

CLUB TRAVELER

ISSUE 3, 2025



HILTON GRAND VACATIONS' BEST PLACES TO TRAVEL

10 Amazing Trip Ideas For 2026



CLUB
TRAVELER
Contents





Welcome From Derek De Salvia

FOR HILTON GRAND VACATIONS

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With this year's final issue of Club Traveler Magazine, I want to take a moment to celebrate the incredible destinations that make Hilton Grand Vacations so special. In this issue, we're spotlighting the top 10 HGV destinations you can explore year-round — a curated list designed to inspire your next adventure and help you discover new cultures, landscapes and experiences.

As you start looking forward to your 2026 vacations, I encourage you to take advantage of all HGV has to offer. Whether it's attending one-of-a-kind HGV Ultimate Access events across the United States or joining incredible Hosted Trips around the world, your vacation possibilities are expanding in exciting ways. We've also continued our [Local Picks](#) video series that takes a deep dive into popular destinations. The latest installments featured Sedona and New York City, and we look forward to visiting more locations next year.

We're also thrilled to announce two major property openings in the new year. First, [Tradimo Kyoto Gojo, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#) is slated to open in the first half of the year. Nestled in the heart of Kyoto, Japan, this property offers easy access to the city's rich history, vibrant shopping and world-class cuisine. And before the end of 2026, we'll welcome the long-awaited [Ka' Haku, a Hilton Club](#) in Waikiki, Hawaii — a stunning resort that blends modern design with local finishes that reflect the essence of Hawaiian culture. These new additions are more than just places to stay — they're gateways to unforgettable experiences.

This issue is packed with travel inspiration to help you pick your next getaway. From outdoor escapes to urban adventures, there's something for every type of traveler.

Where Should You Go in 2026?

In our cover story, "[Best Places to Visit in 2026](#)," we dive into the top destinations available to Owners and Members. We've organized them into 10 exciting categories that include road trips, sustainable travel, education and volunteerism, food and wine, coastal views, immersive culture, health and well-being, nature, hosted travel and vacationing on a budget. No matter what type of vacation you're looking for, you can find inspiration for the whole family.

Year-Round Fun for Everyone

For those looking for a unique travel experience, make sure to read "[The Wander List](#)" to immerse yourself in a thrilling winter sport with incredible athletes: ice canoe racing. You'll also find expert tips in "[Travel Like a Local Ski Instructor](#)" to elevate your next ski trip this winter. And if warmer weather is calling your name, "[Postcard From Palm Springs](#)" offers a glimpse into everything this desert gem has to offer.

Countless Options for Entertainment

Foodie travelers will enjoy feel-good dining options from California to Chicago in "[A Perfect Bite](#)." And for more detailed travel itineraries, look no further than "[One Coast, Five Ways: Florida's Emerald Coast](#)" and "[48 Hours in Williamsburg](#)." From Florida's pristine beaches and water activities to Williamsburg's rich history and family-friendly fun, there's no shortage of places to explore with HGV.

As you plan your travels for 2026 and beyond, we're here to help you make the most of your vacation ownership and to help you create memories that last a lifetime. Don't wait — log in to your Member website to start planning your next vacation. Your Club team is here to support you every step of the way.

Happy journeys ahead,

Derek De Salvia

Executive Vice President & Chief Customer Officer
Hilton Grand Vacations

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Swiss Alps Wonderland



Norwegian Quest With Northern Lights

FEATURED DESTINATIONS



Ultimate New Zealand Exploration

October 2026

Immerse yourself in the natural wonders, culture and cuisine of New Zealand. Connect with nature on a scenic hike of Waiheke Island, journey through the luminescent Glowworm Cave and breathe the mountain air as you take the TranzAlpine journey to Arthur's Pass. Visit the movie set of "The Lord of the Rings" in Hobbiton, enjoy a Milford Sound cruise and stargazing at Mount Cook National Park.

Travel Type:

Active, Bucket-List, Cultural, Nature



Alaskan Discovery by Land and Sea

June 2026

Discover the beauty of Alaska by land, sea and rail. Explore the wilderness and mountain landscapes on a multi-day glass-domed rail journey before embarking on a scenic cruise. Connect with native Alaskans, experience the majesty of Hubbard Glacier and taste the local cuisine. Whether you seek out daring excursions or quiet wanderings, this cruise tour is full of options to experience the best of Alaska.

Travel Type:

Bucket List, Nature, Family, Culture, History



America's Western Wonders and Cowboys

July 2026

Explore legendary Western landscapes and discover rich cowboy culture. Experience ranching firsthand, ride horseback and take a wagon ride in search of local wildlife on a working ranch. Discover the excitement of rodeo, stay just steps away from Old Faithful in Yellowstone National Park and enjoy the perfect balance of included activities and free time to explore or relax on your own.

Travel Type:

Family, Active, Multi-Generational, Nature, Cultural



Rocky Mountain Grandeur

July 2026

Travel through western Canada on a rail and motorcoach tour, enjoying spacious seats, gourmet meals and panoramic views from your bi-level glass-domed railcar. Take a daring walk across the Capilano Suspension Bridge, and visit Butchart Gardens and the Columbia Icefield. Marvel in the beauty of Banff from a gondola and enjoy the rousing music of the Calgary Fiddlers and a Wild West gunfight.

Travel Type:

Active, Bucket-List, Cultural, Nature



England (Devon and Cornwall + Lake District)

May and September 2026

June and October 2026

Combine two trips in this back-to-back option with stays at HGV-managed properties. Venture to England's picturesque coastal counties of Devon and Cornwall plus immerse yourself in the beauty of the Lake District. Marvel at dramatic cliffs, visit The Greenway House, enjoy beautiful gardens and visit the region's historic cities. Transport yourself to an earlier era at Hadrian's Wall or to the modern era with a day trip to Liverpool and a Beatles experience.

Travel Type:

Active, Bucket-List, Cultural, Nature



Austrian Alps Resort Escape

June and August 2026

Stay at an HGV-managed property, unpack once and immerse yourself in the destination. Sweeping vistas and old-world charm await in the mountainous region around Schladming, Austria. Visit the musical city of Salzburg, discover Austria's Lake District and enjoy picturesque Alpine villages. Combine this with the Swiss Alps Wonderland or Central European Dynasties hosted trips to extend your journey in Europe.

Travel Type:

Bucket-List, Cultural, Nature

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Program Availability

Bluegreen Vacation Club	Bluegreen Vacation Club With HGV Max	HGVClub	HGVClub With HGV Max	The Club	The Club With HGV Max	Extraordinary Escapes	Extraordinary Escapes With HGV Max
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

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SKI INSTRUCTOR

Follow these expert tips to make the most of your time on the slopes

Images: Shutterstock & Unsplash

Whether you're a complete beginner or a black-run pro, it takes time to navigate a new mountain destination. We spoke with two instructors — Nathalie Nevins at Aspen Snowmass Ski Resort and Mike Evans of Vail Ski Resort — about how best to prepare for Colorado's world-class runs.



Nathalie Nevins at Aspen Snowmass
Image: Aspen Snowmass

“

LOOK UPHILL WHEN YOU SET OFF AND GIVE RIGHT OF WAY TO THOSE DOWNHILL

Nathalie Nevins



WEAR THE RIGHT KIT

When it comes to clothing, comfort is key. "Layers and ventilation zippers will help combat changing conditions on the mountain, while not overdressing allows for easier movement," explains Mike. "An outer layer in a bright color helps others avoid you on the slopes and means friends can find you easily."

Nathalie adds: "Start with properly fitted boots — that's the foundation of comfort and control. For skis and snowboards, match the length and style to your ability and terrain, and always have bindings adjusted by a professional."



PICK SUITABLE RUNS

If a group has multiple ability levels, Mike recommends choosing a ski bowl with a variety of runs that cater to everyone. "Game Creek Bowl in Vail, for instance, has it all: a green run (Lost Boy), black runs (Faro Glade) and long bump runs (Wildcard). Since it's a bowl, all runs meet at one lift for easy navigation, so everyone can meet up and ride the lift together."

According to Nathalie, asking a local expert is a great starting point. "As a ski instructor, I still hire a local pro whenever I visit a new mountain. They'll share insider tips — from the best runs to hidden dining spots — and in just one day can show you where to ski, which aspects have the best snow at different times and how to make the most of the rest of your trip."



PUT SAFETY FIRST

"Knowing your ability and riding on appropriate terrain will make the experience more enjoyable and keep everyone safer," says Mike. "Before you set off down the hill, take a moment to think about the snow conditions, pace, other traffic on the mountain and navigation tactics."

For Nathalie, it's important to know and follow the Responsibility Code: "Stay in control, stop where you're visible, look uphill when you set off and give right of way to those downhill."

Where to Stay

Within walking distance of downtown Aspen, [The Innsbruck Aspen](#) has valet ski storage and a concierge who will pre-book lift passes. The pool and hot tub are ideal for relaxing after a day on the slopes. Just 40 minutes from Vail, [Valdoro Mountain Lodge](#), a Hilton Grand Vacations Club is a cozy hideaway at the base of Breckenridge Ski Resort with views of the Rocky Mountains.



Valdoro Mountain Lodge, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club has convenient access to the slopes at Breckenridge

Member Resort Availability

	Bluegreen Vacation Club	Bluegreen Vacation Club With HGV Max	HGVClub	HGVClub With HGV Max	The Club	The Club With HGV Max	Extraordinary Escapes	Extraordinary Escapes With HGV Max
The Innsbruck Aspen	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓
Valdoro Mountain Lodge, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club			✓	✓		✓		✓

Dates For Your Diary

Plan your next trip around these exciting events in
the Hilton Grand Vacations resort network

JANUARY

● JAN 2–FEB 15, 2026



ARUBA CARNIVAL

When

Jan 2–Feb 15, 2026

Where

Aruba

Why Go

One of the Caribbean's most vibrant and anticipated events, Aruba's Carnival transforms the island into a month-long spectacle of music, costumes and revelry. It kicks off in January with the Torch Parade and culminates with the symbolic burning of King Momo, the spirit of carnival, on the Sunday before Shrove Tuesday. Highlights include the fun-filled Children's Parades, the nighttime Lighting Parade and the Grand Parades in San Nicholas and Oranjestad.



