

Southern Mid-Hudson Valley Wine, Liquor, & Brewery Tour

New Paltz, Gardiner, Pine Bush, Wurtsboro, Warwick, Monroe, Highland Mills, and Washingtonville, New York

By Christine Kingery

Last toured & updated May 2011

I recommend completing this trail in the order I listed because it will allow you to maximize how many you can hit in one day. This trail takes 3 hours and 13 minutes of driving time, not including tasting time. You can easily hit 10+ wineries and breweries with these tours, so make sure that you have a designated driver. You can hire limousine service out of the Poughkeepsie or Newburg areas, I think.

Total Driving Time: 3 hours 13 minutes
(110 miles from the first location to the last location)
Total Est. Tasting Time: 7 hours, assuming 15 minutes per location

1. Adair Vineyards

52 Allhusen Road
New Paltz, NY 12561
(845) 255-1377

<http://www.adairwine.com>

Hours: May-August open Friday through Sunday 11am-6pm; September-October open daily 11am-6pm; November-December open Friday through Sunday 11am-5pm.

Tasting Fee: \$5 for 6-7 wines.

Call ahead to see if they will open a little bit early for you. It'll make the rest of the wine tour go a little easier the sooner you can get in. The sweet peach was awesome!

2. Robibero Family Vineyards

714 Albany Post Road
New Paltz, NY 12561
(845) 255-9463

<http://www.robiberofamilyvineyards.com/>

Hours: March open Saturday and Sunday 11am-6pm; April-December open Thursday through Sunday 11am-6pm.

Tasting Fee: \$6

They offer a private tasting and cellar tour for \$15 per person, but you need to make reservations. The facility is beautiful; they have a very comfortable lounge area with fireplace and a large deck for enjoying the scenery. This is the kind of place you want to visit and stay for a while. They offer music events.

3. Tuthilltown Spirits (distillery)

14 Gristmill Lane
Gardiner, NY 12525
(845) 633-8734

<http://tuthilltown.com>

Hours: Thursday-Monday 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Sundays 12 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Tasting Fee: \$10 for a sample of three (you choose the three) including a fantastic whiskey glass

Tours are available Saturday and Sunday at 12 p.m. and 3 p.m. Tours are by reservation only. This distillery features vodka, whiskey, and rums.

4. Whitecliff Vineyard

331 McKinstry Road
Gardiner, NY 12525
(845) 255-4613

<http://www.whitecliffwine.com/>

Hours: June through October open Monday-Friday 10:30am-5:30pm and Saturday 11am-6pm and Sunday 11:30am-6pm; February through May, November and December open Thursday-Monday 11:30am-5:30pm; January open Saturday only 11:30am-5pm.

Tasting Fee: \$8.50, plus wine glass.

Crystal tastings include all wines plus wine glass, plus brandy. Visit the bathroom for a view of the barrels!

5. Brimstone Hill Vineyard and Winery

61 Brimstone Hill Road
Pine Bush, NY 12566
(845) 744-2231

<http://www.brimstonehillwine.com/>

Hours: Open Saturday and Sunday 11:30am – 5pm

Tasting fee: \$3 for a taste of 7 wines.

Don't write this weird little place off based on its facilities (which are, admittedly, in need of some updating). The wines are very sophisticated; the proprietor is well-versed in French wines. These wines are, by and large, very medium-bodied and would work as a wonderful table wine.

6. Baldwin Vineyards

176 Hardenburgh Road
Pine Bush, NY 12566
(845) 744-2226

<http://www.baldwinvineyards.com/>

Hours: April, May, June open Thursday-Sunday 12-5pm; July through October open Wed-Sun 12-5pm

Note: They have limited open months!

Tasting Fee: \$7 for a tasting of 8 wines. Keep the glass.

This is a cute little farm venue. They often have live music. They specialize in sweet wines.

