

# check in NOW!

**150 HOTELS**  
with location-inspired architecture, ambience,  
and amenities • eco-stewardship • an ethic  
of giving back to the community

**stay  
list**  
THE  
**TRAVELER**

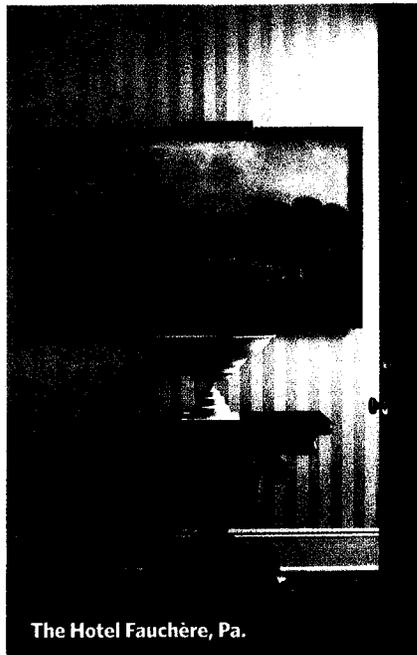
**SENSE OF PLACE...** With the cadence of a lullaby, these three words neatly sum up the properties celebrated here. To travel well, we believe, is to soak up authenticity. And where we spend the night is part of the picture. Does the hotel incorporate—and share—the soul of its location? Are resources respected and conserved? When possible, is the food put on the table local? Does the property play a vital role in the community, sharing some of its profits with local causes, for example? ¶ These criteria grow out of our mission (see page 4). The true *Traveler* experience doesn't stop at the hotel lobby. Rather, it can (and should) be reinforced and enhanced there. ¶ To assemble this list, we put out a call for hotel nominations to people far and wide, from local travel experts to seasoned travelers. We detailed our criteria and asked them to recommend hotels and inns that fit the bill. After sending out in-depth questionnaires to the more than 600 properties nominated—and conducting further research—we arrived at our list of 150 properties in the United States, Canada, Mexico, and Caribbean region. ¶ You likely will see some old favorites—as well as a few surprises. It's a diverse lot, from rustic to luxurious, dirt cheap to splurge. ¶ Sense of place and a sweet night's sleep. Welcome to the "Stay List."

**BATTLE HOUSE, Mobile, Ala.** Recently renovated downtown historic hotel one block from bay. Once a destination for debutantes and politicians (including Jefferson Davis and Woodrow Wilson). Elaborate moldings, portraits of kings, ballroom, and dining under magnolia-blossom stained-glass ceiling. 238 rooms; \$189-299; [www.rsabattlehouse.com](http://www.rsabattlehouse.com).

**MENTONE SPRINGS HOTEL, Mentone, Ala.** Restored Queen Anne Victorian hotel built in 1884—oldest in Alabama—known for the restorative powers of its mineral spring water. Formal gardens, wraparound porch, fireplaces in suites, queen beds in all rooms. Fresh trout in the restaurant. Refreshing: no TVs or cell phone service. 9 rooms; \$85-215; [www.mentonespringshotel.com](http://www.mentonespringshotel.com).

**CAMP DENALI, Denali National Park, Alas.** Rustic, family-owned outpost deep in the park. Hillside log cabins with handmade quilts, woodstoves, propane lights, hot plates. Vegetables grown in the on-site greenhouse. Explore glacial rivers, boreal forests, and alpine tundra with local naturalists. Grand scenery everywhere; even outhouses have views of nearby Mount McKinley. 18 cabins; \$1,365-3,185 for 3 to 7 nights and all meals. [www.campdenali.com/cd/index.php](http://www.campdenali.com/cd/index.php).

**KENAI BACKCOUNTRY LODGE, Kenai Peninsula, Alas.** Roughing it in style. Fronting a glaci-er-gouged lake, the former 1930s hunting lodge camps out in the middle of 2.2 million truly spectacular acres of the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge. Remote, to be sure: accessible by boat only. Hand-hewn log cabins. Yukon tents. Staff naturalist. See moose. Drink Chardonnay. Take sauna. 10 rooms; \$1,075-1,275 for two nights, all meals and activities included; [www.alaskawildland.com/kenaibackcountrylodge.htm](http://www.alaskawildland.com/kenaibackcountrylodge.htm).



The Hotel Fauchère, Pa.

**SHERATON WILDHORSE PASS RESORT AND SPA, Chandler, Ariz.** Modern resort run by Gila River Indian community in Sonoran Desert. Designed with guidance from Pima and Maricopa tribal elders. Authentic tribal prints in rooms; native basketry and pottery on display. Fire-pit storytelling sessions in winter. On-site golf, spa, and equestrian center. Nearby: some 1,500 wild horses. 500 rooms; \$159-479; [www.wildhorsepassresort.com](http://www.wildhorsepassresort.com).

**THUNDERBIRD LODGE, Chinle, Ariz.** Former trading post on Arizona Navajo reservation at

the mouth of Canyon de Chelly. Inside: pink adobe-style rooms with Navajo paintings, free Wi-Fi, satellite TV, air-conditioning. Native American food in dining hall. Outside: cottonwood trees, Navajo-guided tours of ruins. 74 rooms; \$59-155; [www.tbirdlodge.com](http://www.tbirdlodge.com).

**HACIENDA DEL SOL GUEST RANCH RESORT, Tucson, Ariz.** Spanish colonial property in desert foothills of Santa Catalina Mountains. Went from private girls school to hideaway for celebrities such as Clark Gable and John Wayne. On-site spa and restaurant. Handmade sleigh beds and armoires, painted tiles. Vintage swimming pool and hot tub with mountain views. 30 rooms; \$109-495; [www.haciendadelsol.com](http://www.haciendadelsol.com).

**HOTEL CONGRESS, Tucson, Ariz.** Downtown hotel and music hot spot with oldest cowboy bar in town. Southwestern art deco decor with copper highlights; restaurant floor made of 177,000 pennies (and one peso). Rooms outfitted with antique iron beds, old-fashioned radios, and rotary phones that connect to a 1930s switchboard. 40 rooms; \$69-119; [www.hotelcongress.com](http://www.hotelcongress.com).