Where To Stay

[La Cabana Beach Resort and Casino](#)

● JAN 29-FEB 1, 2026



HILTON GRAND VACATIONS TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS

When

Jan 29-Feb 1, 2026

Where

Orlando, Florida

Why Go

Pro women golfers and sport and entertainment stars go head-to-head on the fairways of Lake Nona Golf & Country Club for the most entertaining date on the LPGA Tour calendar. This year's lineup will include qualified LPGA winners from the two previous seasons alongside a roster of celebrity players — all teeing off for a weekend of unforgettable moments.



Where To Stay

[Cypress Pointe, a Hilton Vacation Club](#)

FEBRUARY

● FEB 16, 2026



DAYTONA 500

When

Feb 16, 2026

Where

Daytona Beach, Florida

Why Go

The legendary Daytona 500 kicks off the NASCAR season as drivers race 200 laps (500 miles) around the Daytona International Speedway track in a thrilling battle to the checkered flag. Considered the Super Bowl of stock car racing, the Daytona 500 is a test of endurance and speed, taking drivers over three hours to complete.



Where To Stay

[Daytona Beach Regency, a Hilton Vacation Club](#)

● FEB 25–MARCH 8, 2026



NORTH LAKE TAHOE SNOWFEST

When

Feb 25–March 8, 2026

Where

Tahoe City, California

Why Go

On the northern shore of serene Lake Tahoe, this family-friendly festival celebrates the end of winter with ice cream-eating contests, milk jug curling and Polar Bear swims in the lake. Spectators can also enjoy ski races, ice sculpture competitions and the lively annual Street Faire party. Best of all, Snowfest gives back — raising an impressive \$180,000 in 2025 to support local nonprofits, community projects and scholarships.



Where To Stay

[Tahoe Seasons, a Hilton Vacation Club](#)

MARCH

● MARCH 5–8, 2026



ST. MAARTEN HEINEKEN REGATTA

When

March 5–8, 2026

Where

Sint Maarten

Why Go

With blue skies, clear seas and steady trade winds, the waters off Sint Maarten set the stage for the Caribbean's largest sailing regatta — drawing over 100 boats from some 30 different countries. Alongside the competition, there are concerts (2025 names included soca queen Alison Hinds and reggae icons The Wailers), shore parties and bridge shows, where boats parade through the Simpson Bay Bridge to cheering crowds.



Where To Stay

[Royal Palm, a Hilton Vacation Club](#)

● MARCH 20–APRIL 12, 2026



NATIONAL CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL

When

March 20–April 12, 2026

Where

Washington, D.C.

Why Go

For a few brief weeks each spring, Washington, D.C.'s cherry trees burst into beautiful pink blossoms. The most picturesque spots include the Tidal Basin, where hundreds of trees surround the water near the Jefferson Memorial, and the grounds of the Washington Monument, where clusters of Yoshino cherry trees create stunning photo-worthy backdrops. You can track the arriving blooms with the National Park Service's [bloom watch updates](#).



Where To Stay

[The District, a Hilton Club](#)

APRIL

● APRIL 5, 2026



SCOPPIO DEL CARRO

When

April 5, 2026

Where

Florence, Italy

Why Go

Literally meaning "the explosion of the cart," Florence's unique Easter Sunday tradition traces back to the 11th-century Crusades. Today, the centuries-old tradition involves pulling an antique wagon packed with pyrotechnics through the city by a pair of white oxen before being detonated by a mechanical dove at the end of Easter Mass in Piazza del Duomo.



Where To Stay

[Borgo alle Vigne, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#)

APRIL 16–26, 2026



FIESTA SAN ANTONIO

When

April 16–26, 2026

Where

San Antonio, Texas

Why Go

This colorful celebration of San Antonio's history, culture, music and food includes a dizzying array of events. Some of the most loved festivities include the Fiesta Oyster Break, the illuminated Flambeau Parade, the floating Texas Cavalier River Parade and the keystone Battle of the Flowers Parade. Don't forget to shout "show us your shoes" as the floats cruise by — and bring your own sash so you can pin fiesta medals to it.



Where To Stay

[Élan Hotel & Spa](#)

Member Resort Availability

	Bluegreen Vacation Club	Bluegreen Vacation Club With HGV Max	HGVClub	HGVClub With HGV Max	The Club	The Club With HGV Max	Extraordinary Escapes	Extraordinary Escapes With HGV Max
Borgo alle Vigne, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club			✓	✓		✓		✓
Cypress Pointe, a Hilton Vacation Club				✓	✓	✓		✓
Daytona Beach Regency, a Hilton Vacation Club				✓	✓	✓		✓
The District, a Hilton Club			✓	✓		✓		✓
Élan Hotel & Spa	✓	✓						
La Cabana Beach Resort and Casino	✓	✓						
Royal Palm, a Hilton Vacation Club				✓	✓	✓		✓
Tahoe Seasons, a Hilton Vacation Club				✓	✓	✓		✓

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Find Endless Adventure in Florida

From world-famous theme parks to tranquil beaches and championship golf courses, Florida offers something for everyone. Take a stroll on white sands, immerse yourself in thrilling attractions or tee off on lush fairways in this dynamic destination.



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Experience rugged beauty where lush forests meet dramatic coastlines. Wander vibrant cities like Portland and Seattle, savor world-class coffee and wine, or hike its peaks and waterfalls. It's a haven for nature lovers and urban explorers alike.

Destination Xchange Program Availability

Bluegreen Vacation Club	Bluegreen Vacation Club With HGV Max	HGVClub	HGVClub With HGV Max	The Club	The Club With HGV Max	Embarc And Extraordinary Escapes	Extraordinary Escapes With HGV Max
				✓	✓	✓	✓

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This offer is sponsored by Destination Xchange, LLC, a company within the Hilton Grand Vacations group, with its principal office located at 6355 Metrowest Boulevard, Orlando, Florida 32835.

A Perfect Bite

Three wellness restaurants for feel-good dining



Haven Farm + Table brings the best of California ingredients inside and onto your plate

\$\$

Haven Farm + Table

1200 Fox Point Farms Lane, Encinitas, CA 92024

Why Go

Opened last year at Fox Point Farms in Encinitas, Haven Farm + Table is the centerpiece of a 21-acre regenerative organic farm that blends hospitality with agriculture. The restaurant was created as a collaboration between farmers and chefs, with the goal of showcasing nutritious, seasonal produce grown just steps from the kitchen. The setting — complete with orchards, vegetable beds and a farmstand — makes it one of the most authentic farm-to-table experiences in North County.

What to Order

The menu changes frequently to reflect what's in season. Highlights include wood-fired flatbreads topped with just-harvested greens, pasture-raised chicken with roasted root vegetables and inventive vegetarian dishes. Brunch is especially popular, with options like farm-fresh frittatas, heirloom tomato salads and sourdough bread baked on site. Local craft beers and natural wines round out the experience.

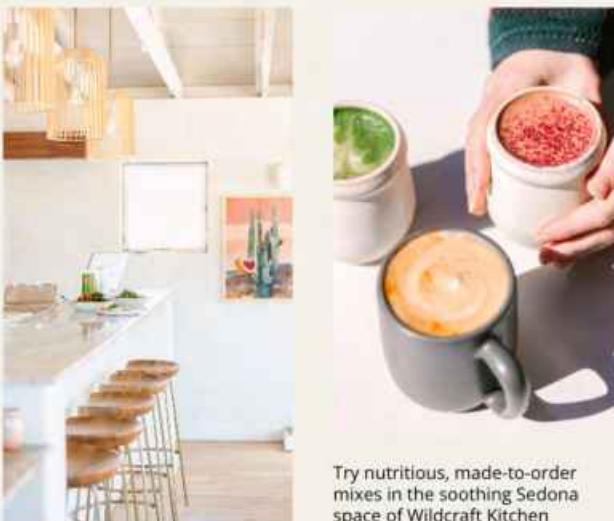
Details

Haven sources directly from Fox Point Farms' regenerative fields and orchard, as well as neighboring small farms and producers. Nearly everything is made in-house, from sauces to breads, with an emphasis on sustainability and zero-waste cooking. The airy dining room overlooks the farm, and there's a patio for al fresco meals. A market and café on the property sell produce, eggs and pantry staples, so visitors can take a piece of the farm home.



Where to Stay

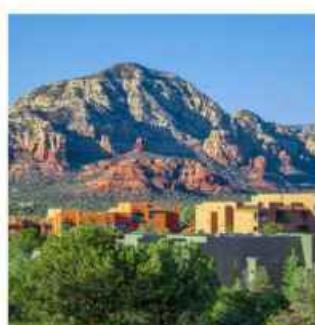
Family-friendly [MarBrisa.a](#) [Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#) is a Spanish Mediterranean-style resort in the seaside village of Carlsbad (around a 10-minute drive from the restaurant), and a great base for exploring the California coast. It features a pool, fitness center, volleyball courts and spa for downtime.



Try nutritious, made-to-order mixes in the soothing Sedona space of Wildcraft Kitchen

Where to Stay

In the upper Sedona Plateau with epic desert views, [Sedona Summit, a Hilton Vacation Club](#) is perfectly positioned for backcountry adventures. The resort has an outdoor pool and several hot tubs, as well as a bocce court and hammock area.