7. Warwick Valley Winery and Distillery

114 Little York Road
Warwick, NY 10990
(845) 258-4858
<http://wvwinery.com>
Hours: Open daily year round from 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Tasting fee: \$5 for 6 wines and a winery glass.

Offers traditional wine and red wines. Their distillery includes apple brandy, black currant and cherry cordials, pear liqueur, and apple bourbon. I don't believe that tastings at the winery include the brandies and liqueurs.

8. Demorest Hill Winery

81 Pine Island Turnpike
Warwick, NY 10990
(845) 986-4723
<http://www.demaresthillwinery.com/>
Hours: Open year round from 11:00am – 6:00pm
Tasting fee: Variable, I think

This sweet little winery is off the beaten path and not on any other formal winery routes. It is a wonderful little find! The wine maker is this fabulous older Italian gentleman, Francesco, that totally reminded me of my grandparents. This winery has wines, liquors (i.e., grappa, brandy, sherry) and even some of the best balsamic vinegar I've had. If you're going to buy something, I suspect Francesco will let you sample whatever you feel like.

9. Applewood Winery

82 Four Corners Road
Warwick, NY 10990
(845) 988-9292
<http://www.applewoodwinery.com/>
Hours: April through September Saturday and Sunday 11am-5pm; September through October Friday-Sunday 11am-5pm; November through December Saturday-Sunday 11am-5pm.
Note: Limited open months. Closed January through March.
Tasting fee: \$5 (members taste for free, including any of their guests)

10. Palaia Vineyards

10 Sweet Clover Road
Highland Mills, NY 10930
(845) 928-5384
<http://www.palaiavineyards.com/>
Hours: Thursday-Saturday 12-6pm and Sunday 12-5pm
Tasting fee: Free. Offer munchies and live music. A great place to spend the Ending of the World!

11. Gilded Otter Brewing Company (brewery)

3 Main Street
New Paltz, NY 12561
(845) 256-1700

Hours: Monday-Thursday 11:30am – 10 pm; Friday and Saturday 11:30 am – 10 pm; Sunday 12 pm – 9 pm

I put this at the end because it is open late. Hit this bar on the way back home if you are coming from the north.

OTHER WINERIES AND VINEYARDS:

I had to cut the following places out of the route because of time restraints. Feel free to play around with your own route to fit these places in!

Brotherhood Winery

100 Brotherhood Plaza Drive
Washingtonville, NY 10992
(845) 496-3661

<http://www.brotherhoodwinery.net>

Hours: Jan through March Friday-Sunday 11am-5pm; April through Dec 11am-5pm & 11am-6pm on Sat
Cost: \$10 per person for a tour, tasting flight, and souvenir glass. Tasting flight alone is \$5. Tour without tasting is \$6.

This place is located on the grounds of an old monetary. Many people think it is well worth the time to visit. However, the last time I went there, they “closed early” (with no notification on their website) in order to accommodate a wedding, and were incredibly rude to my group.

Delaware Phoenix Distillery

PO Box 245
144 Delaware Street
Walton, NY 13856
(607) 865-5056
<http://www.delawarephoenix.com/>

Magnanini Winery and Restaurant

172 Strawridge Road
Wallkill, NY 12589
(845) 895-2767
<http://www.magwine.com>
Hours: April through December Saturday 6-7pm and Sunday 12-1pm

Peekskill Brewery Restaurant

55 Hudson/Railroad Avenue
Peekskill, NY 10533
(914) 734-2337
<http://www.thepeekskillbrewery.com/>
Hours: Sunday through Thursday 11am-1pm and Friday-Saturday 11am-2am

Note: You may see a sign at the start of the route for Rivendell Winery. This winery was closed in 2008, so ignore the signs.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

Shawangunk Wine Trail

<http://www.shawangunkwinetrail.com/>

Hudson Valley Wine Trail

www.hudsonvalleywinecountry.org

Hudson Berkshire Beverage Trail

<http://hudsonberkshireexperience.com/>