**LOOKOUT POINT LAKESIDE INN, Hot Springs, Ark.** Homey B&B overlooking Lake Hamilton, with views of Ouachita Mountains. Arts-and-crafts-style architecture with rich wood floors and locally crafted oak furniture. Nature reigns: thermal hot springs, native-plant gardens, hiking galore. A breakfast treat: raspberry-stuffed French toast. Mindfulness retreats and water-color classes. 10 rooms and a 2-room condo; \$137-337; [www.lookoutpointinn.com](http://www.lookoutpointinn.com).

**POST RANCH INN, Big Sur, Calif.** Wild coast, wildly romantic property. Cliffside houses and rooms blend with native redwoods, oaks, and grasses. Soak tubs for two. Infinity pool for all. Spa with benefits: house shaman available for Destiny Retrieval and Divination sessions. Sierra Mar restaurant's seasonal organic dishes equally spiritual. 30 rooms; \$550-2,185; [www.postranchinn.com](http://www.postranchinn.com).

**MIRACLE MANOR RETREAT, Desert Hot Springs, Calif.** A streamlined "spa-tel" that offers up a mix of cool interiors and nurturing warmth. Hot springs, pool. Indigenous plants like cholla and barrel cactus. Organic cotton bedding, robes. No TVs. No phones. Just millions of stars in the night sky. 7 rooms; \$435-600 for 2 nights; [www.miraclemanor.com](http://www.miraclemanor.com).

**ORCHARD GARDEN HOTEL, San Francisco, Calif.** Eco-chic; decidedly "green." The first Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)-certified hotel in California. Rooms in tones of green, white, and gold with Egyptian-cotton sheets, organic bath products. Room key-card conservation (it snuffs your lights when you leave). Organic entrées, veggie soups, cheese-and-wine pairings at Roots restaurant. 86 rooms; \$219-499; [www.theorchardgardenhotel.com](http://www.theorchardgardenhotel.com).

**EL CAPITAN CANYON, Santa Barbara, Calif.** A dandy mix of cool minimalism and just-right luxury: creek-side cabins and safari-style tents tucked into an oak-fringed Central Coast canyon. Beyond-room pleasures include yoga, wine tastings, beachcombing, hiking, horseback riding in the foothills. Enjoy a cabin barbecue prepared by your own "camp butler." Enhancement program for native coastal plants in full swing here. 108 cabins, 26 tents; \$125-350; [www.elcapitanacanyon.com](http://www.elcapitanacanyon.com).



**RATES:** The range of prices in each hotel listing represents the lowest rate in the low season to the high rate in the high season.

**TENAYA LODGE, Fish Camp, Calif.** Hi, Sierras! A newly refurbished (2006) retreat. Carved grizzlies greet guests in lobby. Native art in the corridors. Cookouts. Hikes. Rooms done in alpine decor offer forest views and warm duvets. Low-flow plumbing to conserve water. Lights dimmed for eco-responsibility and nighttime stargazing. 244 rooms; \$119-285; [www.tenayalodge.com](http://www.tenayalodge.com).

**THE AHWAHNEE, Yosemite National Park, Calif.** A tradition as inviolate as the park's famed Half Dome rock. The 1920s arts-and-crafts resort is all contrast: delicate stained glass and soaring stone fireplaces; massive beams and elaborate hand stenciling. Slate roofs and LED lighting. Historic Mural Room immortalizes native fauna and flora. 123 rooms; \$400-990; [www.yosemitepark.com](http://www.yosemitepark.com).

**BROWN PALACE HOTEL AND SPA, Denver, Colo.** Historic downtown grande dame has courted presidents and rock stars with its eight-story atrium lobby and Victorian-style rooms. Staff historian provides hotel tours. Property served by an original artesian well. Gracious afternoon tea. Cocktails and tapas in lobby. 241 guest rooms and suites; \$189-425; [www.brownpalace.com](http://www.brownpalace.com).

**DUNTON HOT SPRINGS RESORT & SPA, Dolores, Colo.** Tucked away along the Dolores River are a dozen 19th-century log cabins restored by Native American craftsmen and furnished in creature-comfort style. Soak in a tepee-sheltered spa with direct feeds of geothermal water. Yoga. Hiking. Dine on fresh-picked local chanterelles and beef from local ranches. 12 cabins; \$300-475; [www.duntonhotsprings.com](http://www.duntonhotsprings.com).

**ARMSTRONG HOTEL, Fort Collins, Colo.** A full refurbishment in 2004 polished a 1920s-era downtown gem. Down comforters on mod-looking beds set in contemporary Wi-Fi-enabled suites complement original pine floors. Traditional awnings green down electric costs. White-noise machines make for sweet dreams. 37 rooms; \$89-149; [www.thearmstronghotel.com](http://www.thearmstronghotel.com).

**REDSTONE INN, Redstone, Colo.** Old-fashioned resort tucked between pine trees and mountains in former coal-mining village. Swiss chalet architecture, centuries-old clock tower, hand-pegged craftsman furniture. In-room guest books detail history and geography of area. Snowshoeing and sleigh rides in winter; fly-fishing, hiking, and wine receptions on veranda in summer. 35 rooms; \$60-235; [www.redstoneinn.com](http://www.redstoneinn.com).

**BREADLOAF MOUNTAIN LODGE AND COTTAGES, Cornwall Bridge, Conn.** Revolutionary War-era inn and cottages. Original hardwood floors and chestnut beams mesh with plasma TVs and wireless Internet. Steps from Appalachian and Connecticut wine trails. On-site fly-fishing school; kayaking and bird-watching on grounds. Local produce, meats, and sundries. Owners grew up fishing on the river, wishing they could own the inn. 11 rooms; \$115-470; [www.breadloafmountainlodge.com](http://www.breadloafmountainlodge.com).

