QUARTZ

8 family-friendly spring break destinations

From Williamsburg to Key West, there are plenty of places for families to enjoy spring break without the debauchery

By Kevin Williams | Published March 21, 2025



Photo: Sarah Stier (Getty Images)

A family-friendly spring break is a lot different than a college spring break: No beer pong, no beats bumping at 2 a.m. Instead, you'll likely want to find a place to schlep the little ones that will hold everyone's interest, whether it's a sandy beach or a historic museum.

And families might not be the only ones looking for these kinds of getaways.

"Spring break travel is on an upswing. Gen Z travelers are not shying away from spending, with many prioritizing unique and immersive experiences over budget-conscious trips," says Becky Liu-Lastres, associate professor in IU Indianapolis' department of tourism, event, and sport management, adding that they are actively seeking adventure-packed and culturally rich experiences.

"With a strong desire to make up for missed travel opportunities in recent years, many have been saving up, leading to an increased budget for trips," Liu-Lastre says, noting that domestic destinations are seeing growing demand as travelers look for convenient yet fulfilling getaways.

Here are eight family-friendly spring break spots you should consider this year.

Rhode Island



Atlantic Beach Park in Rhode IslandPhoto: Visit Rhode Island

Rhode Island is the perfect destination for families looking for a coastal escape before summer tourism season. Visitors can experience charming seaside towns, historic mansions, and scenic landscapes. Newport and Bristol offer Daffodil Days, celebrating the arrival of over 1.4 million bright yellow daffodils. The Misquamicut Beach Spring Festival features a world class carnival and amusements, food trucks, rodeo, a classic car show and more.

For nature enthusiasts, there's the Norman Bird Sanctuary or the Napatree Conservation Area. And history buffs will love sites like Old Slater Mill, the Gilbert Stuart Birthplace, or Fort Adams State Park. Of course, no trip is complete without touring Newport's iconic Gilded Age Mansions.