



By Erika Hueneke

Whether you want to escape the cold or embrace it, head to these convenient U.S. spots during snow season.



Newport's historic mansions are the perfect place for winter weekend getaways.

## **Urban Exploration: Newport, Rhode Island**

Newport thrums with activity during the high season (Memorial Day through Labor Day). But during the destination's unsung prime time, winter, a festive vibe infuses the city's historic inns, colonial neighborhoods, and Gilded Age mansions.

November 23 through January 1, poinsettias, wreaths, and Christmas trees swathe the famous summer "cottages" of the Vanderbilts and other wealthy families. When attention shifts to New Year's resolutions, Newport hosts a mid-January Wellness Week with spa treatments, fitness classes, and healthy-eating workshops. Come February, attend the Newport Winter Festival for a chili cook-off, concerts, and ice sculpting.

Where to stay? There's nothing more intimate than the 20-room <u>The Chanler at Cliff Walk</u>'s period suites, outfitted with in-room Jacuzzis.