



New England Getaways:

Grab Your Partner for a Romantic Escape

BY LINDSAY MAHER



A definitive image of New England is its vivacious foliage trailing expansive land.

It is undoubtedly the country's colorful, hot spot at this time of year, with the perpetual warmth lingering from summer and the chill of fall creeping in.

When you visit New England, you are not just soaking in your surroundings—you are living them. So make your stay here memorable in one of these luxury inns or resorts, where nothing quite matches the feel of returning each day to a homey atmosphere, established upon first arrival.



The Chanler - Newport, RI

It's no surprise that The Chanler at the Cliff Walk is consistently ranked as one of the United States' top hotels. It is the epitome of refined elegance, a chateaux on the edge of the world. Falling in line with Newport's turn-of-the-19th-century opulence, The Chanler luxuriously reimagines and delivers the Old World to the modern guest. Here, you can enjoy a glass of wine or a seafood dish on the veranda; or lounge in your suite, with endless views of sky, sea and scenes reminiscent of the Gilded Age.

Just past the resort is the Cliff Walk, a three and a half mile path stretching along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline. Along the way you'll pass a few of the extraordinary Newport Mansions, including the Breakers, the largest of the summer homes. Stroll hand in hand through these lavish homes and gardens, turning time back with each step. And while in the 'City by the Sea,' make sure to stroll along the beach or try your hand at boating.

Saybrook Point Inn and Spa - Saybrook, CT

At Saybrook Point Inn and Spa, come a guest and leave a member of the family. Dreams of small town maritime come to fruition in Saybrook, Connecticut, while leaving you hungry for more. The views of the marina will leave you awestruck, no matter where in your lodging you are. And at Saybrook, you'll have your say in stay. Featured are two guesthouses: the Three Stories, which disallows children and pets for added privacy; and the newest Tall Tales, an Italianate home next door that offers equally individualized rooms.

Saybrook Point's personalized reservation team is of assistance in helping you plan your weekend accordingly. A couple days of nothingness, though, may be all you need. Restore your mind and soul with this nontraditional Connecticut retreat. Lose yourself in the grand world around you, beside your significant other. Glass of wine in hand, in the arms of your partner, those lowering temperatures will be relished.

Actress Katherine Hepburn frequented Old Saybrook from the age of five, when her family purchased a home in Fenwick. The community continues to remember her as a neighbor, not only as a celebrity; and to commemorate her life, Saybrook has opened the Katherine Hepburn Museum and Katherine Hepburn Cultural Arts Center. She called Saybrook her paradise, and on visiting you will, too.



English Tudor
Signature Room
at The Chanler

Twin Farms – Barnard, VT

Author Sinclair Lewis purchased the Twin Farms property in 1928 for his new wife, Dorothy Thompson. Though it has since fallen into a number of owners' hands, Twin Farms retains the same romance and allure that it gave to its first, madly in love couple. Near the inn is Copper Pond, where you may find yourself for an afternoon swim or a canoe ride at dusk. Soak in the open air and sprawling lands to satisfy your inner peace.

Twin Farms is a community in and of itself. Days can be consumed with bicycling and hiking on the surrounding trails or rallying on the property's tennis and croquet courts. Unwind at the spa or in a Japanese Ofuro; a heated, freshwater soaking tub. The property also includes a pub decorated in local color and, outside, a fire pit for midnight s'mores and stargazing. Other entertainment can be found in the puzzles, games, and library. You wouldn't have to leave the confines of the land to find something to do: it all feels new, intriguing and worthy of your time.

If you are looking for activity away from Twin Farms, the Woodstock Market Green is your one-stop wonder for a collection of trinkets and furniture. Vermont is at its finest in the fall, and places like Sugarbush Farm and the Marsh-Billings Rockefeller National Historic Park are sights to see.



Garden Gables Inn – Lenox, MA

Out in Western Massachusetts, resides the cultural haven of the Berkshires. Here you'll find renowned theatre companies, like the Berkshire Theatre, the Colonial Theatre and Shakespeare and Company. Other places of interest include the Norman Rockwell Museum, Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art and writers Edith Wharton and Herman Melville's respective homes.

For the ultimate romantic experience, retire in Lenox at the Green Gables Inn. Spend a weekend lounging in one of the suites, cottages or guest rooms at the Main House. Complementing the rustic romance is a warm color scheme, complimentary cooked-to-order breakfast and personalized spa service. It is a getaway in and of itself, giving comfort a new meaning.

In between weaving your way through the Berkshires' artistic scene, historical attractions and settling in the quiet country of the Inn, be sure to make time to throw on a coat and take the adventure outdoors. At the Garden Gables Inn, you can visit the owners' Hilltop Orchards for apple picking—a staple of fall in New England. Keep the activity level up with a tour and tasting at Furnace Brook Wines or a hike along the trails of the Hilltop Nordic Center. For the more adventurous traveler, try hot air ballooning with Worthington Ballooning or horseback riding with the Berkshire Horseback Adventures.



Captain Lord Mansion – Kennebunkport, ME

Cast under a New England's village charm is Kennebunkport, Maine, which is home to the Captain Lord Mansion. The inn, family operated for over 30 years, is tucked away in a residential neighborhood, just minutes from downtown. Taste its authenticity by slipping through the halls and admiring the artwork that graces the walls; stay awhile and curl up on period furniture. With a gourmet breakfast each morning and unique accents in every room, the Captain Lord Mansion specializes in an easy existence.

Two of Kennebunkport's most treasured gems are art and sea. Within the quaint town are a number of museums, historic homes and art galleries. Try your hand at antiquing, a beloved New England pastime.

Kennebunkport is also rich with coastal adventure and is as pleasant onshore as it is off. A picnic by one of the many nearby lighthouses, followed by a scenic cruise, may be just the thing you need. One huge hit is kayaking to Porpoise Point. Cooler temperatures and thinning crowds will make this the place to be.



Mountain View Grand – Whitefield, NH

The White Mountains of New Hampshire are no secret, but you can easily find a hideaway at the Mountain View Grand Resort and Spa. Escape to the oasis that is Whitefield's autumn grandeur. The resort offers wine tastings, an indoor pool, a sauna and historic tours of the hotel. At the end of each day, you can retire to solace with a book, a massage or a campfire rendezvous.

Take a trip up to the top of Mount Washington on the Cog Railway; the world's first train to mountain climb. Or, choose a path to hike along the Appalachian Trail at Franconia Notch State Park. At Rocks Estate, you can tour the nature of the grounds where Christmas trees are grown and maple syrup is made. For added adventure, try a white water rafting trip with ELC Outdoors.

In the glory of New Hampshire's natural beauty, you can fully unwind while filling your days with activity. Don't miss out on Polly's Pancake Parlor, a restaurant in Sugar Hill that plays on rustic wooden décor and delivers divine pancakes. Enjoy rounds of them while sitting by the triple paned windows, exploiting those introverted outskirts of the White Mountains.