**THE WILLARD INTERCONTINENTAL, Washington, D.C.** Centerpiece of capital history two blocks from the White House. Presidential patrons date back to Franklin Pierce, and Ulysses S. Grant popularized the term "lobbyist" in reference to historic lobby. Edwardian furnishings, views of Jefferson Memorial and Washington Monument, and a gallery dedicated to hotel's heritage. 332 rooms; \$349-4,199; [www.washington.intercontinental.com](http://www.washington.intercontinental.com).

**THE MOORINGS VILLAGE, Islamorada, Fla.** Restored 1930s cottages on what was originally a coconut plantation estate. Blessedly far removed from bustle of Key West, which is about 85 miles away. Setting: 18 acres of beach-front land amid palm trees and bougainvillea. French doors and wraparound verandas. Black-and-white photographs, historic navigation charts, and wooden fishing poles memorably set the scene. 30 rooms; \$275-1,500; [www.mooringsvillage.com](http://www.mooringsvillage.com).

**HERLONG MANSION HISTORIC INN AND GARDENS, Micanopy, Fla.** Corinthian-columned neoclassical mansion turned B&B. Mahogany floors and claw-foot tubs inside; jasmine-covered gazebos, magnolia trees, and oaks draped with Spanish moss outside. Walk down a two-lane country road to visit the antiques shops of small-town Micanopy, oldest inland settlement in Florida. 12 rooms, 2 cottages; \$99-349; [www.herlong.com](http://www.herlong.com).

**WATERCOLOR INN, Santa Rosa Beach, Fla.** Gulf of Mexico luxury within 499-acre community and nature preserve. Nestled amid white-sand dunes, the classic beach resort stands no higher than four stories, preserving shore views. Outdoor cabana showers. Staff naturalists help protect area wildlife. 60 rooms; \$400-845; [www.watercolorinn.com](http://www.watercolorinn.com).

**GLEN-ELLA SPRINGS COUNTRY INN, Clarkesville, Ga.** Cozy B&B in foothills of Blue Ridge Mountains. Meadows and perennial gardens surround, and all rooms open onto a rocking-chair-filled porch. Country-comfortable pine-paneled walls, chintz bedspreads, and local handicrafts. Gas-log fireplaces and whirlpool tubs in suites and penthouses. Order fresh rainbow trout in restaurant. 16 rooms; \$150-265; [www.glenella.com](http://www.glenella.com).

**GREYFIELD INN, Cumberland Island, Ga.** A family-run Carnegie mansion built in 1900 on

## intelligent quarters

How to land the perfect room? Our experts check in.



Miracle Manor Retreat, Calif.

If you've ever stayed at a historic hotel, you probably know that there are rooms and then there are rooms: Some are spectacular, while others are just so-so. How do you make sure you've offered the keys to decent quarters at that charming landmark where no two rooms are alike? The New York Marriott East Side, a 1926 Gothic, Romanesque, art deco hotel where Harry Houdini once performed, has 646 rooms and a mind-boggling 105 room types. But for simplicity's sake, rooms fall into just two amorphous categories: deluxe and superior. "The right room is really a matter of your perspective as a guest," says Michael Powlen, the hotel's resident manager. In the end, finding the perfect accommodations means matching your tastes

to the hotel's available room inventory. Short of an in-person visit, phoning the property remains the most effective way to make sure you'll get the right room.

"Call the front desk in advance to make a room request or inquiry," says Robert Mandelbaum, a hotel analyst for PKF Hospitality Research. Explain your desires—do you want a view, extra space—something more private?—and ask if there's something they can recommend. Don't call the toll-free reservations line—those queries are often handled by a call center, and employees may not have firsthand knowledge of the property.

Which is not to say the Internet can't be a useful tool. "Go to a hotel's website, where you'll likely find a variety of room stylés, based on the view or amenities," says Bjorn Hanson, an analyst at PricewaterhouseCoopers. "If you see something you like, you can call and ask for the room number and go from there."

Some smaller properties might be able to offer you a room this way, but many larger hotels with automated reservations systems won't assign a room until several hours before you check in. What then?

"It is perfectly okay to ask to see a room before check-in," says Susan Rodger, who manages the Fairmont Hotels & Resorts' rooms division. "Most often, a hotel will do its best to find something that is suitable within the category booked." If you don't like the room you're assigned, ask to move. If there's another available room, most properties will accommodate your wishes.

Does the hotel assign a room on the basis of how and where you booked? Analysts say that although hotels are reluctant to admit it, they do, in fact, block off the better rooms for members of their frequent guest programs, visitors paying with platinum cards, or people who have booked through a preferred travel agent. Guests who reserve their hotel online—and particularly those paying heavily discounted rates—tend to get assigned the less desirable rooms. Common sense. Yes, you get what you pay for.

—CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT



Georgia's largest barrier island. Original furniture, family heirlooms, and antiques. Oak trees, salt marsh, and boat landing comprise the "backyard." Bird-watching and beachgoing. On the house: round-trip boat transportation, island tours. Biking, kayaking, and fishing. No phones. 16 rooms; \$350-595, 2-night minimum; [www.greyfieldinn.com](http://www.greyfieldinn.com).

**LEN FOOTE HIKE INN, Dawsonville, Ga.** Non-profit Japanese-style inn on stilts near southern terminus of Appalachian Trail. Private bunk rooms, family-style meals, hot showers, and mountain views. Environmental programs. The catch: Must hike five miles across mountain streams and through forest of oak, hickory, and rhododendrons to get here. 20 rooms; \$99-140; [www.hike-inn.com](http://www.hike-inn.com).

**THE LODGE ON LITTLE ST. SIMONS ISLAND, Ga.** Hideaway on private barrier island accessible only by boat. Unwind in cedar hunting lodge from 1917 or in a house built with oyster-shell masonry—a traditional Georgia coast style. Salt marshes and seven-mile shell-strewn beach. 15 rooms; \$450-675; \$7,700-8,000 per night for whole 17.9-square-mile island; [www.littlesimonsisland.com](http://www.littlesimonsisland.com).

