

# Travel Tips: The World's Most Festive Locations to Celebrate Christmas



By [Ahjané Forbes](#)

Christmas is right around the corner, and it can be stressful planning a trip for this holiday. Here are some options for the perfect [vacation destination](#).

**If you're on the nice list, you deserve a treat this holiday. Here**

# are some travel tips for places you should visit to spread some holiday joy:

**1. Leavenworth, Washington:** If you want to imagine you live in the snow globe of your childhood, then Washington is the place to be. This is a great area to visit with some friends. The state has mountains that get covered in snow every year. The streets are lit with lights, and the community is very festive with Christmas caroling and other activities. You can also go to in the local gazebo, indulge in some sledding, and go on sleigh rides.

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**2. Santa Claus, Indiana:** "America's Christmas Hometown" is a great destination for the kids. You can go to Santa's house and enjoy the fun. Reindeer, chestnuts, and Santa's post office are all available on this trip. Your child can send a letter to Mr. Claus, and they will get an answer back!

**3. New York, New York:** The city that never sleeps has a lot of activities for couples. From Christmas to New Year's Eve, you and your partner can enjoy this holiday. There are tree lighting ceremonies, carriage rides through Central Park, and of course, the Macy's Day Parade. Many couples like to stay in the Big Apple until New Year's Eve to ring in the new year with a kiss.

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**4. Montego Bay, Jamaica:** This parish is easy to get to because it has an airport. Although there will not be a reindeer in sight, you and your friends will be able to have lots of fun. You can swim with dolphins or sting rays, go snorkeling, play

dominoes, swim in the pool, or golf, while also visiting nearby parishes. The country has beautiful beaches and delicious food. Tourists often like to go to Dunn's River where they are able to climb up the natural waterfall. Many of the resorts offer packages for groups that include many day trips.

**5. Nassau, Bahamas:** Santa might not be on this tropical island, but the kids won't mind. The white sand beaches will distract them when they're making sand castles and swimming in the clear blue water. If you feel that your child may lose some classroom engagement while they're on the trip; Nassau has some activities that will keep them up to speed. Pirates of Nassau is a museum that displays the life of the most notorious pirates. The museum has activities for both genders and tells you the history of a famous pirate named Blackbeard.

**6. Kauai, Hawaii:** You both can get your alone time for an affordable price during the holiday. Although the island is known for its volcanoes and culture, there are some great spots where you and your partner can get cozy. Hanalei Bay is a great place to enjoy each other's company. You can go paddle boarding or for a swim in the sea. The nearby resort offers surfboarding lessons, food tours and sightseeing. There's also a hike trail that will test your ability to work together.

**Where do you want to go to this Christmas? Let us know in the comments below!**

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**Travel Trend: Celebrate**

# Halloween With a Special Trip



By [Emily Green](#)

Halloween is a time for kids to indulge in sugar cravings, and for adults to sit back and relax, while still getting into the spooky spirit. If you don't have little ones to bring trick or treating this year, or don't feel like sitting at home to hand out candy to your neighbors, why not plan a trip and celebrate Halloween in style? Whether it's with your significant other or with a group of friends, these [vacation destinations](#) will be sure to get you in the Halloween spirit.

## Going on a trip to celebrate

# Halloween is a great up and coming travel trend. What are some great vacation destinations for this Halloween?

Halloween doesn't have to be a holiday where you just sit at home. You deserve to head out on the town and have some fun! Check out some of Cupid's favorite spots to celebrate Halloween:

**1. New Orleans, Louisiana:** From numerous haunted hotels to the "Krewe of Boo" parade, New Orleans is a city that will scare your socks off! Children can play spooky games at the museums, you can rock out at the annual Halloween Spooktacular family concert, or even take a ghost tour! The possibilities are endless in this delightfully spooky town.

**Related Link:** [Date Idea: A Day with Your Pumpkin](#)

**2. Seattle, Washington:** This city has their own unique spin on Halloween – "Hilloween." This is where Capitol Hill houses an indoor carnival full of rides, games, haunted houses and so much more! Everyone will be able to find something at "Hilloween," no matter at what age.

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**3. Salem, Massachusetts:** The well-known setting of the historic Salem Witch Trials, this town has spookiness embedded into their history. While helping the townspeople and tourists understand the history of the Salem Witch Trials, the town also hosts an annual Halloween festival with many kid-friendly events like trick or treating and ghost tours.

**4. Williamsburg, Virginia:** Williamsburg takes part in the spooky festivities by hosting "A Haunting on DoG Street." A

variety of ghost tours take place throughout Colonial Williamsburg, highlighting the history of the town while putting a haunting twist on the tale. Ghost tours not your thing? Don't worry! Busch Gardens' Howl-0-Scream event is right down the street and is full of fun rides, zombies, ghouls and other creatures that will be sure to give you a fright!

**What are some other great vacation destinations to celebrate Halloween? Let us know in the comments below!**

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## **Travel Trend: 6 Wellness Vacations You Need to Take Right Now**





By Emily Green

Wellness vacations are a growing trend that is popping up all around the world. These [vacation destinations](#) tend to range from tropical, to exotic, to simply traveling to a new city. No matter the destination, these wellness vacations are sure to help improve your health, body and mind.

## **Wellness vacations are a growing trend all around the world. What are six wellness vacations you should take right now?**

If you've been feeling tired or run down, a wellness vacation is the perfect thing in which to indulge. A wellness vacation will help improve your overall health, no matter the issue. Here are Cupid's top six wellness vacations you should take right now:

**1. Mi amo, Sedona, Arizona:** In the beautiful mountains of

Sedona, Arizona, Mii amo is an adobe and stone sanctuary within Enchantment Resort. Whether staying for three, four, or seven nights, you can indulge yourself with learning about chakras, sound healing, and much more around the beautiful red rocks of Sedona.

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**2. Six Senses Duxton, Singapore:** Six senses is a wellness resort that has locations in almost every part of the world. The Duxton location is a 49 room hotel that is full of colonial era European, Chinese and Malay influences. This resort offers an on-staff traditional Chinese doctor, who is be available for health tips, readings, and dispensing medicinal herbs.

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**3. Carillon Miami Wellness Resort, Miami Beach:** Even though Miami is typically a spot for partying, Miami Beach is home to great wellness resorts. The Carillon Miami Wellness Resort is in a secluded spot on the North Beach where guests can choose from more than 200 weekly wellness classes, a copious amount of cardio equipment, and several pools, all attended by numerous staff members including nutritionists and acupuncturists.

**4. The American Club, Kohler, Wisconsin:** What is interesting about The American Club is that it was originally built for Kohler factory workers, but was transformed into a wellness resort in the 1980s. People who choose to stay at the resort can enjoy legendary water-inspired offerings, like the signature lavender rain therapy, which exfoliates and moisturizes the body.

**5. Amanyara, Turks & Caicos:** Surrounded by parkland on all sides, surfing, snorkeling and wildlife eco-hikes are common activities for those who stay at Amanyara. Within the resort, there are plenty of activities meant for families like facials, shiatsus, and many more spa treatments.



**6. Rosewood Phuket, Thailand:** Made up of 71 open villas and pavilions, this wellness resort is unlike any other. Guests can sign up for two-week wellness programs, from high-intensity boot camps to inner peace workshops.

**What are some other wellness vacations we should take? Let us know in the comments below!**

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## **Travel Tips: Top 5 Things to Do in Maui**



By [Mara Miller](#)

Hawaii—probably one of the most luxurious vacation

destinations we can take away from the mainland without the worry of a passport or travel visa. Whether you're going for your honeymoon or because you want your own Instagram-worthy vacay, we've gathered up some of the best things to do in Maui in these [travel tips](#).

