, October 9

The Dutchess County Farm Fresh Link bus will take you from Wassaic Station to the town of Millerton, home to the internationally acclaimed [Harney & Sons Fine Teas](#). Step into the charming tea store and tasting room for a "cuppa" or cross the street for an up-close look at handcrafted art glass by [Gilmor Glassworks](#).

Then, it's off to [McEnroe Organic Farm](#) where you'll tour more than one thousand acres of farmland and see cows, turkeys, llamas, as well as fields of vegetables. The farm produces certified organic produce, meats and garden transplants. At the end of your tour peruse the gourmet delicacies at the full-service farm market and bring home some special treats.

Your next stop will be a visit to [Madava Farms](#), Home of Crown Maple syrup, an 800-acre culinary and nature destination. You can tour the modern, state-of-the-art sugarhouse and tap hole tasting room. Feel free to walk the scenic trails or take a stroll in Madava Farms' working chef garden, which supplies some of New York's top restaurants. You'll see uncommon crop varieties and exceptional heirloom species. Of course you can buy your own fresh ingredients to take home, as well as sandwiches and pastries that are sure to please any palate.

The deal

- Package price from GCT/Harlem-125th Street: adults \$36.50, seniors, \$29; kids 5-11, \$7; kids under 5, \$5.
- Package price from other stations: check online here for price from your boarding station.

Purchase your package from any Metro-North ticket office, full-service ticket vending machine (excluding Beacon Station).

Getting there

Take the [Harlem Line](#) to Poughkeepsie Station where the shuttle will meet the train arriving Poughkeepsie at 10:44 a.m. Check here for an [ITINERARY](#).

Farm Fresh bus reservations are required and must be made at least 48 hours in advance by visiting <http://www.dutchesstourism.com/> and confirmed before you purchase a train ticket.

A credit card is required to hold your shuttle bus reservation. Seats are limited. If you wish to cancel, you must email info@dutchesstourism.com by Wednesday at midnight the week of your tour, otherwise a \$20 per person fee will be charged to your card if you do not show up for the tour. After you've made your reservation, purchase your rail/bus ticket at any

Metro-North ticket office or full-service ticket machine (excluding Wassaic).

For more information about Metro-North Deals & Getaways, visit <http://web.mta.info/mnr/html/getaways.htm>.