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The Best Places To Travel In The U.S. In 2023, According To The Experts

Laura Begley Bloom

Senior Contributor

Transformative Travel: I look at how travel can change lives.

For the past three years, with borders closed around the globe, U.S. travel has provided Americans with much-needed solace—a tonic during a time of uncertainty and fear. We rediscovered national parks, we explored this country's hidden shores and we found new appreciation for America's wide open spaces.

Despite the fact that many international countries have reopened to travelers, domestic travel remains strong, according to the U.S. Travel Association—proving that there's still a lot to discover close to home.

So what are the best places to travel in the U.S. right now? Every year, I round up the best places to visit in America. Once again, I tapped into leading women travel experts and influencers to find out the best places to travel in the U.S. in 2023. I also opened my own little black book to reveal the destinations that are on my radar this year.

The picks for where to go in 2023 span the gamut from coastal escapes to mountain hideaways to urban hot spots, with some surprises thrown in along the way. Compare these choices to last year's picks for the best places to travel in the U.S.

If you want to see this year's list of the best international places to travel, check out "The 23 Best Places To Travel Around the Globe In 2023, Chosen By The Experts."



Where to Go: South County, Rhode Island

Chosen By: Nneya Richards is a speaker and travel blogger at 'N A Perfect World, a curated intersection of travel, food, fashion and geopolitics inspired by the global-citizen lifestyle of the millennial. Richards aims to empower young people, especially those of color, to travel, as she believes it is through exploring the world that we will bridge cultural gaps and misunderstandings.

Why: "It's just over three hours away from NYC on a fast, comfortable Amtrak ride. But shhh... don't tell the New Yorkers," says Nneya Richards. "During the summer season, getting to South County, Rhode Island is easier than getting to the Hamptons. And you're going to want to head here all year round."

South County, Rhode Island is on the list for 2023, thanks to all its secret diversions and some not-so secret celebrity fans. "You may know the town of Watch Hill from Taylor Swift's *Last Great American Dynasty*," says Richards. "Or maybe it's because Watch Hill is home to the oldest Flying Horse carousel in the country, dating back to 1754."

Also going for South County: "There's something for everyone," says Richards. "There are laidback surf town vibes in places like Narragansett, and you'll find the best seafood in the country at restaurants like <u>Matunuck Oyster Bar</u>, and cuisine that could easily be just at home in a hotspot in Mexico City at <u>Dalia</u>, a waterfront Mexican restaurant at Ocean House."

There's plenty of hotel news in South County, including <u>The Cottage</u> <u>Collection</u> (new accommodations from the acclaimed by Ocean House), <u>The General Stanton Inn</u> (an historic property in Charlestown that's reopening in May) and <u>Surf Shack Bed & Breakfast</u> (a funky inn coming in late 2023 in Narragansett).

Other new exciting spots include <u>Double Barrel Steak by David Burke</u>, which recently debuted at The Preserve Sporting Club & Residences and <u>Seaside Shadows</u> ghost tours in Westerly (new since last fall). And coming in 2024: Charleston's Ninigret Park will be home to new <u>Troll works</u> by the famed Danish artist Thomas Dambo.

Best of all: "It's one of those pockets of peace that the rugged coastlines of the Atlantic can do so well," says Richards. "And the sunrises and sunsets are just marvelous."