Wildcraft Kitchen

345 Jordan Road, Sedona, AZ 86336

Why Go

Former raw food chef and health coach Summer Rose opened the grab-and-go Local Juicery (featured in our [Local Picks: Sedona](#) video) with her business partner Mike Sanders in 2014. Rose trained under plant-based expert Matthew Kenney and, nine years later, Wildcraft Kitchen followed. It has the same organic principles and wellness focus while combining the sit-down dining experience with a made-to-order juice bar.

What to Order

The menu has a wide variety of breakfast and lunch options from pancakes and frittatas to veggie-packed salads. Bestsellers include the breakfast sandwich filled with melted raw cheddar, tomato, poached egg, lemon caper aioli and arugula on sprouted sourdough. Another top pick is the honest bowl made with quinoa, cucumber, kalamata olives, house-made hummus, roasted sweet potatoes, pickled onions and a vegan caper aioli.

Details

Wildcraft Kitchen's smoothies and shakes have uplifting names like "utopia" and "fountain of youth." The coffee menu features different milk options, including easier-to-digest A2 whole milk, as well as oat and almond milk. Owner Summer has a passion for supporting organic and local farms, inspired by her father's work as a farmer, and she picks up compost daily from Local Juicery for his land.



Bloom Plant Based Kitchen

1559 North Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, IL 60622

Why Go

When James Beard Award-nominated chef Rodolfo Cuadros' Latin American restaurant Amaru temporarily closed during the COVID-19 pandemic, he adapted by adding Bloom Plant Based Kitchen as a ghost kitchen. It was such a success that a brick-and-mortar space opened in Chicago's Wicker Park neighborhood in 2021.

What to Order

Serving only dinner during the week, the modern plant-based cuisine focuses on vegetables rather than meat substitutes. Try their inventive quick bites such as turnip causa served with potato croquette, nori and soy caviar; besitos de yuca bread balls with parmesan rosemary foam and spring tart with almond pesto cheese and beetroot. The ube cheesecake with Oreo crust and caramel popcorn topping is a dessert favorite.

Details

Other menus include the "2's Tuesday" — a three-course dinner for two on Tuesdays. Visit on the weekends for brunch or stop by for happy hour from 5-6 p.m., Sunday to Thursday.



Inventive dishes like turnip causa have made Bloom Plant Based Kitchen a Chicago must-go

Where to Stay

Within walking distance of many of Chicago's blockbuster attractions, [Hotel Blake](#) is in the historic yet hip downtown district, Printer's Row. Suites feature soaring ceilings, modern bathrooms and city views.



Member Resort Availability

	Bluegreen Vacation Club	Bluegreen Vacation Club With HGV Max	HGVClub	HGVClub With HGV Max	The Club	The Club With HGV Max	Extraordinary Escapes	Extraordinary Escapes With HGV Max
Hotel Blake	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓
MarBrisa, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club			✓	✓		✓		✓
Sedona Summit, a Hilton Vacation Club				✓	✓	✓		✓



One Coast, Five Ways: *Florida's Emerald Coast*

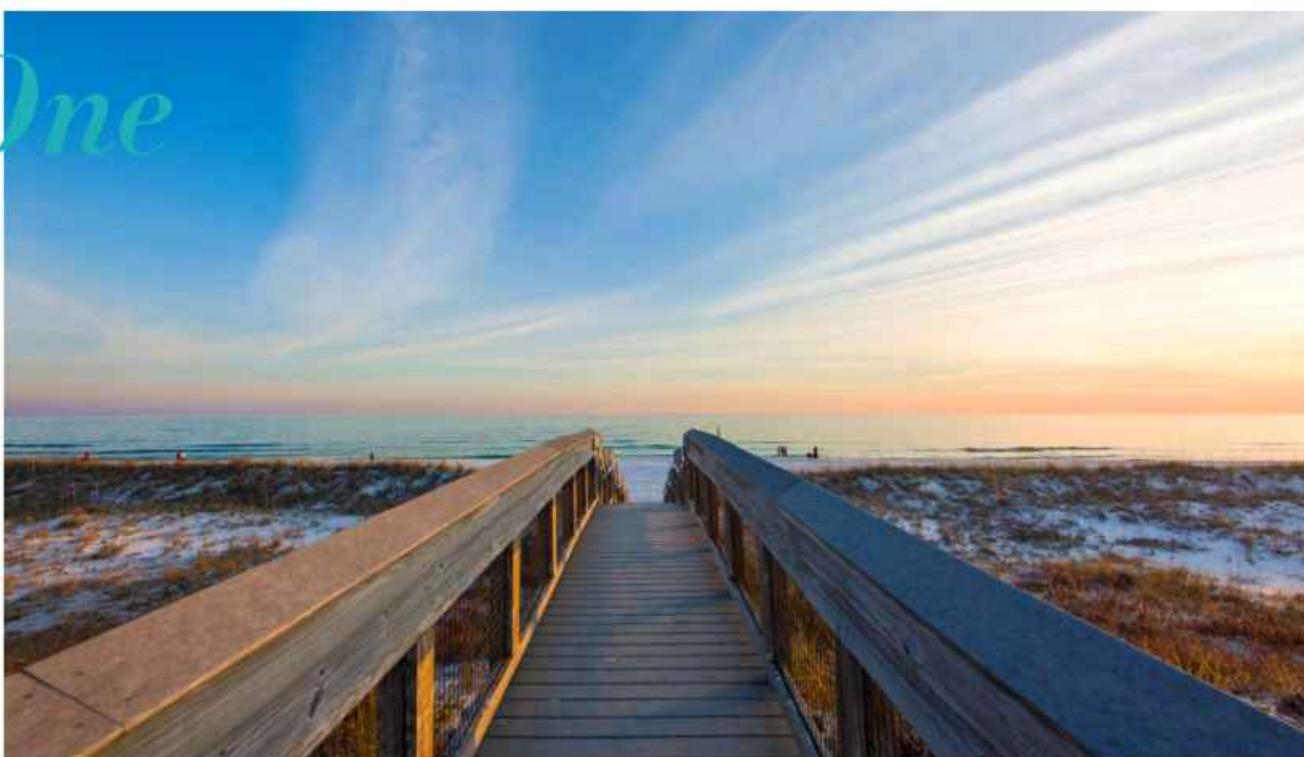
Words: Charlene Fang

Head to this stretch of Florida's panhandle to enjoy the rhythm of the tides and fishing seasons, plus some of the clearest emerald waters found anywhere along the Gulf of Mexico

A vacation on the Emerald Coast between Perdido Key and Panama City revolves around the water. Fishing charters head out at dawn, paddleboarders skim across glassy bays and families spend their days wading at Norrie Point or exploring the rare dune lakes of Highway 30A. As the sun dips, crowds gather along Destin's boardwalk to watch the sky blaze orange and pink before settling into one of many restaurants serving the Gulf's freshest catch.

Whether you're after a romantic escape, a dose of adventure or simply time to bask in the sun, you'll find your authentic coastal vibe along this 24-mile stretch of dazzling shoreline.

One



Henderson State Park in Destin, Florida, often appears on the world's best beaches lists
Image by Shutterstock

For Beaches

Destin's coastline is among the most beautiful in the country, with stretches that are as varied as they are scenic. [Henderson Beach State Park](#) consistently ranks among the world's best, thanks to its sugar-white sands and clear waters. It's also a nesting ground for sea turtles — arrive at dawn or dusk for your best chance to spot them. For a quieter beach day, the knee-deep tide pools at [Norriego Point](#) offer a front-row seat to boats slipping in and out of the harbor, while nearby [East Jetty Point](#) is a favorite with snorkelers drawn to schools of tropical fish darting around the rocks.

To escape the noise altogether, head east along Highway 30A to discover rare coastal dune lakes, where freshwater meets saltwater in one of the few ecosystems of its kind in the world. It's a haven for birdwatching, peaceful kayaking or simply spreading out a picnic.



Destin's Crab Island has a party-on-the-water vibe with floating food vendors and live music
Image by Unsplash

For Fishing & Water Adventures

Despite the rise of condos and resorts, Destin remains "The World's Luckiest Fishing Village." You feel it in the bustling harbor, where charter boats line up shoulder to shoulder, and in the seafood markets offering the fresh daily catch: snapper, grouper or cobia, depending on the season.

Beyond fishing, dolphin cruises, kayaking tours and snorkeling trips take you to man-made reefs and sunken wrecks now thriving with tropical fish and coral. Then there's [Crab Island](#), a submerged sandbar accessible only by boat, where waist-deep waters host a uniquely Destin experience — floating food vendors, volleyball games and live music. Be sure to go early, since it turns into a lively floating block party by noon.

Three



Admire European-style architecture and charming scenery in Rosemary Beach
Image by Adobe Stock

For Exploring Coastal Towns

Destin may be the hub, but much of the Emerald Coast's character lies in the towns along scenic Highway 30A. [Rosemary Beach](#) feels like it's been plucked from Europe, with cobblestone lanes, gas-lit lanterns and Dutch-Caribbean architecture. Seaside is instantly recognizable for its pastel cottages and picket fences, immortalized in "The Truman Show." Grayton Beach has a bohemian vibe, with quirky art galleries, live-music bars and its playful motto: "Nice dogs, strange people."

For date night, head to the rooftop at [Pescado Seafood Grill & Rooftop Bar](#) in Rosemary Beach to take in the Gulf views paired with signature cocktails. Or [The Edge Seafood Restaurant](#) in Destin Harbor, which glows after dark with twinkling lights on the water.

