

# Townsizing Is In: Why Small-Town Getaways Are the New Favorite for Travelers



According to the New York Times, [‘townsizing’](#) is the latest travel trend, where travelers are trading the hustle of big cities for the charm of small-town escapes.

With slower paces, friendly faces, and authentic local experiences, travelers are rediscovering the joy of easygoing getaways off the beaten path.

From laidback, coastal beachscapes to colonial towns full of historical charm, we’ve rounded up the best detour destinations all across the US for travelers looking to “townsize” for their next getaway for your consideration.

### [North Carolina’s Crystal Coast](#)

The Crystal Coast, also known as North Carolina’s “uncrowded coast,” is located just a few hours south of the Outer Banks and is a hidden gem that offers a quieter, coastal haven. While visiting the destination, visitors will enjoy 85 miles of emerald beaches, fresh seafood at over 100 locally-owned restaurants and a close-knit community that unites across the area’s 11 vibrant neighborhoods. Travelers can unwind on the soft sands of [Emerald Isle](#) and [Atlantic Beach](#), both known for their laid-back coastal charm. Or, take the adventurous route with UTV rides around [Cape Lookout National Seashore](#), as well as jet skiing and kiteboarding with local outfitters, [AB Watersport Adventures](#) and [Kitty Hawk Kites](#). Families can cool off at the [Salty Pirate Water Park](#), which opens for the season over Memorial Day weekend and closes after Labor Day. In Beaufort, enjoy small-town charm while learning about its vibrant pirate history and connection to famed pirate Blackbeard at the [North Carolina Maritime Museum](#), or spend the afternoon strolling through town and spotting quaint cottages or Southern mansions dating back centuries. For foodies, tour [Marshallberg Farm](#), the largest and only R.A.A Osetra Sturgeon Caviar farm in the U.S. or enjoy an oyster farm tour with [Seashore Oyster Co.](#) while learning about why the Crystal Coast is known as the “Napa Valley of Oysters.” Those craving a taste of local life can retreat to luxury beachfront rentals with [Emerald Isle Realty’s colorful luxury “Sand Castle” homes](#), or [Bluewater Realty’s vacation home rentals](#), complete with private pools, game rooms and beachfront views.