## Check out our travel tips on the top five things to do in Maui!

Hawaii has eight major islands as it's an archipelago, so for now, we're focusing on Maui only. From hiking to a snorkel adventure, you're sure to find something to do in Maui using our [travel advice](#). You can even find a few budget-friendly options, since a plane ticket to Hawaii can cost upwards of \$2,000 if you're traveling there with your partner:

**1. Road to Hana:** If you're a bit strapped for cash after the hefty plane ticket, think about driving on highway 360. It's free! The Road to Hana twists through lush rain forests and gorgeous waterfalls. But, beware: the road can surprise drivers with hairpin curves. Make sure you're following the speed limit!

**2. Ziplining:** Fast and exciting, you'll get to fly through the trees and get an aerial view of the island. There is more than one zipline in Maui, so all you need to do is pick the one you think you and your partner will enjoy the most, meaning if you are both beginners, there's sure to be something to accommodate you both.

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**3. Underwater with a submarine:** What's cooler than getting on a submarine for a tour of the Pacific Ocean? You may see a wrecked ship or a turtle floating through the water.

**4. Molokai Crater:** Snorkel in the world-famous Molokai crater.

The crater is crescent-shaped and was formed by a volcano. You can learn about the delicate ecology of the area and then go sea turtle snorkeling!

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**5. Surf lessons:** If you have always wanted to learn to surf, now's the time to do it! Not only is surfing a great workout, but you'll get to enjoy the waves and your partner will get to laugh at you if you fall in the water. West Maui has water conditions that are great for beginning surfers. And better, you'll get some real advice, because Hawaii was the birthplace of surfing!

**Do you have any top things someone should do while they're in Maui? Let us know in the comments below!**

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## **Vacation Destinations: Celebrity Getaway Spots 2019**





By [Emily Green](#)

Our favorite celebrities always seem to be living in the lap of luxury, taking every exotic or beautiful vacation under the sun. Scrolling through our social media accounts, we see every ounce of these [celebrity vacations](#), and can only imagine going on a similar trip. Well, what's stopping you? These [vacation destinations](#) are open to everyone and anyone. All you have to do is book your ticket!

**Celebrities seem to have the best vacations! What are some great vacation destinations that celebrities getaway to?**

Whether it's your favorite Kardashian, a pro wrestler, rapper, etc, celebrities typically don't go small for their vacations. They deserve to treat themselves, and you do too! Here are some of Cupid's favorite vacation destinations celebrities getaway to:

**1. Paris, France:** Newly married couple Joe Jonas and Sophie Turner took a trip to the city of love shortly before their second wedding ceremony. The two of them shared a passionate kiss beneath the Eiffel Tower and soaked up every ounce of love the beautiful had to give before they shared their vows in a beautiful ceremony.

**Related Link:** [Celebrity Couple Joe Jonas & Sophie Turner Kiss in Paris Before Second Wedding Ceremony](#)

**2. Costa Rica:** [Kourtney Kardashian](#) and her ex [Scott Disick](#) were spotted on vacation with their kids on the beautiful beaches of Costa Rica. If you're looking for a place where you can enjoy the scenery, time with family and soak up the sun while you relax, Costa Rica is the place to be.

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**3. Lake Powell:** If you're looking for a paradise inside of the US, Lake Powell is the place to be. Located on the border of Utah and Arizona, *Queer Eye* star Bobby Berk could only describe the lake as "paradise." Simplicity and beauty at its finest, it is a definite must-see on your vacation destination list.

**4. Iceland:** Believe it or not, Iceland isn't all that icy! One of the most popular tourist spots is Iceland's Blue Lagoon, where people can sit back and relax in the crystal blue water. *Southern Charm* star Naomi Olindo recently took a trip to the Blue Lagoon and had the epitome of the picturesque vacation.

**What are some other vacation destinations your favorite celebrities getaway to? Let us know in the comments below!**

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# Travel Tips: Backpacking in Beautiful Vacation Spots



By [Katie Sotack](#)

Need a mental health break? Backpacking through the wilderness, Europe, or even a campsite nearby is an affordable way to explore outside of your usual day hiking. *Greenbelly* suggests it's best to decrease your pack's weight before [traveling](#). If you've decided to hike out with your living space, food, drink, and survival gear on your back, (check [GearWeAre](#) for more), make it ultralight.

## Reward your thirst for adventure

and your wallet by backpacking at the next beautiful vacation spot with our [travel tips](#) for lightweight, low stakes gear carting.

As far as low-cost ways to travel go, backpacking is brilliant and versatile. The packer can commit to a quest by themselves, take arms with a group of travelers, or go off on a [romantic getaway](#) with their lover, a tent, and the stars above to a beautiful vacation spot. Whatever way the packer decides to travel the number one rule is pack light.

**1. Weigh out your gear:** By weighing each item before it goes in the pack you'll be able to see if said item is worth its weight. Some things will naturally be heavier, but don't throw them away for that reason alone. Your jug of water? That'll take a toll on your shoulders, but you'd be worse off dehydrating out on the trail.

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**2. Sharing is caring:** After weighing and packing each item, weight all the trip's backpacks. If yours is too heavy, for example, but someone else is willing to carry more, give it to them. Another tip for sharing essentials is that there doesn't need to be two of everything. Coordinate with your team to know who's bringing what. This will save the group from carrying more pocket knives than necessary. It may sound like a small, nearly weightless decision, but when you're walking all day with a ton on your back, you'll be grateful for the lessened weight.

**3. Synthetic materials:** When backpacking, both cotton and

denim are a no go. Not only do they weigh more than synthetic materials, but they also retain water. Cotton absorbs water from the environment and your skin so those white socks will be soaking wet for a while once you accidentally step into the trail's puddle. Alternatively, synthetic materials that can be found in certain workout brands keep away sweat to keep you cool and dry.

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**4. Say goodbye to technology:** It might be hard to step away from the internet, but disconnecting from the world wide web too many benefits to count. While the phone detox might take a day or two, the weight you'll save is worth it. Phones, GPS-s, iPods, and tablets require chargers and cases, all of which will add up. Putting down the tech, for now, will help you build your relationship with your travel companions, too!

**5. Factor in the weight of your bag:** We're talking about what you'll be carry *in* the bag, but the actual pack is just as important. This is the area to splurge. Buy a bag that's lightweight and has hip and shoulder straps. Speak to the workers at your local camping store, but be aware that backpacking bares weight on your hips. To alleviate pressure your pack should fit securely around your hips and arms with and without the weight in.

**Where would you backpack? Share in the comments below!**

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# Travel Destination: Vacation



# in Egypt Like Kourtney Kardashian



By [Bonnie Griffin](#)

Think outside the box next time you plan your next vacation! Egypt might not be the first [travel destination](#) on your mind, but it has a lot to offer. One glance at the marvelous Pyramids of [Kourtney Kardashian's](#) recent vacation makes it clear. Egypt is a majestic vacation destination. You can visit historic Egypt or vacation in luxury along the Red Sea. The options are all beautiful and you will be ready to go back for more. Check out our [travel advice](#)!