Four



Families have plenty of options with waterparks and activities in the Emerald Coast region
Image by Shutterstock

For Families

The Emerald Coast's family attractions go well beyond the beach. [Big Kahuna's Water & Adventure Park](#) is an all-ages crowd pleaser, with wave pools, a lazy river and slides, while [The Track](#) offers go-karts, mini golf and bumper boats for kids who need a break from the sand. [Destin Commons](#), with its splash pad, movie theater and playground, makes for easy half-day outings.

For a dash of history, the [Destin History & Fishing Museum](#) showcases antique rods and reels alongside jaw-dropping mounts of record-setting catches, proof of how the town earned its nickname. On rainy days, the [Gulfarium Marine Adventure Park](#) in nearby Fort Walton Beach has dolphin and sea lion shows under covered seating. Or you can visit [Uncle Buck's Fishbowl & Grill](#) to let the kids bowl "underwater" among sharks and sea turtles.



Five

Don't miss crab cakes and fresh vibes at Bud & Alley's
 Image by Bud & Alley's

For the Food Scene

Seafood here comes straight from the Gulf, often with a Southern twist. At [Dewey Destin's](#) and [The Back Porch](#), expect waterfront dining where fish tacos, fried shrimp and hush puppies are staples. For sunset meals with a view, [Bud & Alley's](#) in Seaside is a longtime favorite where you can order crab cakes paired with a cocktail.

Families love [Lulu's Destin](#), a lively beachside spot where kids can paddleboard in a protected lagoon while parents dig into shrimp and grits or a classic po'boy. For toes-in-the-sand dining, [The Crab Trap](#) delivers Gulf grouper sandwiches and a fun tiki-bar vibe best enjoyed at sunset. Skip the peak dinner rush and head there for breakfast. Locals swear by the sushi-grade tuna omelet — a quirky favorite in Destin.

Where to Stay

Unwind in comfort at [Hilton Grand Vacations Club at Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort™](#), a sprawling retreat where days are easily split between championship golf courses and the white sands of Miramar Beach. Enjoy access to four golf courses, a world-class tennis center and a private stretch of beach, with trams providing easy access to 2,400 acres of shops, restaurants and entertainment.

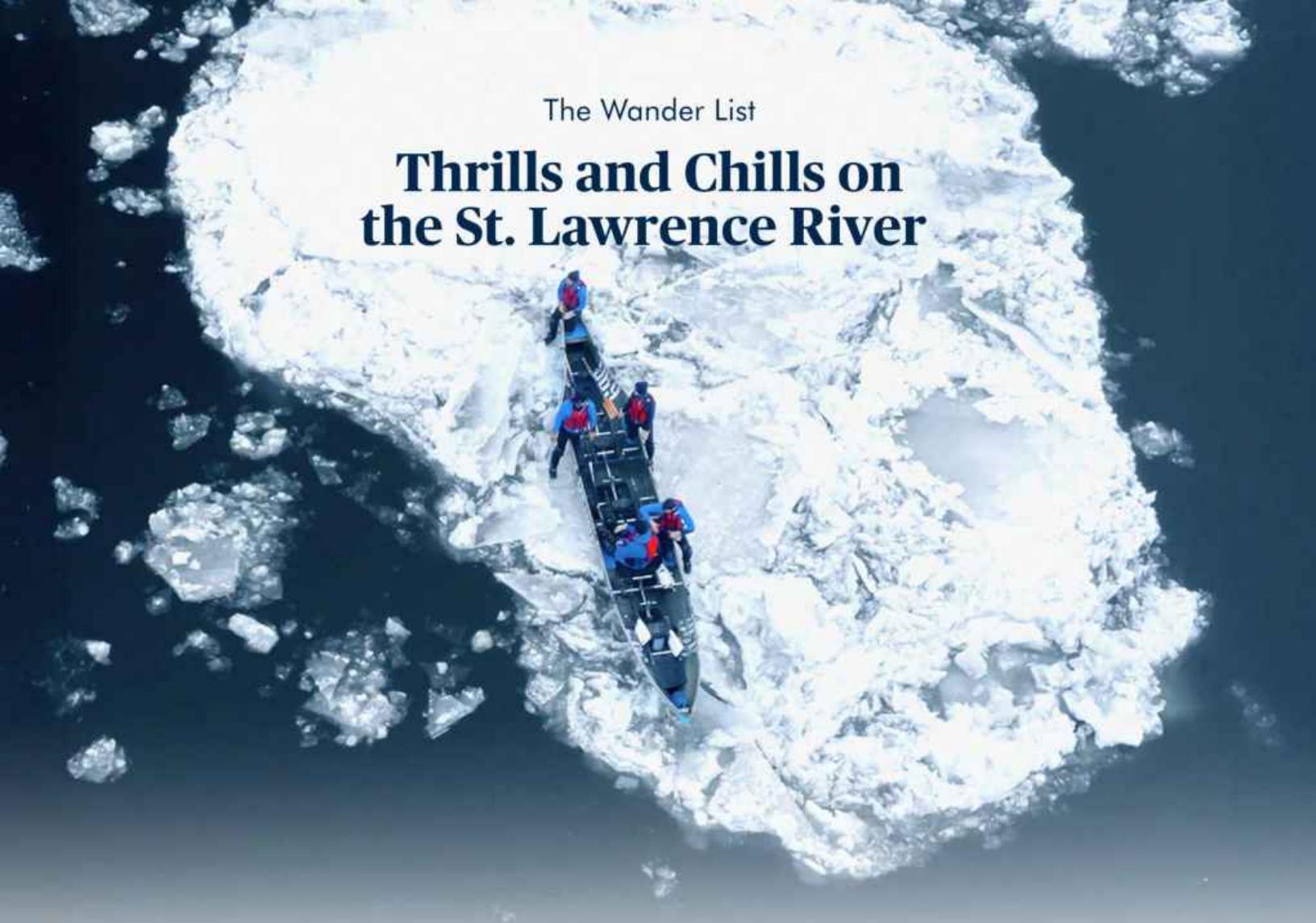
For a more tranquil escape, check in to [Bayside Resort](#), a [Hilton Vacation Club](#), where every stay comes with sweeping views of Choctawhatchee Bay. Start the day with coffee on your balcony, go paddleboarding from a private dock, then wind down with a restorative treatment at the spa. Families can enjoy spending time in the outdoor pool and grab a bite to eat at Flip Flops Pool Bar.



Hilton Grand Vacations Club at Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort™ is a quintessential Florida retreat with easy access to shops and entertainment.

Member Resort Availability

	Bluegreen Vacation Club	Bluegreen Vacation Club With HGV Max	HGVClub	HGVClub With HGV Max	The Club	The Club With HGV Max	Embarc And Extraordinary Escapes	Extraordinary Escapes With HGV Max
Bayside Resort, a Hilton Vacation Club	✓	✓						
Hilton Grand Vacations Club at Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort™				✓		✓	✓	✓



The Wander List

Thrills and Chills on the St. Lawrence River

One of Quebec's oldest and rarest sports is also its most exciting

Words: Jonathan Thompson

Images: Patrick Lemaire



Crampons and paddles, while not an obvious pairing, are both essential for one of Canada's most unique sports — ice canoeing. Part rowing, part running, the sport began in the 17th century, as a necessary means of ferrying people and goods across the frozen St. Lawrence River. As the centuries passed, maritime technology improved and bridges were built, but ice canoeing remained a beloved local pastime and a key piece of Quebec's cultural heritage.

Today, ice canoeing is a popular tourist activity in the region's picturesque capital, Quebec City. Eager to try it for myself during a recent visit, I donned a woolly "toque" and signed up for an outing with local operators [Canot à Glace Expérience](#).

Arriving at the company's waterfront boathouse in a gentle snow flurry, I'm handed a steaming cup of tea and an armful of kit — everything from ice hockey-style knee pads and waterproof mittens to wetsuit socks and the trusty racing crampons.

"Teamwork and timing are going to be essential today," explains my guide, Julien Harvey, a third-generation ice canoeist. "Out on the river, it's all about mastering the transition between water and ice as smoothly as possible."

That all-important "transition," I learn, involves sliding your oar into the boat, then swinging a leg out to replace it. In tandem with your crewmates, you push with all your might, similar to starting a motorbike. Once you reach open water again, it's legs in and oars out, just as swiftly.

The "scooter"ing" across a solid mass is what sets ice-canoeing apart from other watersports, and competitive champions like Julien apart from his rivals. Add the strong currents and capricious winds of the St. Lawrence River, and you have a sport that's both physical and unpredictable. To combat this, the boats are longer and heavier than standard canoes and have reinforced rubber-bottomed hulls that allow them to glide over ice and withstand heavy or unexpected impacts.

Fortunately, the snow has stopped, and the sky has sharpened itself into a deep midwinter blue as we push off for the far shore. There are three other curious tourists alongside me, with Julien steering from the stern.

As we bounce and glide across the river through the ice, slush and current, I'm surprised by how quickly we fall into a rhythm. Approaching each iceberg at speed, we listen for Julien's shout before swinging our bodies through 180 degrees, planting one knee inside the boat and one foot outside it, crampons crunching their way across. Plopping back into the water on the other side of the floe, our 10-foot wooden oars slip back out, and it's time to propel our arms again.



We make our way across Quebec's great tidal artery in this fashion, not feeling cold despite seeing our breath frosting as we toil. About half an hour later, we're close to the shore and Julien steers us onto a particularly sturdy iceberg for a breather. Stepping out onto the ice, he produces a flask of hot cocoa to toast our achievement in a Canadian brouhaha of back slaps and high fives.

Gazing back at where we started, I'm struck by how truly beautiful Quebec City is. Nicknamed "The Paris of North America," the grand old capital of New France looks like a fortified fairytale — all bristling spires and cobblestone streets, winding up to its magnificent clifftop citadel.

