

Agritourism Definition

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Issue

Provide examples of how other states' statutes define agritourism.

Summary

While Connecticut law does not define the term “agritourism,” some other states have statutes that address it. These statutes vary from defining the term, to outlining liability protections for agritourism operators, to specifying zoning requirements.

This report provides the agritourism definitions used in six states: Florida, Indiana, Maine, New Hampshire, North Carolina, and Virginia (see Table 1).

In general, agritourism is any agriculturally based operation or activity that brings visitors to a farm or ranch. In Connecticut, agritourism activities include pick-your-own orchards, wineries, hay rides, farm tours, farm dinners, on-farm festivals, and corn mazes. The Department of Agriculture maintains a [website](#) listing examples of agritourism activities in Connecticut.

“Agritourism”

According to its report on agritourism, the [National Agricultural Law Center](#) says any definition of agritourism should include that it:

- *combines elements of the tourism and agricultural industries;*
- *attracts members of the public to visit agricultural operations;*
- *provides recreation, entertainment, or educational experiences for visitors; and*
- *may increase farm income.*

Table 1: Examples of State Definitions of Agritourism

<i>State and Citation</i>	<i>Definition</i>
Florida Fla. Stat. Ann. § 570.86	An “agritourism activity” is any agricultural related activity consistent with a bona fide farm, livestock operation, or ranch or in a working forest that allows members of the general public, for recreational, entertainment, or educational purposes, to view or enjoy activities, including farming, ranching, historical, cultural, civic, ceremonial, training and exhibition, or harvest-your-own activities and attractions. An agritourism activity does not include the construction of new or additional structures or facilities intended primarily to house, shelter, transport, or otherwise accommodate members of the general public. An activity is an agritourism activity regardless of whether the participant paid to participate in the activity.
Indiana Ind. Code Ann. § 5-29-1-2	“Agritourism” means visiting a working farm or any agricultural, horticultural, or agribusiness operation for enjoyment, education, or active involvement in the activities of the farm or operation.
Maine Me. Rev. Stat. Ann. tit. 7, § 251	An “agritourism activity” is any agricultural activity carried out on a farm or ranch that members of the general public are allowed to view or participate in, including farming, ranching, historical and cultural activities, harvest-your-own activities, and attractions related to farming or ranching. An activity is an agritourism activity whether or not the participant pays to view or participate in the activity.
New Hampshire N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 21:34-a	“Agritourism” means attracting visitors to a farm to attend events and activities that are accessory uses to the primary farm operation, including eating a meal, making overnight stays, enjoying the farm environment, education about farm operations, or active involvement in farm activities.
North Carolina N.C. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 99E-30	An “agritourism activity” is any activity carried out on a farm or ranch that allows members of the general public, for recreational, entertainment, or educational purposes, to view or enjoy rural activities, including farming, ranching, historical, cultural, and harvest-your-own activities, or natural activities and attractions. An activity is an agritourism activity whether or not the participant paid to participate in the activity.
Virginia Va. Code Ann. § 3.2-6400	An “agritourism activity” is any activity carried out on a farm or ranch that allows members of the general public, for recreational, entertainment, or educational purposes, to view or enjoy rural activities, including farming, wineries, ranching, historical, cultural, and harvest-your-own activities, or natural activities and attractions. An activity is an agritourism activity whether or not the participant paid to participate in the activity.

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