**MAUNA LANI RESORT, Big Island, Hawaii** Authentically "green" long before the bandwagon was in full gear. On the largely unspoiled Kohala Coast; landscaped with native flora and saltwater ponds—ideal for raising young turtles (before releasing them to the wild, which is what goes on here). Local art, carved coconut wood, rattan furnishings in lush guest quarters. Outdoor spa: a breezy nine thatched huts. 343 rooms and 5 bungalows; \$445-6,050; [www.maunalani.com](http://www.maunalani.com).

**GRAND HYATT RESORT AND SPA, Kauai, Hawaii** An oceanside marriage of grandeur and conscience. Hawaiiana galore: traditional arts, crafts, music, and luaus. Info in every guest room on the endangered monk seal. Serious recycling since 1995. 18,500 square feet of solar panels to be installed this year. \$430-5,400; [www.kauai.hyatt.com](http://www.kauai.hyatt.com).

**WAIMEA PLANTATION COTTAGES, Kauai, Hawaii** A cluster of authentic plantation workers' cottages from a 1900s sugar mill set in a coconut grove and furnished with period pieces. Mango, banyan, and banana trees. Surfing, snorkeling, homestyle luaus. The plantation helps support affordable worker housing, a church, and a hospital. 154 rooms; \$155-1,300; [www.waimeaplantation.com](http://www.waimeaplantation.com).

**KA'ANAPALI BEACH HOTEL, Maui, Hawaii** Four buildings with roomy rooms (400+ square feet apiece) outfitted with loads of comforts (including complimentary Kona coffee, the local brew). Strong on Hawaiian culture: Learn how to play the ukulele; leaf-printing; lei-making. Take a self-guided walk or a swim in the whale-shaped pool. Extensive community and preservation involvement. 432 rooms; \$199-485; [www.kbhmaui.com](http://www.kbhmaui.com).

**LODGE AND BEACH VILLAGE AT MOLOKAI RANCH, Molokai, Hawaii** A low-impact haven built in 1999 (think luxury Hawaii plantation-owner's home plus a tent village whose only lighting is in the dining pavilion). Ride horses with a sixth-generation *paniolo* (cowboy), swim or kayak the ocean waters, stretch out and snooze on a double-crescent beach, explore the brimming-with-native-flora garden. 22 rooms, 40 2-bedroom tent units; \$158-258; [www.molokairanch.com](http://www.molokairanch.com).

**RIVER DANCE LODGE, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho** Log cabins along Clearwater River blend into surrounding forest. When not white-water rafting and hiking (the lodge partners with ROW Adventures), soak in an outdoor hot tub or gather around a community fire pit. Closed mid-October through mid-April. 20 rooms (in 8 cabins); \$149-329; [www.riverdancelodge.com](http://www.riverdancelodge.com).

**HOTEL BURNHAM, Chicago, Ill.** Handsome eco-savvy boutique hotel and well-restored

architectural landmark 15 stories tall. Glass and terra-cotta facade, terrazzo floors, marble ceilings, leather couches. Guest rooms boast mahogany writing desks and velvet headboards. Honor bar with organic food and beverage options. Complimentary nightly wine hour. 122 rooms; \$179-499; [www.burnhamhotel.com](http://www.burnhamhotel.com).

**ARTISTS COLONY INN, Nashville, Ind.** Quiet, 15-year-old inn with bygone-days allure in Brown County, dubbed the Midwest Art Colony and Peaceful Valley. Coziness abounds: canopy beds, local artwork, and wide-planked floors in guest rooms. From the kitchen: Pumpkin bread, homemade soups, and meatloaf are signatures. Nashville packed with craft shops, galleries, theaters. 23 rooms; \$90-250; [www.artistscolonyinn.com](http://www.artistscolonyinn.com).

**THE WILLIAM M. BLACK BOAT & BREAKFAST, Dubuque, Iowa** Former 1934 steamboat dredger docked at National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium. Board games, waterfowl watching; no phone, TV, or Internet. Breakfast served ashore in vintage train depot turned café. Open April-Oct.; 12 rooms, 55 bunks; \$50-175; [www.rivermuseum.com](http://www.rivermuseum.com).

**GRAND CENTRAL HOTEL, Cottonwood Falls, Kans.** Original 1884 hotel on the edge of tallgrass prairie in Flint Hills. 1995 renovation updated bathrooms and exposed the brick walls; guest rooms named for local ranches. Restaurant famed for oversize Kansas steaks; vintage photos evoke cowboy heyday. 10 rooms; \$160-190; [www.grandcentralhotel.com](http://www.grandcentralhotel.com).

**INN AT SHAKER VILLAGE, Harrodsburg, Ky.** In bluegrass country, an 1805 Shaker settlement turned living museum with overnights in 15 brick buildings and clapboard cottages.

(Continued on page 113)

**"We sponsor conservation events in local schools and give interpretive island tours to students who participate."**

Joel Meyer  
owner/president  
The Lodge on  
Little St. Simons

## STAY LIST

(Continued from page 82)

**Shaker faithful (nearly):** tidy rooms with fine reproduction beds, chests, rocking chairs. Updates: new plumbing, TVs, telephones. Locally grown fare at table; artisan crafts to take home. 81 rooms; \$79-225; [www.shakervillageky.org](http://www.shakervillageky.org).

**21C MUSEUM HOTEL, Louisville, Ky.** Contemporary art-filled boutique property behind several Main Street historic iron facades. Gallery-minimal interiors showcase rotating art exhibits. Pre-programmed iPods, mint julep cups; two rooms boast terraces. Kentucky bison, rabbit, and produce in the restaurant. 91 rooms; \$169-429; [www.21cmuseumhotel.com](http://www.21cmuseumhotel.com).

**INTERNATIONAL HOUSE, New Orleans, La.** Former 1906 beaux arts international trade center in the Central Business District. Soaring ceilings, chandeliers, reclaimed ironwork evoke classic New Orleans in public spaces; ditto velvet armchairs, wrought-iron tables, and photos of local jazz greats in guest rooms. The Loa Bar is lit primarily by candles. 117 rooms; \$147-1,649; [www.ihhotel.com](http://www.ihhotel.com).

