

# { BERGEN BUZZ }

OUR GUIDE TO NEW IDEAS, TIPS, TRENDS AND THINGS WE LOVE IN OUR COUNTY.

## PICKERS, TAKE YOUR PICK

It's apple-picking season, and while Bergen County may have only one true apple orchard, several short day trips offer chances to pluck the shiny red fruit that, taken daily, is said to ward off physicians:

**Demarest Farms, Hillsdale.** Let's hear it for the only Bergen location on the list. This family-friendly farm invites guests to pick apples to their hearts' content for \$7 a person. Those age 2 and under are FREE. You'll definitely need a bag to hold all your finds; the farm sells them for \$14 each and they hold 10–12 lbs. To learn more, visit [demarestfarms.com](http://demarestfarms.com).

■ 244 Wierimus Rd., Hillsdale, 201.666.0472

**Orchards of Concklin, Pomona, N.Y.**

**Distance from Bergen:**

**25 minutes** "Johnny Appleseed, is that you?" That's what your friends and family will say as you scour trees looking for the perfect apples to take home. Remember that while apple season is September through October, different apples have different peak periods. For

a list of times when you can pick your favorite variety and for pricing, visit [orchardsofconcklin.com](http://orchardsofconcklin.com).

■ 2 S. Mountain Rd., Pomona, N.Y., 845.354.0369

**Masker Orchards, Warwick, N.Y.**

**Distance from Bergen:** 45 minutes

Masker is one of the area's most popular apple picking locations and has been around for more than 100 years, meaning that the folks here

know a thing or two about apples. COVID has made some changes to the orchard's operations (the country store has moved online, for example,) but a fun time can still be had. Maskers.com has more details.

■ 45 Ball Rd., Warwick, N.Y., 845.986.1058

**Apple Ridge Orchards, Warwick, N.Y.**

**Distance from Bergen:** 45 minutes

How 'bout them apples? Apple Ridge is ready for patrons to enjoy the scenic orchard for \$3 a person. Those age 2 and under enter FREE. Admission includes parking, entrance to the orchard and access to a play area, a petting zoo and the farm stand. Take home a half bushel of apples for \$32. For more information, visit [appleridgeorchards.com](http://appleridgeorchards.com).

■ 101 Jessup Rd., Warwick, N.Y., 845.987.7717

**Harvest Moon Farm & Orchard, North Salem, N.Y.**

**Distance from Bergen:** 1 hour

Besides a picturesque orchard, this family-run business has a store that sells many farm-grown, locally sourced goods, so you can take home products you feel good about. Visit [harvestmoonfarmandorchard.com](http://harvestmoonfarmandorchard.com) to find out more.

■ 130 Hardscrabble Rd., North Salem, N.Y., 914.485.1210

**Battleview Orchards, Freehold**

**Distance from Bergen:** 1 hour, 20 minutes

This orchard boasts a country store, hayrides and pumpkin picking, and you'll be tempted to go back for a second (maybe a third!) apple cider donut. For more information, check out [battlevieworchards.com](http://battlevieworchards.com).

■ 91 Wemrock Rd., Freehold, 732.462.0756

**DID YOU KNOW?** If you're planting your own apple tree, don't expect to eat the fruits of your labor right away. It takes about eight to 10 years after a standard apple tree is planted for it to start producing fruit (four to five years for dwarf fruit trees).