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The best vacation destination to visit in every state for a greener local getaway

Molly O'Brien | Jul 22, 2023

As travelers across the US and beyond realize the importance of sustainability, more people are choosing to vacation closer to home. Destinations across the US are prioritizing conservation and eco-conscious practices. Whether you're interested in volunteering for a beach cleanup, seeing sea turtles in the wild, or staying at an environmentally friendly hotel, here's how you can experience a greener local getaway in each of the 50 states.

Stay at a sustainable inn that hosts beach cleanups in Westerly, Rhode Island.



Westerly, a quiet beach town on the border of Connecticut, is a good place to visit for hiking. Many parks are preserved by the Westerly Land Trust, a local nonprofit focused on

conservation. You can use [the organization's app](#) to find hiking trails and keep a record of your progress.

Go to Watch Hill Beach to see a [historic lighthouse](#), and explore [Napatree Point](#), a 1.3-mile sand spit and conservation area that the National Audubon Society has designated a globally important bird area to see osprey, American oystercatchers, and other species. Sunbathe or swim at [East Beach](#), one of Rhode Island's least developed beaches; it even has reef-safe sunscreen available for visitors.

On the banks of [Quonochontaug Pond](#), a saltwater pond near the coast, stay at the [Weekapaug Inn](#), a resort with [green initiatives](#) including a zero-waste kitchen. The inn says it's phasing out single-use plastics, composts food scraps in partnership with a local farm, and hosts monthly beach cleanups during the summer.