Like the rest of this picture-perfect place, ice canoeing is a unique, unforgettable means of getting deep into the city's history. As we push and pull back to our starting point, warmed by both the cocoa and the views, it makes perfect sense to me that those early French settlers would want to fight for their futures here — even if that involved creating an entirely new means of transportation to do so.



Tremblant, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club offers comfort and convenience close to Quebec City

Member Resort Availability

	Bluegreen Vacation Club	Bluegreen Vacation Club With HGV Max	HGVClub	HGVClub With HGV Max	The Club	The Club With HGV Max	Embarc And Extraordinary Escapes	Extraordinary Escapes With HGV Max
Tremblant, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club				✓		✓	✓	✓



HILTON GRAND VACATIONS' BEST PLACES TO TRAVEL

10 Amazing Trip Ideas For 2026



Words: Delle Chan

Illustrations: Gustaf Hjalmar

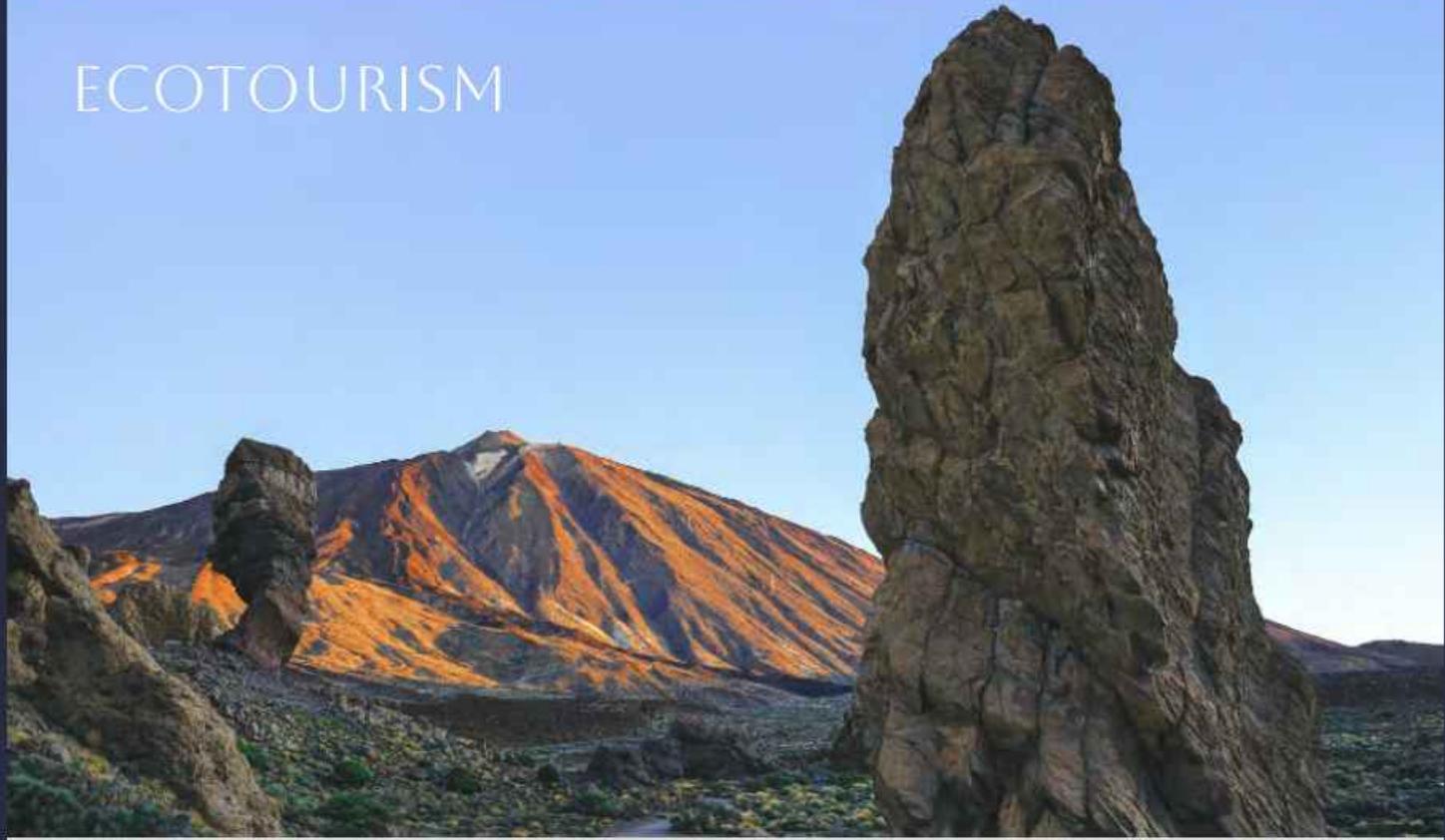
It's time to start planning your next getaway — and with Hilton Grand Vacations, the world is truly your oyster. From a relaxing beach retreat to an immersive cultural break or a budget-friendly holiday, there's an HGV destination with your name on it.

Our editors have picked the best places to travel in 2026, complete with expert resort recommendations. Get inspired to take your next adventure.

DISCOVER EACH OF HILTON GRAND VACATIONS' TOP DESTINATIONS FOR 2026



ECOTOURISM



Tenerife, Canary Islands

Tenerife may be a tourist hotspot, but locals are wholly committed to preserving its natural heritage. In fact, 49% of the island's surface is designated as protected land, including the UNESCO-listed Teide National Park, which is home to Spain's tallest peak and known for its volcanic terrain. Another must-visit is Anaga Rural Park, where a network of hiking trails traverses through mist-shrouded mountains and lush valleys. Wherever you choose to explore, remember to practice the seven principles of "Leave No Trace."

Where to Stay

[Santa Barbara Golf and Ocean Club](#) on Tenerife's southern coast has spacious apartments with dazzling sea views, so you can soak up the beauty of nature from the comfort of your Studio or Suite.



Shenandoah National Park

Hike or bike the spectacular Shenandoah National Park, a fully protected area in the mid-Appalachian region. [Shenandoah Crossing™](#) is around a 90-minute drive from the park.



VOLUNTEERISM



Oahu, Hawaii

Mālama (giving back) is an integral concept in Hawaiian culture, and visitors to the islands are encouraged to make a positive impact on the local environment and community. In Oahu, you can help protect the local honu (sea turtle) population by participating in a conservation program, where you'll learn how to identify these majestic creatures, track their movement and assess their health. Alternatively, try tackling coastal pollution with the [Surfrider Foundation](#), which runs beach cleanups every month.

Where to Stay

[Grand Waikikian, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#) is conveniently located within the Hilton Hawaiian Village® Waikiki Beach Resort, which means you'll have an array of amenities at your doorstep — from a state-of-the-art fitness center to several on-site restaurants.



New Orleans, Louisiana

There's no shortage of ways to volunteer in New Orleans, where you can participate in forestry projects or cleanups at City Park. Check in to [The Marquee](#), located in the heart of the city's historic theater district.



ROAD-TRIPPING



Montana

Montana is dubbed the "Big Sky State" because of its vast landscapes and endless horizons, making it the perfect place to hit the open road. Take a scenic drive to [Yellowstone National Park](#), where you'll discover dramatic canyons and lush forests. Or visit the neighboring [Grand Teton National Park](#), which is known for its pristine lakes and stunning mountain scenery.

Where to Stay

Set at the foot of Lone Mountain, [Lake Condominiums at Big Sky](#) is ideally located for trips to Yellowstone and Grand Teton, which are around one hour and three hours away by car, respectively.



 **Honorable Mention**

Lake Tahoe

Alternatively, take a road trip around Lake Tahoe. The 72-mile loop offers various sightseeing opportunities, including the picturesque Emerald Bay State Park on the west shore. The family-friendly [Hilton Vacation Club Lake Tahoe Resort](#) is a great home base for the region.



GASTRONOMY



New York City

If you're craving a foodie escape, there's nowhere quite like the Big Apple. From Michelin-starred restaurants like [Per Se](#), known for its innovative haute cuisine, to iconic delis like [Katz's](#), where the pastrami sandwich is a must-order, the city is brimming with even more top-notch dining destinations. Beyond the big-hitters, you'll also find trendy wine bars in emerging neighborhoods like [Whoopsie Daisy](#) in Crown Heights, Brooklyn. This eatery draws the crowds with its curated selection of natural and biodynamic beverages.

Where to Stay

With a prime Midtown Manhattan address, [The Central at 5th, a Hilton Club](#) puts you within easy reach of the city's top dining — including the renowned French seafood restaurant, [Le Bernardin](#), a Michelin-starred gem just a 12-minute walk from your door.



Lazio, Italy

Of course, Italy is also a heaven for gourmands. Book a stay at [Palazzo Catalani](#) in Lazio and have your fill of the local specialty, cacio e pepe (spaghetti with black pepper and pecorino cheese).



BEACHES



Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

With over 60 miles of glorious coastline, there's ample room to stretch out on the sand in Myrtle Beach and endless ways to enjoy the water. Rent a jet ski, round up the family for a banana boat ride or try parasailing for a dose of sheer adrenaline. Don't miss the lively boardwalk, where vibrant shops and restaurants create the perfect backdrop for a fun-filled day.

Where to Stay

At [Ocean 22, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#), you'll be just steps from the water. The spacious 1-, 2- or 3-Bedroom Suites offer either beachfront access or stellar sea views.



 **Honorable Mention**

The Algarve, Portugal

The Algarve in Portugal also has spectacular beaches. Book a stay at the picturesque [Vilar do Golf](#) — just a five-minute drive from the coast. The resort also offers easy access to local golf courses if you're looking to hone your swing.



