

TRAVEL+ LEISURE

The Best Places to Travel in July

From Florida to Nevada, these are the best places to travel in July.

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Editor's Note: Travel might be complicated right now, but use our inspirational trip ideas to plan ahead for your next bucket list adventure.

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Summer is underway in the Northern Hemisphere according to the calendar and weather, even though this year might be somewhat different. Getting outdoors to enjoy the season feels especially important right now, so we've rounded up ten of the best places to travel in July that might be just a road trip away, depending on your home base.

In the Northeast, the shores of Rhode Island and the mountains of Vermont offer fresh air, outdoor activities, and good, old-fashioned summer fun. Further south, travelers can celebrate Independence Day in historic Baltimore and Charleston. A visit to Tulsa, a former stop on Route 66, would also be a reminder of vintage Americana.

The warm water of Florida's Gulf Coast and the bonus of seashell souvenirs make a visit to the Fort Myers and Sanibel Island area a pleasant summer idea. Maui's waves and breezes are also warm, if you're seeking tropical surroundings a bit further away. The mountains of Colorado ski towns are just as inviting in summer, and Reno and Lake Tahoe, also popular winter destinations, are delightful in summer. Santa Fe is paradise for art lovers, and the July weather is perfect there, too.

Wherever your summer travels take you this year, we suggest checking local health guidelines and researching hotels, restaurants, and attractions to make sure they will be open when you visit because the coronavirus pandemic is constantly evolving. With that in mind, here are the 10 best places to travel in July.

1. Newport, Rhode Island



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Just about three hours from New York and about half that drive time from Boston, Newport is the ideal place to enjoy sea breezes, beach days, ocean views, and just being outdoors. Whether you're looking for a leisurely walk, a bike ride, or a challenging hike, you'll find your perfect trail in Newport. The famed Cliff Walk, Audubon Nature Center, and East Bay Bike Path are just a few of the options. For a change of scenery from the beach or walking paths, visitors can tour historic mansions built by the country's wealthiest families in the late 19th century. Take a boat tour of Newport Harbor to learn about its history and enjoy cool ocean air at the same time, or browse the artisan shops and casual eateries in the Broadway District.

Deciding where to stay will be part of the fun, and you'll find many lodging options including The Wayfinder Hotel, just opened with an extensive

collection of local art. The historic Hotel Viking, set atop Newport's Historic Hill neighborhood, offers renovated guest rooms and a rooftop bar with 360-degree ocean views. The luxury boutique Chanler at Cliff Walk, once a New York congressman's family retreat, features 20 uniquely-designed rooms with a vintage atmosphere. Surrounded by Narragansett Bay, Gurney's Newport Resort & Marina is just minutes from downtown Newport. The Vanderbilt, dating to 1909, is a meticulously restored Newport mansion.