# Take your vacation to Egypt for your next travel destination!

When you think of Egypt you likely go straight to the Pyramids. Egypt has a lot more to offer. It has majestic historic vacation sights, beautiful beaches, and exquisite cuisine. Cupid has some [travel tips](#) for places to vacation in Egypt:

**1. Cairo:** Cairo is the largest city in Egypt. It is close to the famous pyramids found in Giza. It is at the center of historic Egypt. If you want to visit Egypt's popular historic monuments and pyramids then Cairo is the place to stay so you can visit all the nearby historical artifacts like the Sphinx or pyramids, or travel up the Nile.

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**2. Alexandria:** Want to see another side of historic Egypt? You should take a trip to Alexandria. The city was founded by Alexander the Great and served as the capital during two different eras in Egypt: Macedonian and Roman-ruled Egypt. It is the beautiful home to ancient monuments of both Greek and Roman design.

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**3. The beach:** Want to go on a memorable beach vacation? Then look no further than Egypt's the Red Sea. It houses luxury beach resorts along the east coast and the Sinai Peninsula. It is a great destination for scuba diving with its clear waters and historic shipwrecks.

**4. The Nile:** If you visit Cairo you have to make a trip to The Nile. The Nile is the longest river in the world and flows from south to north, something that is very rare. You can

visit the Nile by land or water, with cruise ships that make their way around the area over three to five days or spend a few hours enjoying the Nile from land after a couple of hours riding in a car.

What are some historical sites you'd like to visit in Egypt? Let us know in the comments below.

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## Travel Tips: Health Benefits of Luxury Travel



By [Katie Sotack](#)

Can luxury travel be self-care? In 2017, *CNN* published the article “Travel Makes Us Happy”, but as it turns out, the ignition of our senses by new experiences makes us happy. Recent wellness [luxury travel](#) has entered the market as a [health trend](#) for those who want to increase their sense of well-being. These [luxury vacations](#) aim to go beyond experiential travel, instead of immersing the traveler in the transformational experience of travel and leading to personal fulfillment.

## Here are some [travel tips](#) to ensure the longevity of your growth from luxury travel.

With our culture moving toward environmentally positive retreats and service trips as ways to seek personal enlightenment, is there still room for luxury vacations to bring us happiness? Fear not, there’s still plenty of reason to enjoy the spa and beaches at a five-star hotel. Here are the perks to wellness traveling.

**1. Adventure:** Self-actualization sits on top of our hierarchy of psychological needs. The idea is that when we reach our true potential we leave our ego in the dust. This allows us to live more mindful lives. Luxury wellness vacations may ask you to emerge yourself in theater, hiking, or gaming in order to ignite emotions. This results in a personal transformation towards self-actualization.

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**2. Storytelling:** For all our bibliophiles out there, luxury travel rips a page right out of your book (but not literally). Wellness locations immerse the traveler in epic storytelling. Like a chapter in a book, the adversity brought on to reach

the end goal will inspire personal development.

**3. Activity:** The reason behind branding these retreats as stories where you're the protagonist is our culture's craving for choice. In the old days, vacationers desired itineraries and classes aiming to guide their journey. Now, we've moved onto mixtures of fitness, nature, cultural immersion, and health foods. These options in activities allow a sense of purposefulness and a full experience within your vacation destination.

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**4. Digital detox:** Many luxury wellness vacations will not allow electronics into their vicinity. The idea of giving up our phones for a week produces sweat beads of anxiety on our upper lips as we realize this vacation isn't for Instagram. However, the long term benefits of disconnecting far outweigh the day of mild discomfort. Embark on your spa adventure with total serenity, knowing no one can disturb you.

**5. Women only:** If you're a woman warrior looking to relax and grow in an area uninhabited by men look no further. Certain luxury wellness vacations cater exclusively to female empowerment. With physically, mentally, and spiritually guided activities for growth, these sessions focus on moving past trauma (like divorce, assault, etc.) and inspiring growth.

**Where is your ideal luxury vacation location? Share in the comments below!**

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# Celebrity Vacation: Make Your Anniversary Special With a Vacation Like Sofia Vergara & Joe Manganiello



By [Mara Miller](#)

[Sofia Vergara](#) and [Joe Manganiello](#) are no strangers when it comes to showing their love for each other. This [celebrity couple](#) became an item in 2014 and married the following year. Most recently, they jetted off to Positano, Italy for a [celebrity vacation](#) to celebrate their five-year dating anniversary. It's important to show your partner how much you love them and to celebrate important dates like Vergara and Manganiello, but how do you make it special?

# Here is how to make your own anniversary with your partner special like Sofia and Joe's celebrity vacation dating anniversary!

Even if you decide not to jet off to Italy like Vergara and Manganiello for your own anniversary with your partner, there are still ways to make it special:

**1. A mini-getaway:** Celebrate your dating anniversary with your partner by whisking them off to the beach for a mini getaway, no matter what time of year. Somewhere along the beach in Virginia or the Carolinas, for example, is surprisingly tame in the off-season and you can't beat some of the great hotel prices. You might not be able to swim outside, but you'll still be able to enjoy a walk on the beach together.

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**2. Take them to a restaurant they've been dying to try:** Has your partner been dying to try a restaurant a few states over because of their excellent ratings? Plan a day to drive them to a restaurant they've always wanted to try, but haven't tried yet because it's either too far or too pricey. If it's a higher-end restaurant, you might want to save for it, but it will be worth it to spend the night dining with your partner.

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**3. Save up for a larger vacation:** Has your partner *really* wanted to travel to Europe, but you've just never had the time or money to travel? Why not save up and go on your anniversary? It can be anywhere in the world—Italy,

France, England, Spain—the possibilities are endless. Just be sure to check travel guidelines in the country you're planning to visit because some may require a tourist travel visa and your passport will need to be valid for so many months before you can enter the country. Flights can be up to \$2000 dollars as well, so you'll want to start planning with a budget that will allow you to cover flight costs as well as lodging and a rental vehicle.

**4. Rent a cabin for the weekend:** If your sweetie is more of the outdoorsy type, renting a cabin for the weekend is a way to have a home away from home. Some cabins will even let you bring your dog(s)! Cozy up by a great fire if it's for winter, or explore activities in the area like hiking or other sight-seeing options.

**5. Take a craft or cooking class:** Nothing brings people together like food or learning a new craft. The options on what kind of craft are endless, from decorative crafts with pottery making or a decorative craft like painting stained glass. Not the best cooks together? A cooking class can help you and your partner learn more about the art of making food, from the basics of putting together a batch of pretzels to cooking your own gourmet meal. No matter what you choose, it's sure to be special, and make you and your partner closer!

**Do you have any other ways you can make your anniversary with your partner special? Let us know in the comments below!**

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## **Travel Tips: 5 Easy Ways to**



# Book Your Vacation Stress-Free



By [Bonnie Griffin](#)

In recent [travel trends](#), the days of having hotels as your only option for a vacation away from home are over. Thanks to websites like *Airbnb.com*, you can really find a “home away from home” and often at a lower cost than those charged by drab hotels. Next time you’re looking for a place to stay and relax for vacation, check out these [travel tips](#) for booking your stress-free vacation rental.

## Find your home away from home and

# relax on your next vacation with these travel tips!

These days most of us have heard of Airbnb, but did you know there are more options available to you for your next vacation rental? If you are searching for something more comfortable and luxurious than the same old drab hotel room, there are a lot of options available to you. Cupid has some travel tips for finding your next vacation rental:

**1. Tripping.com:** *Tripping.com* offers a wide variety of accommodations with over eight million properties to choose from for your next [vacation destination](#). Thanks to the many companies they are teamed up with, such as *Booking.com*, this site is perfect for those who want to browse by price range, rating, locations, and amenities.