**THE MYRTLES PLANTATION, St. Francisville, La.** "Haunted" 1796 plantation just north of Baton Rouge fronted by period cast-iron veranda; crystal chandeliers, marble mantels, and French furnishings within. Live oaks, camellias, and crepe myrtles shade the ten acres. Garden-grown heirloom tomatoes supply restaurant Varnedoe's in the former carriage house. 11 rooms; \$115-230; [www.myrtlesplantation.com](http://www.myrtlesplantation.com).

**INN BY THE SEA, Cape Elizabeth, Me.** Painterly, extensively revamped gray-shingled—and carbon-neutral—retreat with cozy, cottage-of-one's-own allure. An autumnal palette colors the toasty, maple-furnished rooms (some with private deck, kitchen, and flat-screen TV). Atlantic landscape recalls Winslow Homer with expansive views of lobster-boat-sprinkled waters. Lush grounds: gardens, a bird sanctuary, and a boardwalk leading to a sandy beach. 57 rooms; \$179-709; [www.innbythesea.com](http://www.innbythesea.com).

**HOME-NEST FARM, Fayette, Me.** 240 acres of mountain-hemmed woodlands, wildflower-flecked meadows, and high-bush blueberry fields frame a trio of 200-year-old farmhouses in central Maine's lake district. Storybook denizens—sheep, dogs, a llama, horses, and a donkey with nicknames—worthy of A.A. Milne. Indoor period details (wooden furniture and photographs of original home owners) and nap-worthy nooks. 11 rooms; \$120-150; [www.mainefarmvacation.com/homeneat/index.html](http://www.mainefarmvacation.com/homeneat/index.html).

**BLACK POINT INN, Scarborough, Me.** The new ownership's immaculate revamp has resuscitated the classic 1878 inn's old-fashioned charms. Rooms—with ruggedly romantic bay or ocean views—have original wall coverings and antiques. Among the outdoor pastimes: walks along the photogenic cliffs of Prouts Neck, a round of golf at an oceanside golf course, heated-pool swims, tennis, and kayaking. 25 rooms; \$190-290; [www.blackpointinn.com](http://www.blackpointinn.com).

**MIGIS LODGE, South Casco, Me.** 31 pretty cottages and a lodge dot 100 acres of stately pine forest along Sebago Lake. Cozy (fieldstone fireplaces, handmade quilts) and lounge-inspiring (lake-view porches). Enticing the active: tennis and golf at Point Sebago; boating, waterskiing, canoeing, etc. For the little ones: playground, sandy beach, and pet llamas. Six rooms in main lodge, 31 cottages sleeping 2 to 12; \$305-370 per person; [www.migis.com](http://www.migis.com).

**BRAMPTON BED & BREAKFAST INN, Chestertown, Md.** A three-story plantation house built mid-19th century by a peach grower for his (much younger) second wife. Oodles of walnut woodwork: doors, windows, stair balustrade. Afternoon tea. Jams made with fruit from the organic garden. When it's time to get out and about there are Brampton-developed biking tours. 8 rooms, 4 suites; \$195-435; [www.bramptoninn.com](http://www.bramptoninn.com).

**JURYS BOSTON HOTEL, Boston, Mass.** Imposing brick-and-limestone facade betrays past life: 1920s Boston Police Headquarters. Reborn Back Bay landmark emanates comfy, masculine style: welcoming two-story stone fireplace in the deco-style lobby; wood, stone, and glass throughout, green/copper color scheme in guest rooms. Solid martini list and rib-hugging nibbles in the spacious Cuffs Irish Bar. 225 rooms; \$185-475; [www.jurysdoyle.com](http://www.jurysdoyle.com).

**THE CHARLES HOTEL, Cambridge, Mass.** Redbrick Harvard Square hotel with tweedy splendor. Recently renovated rooms with scholarly tilt: cherrywood desks and fit-for-a-professor chairs, oversize clocks. Artisanal, farm-to-table restaurant, Henrietta's Table, celebrates sustainable agriculture and New England produce. 294 rooms; \$249-4,500; [www.charleshotel.com](http://www.charleshotel.com).

**THE INN AT CASTLE HILL, Ipswich, Mass.** Sand dunes, salt marshes, and a dramatic coastline add up to a romance-friendly backdrop for this lost-in-time 1850 summer house with sea-facing wraparound veranda, cozy windowseats, and airy rooms painted to match seashells and whitecaps. Decadent quiet (no TVs, radios, phones). Biking, hiking on surrounding 2,100-acre Crane Estate. 10 rooms; \$115-385; [www.theinnatcastlehill.com](http://www.theinnatcastlehill.com).

**THE WAUWINET, Nantucket, Mass.** Mid-19th-century inn par excellence: gray-shingled and white-trimmed with views of both ocean and bay, rose and lavender gardens. Pine-and-chintz guest rooms are teched-out (Wi-Fi, flat screens) and country fresh (wildflower bouquets, hand-stenciled finishes). Indulgences abound: seaweed wraps in brand-new spa; aromatherapy naps in chef's herb gardens; port and cheese anytime. 32 rooms; \$380-1,450; [www.wauwinet.com](http://www.wauwinet.com).

**THE PORCHES INN, North Adams, Mass.** Artful 2001 revamp of six Victorian row houses across the street from MASS MoCA art museum. Colorful rooms (some two-story, spiral-staircase lofts), patchwork coverlets, claw-foot tubs, painted floors, vintage vinyl furniture, and paint-by-number 1950s artwork. Steps from the town's shops and restaurants. 47 rooms; \$129-495; [www.porches.com](http://www.porches.com).

**BELFRY INNE, Sandwich, Mass.** Three parts charm: a former church, rectory, and Queen Anne clapboard house in Cape Cod's oldest town. Antiques, hand-painted furniture, and oriental rugs in some rooms; vaulted ceilings and stained-glass windows in others. Fireplaces. Whirlpool tubs. Shrimp and lobster served up in the loved-by-locals Belfry Bistro's cathedral setting. 21 rooms; \$145-310; [www.belfryinn.com](http://www.belfryinn.com).