BUDGET-FRIENDLY



Branson, Missouri

If you want to stretch your dollar, consider a trip to Branson, Missouri. Known as the "Live Music Entertainment Capital of the World," the city puts on numerous shows — often at a fraction of Broadway prices. [Branson Landing](#) hosts free, live concerts, while the [Clay Cooper Theatre](#) sometimes offers discounted performances. Beyond the stage, you'll discover outdoor activities that won't cost a dime, like hiking the scenic trails of Table Rock State Park or chasing waterfalls in Lakeside Forest Wilderness Area.

Where to Stay

The 1- and 2-Bedroom Suites at [The Falls Village™](#) offer all the comforts of home, including a full kitchen with a stove, oven and refrigerator — perfect for whipping up your own meals.



Honorable Mention

Virginia Beach, Virginia

A trip to Virginia Beach can be expensive, but there are ways to cut costs — especially at a resort like [Oceanaire](#), a Hilton Vacation Club. Enjoy the resort's free on-site amenities, including indoor and outdoor pools.



LOCAL CULTURE



Los Cabos, Mexico

Los Cabos isn't all beaches and resorts — it's also a great place to experience traditional Mexican life. Browse colorful wares at the local arts and crafts markets, admire colonial architecture in San Jose del Cabo, and catch a show at the Cultural Pavilion of the Republic. Consider timing your visit to coincide with the annual Day of the Dead festival (November 1 and 2), when locals come together to honor their ancestors with carnivalesque parades.

Where to Stay

[Cabo Azul, a Hilton Vacation Club](#) is inspired by 18th-century architecture, while offering contemporary amenities, including a luxe spa and glorious plunge pools.



Honorable Mention

Charleston, South Carolina

Soak up Charleston's rich cultural heritage with a stay at [Liberty Place Charleston, a Hilton Club](#). Situated on the fringe of the historic district, it's perfectly placed to experience the city through the spiritual and culinary traditions of the Gullah Geechee people.



NATURE



Aberfeldy, Scotland

With their vast wilderness and ancient castles, the Scottish Highlands offer travelers a much-needed escape from the demands of modern life. In Aberfeldy, you can explore the walking trails of the nearby [Cairngorms](#), which is the largest national park in the United Kingdom. Try your hand at fly fishing on the River Tay or explore the ancient halls of the 16th-century Castle Menzies.

Where to Stay

Surrounded by rolling hills, [The Kenmore Club](#) offers spacious cottages for a cozy home away from home. As a plus, the resort is under an hour's drive from the Cairngorms.



Honorable Mention

The Big Island, Hawaii

In Hawaii, The Big Island's otherworldly volcanic landscapes and majestic waterfalls are a must-see for nature lovers. [Kings' Land, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club](#) puts you within easy reach of some of the island's best natural beauty spots, including the Pu'u Wa'awa'a Forest Reserve.



WELL-BEING



Phoenix, Arizona

The desert landscapes of Arizona have long attracted those seeking physical healing, as its warm and dry climate is said to alleviate certain conditions like arthritis. Today, travelers to the state capital can enjoy a range of luxury spa treatments — many rooted in Native American healing traditions. The Ho'dai hot stone massage at [AjiSpa](#) pays homage to the ancient Pima and Maricopa people, who used heated rocks to assuage pain.

Where to Stay

Continue the wellness theme at [Cibola Vista Resort and Spa](#) in the city of Peoria (around 30 minutes from downtown Phoenix), where you can enjoy a rejuvenating deep-tissue massage or a restorative facial at the on-site spa.



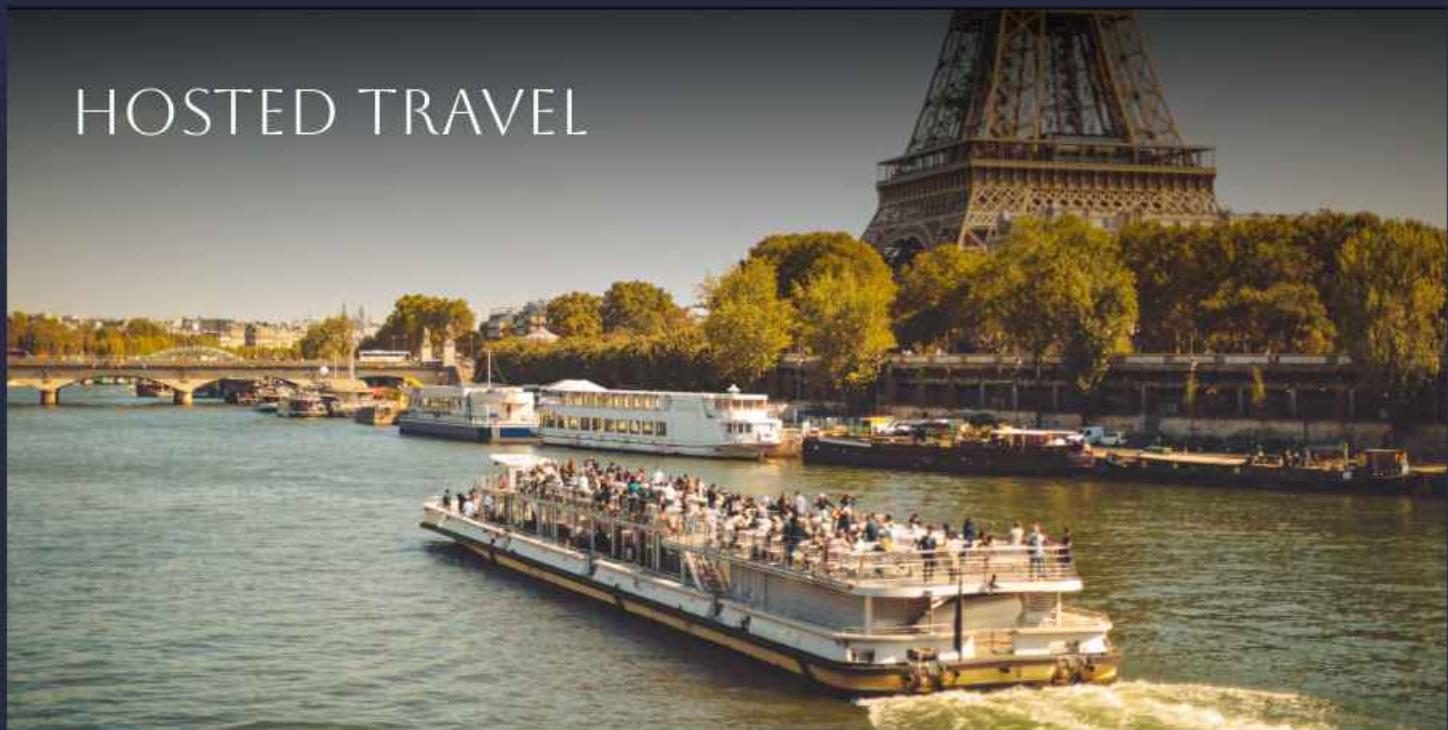
 **Honorable Mention**

Las Vegas, Nevada

Amid the excitement, Las Vegas provides plenty of opportunities for rest and relaxation. [Trump International Hotel Las Vegas](#), a Hilton Grand Vacations Club is home to an excellent spa with treatments like the indulgent 24-Carat Gold Ultimate Facial, which harnesses the antioxidant properties of the precious metal.



HOSTED TRAVEL



Northern France by River

For travelers with a taste for history and culture, this unforgettable journey features some of France's greatest sites on one epic trip. Part of HGV's new Hosted Trips program, this adventure provides an expert host who guides you through activities such as a D-Day historian lecture, personalized cooking classes, a tour of Notre Dame and much more. After gliding past châteaus and cycling through Monet's garden, the finale is a Michelin-starred dining or Moulin Rouge dinner experience in Paris.

Book Your Trip

Contact your Member Services team to find out more and book the Discovery on the Seine With Normandy Hosted Trip:

[Bluegreen Vacation Club](#)

[All Other Clubs](#)



The Austrian Alps

Uncover the quiet beauty and history of the Austrian Alps on a journey through Schladming and beyond. Once a mining town, Schladming is now a gateway to alpine trails, glassy lakes and traditional Austrian life. In Salzburg, step into the world of "The Sound of Music" and trace the story of the Trapp family. Excursions include drives through mountain passes, lakeside walks and a visit to Berchtesgaden and The Eagle's Nest across the German border. The trip ends high above the valleys, on the icy slopes of Dachstein. Learn more about the Austrian Alps Resort Escape and contact Member Services to book:

[Bluegreen Vacation Club](#)

[All Other Clubs](#)



Member Resort Availability

	Bluegreen Vacation Club	Bluegreen Vacation Club With HGV Max	HGVClub	HGVClub With HGV Max	The Club	The Club With HGV Max	Extraordinary Escapes	Extraordinary Escapes With HGV Max
Cabo Azul, a Hilton Vacation Club		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓
Cibola Vista Resort and Spa	✓	✓						
Grand Waikikian, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club			✓	✓		✓		✓
Hilton Vacation Club Lake Tahoe Resort				✓	✓	✓		✓
Kings' Land, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club			✓	✓		✓		✓
Lake Condominiums at Big Sky	✓	✓						
Liberty Place Charleston, a Hilton Club		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
Ocean 22, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club			✓	✓		✓		✓
Oceanaire, a Hilton Vacation Club				✓	✓	✓		✓
Palazzo Catalani				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Santa Barbara Golf and Ocean Club				✓	✓	✓		✓
Shenandoah Crossing	✓	✓						
The Central at 5th, a Hilton Club		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
Hosted Trips: Discovery on the Seine With Normandy	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hosted Trips: Austrian Alps Resort Escape	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
The Falls Village™	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓
The Kenmore Club				✓	✓	✓		✓
The Marquee	✓	✓						
Trump International Hotel Las Vegas, a Hilton Grand Vacations Club			✓	✓		✓		✓
Vilar do Golf				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

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HGV Max

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POSTCARD FROM ...