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**2. Hometogo.com:** If you are trying to find a lot of options or searching for places to stay around the world, then *Hometogo.com* is a great place to find your next rental home for vacation. They have the largest search engine for vacation rentals and offer rentals in more than 200 countries. They are teamed with more than three hundred providers like *Booking.com* and *Expedia.com* and are very popular with travelers thanks to their easy, user-friendly interface.

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**3. Flipkey.com:** *Flipkey.com* is one of *Airbnb's* biggest competitors. They have domestic and international offerings and every property listing shares every detail you could imagine like the number of rooms and bathrooms, and the amenities provided. You can easily browse through the available listings that meet your specific needs after you set

the parameters for an effortless search.

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**4. VRBO:** *Vacation Rental By Owner*, VRBO, offers worldwide accommodations. Like *Airbnb*, it offers vacations rentals made available by people around the world willing to rent out their space. Profiles share every detail you need about the property including pictures and previous renters' reviews. They have been one of the leading vacation rental market spaces since 1995.

**5. Luxury Retreats:** If you are looking for the epitome of extravagance then Luxury Retreats is the site you want to use to book your next vacation rental. They offer over four thousand luxury properties globally including beachfront villas, city homes, and larger lavish homes. You can even get your own concierge service; talk about a stress-free vacation.

**What are some of your go-to vacation rental sites? Let us know in the comments below.**

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## **Travel Destinations: 5 Peaceful and Relaxing Vacations for Couples**





By [Bonnie Griffin](#)

When you spend your days working hard and stressing over meeting deadlines, paying bills, and taking care of a family, you can find yourself feeling drained. At the end of the day, you need a vacation, one away from the kids with just your partner and you. A stress-free, kid-free, relaxing vacation. When you're planning your [vacation destination](#) look for something relaxing that can replenish your soul without the over-energetic themes that surround some destinations. Stay tuned for some [travel destinations](#) you and your partner can visit for a relaxing vacation.

**You work hard, and now it's time to find a relaxing travel destination for you and your partner to take a much needed vacation.**

When you're searching for the perfect vacation destination you'll want to think about what can bring you tranquility.

Whether your perfect relaxing vacation is somewhere on a beautiful beach or sipping coffee overlooking a beautiful mountainside, there is a perfect relaxing travel destination awaiting you:

**1. Cape Elizabeth, Maine:** Do you love lighthouses and tranquil water? Cape Elizabeth is home to two active lighthouses. You and your partner can take a nice stroll along the cape, exploring the beautiful land near the sea, and the lighthouses.

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**2. Lumahai, Hawaii:** Hawaii is home to dozens of beaches, with their beautiful blue waters and white sand. If you really want to have some relaxing down time with your partner you should check out Lumahai Beach. Lumahai is perfect for lounging in the sun, but it is not as busy as the other beaches because it's not the greatest swimming spot with its strong undertow, so you will have an easier time relaxing while catching some rays.

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**3. Blue Lagoon, Iceland:** Iceland is a beautiful travel destination, especially if you take time to visit Blue Lagoon. The relaxing waters at Blue Lagoon, heated by volcanic aquifers, are a place you and your partner can really enjoy each other's company in the relaxing hot waters while all your worries melt away.

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**4. Provence, France:** This French region is a place you and your partner can get lost in beauty. The vineyards and views of the Alps are captivating beyond measure. You can grab a glass of wine and enjoy some time outside admiring to

beautiful, calming views. Visit one of the popular cities nearby like Marseille and the French Riviera.

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**5. Santorini, Greece:** Santorini is a beautiful oasis. The island itself makes visitors feel like you're traveling to a city in the clouds. Romance permeates the air, and when the sun goes down the city glows like thousands of stars in the sky. It is the ideal travel destination for a romantic and relaxing vacation with the person you love.

**What are some of your favorite relaxing travel destinations? Let us know your thoughts in the comments below.**

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## **Travel Trend: Micro-cations**





By [Emily Green](#)

Everyone needs a break from their day to day life, and a vacation is a perfect way to do so! Some people, especially millennials, can't afford to take a week or two off work or to shirk other commitments for the [luxury vacation](#) have been dreaming about. In an attempt to get a break, micro-cations—a vacation no longer than four nights—have become the most popular [travel trend](#) to get out of the office to any [beautiful vacation spots](#) of your choice.

**Micro-cations seem to be a popular and easy travel trend among millennials. What are some benefits to taking a micro-cation rather than a vacation?**

We've gathered a list of reasons why you might want to plan a micro-cation instead of a vacation. Check out these [travel](#)

[tips](#) if a mini getaway seems doable (and affordable!)

**1. You get some time away:** No matter how long you go on a trip, you still get a break from any stress, work, or drama. Soak up every ounce of your trip and enjoy every minute of it! Try new things, go on new adventures, and you'll come back with stories that you'll be telling for years to come.

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**2. You miss less while you're away:** By only taking a trip for a couple of days, you are guaranteed to miss less from any work or responsibilities you might have than if you went on a trip that lasted a week or longer. If you're dedicated to your work but know you need a break, a micro-cation is the perfect way to give yourself that break and get back to work in record time.

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: How to Plan a Debt-Free Vacation](#)

**3. Saves money:** You might be worried about affording a vacation within the means of your budget. A micro-cation is the perfect way to give yourself your dream vacation in small doses. You can still get that luxurious vacation you've always wanted for a cheaper price by shortening your trip by a few days.

**4. Take a load off from responsibility:** Asking your workplace to take off for only two days instead of a week is more appealing to your employers. They know you are needed at your job but can understand that you need a PTO every now and then. You'll be able to get that much-needed vacation and get back to your regular day to day life after you're refreshed in no time.

**Does taking a micro-cation sound appealing to your travel needs? Let us know in the comments below!**



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# Travel Tips: Vacation Destinations for a Girls' Getaway



By [Katie Sotack](#)

Life's been hectic lately. The muscles in your shoulder are so knotted you can't lift your arm over your head. Your brain's always on overdrive in an effort to match your racing heart. Your body sending you a message. The rhythm of routine responsibility is too overwhelming and there's no better way to unwind than travel with a good [vacation destination](#). It's time for a getaway with your gal pals at a [popular vacation](#)

[spot!](#)

## Get ready for the fun, relaxing getaway you've been craving. Here's how to find a vacation destination that's right for your girl group.

Grab your bikini and suntan lotion! These are [travel tips](#) for the hot spots during a fun-fueled vacation.

**1. San Diego, CA:** Rated among the top ten fittest cities in the world, San Diego is perfect for the exercise-loving girl gang. The beautiful weather and coastal beaches are perfect for hiking, biking, and swimming. While you're there consider taking a group surfing lesson and returning home with a new skill.

**Related Link:** [Vacation Destinations: Underrated Vacation Locations](#)

**2. Fort Lauderdale, FL:** If your style is more along the lines of bad and boujee head out to Fort Lauderdale. Take after Elizabeth Taylor's [celebrity vacation](#) where there are endless opportunities to relax in this a glamorous getaway. The Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment district will keep you busy for days with a metropolitan and cultural vibe.

**3. Martha's Vineyard, MA:** Try beaches as a classy affair. Seen as the prime vacation destination in *Gilmore Girls*, Martha's Vineyard is famous for an upper-class getaway with beautiful beaches aligned with houses to rent for a weekend. Bring your wallet though, because the shops and top-notch restaurants cannot be missed.

