

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING



Good Housekeeping's 2024 Family Travel Awards

These winners offer something for every type of family, trip preference and budget.

Now's the time to plan your 2024 getaways, so to help you get started the experts at the [Good Housekeeping Institute](#) spent the past eight months reviewing hundreds of travel-related products, services and experiences to help you find the best fit for your family.

Pulling off the perfect trip takes a *lot* of work, from figuring out what to pack (and what to pack everything in) to deciding how to get to your destination (and how to get around once you're there) to picking the perfect place to stay. With seemingly endless options to choose from, it's hard to know which ones will lead to your best possible family vacation.

That's where we come in. Our team of travel agents, editors, engineers, scientists and product analysts thoroughly evaluated each submission, focusing on attributes such as quality, convenience, value, sustainability, inclusivity and more. We also enlisted the help of over 100 travel testers to try out the gear and services while visiting cities, resorts, attractions and other destinations to help us choose these standout winners. From relaxing beach vacations to fun-filled city explorations to action-packed outdoor adventures, read on to start creating your most memorable family moments.



When it came to evaluating travel gear and services, we combined Lab tests run by our product experts with consumer tests in real-world settings. Our pros used specialized equipment to measure aspects like performance and durability, while having travel testers weigh in on things like comfort, ease of use, efficacy, appearance and more. Our reviewers also have the option to elaborate on anything specific they liked and disliked.



Captivating Coastal Towns

THE OTHER OUTER BANKS



The Crystal Coast, North Carolina

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Also called the Southern Outer Banks, the 85 miles of scenic shoreline on **North Carolina's Crystal Coast** feel like a giant hidden gem. Sure, you've heard of Nags Head (thanks, Netflix) but the 11 Crystal Coast communities about three to four hours southwest of that should be on your radar too. It's easy to drive from one to the next, so your crew could be UTVing around Cape Lookout National Seashore in the morning, exploring the North Carolina Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores in the afternoon and heading to the buzzy Amos Mosquito's in Atlantic Beach for dinner. With happy yet tired kids, retreat to your beach rental (there are many!) or hotel before you get up and do it all again tomorrow.

TESTER NOTES: "Each town we explored had its own character, and Beaufort was my favorite," said our reviewer. The city, established in 1713, includes a fantastic downtown for shopping and dining, a maritime museum and a picturesque creek where you can kayak. Our tester stayed at the Beaufort Hotel, calling it "an impressive waterfront boutique hotel with large bedrooms that struck the right balance between comfort and style."