

FAMILY TRAVEL

The Best Spots for a Fall Family Leaf-Peeping Getaway

With crunchy leaves, crisp breezes, and apple picking on the horizon, it's the perfect time to plan a quick and easy family getaway to experience the best of fall. Of course, the thing that defines the season above all else is fall foliage. Whether you're a hardcore leaf-peeper who's passed on that passion to the next generation or a more casual tree gazer keen to enjoy some pretty scenery, good food, and seasonal activities with the kids, we've rounded up the ultimate leaf-peeping trips for families.

All our favorite spots are relatively easy to reach by plane, train, or car and are filled with stuff for the whole crew to do together. Best of all, we included a few off-peak gems that won't be too crowded or pricey. The only thing left to do? Pack some cozy knits and a camera (yes, an iPhone counts) to capture those sweet family memories surrounded by fall colors.

Newport, Rhode Island

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Another summer destination that's a blast (not to mention way more budget-friendly) in the off-season, Newport possesses an unbeatable mix of coastal charm and urban excitement. It's a small, walkable city that's easy to navigate on foot (or stroller). When fall rolls in, the Gilded Age mansions and sailboats are complemented by colorful foliage. A few of the best spots to peep the changing leaves include Goddard Memorial State Park, Bowen's Wharf, and the iconic Newport Cliff Walk. Aside from the autumnal splendor, Newport has a jam-packed event calendar. Bowen's Wharf Seafood Festival (October 19-20) is a family favorite.

Where to stay

Newport Harbor Island Resort provides a more tot-friendly alternative to staying in bustling downtown Newport. The revamped retreat supplies indoor and outdoor saltwater pools, fire pits, and a 22-slip marina, plus bikes and a shuttle service make accessing top attractions a breeze for families.