**RED LION INN, Stockbridge, Mass.** Elm-shaded 1897 guesthouse on the town's quaint Main Street delights with lace-and-parasol Victori-

ana: original Otis birdcage elevator, fanciful rooms prettied in things past (vintage books, brass and iron beds). Hiking, skiing, canoeing in the Berkshires. For the culturati: Norman Rockwell museum and Tanglewood. 108 rooms; \$89-460; [www.redlioninn.com](http://www.redlioninn.com).

**GRAND HOTEL, Mackinac Island, Mich.** Lilly Pulitzer meets the Brooks Brothers. A classic, summer-only 1887-era hotel. Airy rooms and open balconies, golf, emerald lawns, red geraniums, lilac bushes, and a 660-foot-long porch. Suites commemorate famous folk, from Lord Astor to Jacqueline Kennedy. Tradition demands dress-up dinners and no tipping. And no cars. 385 rooms; \$225-675; [www.grandhotel.com](http://www.grandhotel.com).

**ROCK HARBOR LODGE, Isle Royale National Park, Mich.** A comfortably rustic, remote place—accessible via seaplane and boat—in one of America's least visited national parks: Isle Royale, in Lake Superior. Chill out in the company of birds and mammals, including moose, wolves, fox, and beaver. Hiking, lighthouse tours, canoeing, kayaking, fishing. Short season: May 23-Sept. 6. 60 rooms, 20 cabins; \$209-360; [www.rockharborlodge.com](http://www.rockharborlodge.com).

**LUTSEN RESORT, Lake Superior, Minn.** The great North Woods celebrates Scandinavian heritage at a lodge set amid birches and spruce. Winter skiing and snowshoeing; summer hiking, kayaking, and canoeing. Waterside bonfires by Lake Superior. Privacy? Bunk in log cabins away from the lodge. 160 rooms; \$59-559; [www.lutsenresort.com](http://www.lutsenresort.com).

**WATER STREET INN, Stillwater, Minn.** Once the 1890 Lumber Exchange Building; now a lovingly restored three-story inn on the St. Croix River. Remembrances of things past: original pressed-tin ceiling in the lobby and dining room, 1903 mahogany baby grand in the Irish Bar, bathrooms reincarnated from walk-in vaults. Up-to-date: high-speed Internet and a Sunday brunch that draws the locals. Plum location in town's National Historic District. 41 rooms; \$129-299; [www.waterstreetinn.us](http://www.waterstreetinn.us).

**SHACK UP INN, Clarksdale, Miss.** Luxury? Forget about it. Get ready for basic shacks in high cotton. Kitchenettes, spare furnishings with touches of Victorian gingerbread. Posters of Delta jazzmen. In the main shack, LPs and upright pianos play to the music-inclined. At night, gather in the authentic cotton gin for blues jams with the owners—Mississippi boys all. 10 rooms; \$60-85; [www.shackupinn.com](http://www.shackupinn.com).

**MONMOUTH PLANTATION, Natchez, Miss.** This 1818 plantation drips Dixie tradition: wisteria-framed gardens, croquet lawns and guest rooms full of authentic antebellum furniture. (The jet tubs? Modern.) Five-course dinners in formal dining room and traditional Southern breakfast ensure—yes, Scarlett—you'll never go hungry again. 30 rooms; \$195-350; [www.monmouthplantation.com](http://www.monmouthplantation.com).

**GRAND UNION HOTEL, Fort Benton, Mont.** Queen Victoria meets Wyatt Earp. The three-story, 1882 gray-stone grandee sat right at the center of the West's lively fur trade. Furnished in cowboy style with high ceilings, soft beds. What's more: Missouri River views, a microbrew saloon, and grilled buffalo at the Union Grille (the summer-only restaurant). Breakfast

"One of the specialties of the house is Mackinac whitefish, which is caught in our waters."

Dan Musser III  
owner/president  
Grand Hotel

included year-round. 26 rooms; \$85-180; [www.grandunionhotel.com](http://www.grandunionhotel.com).

**GOOD MEDICINE LODGE, Whitefish, Mont.** Fashioned from stout cedar beams; inside, lodgepole-pine beds, Native American art, a vintage postcard collection of Glacier N.P., and mountain views set an authentic tone. Baths are luxuriously jetted; skiers are pampered with automatic boot dryers. New deck with hot tub and fire pit. Bonus: all-you-can-eat cookies. 9 rooms; \$95-240; [www.goodmedicinelodge.com](http://www.goodmedicinelodge.com).

**FEARRINGTON HOUSE COUNTRY INN & RESTAURANT, Pittsboro, N.C.** Milk white clapboard homestead in Chatham County enchants with pond-and-pasture serenity. Redbrick pathways coil through trellised English gardens; 1,200-acre verdant sweep hosts cows, goats, and donkeys. Rooms (each unique) long on Southern comforts: floral bedspreads, armoires crafted from old church doors. Haute-farmhouse fare and cooking classes in the restaurant (the original columned homestead). 32 rooms; \$250-545; [www.fearrington.com](http://www.fearrington.com).

**HOTEL DONALDSON, Fargo, N. Dak.** Urban-chic rehab of 1894 fraternal lodge, sparkplug of downtown. Each suite designed around local artist—one with bathtub that fills from ceiling; all with Bose stereos. Rooftop planted with prairie grasses, hot tub. Restaurant known for local bison and regional art. 17 rooms; \$170-330; [www.hoteldonaldson.com](http://www.hoteldonaldson.com).

**VIRGINIA HOTEL, Cape May, N.J.** Pure Victorian (built in 1879) meets timeless beach and boardwalk (a quick walk away) in what is considered America's original seaside resort. Several hundred Victorian-era buildings in the area make long walks fun. In-house restaurant is big on local farmers market produce and fresh shellfish. 24 rooms; \$100-475; [www.virginiahotel.com](http://www.virginiahotel.com).

