

BRIDES

The 23 Best U.S. Honeymoon Destinations

Book a once-in-a-lifetime trip without leaving the country.

The vows have been said, the cake has been cut, and all the hard work you put into wedding planning resulted in a celebration you'll not soon forget. Now, on to the part that puts the focus back on just you two: the honeymoon!

While heading out on an African safari or exploring the romantic cities of Italy no doubt sound dreamy, there's just as much magic to be found here in the U.S. "We often overlook the incredible destinations we have in our own backyard," says travel adviser Julia Gregory. "With the right guidance, a domestic honeymoon can be just as special as an international honeymoon."

MEET THE EXPERT

Nashville-based Julia Gregory is the founder of JBG Travels, a full-service travel design company specializing in custom itineraries and honeymoon travel.

Ready to start scouting your options? Read on for the top U.S. honeymoon destinations, as well as a look at the best new honeymoon resorts and hotels in the country right now.

Why Choose a U.S. Honeymoon?

“The most appealing thing about a domestic honeymoon is the ease of travel,” says Gregory. “You’ve just spent six-plus months planning one weekend. Now, all you want to do is relax and bask in the memories. Whether you’re planning a road trip through the national parks or mini-mooning at a luxury hotel in California, [a U.S. honeymoon] gives you the chance to slow down, travel less distance, and be more present.”

Honeymoon Trends for 2023

“The biggest trend I’m continuing to see is more couples checking off those ‘bucket list’ trips for their honeymoon,” says Gregory. “They’re wanting luxury accommodations *and* unique experiences—and both are equally important.”

Another trend that’s making having it all all the more possible? Traveling during shoulder seasons. “This is exciting because couples are likely to encounter fewer crowds, and they’ll also receive better rates, which is great because prices are continuing to rise into 2023.” Meaning: if you can, be flexible about when you honeymoon! There’s no rule that says you have to go the day after, or even the month after, your wedding. Book the trip for the time that makes the most sense for your budget and schedules. (And if you do want a quick weekend away right after you wed, there’s always the minimoon.)

The 23 Best U.S. Honeymoon Destinations

From sandy beaches to remote mountains, there are so many incredible domestic honeymoon destinations to choose from.

03 Newport, Rhode Island

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If the picture-perfect seaside local and stunning Gilded Age mansions don't get you, maybe this detail will: JFK and Jackie Kennedy chose Newport as the site of their 1953 nuptials. While you're there, you'll live the fine life with sailing, tennis, and tours of ultra-fancy historic homes like The Breakers and The Elms, but the main draw is the dozen-plus honeymoon-worthy hotels that dot the area. With sumptuous rooms done up in Regency and Louis XVI decor, The Chanler at Cliff Walk is often described as one of the most romantic boutique hotels in the country.