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: Pocket Friendly U.S. Travel Destinations](#)

**4. New Orleans, LA:** Take a tip from Tiffany Haddish and friends from the movie *Girls Trip*. After a screening of this film take your crew on the dream nightlife getaway that is New Orleans. End your nights at early morning with the region's famous Cajun cuisine.

**Where are you going with your girlfriends? Share in the comments below!**

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## **Product Review: MBTBUDS Wireless Bluetooth Earbuds for the Beach!**





By [Mara Miller](#)

Summertime is here, and that means...THE BEACH! We all have essentials we need when packing for a summer getaway like towels, bathing suits, snacks, and shoes. Tiny [travel tip](#): if you're even *slightly* attached to your phone, you'll want it next to you while you soak up the sun and the fresh sea air. While some phones have waterproofing, who would want to risk getting their expensive piece of tech caught in a tide? And, let's not even mention the havoc seawater could wreak on your laptop's delicate internals if you want to enjoy the latest [Taylor Swift](#) or [Katy Perry](#) singles.

**Wireless earbuds are a great option when you need a getaway to the beach. In this product review, check out the McAlley Wireless**

# Earbuds so you can safely keep your tech tucked away from the water.

These Bluetooth earbuds are unique because they are magnetized. They sit together around your neck like a necklace so you can take a jog on the beach or play volleyball without worrying about losing them. They are turned off when they're magnetized. When un-magnetized, the earbuds turn on.

**Related Link:** [Product Review: My Ever Map](#)

You might need to give the earbuds a few seconds to pair with your device before you can use them. This is normal for any Bluetooth device, so be patient. They're lightweight and won't weigh you down like heavier wireless over-the-ear headphones, which might not fare as well at the beach.

Even better: these wireless earbuds are water resistant. You might not be able to go into the ocean with them, but you can at least enjoy digging your toes into the wet sand while waves splash over your feet. In everyday use, during either your commute to work or jogging, they will also resist water if it rains.

**Related Link:** [Product Review: Treat Yourself to Beauty and Comfort This Summer](#)

The earbuds have eight hours of talk time, six hours of playtime, and 150 hours of standby time. The package comes with three earbud sizes so they are comfortable while you wear them. They charge in one to two hours through MicroUSB.

**These MBTBUDS Wireless Bluetooth Earbuds are \$60 and can be purchased on [Amazon](#).**

Check out our other [product reviews!](#)

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# Travel Tips: Must-Taste Group Food Crawl Stops in San Francisco



The [food](#) culture in San Francisco is pretty wide-ranging, going from the basest of restaurants for burgers to vegan places that can cook up a storm. With a food culture as strong as this, it's begging for a proper food crawl to happen. And when you have a large group of friends and a day which is free to explore your taste buds further, there can't be any better opportunity.

One of the things you'd have to figure out is transportation,

since, San Francisco does get quite crowded. For this, you can get [bus rentals in San Francisco](#). This will allow you to plan activities as you [travel](#) and also look at the menu to prepare your own tasting versions that you can test. The kind of bus you'll get would depend on the number of people you're bringing and the places you want to visit. And to figure out the latter, you just have to see our list.

## **Check out these travel tips on the best food stops to visit in San Francisco:**

### **1. Liholiho yacht club**

A Hawaiian, Californian and Chinese restaurant managed by an Indian person, the Liholiho Yacht Club has always been a bit left of center. With an alluring minimalist decor and some of the most surprising dishes in town, this is the place to be if you want something upscale. We recommend the duck liver roast, which comes with some flavors that don't seem to go together but, work immensely well. Remember to book reservations way in advanced, since this Hamilton bistro can be reserved for a long time. Remember the cardinal rule of a food crawl even though the food here is delicious, eat a variety of dishes, but, never eat your fill completely.

### **2. Cala**

You can't enjoy San Francisco without having one of their trademark Mexican food plates, and Cala does it better than anyone else. Check out the beautiful decor that comes straight out of the streets of Mexico and then enjoy one of their trademark Tostadas as you dig in. You will experience pure authentic Mexican cuisine here, since, the chef hails from the capital of Mexico herself and has been serving up a storm back at the Mexican capital too. Take up small tasting plates of

finger food here and move on.

### **3. Tartine Manufactory**

We're yet to meet a first-time visitor to Tartine Manufactory who hasn't been in complete awe. The restaurant boasts of everything from a fully functional bakery to a wine bar. Check out the freshly baked bread, and partake in some of the savory dishes from the restaurant (the Sea trout roe comes highly recommended) and make your way to the ice cream counter for a personal happy ending to a whole meal for each person of your group. Remember to partake of some of the wine selections too.

### **4. Spruce**

Spruce is what five-star dining is supposed to be. Elegant but not stuffy, and just the right amount of fancy to make it all worth it. Spruce holds a distinction in being true to the Californian cuisine even now, bringing up some of the local dishes in the best way possible. Check out their roasted duck breast and whole meals for a satisfying experience. For this hot spot, book ahead because the seats tend to fill up fast.

### **5. State Bird Provisions**

The eclectic flavors in Dim Sum forms are what State Bird Provisions excel in. While, this 45-seater restaurant has got rave reviews from every corner, what really clinches the place as a must is the fact that they pair up the most impossible of things just to get ahead. Check out the unusual pairings and book way ahead for the seats here, making sure that you don't miss the delicacies that are offered.

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# Travel Tips: 10 Things Not to Miss at WonderWorks Myrtle Beach



As the summer temperatures heat up, many families will be looking for ways to keep cool. They will also want to entertain, make memories and keep their kids active. One good way to do that is to visit WonderWorks in Myrtle Beach, where parents can find four levels of nonstop indoor fun, offering plenty of opportunities for people of all ages.

“Most people are familiar with the outside of our building, but they are not familiar with what goes on inside it,” says Robert Stinnett, the regional manager at WonderWorks. “The neat thing is that what we offer on the inside is every bit as interesting and unique. We are here for all ages to experience

laughter, fun, and joy by diving into history, science and releasing energy with our interactive exhibits!”

## **With these travel tips, check out 10 things you don't want to miss at WonderWorks Myrtle Beach:**

**1. Climb.** Hit up the ropes course, where guests can test their endurance and locomotor skills as they climb over 28 different obstacles and physical activities in this three-story indoor course.

**2. Throw.** Take your chance at virtual sports, where you can find out what it's like to pitch to a Major League Baseball player or throw a touchdown pass 50 yards to an NFL player. Virtual Sports allows you to test your athletic skills on a baseball, football, and soccer field.

**3. Ride.** Take a seat within the virtual coaster with the ability to turn 360° in every direction. Hold on to your seats while experiencing virtual physics! You can also feel the sensation of weightlessness like in outer space on the Astronaut Training Gyro Challenge.

**4. Play.** Hit up the sandbox and bubble lab! Explore the depths of the ocean, a Jurassic landscape, and a wildlife safari in an interactive sandbox. Interact with various creatures with your hands and mold the sand by building mountains, volcanoes and much more! You can also create bubbles the size of basketballs, and even make a bubble big enough for you to fit inside.

**5. Learn.** Test your knowledge about our world's natural disasters. Show what you know and more from such categories as wild weather, quakes and blazes, manmade catastrophes and extreme disasters.

**6. Imagine.** Enter a new dimension of reality and explore the unknown. Visit Dr. Seuss Taxidermy, where the famous author's creations come to life. Discover how perception and perspective are used in over 35 exhibits located throughout the Far Out Art Gallery where the unexplainable will come to life and the unusual will be the norm.