Palm Springs



Our photo guide to the modernist city's mid-century charm, thriving cultural scene and natural wonders

Words: Alexandra Owens

Photography: Jessica Sample

Once known as Hollywood's Playground, Palm Springs has provided an escape for stars needing a little R&R since the 1920s. Now, the desert oasis attracts people from all over the world with its architectural masterpieces, sophisticated restaurants and opportunities to spend time outdoors surrounded by soaring mountains and golden sand.





Palm Springs is home to one of the largest concentrations of mid-century modern architecture in the world. Book [The Modern Tour](#) to step inside some of the area's most historically significant houses — many of which belonged to A-list celebrities like Frank Sinatra, Elvis Presley and Elizabeth Taylor.





Immerse yourself in Old Hollywood glamor while dining at [Melynn's](#), a legendary restaurant and lounge beloved by the Rat Pack, Marilyn Monroe and Marlon Brando. Enjoy classic American dishes with a twist, like red beet deviled eggs and steak with blue cheese crust. On Sundays, you can listen to live jazz in the bar while sipping a perfectly chilled martini.



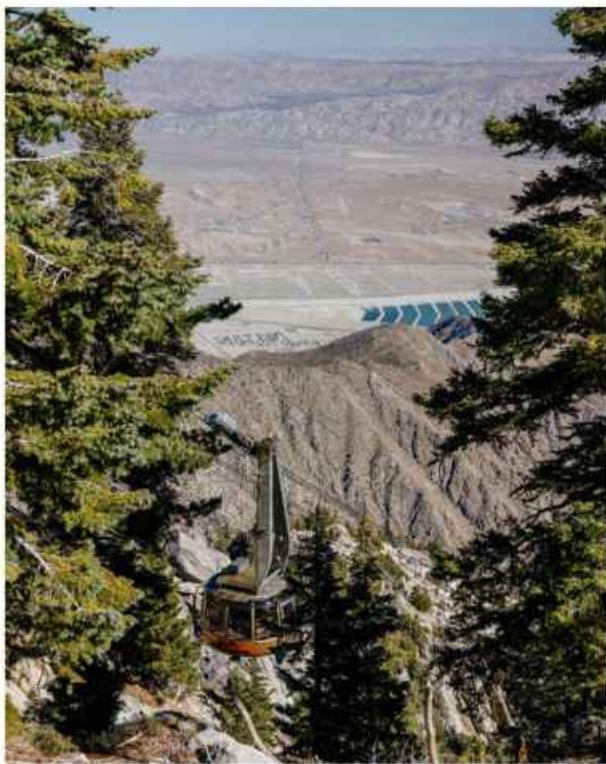
The creative scene in Palm Springs is as vibrant as ever. Head Downtown to [Palm Springs Art Museum](#), which features 28 galleries of paintings, photography, sculptures and other media, and an on-site theater for live performances. Then, take a short drive to the four-acre [Faye Sarkowsky Sculpture Garden](#), where contemporary artworks are situated among verdant native plants.



The Uptown Design District is the cultural heart of the city. Stroll the palm-lined streets to find vintage mid-century pieces at the boutiques, cutting-edge art galleries and trendy cafes. Be sure to stop by the design emporium [Phylum](#), above, and [The Webster](#), below, which sells trendy designer clothing and accessories out of a stylish 1970s revival property.



Just next door, you'll find [Workshop Kitchen & Bar](#), which is located inside another repurposed building — a former movie theater. A James Beard Award winner for best design, this spot also shines when it comes to food. Try wood-fired favorites like artisan pizza, a bone-in pork chop with chestnut demi-glace and swordfish loin.



Take in the natural beauty of the Greater Palm Springs area aboard the [Palm Springs Aerial Tramway](#), the world's largest rotating tram car. The 2.5-mile journey takes you along the dramatic cliffs of Chino Canyon to the serene wilderness of Mt. San Jacinto State Park and Wilderness Area. There, you can hike over 50 miles of trails, visit the natural history museum or simply soak in the panoramic mountain views.



With more than 110 courses in the region, Palm Springs has rightfully earned its reputation as a golfer's paradise. Test your skills at [Desert Willow Golf Resort](#), above and below, known for its sand traps and hilly terrain carved from the foothills of Henderson's Black Mountains. Or, perfect your swing at [SilverRock](#), an Arnold Palmer-designed course that blends beauty with playability.



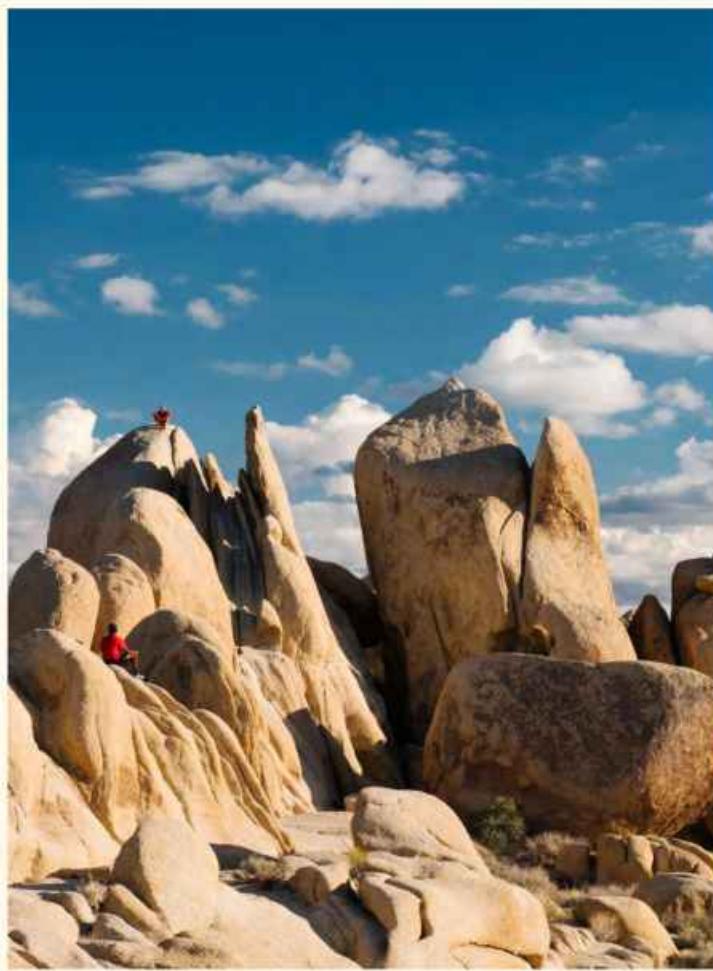


If tennis is your preferred game, check out [Indian Wells](#), one of the sport's most iconic venues, just 15 miles southeast of the city — which doubles as a concert venue during major events. Play a friendly match and cool off with a cocktail at the [Pink Cabana](#), a chic but fun interpretation of the great old-school tennis and racquet clubs.



Palm Springs offers more than your typical spa experience with several therapeutic hot springs. Book a session at [Two Bunch Palms](#), a holistic, modern wellness retreat centered around 600-year-old, mineral-rich waters. Take a deep soak, release the tension in your shoulders and finish the session with a soothing massage.

Images by Lexi Wimberly & Stephanie Pia



For a more rugged experience, head to [Joshua Tree National Park](#), a longtime muse for painters and musicians like Jim Morrison and Ed Ruscha. You don't have to be an artist yourself to appreciate it. Go rock climbing among rare boulder formations or join a ranger-led hike to stargaze under some of the clearest skies in California.



Where to Stay

Located in Coachella Valley, Palm Canyon, a Hilton Vacation Club offers a relaxing escape close to Palm Springs' top attractions. Golf lovers can also enjoy some of the country's top championship courses while staying at Hilton Grand Vacations Club Palm Desert.



Palm Canyon, a Hilton Vacation Club



Hilton Grand Vacations Club Palm Desert

Member Resort Availability

	Bluegreen Vacation Club	Bluegreen Vacation Club With HGV Max	HGVClub	HGVClub With HGV Max	The Club	The Club With HGV Max	Embarc And Extraordinary Escapes	Extraordinary Escapes With HGV Max
Palm Canyon, a Hilton Vacation Club				✓	✓	✓		✓
Hilton Grand Vacations Club Palm Desert				✓		✓	✓	✓

THE CARRY-ON

NORTHERN LIGHTS

Look cool and stay warm on winter travels with these must-have items



Snow Peak Recycled Titanium Aurora Bottle

\$144.95 / £110 / €125

Japanese camping brand Snow Peak is known for its beautifully designed, minimalist camping kit made from technical materials. This super lightweight water bottle is crafted from recycled titanium in Japan's Niigata prefecture, which uses 50% scrap metal to reduce CO2 emissions during production.



Phoozy Apollo II + Antimicrobial Thermal Phone Capsule

\$42.99 / £33 / €37

Phoozy's founders Josh Inglis and Kevin Conway appeared on "Shark Tank" securing \$500,000 investment in their unique heat, cold and drop protection phone cases. NASA-engineered materials protect against extreme temperatures, extending your phone's life outdoors by up to four times.



Ölend Padded Scarf

\$95 / £65 / €65

Sub-freezing temperatures call for padded everything, and this chunky, colorful scarf is just what you need to bundle up against the cold. Designed to keep you cozy and stylish, it even features a clever little pocket, perfect for stashing that much-needed lip balm for quick touch-ups.



