



These US towns offer plenty of fall splendor, without the crowds or peak prices

Erica Lamberg Special to USA TODAY

It can be tricky to plan an affordable and enjoyable trip to popular destinations because there's almost always a peak summer and peak winter season. Not only are tourist attractions crowded in the high season, lodging providers raise prices due to demand, restaurant reservations are scarce and it's more difficult to social-distance when there's crowds everywhere.

Here's where a fall trip can be the best-kept secret around. Consider these four U.S. destinations where there's plenty to see, do and experience, dips in hotel rates, thinner crowds and spectacular weather.

Newport, Rhode Island

This New England destination is packed with history, rich culture and provides spectacular coastal scenery. [Newport](#) is under two hours from Boston and 4 ½ hours from New York and the fall season in this quintessential nautical town boasts impressive fall foliage. During the autumn season, Newport hosts festivals like the [Newport Food Truck & Craft Beer Festival](#), [Bowen's Wharf Seafood Festival](#), plus street fairs.

Put on a light jacket and be sure to take Newport's 3.5-mile [Cliff Walk](#) offering both ocean views and views of Newport's famous Gilded Age mansions. The mansions are also [open for tours](#), offering intimate access to the artistic and well-preserved masterpieces.



Enjoy striking sunset views from Gurney's Newport Resort & Marina, overlooking Newport Bridge and Narragansett Bay.
Gurney's Newport Resort & Marina

More parks and the breathtaking coastline can be captured by traveling on [Ocean Drive](#), a 10-mile coastal drive in Newport that's a must-see. Drive or ride your bike to experience panoramic views.

More of Newport's fall activities include [Ghost Tours](#), [Pumpkin Palooza](#), [corn mazes](#) and more Halloween-inspired fun.

While exploring this bucket-list city, plan to stay at [Gurney's Newport Resort & Marina](#), a four-season upscale resort that is surrounded by water and with frontage on both the Narragansett Bay and Newport Harbor. Just minutes from downtown Newport, the property features the Italian restaurant [Scarpetta](#) and boasts an [indoor pool](#) and [spa](#).