**7. Thrill.** Enjoy the 12-seat theater that takes guests on an amazing adventure that transcends time, space, and imagination by combining the 3D film with special effects and full motion. Now playing 5 different movies: Cosmic Coaster-Mild, Wild Wild West- Moderate, Great Wall of China-Moderate, Dino Safari- Wild or Canyon Coaster-Wild.

**8. Adrenaline.** Take the zipline challenge, where you will soar 50 feet above the water and 1,000 feet between towers. This features a constant tension system, which ensures participants a smooth "zip" with intense fun.

**9. Extreme.** Check out 360 Bikes, where you will buckle into your bike and start pedaling. You will try to generate enough power to spin a complete 360-degree revolution right back to where you started.

**10. Interact.** Get interactive with laser tag! This family fun game combines innovative technology to provide you with a one-of-a-kind interactive experience. The object is to outplay, outlast and outshoot the other players.

"WonderWorks is happy to support energy in motion – we want our guests to feel like each time they come to us, not only are they having a blast, they are using their mind to learn and interact physically with our many hands-on exhibits," added Stinnett. "Make some fun family memories right here at WonderWorks Myrtle Beach."

WonderWorks in Myrtle Beach offers 50,000 square feet of "edutainment" opportunities, showcasing itself as an amusement park for the mind. They offer over 100 hands-on exhibits

covering natural disasters, space discovery, an imagination lab, a physical challenge zone, a far-out art gallery, and a light and sound zone. WonderWorks is open daily from 10 a.m. until 11:30 p.m. For more information, log onto WonderWorks' [website](#).

Have you been to WonderWorks in Myrtle Beach? Share your recommendations below.

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## Vacation Destinations: Top 5 Beach Vacations



By [Bonnie Griffin](#)

Now that summer is here, it is time to choose your [vacation destination](#), and what better place to go than to hit the beach? A good beach vacation can be a ton of fun, and it is an affordable way to take the family on a getaway filled with excitement and time in the sun. Some of the beach vacation location options might surprise you.

## **Summer is here, and that means it's time to find the best beaches for your summer vacation destination.**

Not only does the beach offer a great place to get a tan and cool off in the water, but it can be affordable as well. Cupid has the top five beach vacation destinations for you and your family:

**1. Williamsburg, Virginia:** Williamsburg is more than a beautiful historic community. It also houses the beautiful Virginia Beach. Better yet, should you tire of long strolls on the beach, Williamsburg has numerous tourist attractions including the American Revolution Museum and the Busch Gardens theme park.

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: Top Attractions to Visit in Albuquerque](#)

**2. Daytona Beach, Florida:** According to *CNBC.com*, Daytona Beach has more than 23 miles of sandy beaches. Known for the Daytona International Speedway, this beach location has more to offer than sand dunes and beautiful blue waves. Visitors can enjoy the many shopping locations, water parks, and museums throughout the city.

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: Top 5 Things to Do in the Sunshine State](#)

**3. Monterey, California:** Monterey has numerous beach vacations for your family to enjoy. If you're looking for something a little more remote, you can even check out the Del Monte Beach, which is more tucked away than the more popular stretches of the beach. You can also do some shopping and visit the aquarium while you are in Monterey.

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: Top Five Romantic Spots in the Bluegrass State](#)

**4. Wellfleet, Massachusetts:** You might not automatically think "beach" when you think about Massachusetts, but there is no denying the beauty of the Bound Brook Island Beach in Wellfleet. Wellfleet is flanked by pretty beaches, and nature trails where you and your family can learn about the environment around you on your trip.

**Related Link:** [Vacation Destination: Plan a Trip to Cuba](#)

**5. Captiva Island, Florida:** Unlike some of its more widely known locations, Captiva Island is a smaller island in Florida where you can really take your time and relax. Just grab the family and your fishing rods, and enjoy the tranquil beach along Captiva's beautiful shores.

**What are some of your favorite beach vacation locations? Let us know your thoughts in the comments below.**

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## **Vacation Destinations: Forget Land & Say 'Hello' to Water**



By [Bonnie Griffin](#)

Looking for your next exciting [vacation destination](#)? Consider leaving land behind and taking to the water on a cruise. One of the best things about a cruise is that you often don't have to decide on just one location. Many boats travel to numerous locations and they include drinks, food, and entertainment for your pleasure all on board.

**Not sure where your next vacation destination should be? Perhaps it's time to consider a cruise.**

Cruises offer many options and the best part is that many of them operate year-round. After all, it's still hot in the Bahamas in December. Cupid's has some inspiration for your

next cruise:

**1. Fun for any sized group:** Whether you're traveling with a group of friends and family or taking a solo vacation, a cruise has plenty of fun options for everyone. Many cruises have games and entertainment, such as shows, right on board. You will find family-friendly entertainment in addition to adults-only, like casinos and comedy nights. All of this can be found on the ship before the myriad of adventures begin at each port!

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: Visit the Grand Canyon](#)

**2. So many options:** You might find yourself thinking you don't want to just visit an island in the Bahamas. That's not a problem. Cruises travel all around the world to places like Alaska, Switzerland, the Caribbean, and the Netherlands. Some cruises even visit more than one of these great locations all on one vacation, so your options are nearly limitless.

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: Pocket Friendly U.S. Travel Destinations](#)

**3. Your vacation, your choice:** Whether your vacation is for three days or two weeks, cruises have options that will fit within your timeline and budget. You have less than a full week's vacation time at work, no problem. Take a three-day cruise to the Bahamas. Planning to take off work for two weeks? Great! You can travel to Alaska or Greece. Cruises offer vacations to fit many different time constraints and budgets, so you are bound to find a trip that works for you.

**What cruises interest you for your vacation this year? Let us know your thoughts in the comments below!**

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# Vacation Destinations: Underrated Vacation Locations



By: Emily Green

It's finally June, which means it's officially summer! Summer is the prime time for people to relax and try new things, like checking out new destinations for vacation. While most people tend to think of relaxing on tropical islands or Florida beaches, or heading on a trip to spot your favorite celebrity, there are plenty of less obvious places all around the United States where you can [travel](#) and experience new and exciting adventure.

# There are plenty of fun and exciting new places you can go to on vacation! Here are Cupid's top five underrated vacation destinations:

**1. Sedona, Arizona:** Beaches not your thing? Try heading out to Sedona for some hiking in the beautiful, picturesque red rock cliffs. After hiking, the town of Sedona is full of relaxing day spas, bed and breakfasts, and small shops that you can go through- relaxing at its finest! Once you're ready to head out again, if you want to visit the Grand Canyon, it is only a 2 hour drive from Sedona, making Sedona the perfect place to stay on your vacation!

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: Visit the Grand Canyon](#)

**2. Fire Island, New York:** If you're looking for a place to relax for the weekend, Fire Island is the perfect place to stay. Only about an hour and a half drive outside of New York City, Fire Island offers long stretches of beautiful beaches, a scenic lighthouse, and many resorts and shops. Whether you're looking for a simple weekend away or a special trip, Fire Island has everything you could possibly need.

**Related Link:** [5 Unique Travel Destinations You Can Drive to from NYC](#)

**3. Annapolis, Maryland:** Annapolis is a great place to visit, especially if you're a history buff. Home to the US Naval Academy, the Banneker-Douglass Museum and State House and much more, Annapolis is a key place to learn about the history of Maryland. After exploring the different monuments and landmarks, enjoy a cruise on one of the tour boats on the Chesapeake Bay or on one of the surrounding rivers. Once your

tour is through, you can get some of Maryland's infamous fresh crab, and can learn just how much Marylanders love old bay on their crabs (and everything else).