**WOOLVERTON INN, Stockton, N.J.** A short drive from weekend-getaway meccas New Hope and Lambertville. Built in 1792 on ten acres cloistered by some 300 acres of farmland and forest. Produce and cut-flower gardens. Room decor: sleek, stylish mix of antiques and modern pieces; chintz used judiciously. Three-course breakfasts. 8 rooms and 5 cottages; \$145-425; [www.woolvertoninn.com](http://www.woolvertoninn.com).

**WENTWORTH BY THE SEA, New Castle, N.H.** In 1905 Teddy Roosevelt negotiated the Russo-Japanese War's end at this oceanfront inn—still brimming with stately aplomb: 36 luxury suites, tennis courts, dockside sailboats, and spa. Sip hot clam chowder beneath the muraled dining room rotunda. Sweeping seasonal chrysanthemum and daffodil displays. 161 rooms; \$179-899; [www.wentworth.com](http://www.wentworth.com).

**EL MONTE SAGRADO LIVING RESORT AND SPA, Taos, N. Mex.** Native American-inspired adobe-style property built in 2003 and already expanded. Sprawled across six acres at the foot of the Sangre de Cristos. Suites and casitas have walls painted with murals and private patios shaded by native cottonwood trees. Explore arts-oriented Taos; visit exhibitions at resort's own Grand Bohemian Gallery, whose gift shop is all about local art and jewelry. 84 rooms; \$139-769; [www.elmontesagrado.com](http://www.elmontesagrado.com).

**MABEL DODGE LUHAN HOUSE, Taos, N. Mex.** Artist retreat at the end of quiet road. A 200-

year-old adobe building with mud-plastered walls, kiva fireplaces, and hand-carved beds in rooms once graced by D.H. Lawrence and Georgia O'Keeffe. No TVs or phones means more time to explore in-house bookstore and read Lawrence. 19 rooms; \$95-230; [www.mabeldodgeluhan.com](http://www.mabeldodgeluhan.com).

**SIERRA GRANDE LODGE AND SPA, Truth or Consequences, N. Mex.** Landmark 1929 adobe lodge atop mineral waters, surrounded by salamander-speckled cactus, succulents, and desert willows. Cowboy and Native American art panels sunlit rooms fashioned to soothe (two with private mineral bath). Alfresco geothermal hot spring tubs, mineral pools, and spa treatments. 18 rooms; \$99-425; [www.sierra.grandelodge.com](http://www.sierra.grandelodge.com).

**MIRROR LAKE INN RESORT AND SPA, Lake Placid, N.Y.** Luxurious inn set on hilltop overlooking Adirondack High Peaks and Mirror Lake. One block from Main Street. Rooms and suites: mahogany accents, antique windows, artisan birch furniture, intricate stonework. Adirondack chairs dot property. Toboggan chute in winter. Famous for flapjacks with hot—local—maple syrup. 131 rooms; \$250-1,400; [www.mirrorlakeinn.com](http://www.mirrorlakeinn.com).

**BUTTERMILK FALLS INN AND SPA, Milton, N.Y.** An Edenesque Hudson Valley metropolis antidote an easy 90 miles from Manhattan. Original building dates from 1764; solar/geothermal spa crafted from a garage in 2007. Chickens and peacocks roam the aviary (safe from the resident llamas and Angora goats); the garden is organic. Chef: Culinary Institute of America graduate and Slow Food member. 13 rooms, 3 carriage houses, 2 cottages; \$225-600; [www.buttermilkfallsinn.com](http://www.buttermilkfallsinn.com).

**MOHONK MOUNTAIN HOUSE, New Paltz, N.Y.** Sprawling, castle-like Victorian resort built in 1869. Still family-run, with an emphasis on environmental stewardship. Activities for miles: hiking, caving, rock climbing, skating, golf, lake swimming. Spa with solarium. 138 fireplaces and 238 balconies with 600+ rocking chairs. 265 rooms; \$480-920; [www.mohonk.com](http://www.mohonk.com).

**THE BLUE MOON HOTEL, New York, N.Y.** Manhattan's Lower East Side tenement turned boutique hotel. Public-space walls lined with collages of historic newspaper clippings, bank receipts, etc., evoke the building's past. Rooms have original wood moldings, wrought-iron beds, art nouveau light fixtures; present tense: flat-screen TVs and free Wi-Fi. 22 rooms; \$255-1,050; [www.bluemoon-nyc.com](http://www.bluemoon-nyc.com).

**THE INN ON 23RD, New York, N.Y.** Urban B&B in Chelsea town house. Decor and furnishings transplanted from home on Long Island, complete with family photos and heirlooms. Hostess is a former gallery owner. Breakfast, prepared by the Culinary Center of New York, served in library. 12 rooms; \$249-309; [www.innon23rd.com](http://www.innon23rd.com).

**LAFAYETTE HOUSE, New York, N.Y.** Perfectly preserved 19th-century town house near SoHo. Remnants of then: elegant antiques, pocket doors, hardwood floors, fireplaces, majestic beds, moldings. And now: Wi-Fi, flat-screen TVs with DVD players. Birdhouses on patio. 15 rooms; \$350-495; [www.lafayette NYC.com](http://www.lafayette NYC.com).

**HOHMEYER'S LAKE CLEAR LODGE, Lake Clear, N.Y.** German-infused Adirondack lodge run by local couple. Originally opened in 1886 by a great aunt and uncle as post office. For today's travelers: homemade wine and beer; simmering stockpots of sauerbraten. Fireplaces, jetted tubs, hydrotherapy steam showers. On 25 acres in St. Regis wilderness area. 3 rooms and 7 chalets; \$189-329; [www.lodgeonlakeclear.com](http://www.lodgeonlakeclear.com).

