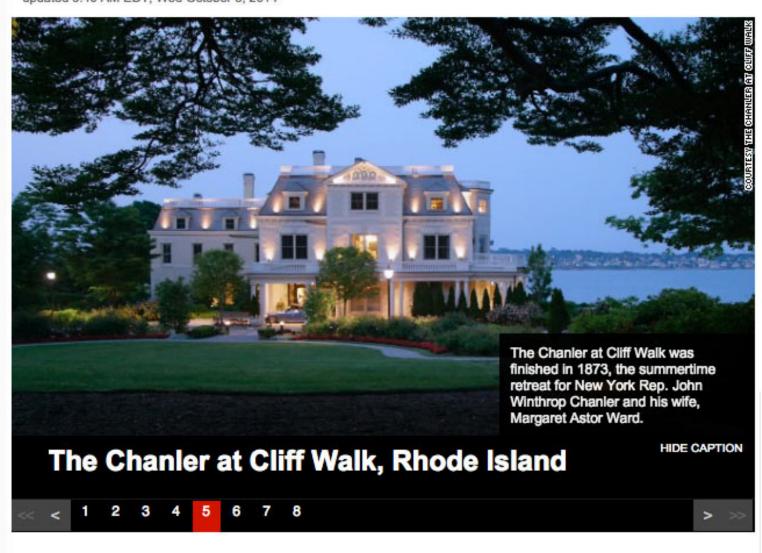
CMN Travel

8 romantic castle hotels around the U.S.

By Katia Hetter, CNN

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STORY HIGHLIGHTS

- These U.S. castles are fit for a king or queen
- · A once-private residence in Maine features elegant culinary
- A New York castle features fine dining and an elegant spa

(CNN) -- We have no kings or queens, dukes or duchesses, counts or countesses in the United States to build great royal castles as evidence of their power, importance and prestige.

Why? The U.S. Constitution specifically bans the government from granting noble titles. (Seriously: It's in Article 1, Section 9.) We don't want any future English King George III coming back to haunt us.

However, we do have the rich, who have long built great houses as symbols of their power, wealth and pride. And some hoteliers just like to build castles.

Which is why you can still stay in places that will wine and dine you and make you feel like royalty. Here are eight of our favorites.

The Chanler at Cliff Walk, Newport, Rhode Island

A summertime retreat for New York Rep. John Winthrop Chanler and his wife, Margaret Astor Ward, great granddaughter of the famed businessman Jacob Astor, the Chanler at Cliff Walk was built along Newport's eastern shoreline. Finished in 1873, the house hosted President Theodore Roosevelt, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and other distinguished guests. The house fell into disrepair after serving as a school for girls, Naval officer housing and a museum.

The current owners purchased the house in 2000 and spent three years renovating it as a luxury hotel. Room rates start at \$305 per night based on double occupancy.

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