

HIGH POCKET B&B AND BARN by Molly Johns

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High Pocket B&B and Barn, nestled in the hills of picturesque Colrain, Massachusetts, is a true paradise for the horse lover. Situated on over 540 acres, visiting this gorgeous bed and breakfast is like stepping back in time.

High Pocket was opened in June of 2000 by Mark and Sarah McKusick. The plan was originally conceived after they stayed in a similar bed and breakfast in Vermont. Mark and Sarah opened High Pocket with the idea of creating a place where families could get away and spend time together.

Although it is ideal for horseback riding, the property is also perfect for hiking, cross-country skiing, mountain biking, and numerous other outdoor activities. There are boutiques and antique shops nearby, as well as a movie cinema, art museum, a theater, and many restaurants. Packages are currently available for weddings and family reunions. In the brief time High Pocket has been open, Mark and Sarah have hosted guests from all over New England and from Europe.

From the moment you pull into the long winding driveway, you will feel yourself unwind. The rooms, located in a cozy 160-year-old farmhouse, are clean, comfortable, and beautifully furnished with antiques. Amenities include an outdoor hot tub for star gazing and soothing sore muscles, a work out/game room located in an out building, and a large living room complete with a fireplace, a TV and, VCR, stocked with plenty of horse movies.



Your horses will also be pampered. They will stay in a newly constructed timber frame barn with four spacious box stalls, and all of the bedding they need. There is also a 50' round pen and plenty of lush pasture.

Breakfast is served at 8:00 AM every day, and the kitchen is available for your own lunch and dinner preparation. Guests can either bring their own food and cook it there, or visit the local restaurants.

I can't say enough about the incredible breakfasts. Sitting in the dining room, we were treated to homemade blueberry pancakes, omelets made to order, fresh fruit, an assortment of fresh baked pastries, sausages, bacon, juice, coffee, and tea. It was the perfect meal to give us energy for the long day of riding ahead.

The rides were led by our wonderful hosts, Mark and Sarah. The evening we arrived, Mark took us out for an hour-long ride around the property. We rode through the woods on scenic trails with ideal footing. There were even some jumps along the way! The pace was comfortable and Mark was very courteous. He would always let us know if we were about to slow down, or planning to speed up. Another important point to note is that everyone, including the hosts, wore helmets while riding. High Pocket Bed & Breakfast and Barn was very safety conscious and took the time to talk to us about our riding levels and our expectations before we hit the trails.



The next day we headed out on a four-hour ride that took us through some of the most beautiful scenery I've ever seen. We rode through the woods, across streams, through meadows and up mountains. The leaves were just starting to change and that crisp fall feeling was in the air. After riding for two hours, we stopped at an apple orchard for a lunch of homemade sandwiches and hot apple cider. We then continued on, pausing at several vistas along the way. In a word, the ride was unbelievable. It is such a treat to ride on these pristine trails with such spectacular views.

Traveling to High Pocket is an easy drive. From Pomfret, Connecticut, the travel time was only two hours, making it an easy trip hauling our trader.

Depending on the length of your stay and your plans, rides can be tailored to fit your needs. A two-hour guided ride comes with your stay, but rides can be extended or shortened. There is a myriad of possibilities available to you, and your hosts are very accommodating. High Pocket currently offers picnic rides, Inn to Inn rides, and overnight camping rides.

High Pocket B&B and Barn a wonderful getaway—experience it for yourself!