**4. Nashville, Tennessee:** As the capital of country music, Nashville has everything a country music lover could ever want. See a show at the Grand Ole Opry or take a tour of the Country Music Hall of Fame. You never know who you might see! Aside from the awesome country music spots, you can take a trolley tour of the town to see all of the historical spots and landmarks the town has to offer. Afterward, try the Nashville Pub Crawl (if you are of age) and get a taste of what nightlife is like in this country-filled town.

**5. Charleston, South Carolina:** Another place for a great taste of the south is Charleston, SC. Ranked America's #1 small city, there's a bit of everything for everyone in this small city. The bustling French Quarter and Battery Districts are great places to get a taste of typical life in Charleston, from the shops to the amazing views and scenery. Charleston also has a lot of history, with the Fort Sumter National Monument finding home in Charleston's harbor, a short boat ride for an amazing tour. After, make sure you stop by the University of South Carolina for a football game. Go Gamecocks!

**Which one of these locations caught your interest? Let us know in the comments below!**

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# **Travel Destinations: Visit**

# the Great Smoky Mountains & Pigeon Forge



By [Mara Miller](#)

Summertime is here! That means it's a fantastic time to choose a [travel destination](#) like Pigeon Forge and to explore The Great Smoky Mountains in Tennessee. The area is rich in Appalachian history, especially up in the Smokies where you can still find old cabins, such as the Tipton Place homestead, settled in the 1820s by Revolutionary War veteran William "Fighting Billy" Tipton. After you're done exploring the Smokies, you can spend a few nights in Pigeon Forge, where there are a variety of fun things to do and explore.

# Searching for great [travel tips](#) and [travel advice](#)? Make the Great Smoky Mountains and Pigeon Forge your next travel destination!

## Great Smoky Mountains:

Part of the precious Appalachian Mountain Trail, the Great Smoky Mountain National Park in Tennessee is a part of the chain that expands through 18 states. The mountains have been around for thousands of years, dating back to Paleo Indians to European settlers. Established as a national park in 1934, more than 1,200 people had to leave their land once it was established. The park is important in preserving the thriving forest and wildlife.

**1. Cades Cove:** Cades Cove is an 11-mile road that is great to explore early in the mornings if you want to sight wildlife. Animals you'll see are turkeys, white-tailed deer, black bears, coyotes, and rabbits. It still has three churches, a working grist mill, barns, log houses, and many other restored 18th and 19th century buildings. You can hike or bike the back-country, too! Just keep in mind that the road opens to motor vehicles at 10:00 am.

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: Three Historical Colonial Towns You Need to Visit](#)

**2. Horseback riding:** If you love horses, then you may want to ride one of the trails in the Smokies. You can book a guided horse ride, hay ride, or take a carriage or wagon ride. There are even five drive-in horse camps so you can explore with your own horse. Riding a horse is a great way to experience nature in the mountains. Just keep in mind that horses are restricted to areas designated only for horse use.

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: Top Five Romantic Spots in the Bluegrass State](#)

**3. Picnicking:** Are you looking for an excuse to have a romantic getaway? Grab your partner and go for a picnic in the Smokies! Just be sure to prepare for your picnic before you head into the park. There are specific areas designated for picnics and you should always be sure to never feed the wildlife.

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: Pocket Friendly U.S. Travel Destinations](#)

**4. Camping:** Camping is another great way to experience the Smokies this summer. Whether you're bringing camping gear or an RV, spending a few nights in the mountains will give you a chance to unwind from everyday life. The campgrounds have running water and flushing toilets in the front-country, but back-country may not offer these amenities and you must have a permit and must call ahead of time if you are planning on hiking to your camp destination.

### **Pigeon Forge:**

Surrounded by the Smoky Mountains with a history dating back before the Revolutionary War, Pigeon Forge was once a small farming community before it became a mountain city.

**1. Dollywood:** Need we say more? With the Smoky Mountains as a backdrop to this theme park, Dollywood is home to some of the South's largest festivals. It has more than 40 rides and attractions such as Wild Eagle, FireChaser Express, and Lightning Rod (the world's fastest roller coaster). They even have a water park!

**2. Go-karts and mini-golf:** Pigeon Forge is surrounded by go-karts and mini-golf. It has more than 10 different tracks to choose from, including one that is Nascar themed. Mini-golf is another fun option for your family, especially if your

children are little and don't want to go to the go-karts.

**3. Shows:** Don't leave Pigeon Forge without checking one of their shows out! You can experience live music and country dancing at Country Tonight Theatre and The Smoky Mountain Opry, comedy at The Comedy Theatre Barn or you can find some family-friendly dinner shows like Pirates Voyage Dinner and Show.

There are a lot of great things to do in Pigeon Forge and the Smokies. Have we missed anything you love to do when you visit? Let us know in the comments below!

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## Travel Destination: Top 5 Bakeries You Need to Try in NYC





By Megan McIntosh

New York City is definitely a popular tourist destination for people all over the world. There's so much to do and see. You can check out Broadway or try for a [celebrity](#) sighting. If you are headed to New York City as a [travel destination](#), then it's certain that one of the reasons you're probably going is for the food. But whether you're in the mood for breakfast or dessert, you can't go wrong by checking out New York City's bakeries.

## **Travel Destination: Heading to New York City for a girl's weekend or a week of relaxation and tourist fun? Cupid has five bakeries to try.**

There are a variety of shops and bakeries to choose from when you're visiting NYC. You really can't go wrong as long as you see people shopping inside. However, Cupid has the top 5 bakeries in NYC based on reviews.



**1. Buttercup Bake Shop** : Located in Midtown East, this bakery has been reviewed by people who say you'll definitely be satisfied if you stop by. The majority of fans seem to rave about the cupcakes, calling them moist with an icing that's to die for. This is definitely a bake shop for those with a sweet tooth as they also have meringue, cakes, and cookies. But make sure you're wanting to eat these sweets on the go as it's a small shop, and get there early so you don't miss out on the variety.

**Related Link:** [Popular Restaurants: The Best Bars in NYC](#)

**2. Veniero's**: Located in the East village, this Italian bakery has been reviewed by over a thousand people. This is the place if you want to go somewhere with history, as this has been in the family for a while with third generation owners. This place is so good that people come from out of state to get their cheesecakes and fruit tarts. Check it out if you want a great selection where you're sure not to be disappointed.

**3. Bagels & Schmear** : Located in Flatiron, this bakery is a breakfast dream come true. Open at 6am, they're ready to feed you at the earliest hour. With a variety of cream cheese spreads and bagels, you're sure to find the perfect combination for your tastebuds. It's got the bang for your buck, especially in NYC.

**Related Link:** [Food Trend: Dessert Hummus](#)

**4. Simit Sarayi**: Located in Midtown East, this bakery is actually a Turkish bakery. Try the Turkish version of a bagel called a Simit which is basically a thinner and bigger bagel glazed with sesame seeds. It's definitely a treat and a stand out from the rest of the choices on the block.

**5. Patisserie Chanson**: Located in Flatiron, this Patisserie greets you with baked goodies as soon as you walk in. They have coffee, ice cream, and a dessert bar at night. Come on

the weekend and enjoy afternoon tea with the girls.

**What are the top bakeries you've been to in NYC? Share below!**

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## **Travel Tips: Top Attractions to Visit in Albuquerque**



If you are looking for great tourist attractions, the city of Albuquerque offers ample options to choose from. Albuquerque is a genuinely historic and fascinating destination to visit. With the rapid growth of the population over the years, there is a greater cultural diversity along with access to more and more facilities and amenities. At the same time, there are

wonderful places to visit during your stay in the city, allowing you to enjoy an exciting vacation.

