

## Holiday Farmers' Market Guide!

'Tis the season of cheer! We're nearing the end of 2020, and our Outdoor Farmers' Market Season! Wondering how to make the most of the three Farmers' Markets we have left? Check out our Holiday Farmers' Market Guide. Full of great holiday gift ideas (for a friend or yourself!), wonderful meal ideas and treats fit for the season, and some general holiday cheer, it's perfect to help you prepare for the holidays!

Make sure to stay on top of our vendor lists. Not all vendors in this guide will be at the market each week, and some are quickly seeing the end of their time with us! Find out who will be at the Farmers' Market on December 5, December 12, and December 19 by subscribing to our newsletter!

https://coventmarket.com/category/blog/

## Gift Baskets!

**Thames River Melons** has a variety of holiday gift baskets this season! They have a Sweet Tooth, a Charcuterie, and a Dinner Party Basket. You can also add on local cheeses, meats, or maple syrup. Head to their <u>website</u> to place an order for pick-up!

Harvest Moon Trading Co. has custom gift baskets available! Choose your favourite preserves and put them together in a beautifully wrapped basket. Local delivery is available as well – chat to the team at the market, or head to their website to contact them!

**Den Besten's Rainbow Trout Farm** has customizable gift baskets available. A standard basket includes smoked trout of your choice, trout jerky of your choice, trout pate, and garlic butter. You can choose how much your basket will cost, and the Den Bestens will curate it specially for you! Chat to them at the market, or call them at (519) 875-2782 to place your order.

## Stocking Stuffers and Gifts!

**Organic Popping Corn:** <u>Orchard Hill Farm</u> has delicious fresh organic popcorn, and it comes in cute little jars, perfect to stuff your loved ones' stockings! You can pick up a jar (or two!) at the market on December 5!

**Maple Syrup Jars:** <u>Lynch Maple Farm</u> has adorable little maple leaf shaped maple syrup bottles – perfect for a stocking stuffer! You can pick these up at the market anytime in December!

**Jewelry:** Handmade stone and leather bracelets, necklaces, rings, and more, all make great gifts – for a friend or yourself! Find Da Costa at the market in December, or order <u>online!</u>

**Mittens**: Joyce from Joyful Mitts will be at the market in December with her beautiful handmade mittens! These are sure to keep your or a friend's hands nice and toasty all winter!

**Wine/Cider:** Wine and Cider make great gifts! <u>Pillitteri Estates Winery</u> will have their usual selection of wines at the market December 5 and 19, and <u>Revel Cider</u> hopes to join us on December 19 with multiple varieties of cider!





**Décor:** Décor makes a great gift – Empire Farms has beautiful wreaths, outdoor pots, garlands and Christmas trees that would bring such joy to a friend's home. Janssens Farm Fresh and Greystead Gardens also have seasonal greens that would be perfect! They will all be at the market through December!

Handmade Wooden Items: London Community Woodshop will be at the market on December 12 with wooden ornaments, jewelry, games, décor items, bowls, and oh so much more. These would make gorgeous gifts!

**Salami, Summer Sausage, Jerky, Pepperettes:** Blanbrook Bison Farm, Dave's Beef <u>& Lamb</u>, and <u>Den Besten's Rainbow Trout Farm</u> all have a wonderful variety of cured meats that make fantastic stocking stuffers and gifts. You can pick these up at the market all throughout December!

**Preserves:** Many of our vendors including Harvest Moon Trading Co., Thames River Melons, Orchard Hill Farm, Lynch Maple Farm, <u>C'Angelina</u>, <u>Sun Sweet</u> <u>Catering</u>, and more, have a wide variety of preserves available. Choose a favourite and use it as a stocking stuffer! Delicious preserves make great gifts!

**Popped Water Lilly Seeds:** <u>Arise N' Go</u> has a few different flavours of their unique popped water lily seeds! They come in little packages that are a great size for anyone's stockings. Get these at the market on December 5, or order on their <u>website</u>!

**Spice Packs**: Sun Sweet Catering has spice packs available, wrapped and tied with a bow! Have a friend who loves flavour? This is the perfect gift for them!

**Fresh Food:** Fresh food is always a wonderful gift, and often greatly appreciated. Especially in these times of uncertainty, gifting someone fresh, local food could bring a bright smile to their face, whether it's veg, treats, or meats! Head to the market to choose your favourites, wait safely in line at your loved ones' favourite vendor, and gift them a great meal!

## Food for the Table!

I don't know about you, but one of my favourite parts of the holidays is the food! We might not be celebrating the holidays in usual fashion, but that doesn't mean we can't still enjoy delicious food at its finest. It just means we don't have to share as freely!

Let's talk about those **baked goods**. A box of fresh cookies or a few gingerbread people are sure to make your season bright! Our bakers will have your treat needs covered! My personal favourites are <u>Helm Baked's</u> butter tart bars and puppy chow, <u>The Whole Grain Hearth's</u> triple chocolate brownies and danishes, <u>The Welsh Baker's</u> sausage rolls and welsh cakes, Dee's fruit cake and loaves, Lorraine's samosas and her savoury onion tart, and <u>Seth</u>'s croissants. But the list does not even begin to end there!

Cooking for one or only a few? Orchard Hill Farm has **unique and tasty soups** that come fresh or frozen! These are perfect when you don't have time or energy to put together a meal, and are loaded with nutrition. Grab a few if your family needs it, and enjoy with fresh bread from The Whole Grain Hearth or La Houlette de Vie.

C'Angelina has delicious **meat pies** that come frozen in packs of six. These are stuffed full with meat and veg and make great quick meals! These also gift well and get rave reviews! Popping a meal in the oven has never been easier!

Cheese and Wine (or Cider?) Yes, please. Nothing says a cozy night in like **wine and cheese**. <u>Monforte Dairy</u> and Pillitteri Estates Winery have everything you need for this amazing combination. Add some Blanbrook salami or Dave's Beef & Lamb Summer Sausage to the mix, and you've got yourself a fancy do-ityourself **charcuterie board**!

**Need a Main?** Try a whole chicken, a bison roast, steaks, or a rack of lamb. Blanbrook Bison Farm, Dave's Beef & Lamb, and <u>Carver's Natural Farm</u>, has you set! Carver's will be at the market on December 12, and Dave and Shirley will be there through December.

Don't forget **that veg**! From groovy mushrooms to rad radicchio, our farmers have all the fresh vegetables and fruit you need for the perfect holiday meal! Pick up some apples for a pie, a head of cabbage for a great salad, potatoes for my favourite staple – mashed potatoes, tomatoes for a fresh sauce, and so much more!

