

FLY TO AN UNCHARTED AIRSTRIP IN THE OZARKS

PILOT GETAWAYS

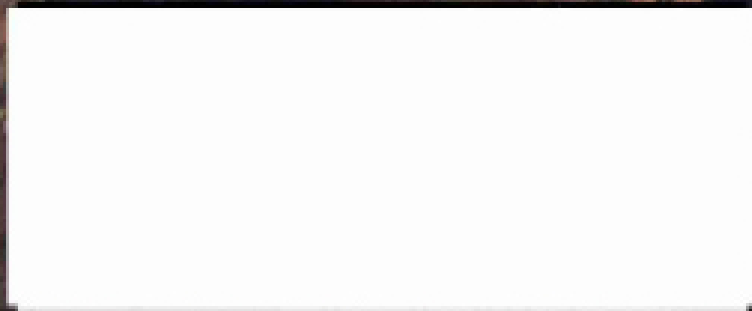
ADVENTURE TRAVEL FOR AVIATORS

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2014



HOT Jets
Chiles
Air Balloons
IN ALBUQUERQUE

SET COURSE FOR
RHODE ISLAND'S
GILDED AGE





Clockwise: Tour the Breakers, a favorite of the Newport mansions; Get some R&R in the Renaissance room at The Chanler located on Newport's famous walking path, the Cliff Walk; Tour the Tennis Hall of Fame or grab your racket and play a game; Sleep in style close to downtown at the Vanderbilt Grace.

from the Gilded Age, are available for tours. Four of them, The Breakers, The Elms, Marble House, and Rosecliff, have self-guided audio tours, so you can move through the home at your own pace, generally 30-50 minutes. Stand in awe at the opulence of these huge homes where gold, silver, and jewels adorn the inside and out from top to bottom. Be sure to tour the gardens, which are just as lavish. Several mansion packages are available, single property visits start at adults \$14.50, ages 6-17 \$5.50, 401-847-2251, www.NewportMansions.org.

The International Tennis Hall of Fame and Museum houses the world's largest collection of tennis memorabilia. Learn about the origins of tennis and the evolution of the racquet, Wimbledon, and the U.S. Open, and read up on famous athletes like Billie Jean King. The manicured grass courts, nestled between beautiful architecture, are quite a sight—tennis fan or not! Visitors may play on the courts starting at \$80 for a half hour, up to two players, \$10 racquet rental, lessons available, museum open 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m., admission \$11-\$13, 194 Bellevue Ave., 401-849-3990, www.TennisFame.com.

For more information on activities, lodging, and restaurants, contact **Discover**

Newport, 25 America's Cup Ave., 401-845-9125, www.DiscoverNewport.org. Their Visitors Center is also the public transportation hub for attractions.

Where to Stay

Opulent waterfront inns, chic boutique hotels, elegant Victorian mansions, or a *Boat & Breakfast* ... Whatever you choose, you'll be living the life!

The Chanler is the only hotel on the famous Cliff Walk; its setting, dramatic ocean views, and manicured lawn are sure to impress. This European-inspired boutique hotel's 20 guestrooms have themes like Renaissance, English Tudor, and Gothic. All come with a fireplace, wet bar, and stone bathrooms with a heated floor, jetted-shower, and/or Jacuzzi tub. Several rooms have a first-floor patio with a sauna and/or hot tub. Other amenities include in-town shuttle service, flat-screen TV, DVD player, iPod docking station, WiFi, and complimentary valet parking. The onsite Spiced Pear restaurant offers intimate fine-dining with exceptional service, while The Verandah offers casual lunch with a view. Rooms run \$305-\$1,105 (off-season), one mile from down-

town at 117 Memorial Blvd., 401-847-1300, www.TheChanler.com.

The restored **Vanderbilt Grace** mansion is open and airy, with a crisp and refreshing color palette throughout the building and its deluxe rooms and suites. It feels like a private residence. All rooms have a flat-screen TV, DVD and CD players, WiFi, coffee/tea makers, and minibar. Suites include a separate sitting area; some have two-story lofts and/or a private living area. Two-bedroom/two-bath suites and the 900-plus-square-foot Grace Suite have a dining area, kitchen, living room, and bath. Work out in the gym or get a massage or signature treatment at the Vanderbilt Spa. Soak in the indoor pool or the outdoor pool with a patio that has cushioned chairs, sun umbrellas, and green ivy adorning the red brick façade. For a memorable evening, visit the rooftop deck terrace for light fare and cocktails with views of the historic downtown and harbor. While the hotel isn't on the water, its views are splendid and the location near downtown is convenient. Sunsets here rival even the Lawn at Castle Hill Inn (see *Where to Eat*). For fine dining in an intimate setting of about 15 tables, order seasonal entrees at