## **Here are the top attractions that you can visit while in Albuquerque:**

### **Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta**

For one of a kind festival annually which brings colour, excitement, and fun within the city, this International Balloon Fiesta presents more than 500 balloons. This festival takes place over nine days and offers visitors a magnificent way to enjoy entertainment, culture, and fun. Choosing [real estate in Albuquerque](#) is one key to experience such kind of festival yearly.

### **Cliff's Amusement Park**

Now, if you're looking for a place to enjoy exciting family fun, thrills and entertainment, this amusement park seems to be the best choice. You can try almost everything including white knuckle rides, kiddie rides, water activities, and other facilities. The entire family will have an entertaining and memorable day and the attractions and rides suit all ages.

### **Sandia Peak Tramway**

This one is a unique place to visit if you are in Albuquerque since it is known to have the longest span in the world and is also considered the longest aerial tram within the country. You can enjoy stunning views from Sandia mountains which stretch from the northeast part of the city. There could also be different activities at the top of Sandia Peak like biking and hiking.

### **Historic Old Town**

If you want to get a real feel of their local history, don't

miss the chance of taking a walk through the historic old town area. This is known as a place which is ripe for exploring, and you will get a feel of the history right from its winding streets to its historic architecture. At the same, enjoy unique shopping experiences along with fascinating surroundings within the area.

### **Wagner's Farmland Experience**

Let's consider a fascinating and unique attraction which would enable families to experience farm life. There are a number of outdoor activities which are designed to ensure a memorable and unique experience. You can see and do numbers of things making this a perfect place for an educational and fun day for the family.

### **Albuquerque Museum of Art and History**

This is a hugely famous attraction within the city. You can have both the history and the culture as you visit this museum while exploring a wide variety of exhibits and displays. The museum also has its impressive permanent collection and temporary exhibitions for the visitors to enjoy. Experience the fascinating and beautiful artifacts and collections on display, leading you to a great exploration of their culture and history.

### **Casa Rondena Winery**

For those who enjoy wine and want to learn more about the way it is created, try visiting the Casa Rondena Winery. This winery provides truly sumptuous wines that could be enjoyed in fabulous surroundings. You might as well indulge yourself in the tasting room where you get to sample all the wines that are made onsite.

### **Wildlife West Nature Park**

Another great attraction is this wildlife refuge and zoo, with

more than 20 animal species, all of which are native to New Mexico. You can find cougars, bear, foxes, and wolves. You might even book to stay overnight to experience an amazing adventure at the zoo. There could also be wide educational opportunities here, making this place perfect to bring your kids for an enlightening and wonderful day out.

So, if you want to experience great trips or exciting attractions, no doubt you should be visiting Albuquerque. You'll definitely have a worth remembering memories!

**Have you ever visited these places in Albuquerque? Share with us in the comments below!**

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## **Travel Tips: Visit the Grand Canyon**





By [Mara Miller](#)

The Grand Canyon is a great place to visit if you're searching for [travel tips](#)! Located primarily in Arizona, it also borders Utah and Nevada. The canyon itself is 227 miles long, 18 miles wide, and more than a mile deep. It has been the home to Native Americans for 10,000 years and has a rich archaeological history. Today, it is a national park with hiking, mule rides, river tours, and bicycling.

**There's a lot to do if you're going to visit the Grand Canyon! Follow these travel tips as you plan your trip:**

**1. Mule Rides:** If you're comfortable with riding a mule and want to experience the Grand Canyon's beauty. Keep in mind that if you want to go on a mule ride you must book your trip 15 months in advance (so start planning early!). There is a waiting list but it is not guaranteed that you'll get to go on

a mule ride if someone else cancels their trip. There are specific mule ride restrictions depending on which rim you decide to go to so be sure to check that before you make reservations.

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: Three Historical Colonial Towns You Need to Visit](#)

**2. Day Hiking:** Hiking The Grand Canyon is an option if riding a mule doesn't seem appealing because of the long wait. If you're a more experienced hiker and want to go down farther into the canyon for a night stay you may need a backcountry permit, but a day hike does not have the same requirements. It's recommended that you keep plenty of water on you. It's a great way to take in the fresh air and enjoy the beauty of the canyon, though!

**Relate Link:** [Travel Tips: Top Five Romantic Spots in the Bluegrass State](#)

**3. River Trips:** You can get on a raft and take a guided tour on the river for one day up to twenty-one days depending on the tour that you choose. You may need a river permit depending on the type of trip and how many days you will be on the river. If it's for more than a day then you may need to apply for a river permit a year in advance.

**4. Bicycling:** The trail is one of the best parts in the canyon for cycling. You can bring your own bike or rent a bike to take a ride on the Hermit Road Greenway Trail. It follows the canyon rim for seven miles although beware that there are some places where it crosses the main road. Bikes must obey all traffic laws in Arizona.

**Are we missing anything you can do at Grand Canyon? Let us know in the comments below!**

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# Travel Tips: Three Historical Colonial Towns You Need to Visit



By [Mara Miller](#)

It's time to take a step back in time and explore preserved colonial towns in the U.S. Though you can find groups of colonial homes built in the 16th and 17th centuries in both Alexandria, VA and Philadelphia, PA, there are some colonial towns are still mostly preserved with one-lane roads and homes that date back to original settlers. Consider taking our [travel advice](#) and visiting gems like this, which are located



in the original 13 colonies.

## Check out our travel tips for three close-to-original towns you may want to explore that were a part of the original colonies!

**1. Strawberry Banke, NH:** Strawberry Banke was one of the first settlements in America north of Massachusetts. In the 17th century, it was a safe-haven for those fleeing from religious prosecution. Later renamed Portsmouth, The Treaty of Portsmouth was signed in 1713. In 1774, Paul Revere took a ride—and although this one is much less famous than the one he made four months later, it is still pretty neat to realize how significant this settlement was during the American Revolution when colonists chose to separate from England. The settlement has been left relatively untouched, with Pitt Tavern, Stoodley's Tavern, and Sherburne House being the oldest buildings in Strawberry Banke.

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: Top Five Romantic Spots in the Bluegrass State](#)

**2. Deerfield, MA:** Deerfield is a town that time forgot by the 19th century. It was one of the earliest major inland settlements in New England, nestled between English, French, and native territory. The town was destroyed by a marauding army under the French in 1704. However, it was later rebuilt and eventually forgotten by the time of the American Revolution. Being a town that time forgot was a blessing, however, because it is nearly pristine to this day with highlights like the Hall Tavern (1760), and the Allen, Ashley, and Williams houses that were built in the 1730s. Some buildings are private residences, however, so keep that in mind when you visit!

**Related Link:** [Travel Tips: Top 5 Things to Do in the Sunshine State](#)

**3. Williamsburg, VA:** Popularly called Colonial Williamsburg, it was founded as the village of Middle Plantation in 1632. It replaced Jamestown as the colonial capital by 1698. Williamsburg was the first town to be fully planned in America and the second to have a college. Today, it is seen as one of the world's largest living museums. You can interact with those who dress as they did in the 1700s and rent a room on-site at an inn or at one of the Colonial Houses and experience historic reenactments. It is generally considered one of the best living museums in America. (They even have a romantic getaway package!)

**Are there any well-preserved must-see colonial towns we missed? Let us know in the comments below!**