**WALDEN COUNTRY INN & STABLES, Aurora, Ohio** Classical Ralph Lauren-style equestrian retreat complete with stables, 175-year-old barn, silo, tennis courts, and golf course—set on 1,000 acres of undeveloped pastures and woodland in Ohio's Western Reserve. Cedar-paneled ceilings, slate-tiled bathrooms, and broad windows bedeck gracious rooms (1,000 to 1,500 square feet). Luminous, brand-new spa and outdoor pool. About half the food served comes from local sources. 27 rooms; \$250-395; [www.waldenco.com](http://www.waldenco.com).

**INN AT PRICE TOWER, Bartlesville, Okla.** Seven stories of glass-enclosed sleeping lofts on the upper floors of Frank Lloyd Wright's only skyscraper. Updated decor channels the architect: raw copper detailing, fireplaces, Cherokee red leather chairs. Freshly baked cookies at your bedside, dinner on the terrace of the Copper Restaurant + Bar. National Historic Landmark as of 2007. 19 rooms; \$125-245; [www.innatpricetower.com](http://www.innatpricetower.com).

**TATANKA RANCH, Stroud, Okla.** Home on the range. Rock-and-log buildings, cowhide everywhere, and slate-tiled bathrooms give the 1,000-acre spread a Western feel. Facials in the spa. Bass in the lake. Nearby: three wineries and one rodeo arena. Guided trail tours to view native wildlife. 10 cabins, 1 guesthouse; \$100-265; [www.thetatankaranch.com](http://www.thetatankaranch.com).

**CANNERY PIER HOTEL, Astoria, Ore.** A relative newcomer (2005) 600 feet from shore on the Columbia River. A fish cannery in the 19th century, the regional-art-adorned place now serves up locally caught sea fare and native Oregon wines. Complimentary trips into downtown Astoria in the Cannery's chauffured 1939 Buick. Finnish sauna, day spa, in-suite fireplaces. 46 rooms; \$159-550; [www.cannerypierhotel.com](http://www.cannerypierhotel.com).

**HOTEL ELLIOTT, Astoria, Ore.** A developer's votive to his hometown—a wood-paneled downtown hotel (built 1924, restored 2000, reopened 2003) that adds deco-style incandescence to this foggy river port. Suites have fireplaces, snugly down duvets, heated stone bath floors. Basement wine bar for local vintages. 32 rooms; \$169-650; [www.hotelelliott.com](http://www.hotelelliott.com).

**SYLVIA BEACH HOTEL, Newport, Ore.** The last of Oregon's early 20th-century beach chalets. Fashioned from shipwreck lumber, this bluffside beachcomber—with its trademark teal and yellow paint job—sits 45 feet above the surf. Books everywhere; nary a TV. Nooks for reading and hot toddies. Gardens covered in roses and wild lupine. 20 rooms; \$70-188; [www.sylvia.beachhotel.com](http://www.sylvia.beachhotel.com).

**MCMENAMINS EDGEFIELD, Troutdale, Ore.** Brothers Mike and Brian McMenamin redefined community-friendly hotels, inviting neighbors to eat, meet, and drink in their 1960s-inspired West Coast hosteliery. Former farm; rooms come dressed with chenille spreads and vintage furniture. Plus there's a Jerry Garcia bar and trippy murals. No TVs anywhere. But there's a golf course surrounded by native plantings and a brand-new outdoor heated pool. 114 rooms; \$30-133; [www.mcmenamins.com](http://www.mcmenamins.com).

**"Throughout the property's 139-year history, the goal has been to create minimal impact on the environment."**

Bert Smiley  
president  
Mohonk Mountain  
House

**SETTLERS INN, Hawley, Pa.** Arts-and-crafts lodge in country town. Native bluestone fireplace, chestnut beams, mission-style furniture throughout. Hiking and biking expeditions to nearby waterfalls. Herbs and edible flowers direct from the garden. Bread fresh from the inn's ovens. On the other hand: flat-screen LCD TVs. 21 rooms; \$140-365; [www.thesettlersinn.com](http://www.thesettlersinn.com).

**THE HOTEL FAUCHÈRE, Milford, Pa.** An 1880 Victorian Italianate oasis in the Upper Delaware River region. Shaded by native red and sugar maples. Hudson River School paintings grace the walls. Kiehl's body products; heated bathroom floors. Room decor both streamlined and cushy. Provisions supplied by local growers to the in-house Delmonico restaurant. Arty bar. 16 rooms; \$200-350; [www.hotelfauchere.com](http://www.hotelfauchere.com).

**CHANLER AT CLIFF WALK, Newport, R.I.** Three-story Georgian revival building on Newport's Cliff Walk (3.5 miles of oceanfront property). Unconventional: Edwardian sitting room in lieu of front desk lobby. Themed guest rooms have antique oil paintings, canopy beds, and marble-and-granite bathrooms. Yum factor: the burgers at the Chanler's Spiced Pear Restaurant. 20 rooms; \$275-1,295; [www.thechanler.com](http://www.thechanler.com).

**VANDERBILT HALL HOTEL, Newport, R.I.** Brick New England colonial on quiet cobblestone street of Newport's Historic Hill. Built by a Vanderbilt in 1909 as men's social club. Balustrade staircase, restored period pieces, requisite dark wood. Harbor view from roof deck. Local art on display. Gilded Age Newport mansions nearby. 33 rooms; \$199-1,000; [www.vanderbiltcr.com](http://www.vanderbiltcr.com).

**INN AT PALMETTO BLUFF, Bluffton, S.C.** Gracefully secluded golf resort in a white-picket-fence village in South Carolina low country. Airy cottages have large screened porches, May River views, fireplaces, and plasma TVs. 18-hole Jack Nicklaus golf course, spa, tours of Savannah and Beaufort, miles of walking trails. 50 cottages; \$475-2,200; [www.palmettobluffresort.com](http://www.palmettobluffresort.com).

**THE INN AT MIDDLETON PLACE, Charleston, S.C.** Architectural sleekness on bluffs of Ashley River that lets nature do the talking: Cypress paneling and mission-style desks bring out colors of trees, and floor-to-ceiling windows reveal surrounding woodlands. Nature tours. