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2.24.21

The best US destinations to travel to in March, plus where to stay and socially distant activities to enjoy

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With the ongoing pandemic, most travelers are still turning to domestic destinations, <u>road trips</u>, and locations that offer easy social distancing and access to the outdoors. As we approach the one-year mark of many of the early shutdowns, and with spring breaks for kids quickly approaching, many travelers and families are seeking safe vacation options for a change of scenery.

Below, we highlight some of the best places to travel in March, whether it's to take advantage of savings, catch the tail end of ski season, or warm up with some sun. All of our choices are domestic options that offer plenty to do outdoors, which we detail below, along with socially distant dining options and top hotels to stay at.

However, you may also want to consider <u>booking an Airbnb</u>, since most are offering contactless check-in and experts and the CDC have noted private vacation rentals are often a safer option than hotels due to limiting contact with others.

It's also worth noting that traveling at all during this time comes with inherent risks, and every traveler needs to evaluate these at a personal level for themselves and their loved ones. We always recommend following guidelines from the CDC, wearing a mask, social distancing, and washing hands frequently.

That said, if you do decide to travel, March proves itself as an especially great time to get in on deals, especially in destinations where the month is considered shoulder season. In popular mountain towns, where prime ski season conditions with warmer days on the slopes are a possibility, many rates are below their January and February peak. Plus, there's plenty of savings to be found in coastal retreats and sun-filled destinations.

Across the US, these are some of the best places to travel in March, including top hotels to stay in for each destination.

Newport, Rhode Island



Visit Rhode Island

Newport is most alive in the summer, but the late winter and early spring season in this seaside town should not be overlooked. The many historic hotels have deeply discounted rates at this time, and there are fewer crowds to deal with. Pair that with the fact that this New England destination is within driving distance to many major Northeastern metropolitan areas, and it's hard to resist.

With temps in the mid-40s this time of year, you can bundle up and spend an ideal day outdoors by simply window shopping (or actually shopping) Thames St, which is brimming with decor, clothing, gift, and specialty shops, like Rhode Island Reef, a stylish CBD store.

A walk along Cliff Walk which backs up to the glittering Gilded Age mansions this town is famous for is also an enjoyable way to spend time, and really a must for any Newport itinerary. You can watch the Atlantic Ocean waves crash from the upper loggia at The Breakers, the grandiose display of Vanderbilt prosperity that is just one of the many homes open for tours in town. Its massive size at over 125,000 square feet makes it pretty easy to spread out even though you'll be indoors most of the time. However, a walk around the estate's grounds proves just as memorable if that's more comfortable.

Two of Newport's best-kept secrets include the Newport Car Museum, a fantastic collection of pristine vehicles, and Aardvark Antiques, where estate and collectible treasures of every variety can be found. If you're not shopping indoors at this time, they have plenty of outdoor and garden pieces to peruse, too.

When you've worked up an appetite, the private Snowfish igloos at Gurney's Newport will make you feel like you're having lunch outside in the summertime, especially on a sunnier day. Drivable from Newport, Ocean House in Westerly, Rhode Island also has an incredible fondue village eating option with private gondolas for those diners that appreciate a good theme.

Where to stay in Newport



Booking.com

If you're looking to have that hotel experience in the most socially distanced of ways, consider booking a beach cottage at <u>Castle Hill Inn</u>. Detached from the main inn, you'll have a private hideaway with a comfy bed and sitting area to unwind and many of the cottages feature whirlpool tubs or cozy fireplaces to keep you warm.

The main draw, though, is the panoramic view of Castle Hill Inn's private beach, sand dunes and coastline, not to mention the fancy homes that make up Newport's famed Ocean Avenue drive. It can all be seen from the private deck of your cottage, whether there's snow or a sunbather on the sand. **Rooms start from \$575 per night.**

Discover more of the <u>best Newport hotels</u> and <u>Rhode Island</u> Airbnbs