Imaginary Authors The Language of Glaciers Fragrance

\$115 / £85 / €86

This Portland-based fragrance brand creates ultra-evocative scents with whimsical names. The Language of Glaciers scent has uplifting notes of white pine, lilac and juniper, which will transport you to the top of a mountain in a blast of crisp snowy air.



Iräye Skincare Mini Radiance Firming Serum (30ml)

\$144 / £110 / €124

This supercharged serum combines hyaluronic acid, niacinamide, vitamin C and Bio-Retinol to ensure that whatever tough adventures or extreme weather you face won't show on your skin. The science-backed formula also includes Iräye's unique complex to support the lymphatic system for a more sculpted glow.

**Vallon Ski Aviators****\$129 / £102 / €115**

Born on the slopes of Verbier, Vallon's retro-chic sunglasses channel the timeless style of ski legend Wayne Wong and Hollywood icons like Paul Newman and Robert Redford. These mirrored aviators blend vintage flair with cutting-edge performance materials for a look that's both bold and functional.

**Peak Performance Street Shopper****\$80 / £70 / €80**

Peak Performance was born from a desire to create gear its founders wanted to wear. Based in the Swedish mountain town of Åre, the brand is known for its quality, functionality and sleek Scandinavian design. This cross-body shopper is water repellent, free from harmful PFAS and has webbing loops on the front for clipping on carabiners.

**COOLA Liplux Original Broad Spectrum SPF30 Lip Balm****\$12 / £9.14 / €10.61**

It's not a winter trip without a trusty lip balm stashed in every pocket, bag and toiletry kit. This ultra-hydrating stick is infused with cupuaçu butter, raspberry and jojoba seed oil. Its SPF 30 protection is essential for bright days to keep lips protected for up to 80 minutes.

**Pulsio AIR Massage Gun****\$69.99 / £69.99 / €85**

Soothe ski- or hike-weary muscles with this travel-friendly massage gun. It packs a real punch for its pocket size, with 30kg max force and 12 hours of battery life. There are four attachments for precision unknotting, from the glutes, hamstrings and quads, down to pieces that get deep into the lower back.

**Fjällräven Expedition Down Heater Hat****\$90 / £80 / €89.95**

A passion for getting out in nature in all seasons means the Scandinavians make some of the most well-designed outdoor gear. This down-filled winter hat is ultra-warm, with a brim to keep falling snow away from the face and large flaps to ensure ears and chins stay cozy.



START YOUR STAY
WITH A SPLASH

Your points are your passport to Great Wolf Lodge, North America's largest family of indoor water park resorts. With a brand-new location in Connecticut and freshly updated resorts in Washington and Texas, your family will love getaways made for fun and wide-eyed wonder around every corner.

Book your stay at one of these featured resorts or choose from over 20 Great Wolf Lodges across America.

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EXTRAORDINARY ESCAPES

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[BOOK NOW](#)

New and Renovated Resorts

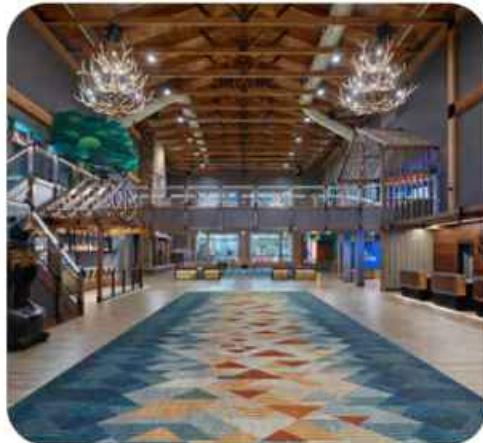


Mashantucket, Connecticut

Since opening on May 23, 2025, Great Wolf Lodge Mashantucket is the brand's 23rd and newest resort, featuring 549 rooms and a 92,000-square-foot indoor water park. The lodge features next-generation attractions like Otter Cave Waterworks, plus new signature slides, including Pequot Plunge and Rapid Racer, exclusive to this location. Families can enjoy 13 waterslides, a giant wave pool, a lazy river, toddler-friendly play areas and more — all in a year-round, 84-degree setting.

Grand Mound, Washington

Great Wolf Lodge Grand Mound has completed a \$40 million resort-wide renovation, marking its most extensive upgrade in 16 years. The refreshed experience includes updated Suites and new dining options like Fireside and Timbers Tables & Kitchen, as well as expanded attractions, including the latest MagiQuest, a modernized Grand Lobby with a nightly Legend of Luna show and upgraded water park amenities. Families will also enjoy newly introduced retail outlets, quick-service restaurants like Fatburger and Buffalo's Express, and the all-new Wolf Den Skylight Suites designed with bunk beds and immersive character theming.



Grapevine, Texas

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48 HOURS IN...

Williamsburg

Combine craft, culture and historic charm during a weekend visit to Williamsburg, Virginia

Words: Fiona Tapp Illustrations: Michael Driver

From colonial towns and candlelit taverns to thrilling theme parks and local distilleries, this two-day guide to Williamsburg, Virginia, blends rich history with modern experiences



Day one 9 A.M.

Start your day with a deep dive into the 18th century at [Colonial Williamsburg](#), America's largest living history museum. Spread across 300 acres, interactive storytelling brings the Revolutionary era to life through musket demonstrations and historic court reenactments. Visit artisan workshops to watch traditional crafts in action — or try your hand at one.



12 P.M.

Hear powerful stories on the [African American History walking tour](#) that winds through the historic district. This powerful and insightful experience is the city's only tour dedicated solely to Black history.



1:30 P.M.

Steps from the main thoroughfare, settle in for a colonial-style meal at [King's Arms Tavern](#). The historic dining room offers period dishes like peanut soup and hearty stews, served by staff in 18th-century attire. Candlelight and fireplaces add a cozy winter warmth.



3 P.M.

Built in the 1920s as one of the first planned shopping districts in the United States, [Merchants Square](#) blends colonial flair with modern boutique charm. Spend some time browsing the bookstores, grabbing warm cider and picking up locally made wares. Stop by [Wythe Candy](#) to satisfy a sweet tooth with gourmet fudge, candy apples or a unique gift to take home.



8 P.M.

As the sun sets, embark on one of Williamsburg's famous [ghost tours](#). A spirited guide will lead you through cobblestoned streets and shadowy alleys to reveal haunted houses, eerie legends and real-life colonial mysteries. Afterward, enjoy a late supper at [Downstairs at Fat Canary](#), a relaxed wine bar offering shareable small plates.



Day two 9 A.M.

Just a short drive from downtown Williamsburg, [Jamestown Settlement](#) explores the story of America's first permanent English colony. Interactive indoor galleries and outdoor recreations, including a Powhatan village and replicas of the 1607 ships, bring history to life.



12 P.M.

Swing by [Shorty's Diner](#) for a laid-back lunch of hearty American favorites, including burgers, milkshakes and all-day breakfast served in a cheerful, retro setting.



2 P.M.



4 P.M.

After an action-packed afternoon, unwind with a glass of Virginia's finest at a nearby winery like the [Williamsburg Winery](#) or [Sauvignon Creek](#). The area's wine scene is booming, thanks to the region's unique climate and rich soil. Many wineries offer barrel room tours, tastings with scenic views and indoor lounges. Spring visitors may also catch the first blooms in vineyard gardens.

Wander through [Busch Gardens Williamsburg](#) to see charming European-style villages, enjoy live shows and experience everything from high-speed coasters to gentler attractions perfect for younger visitors. The park opens on select weekends in January, and on all weekends throughout February and March. Check the park's calendar for current hours and special event details before you visit.



7 P.M.

Cap off your weekend with fine French cuisine at [Le Yaca](#), where dishes like pan-seared Dover sole and poached lobster tails are paired with white linens and attentive service for a memorable finale to your trip.



The Historic Powhatan, a Hilton Vacation Club brings history to life on a trip to Williamsburg

Where to Stay

Tucked among towering trees, [The Historic Powhatan, a Hilton Vacation Club](#) has 1- to 4-Bedroom Suites with full kitchens, indoor and outdoor pools, mini-golf, tennis courts and a historic manor house. For a family-friendly base near Busch Gardens, try [Parkside Williamsburg Resort](#). It offers spacious Villas with full kitchens, washers and dryers, fireplaces and balconies, making it ideal for groups or longer stays.

Member Resort Availability

	Bluegreen Vacation Club	Bluegreen Vacation Club With HGV Max	HGVClub	HGVClub With HGV Max	The Club	The Club With HGV Max	Extraordinary Escapes	Extraordinary Escapes With HGV Max
Parkside Williamsburg Resort	✓	✓						
The Historic Powhatan, a Hilton Vacation Club				✓	✓	✓		✓



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Dominican Republic

Golden beaches, lush rainforests and a lively culture make the Dominican Republic a spring and summer playground. In Punta Cana, scenic sand and seas set the stage for both relaxation and adventure. Enjoy freshly caught seafood, hike rainforest trails or embrace the laid-back island rhythm. This destination blends thrills and tranquility in perfect harmony.





📍 Jamaica

Jamaica's varied landscapes offer opportunities for ziplining across jungle canopies, climbing waterfalls and uncovering hidden coastal coves. The island also knows how to slow things down — from watching the horizon glow at sunset to lounging with a rum cocktail in hand to a reggae soundtrack. Whether bold and adventurous or calm and carefree, Jamaica always delivers in true island style.

From Mexico's cultural treasures to the Dominican Republic's lively spirit and Jamaica's relaxed rhythm, your RCI membership makes it simple to create the spring or summer escape that feels perfectly your own. Once you've found your dream destination, you'll simply apply your points, pay the Exchange and All-Inclusive fees and be on your way.

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RCI Program Availability

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✓	✓	✓	✓				

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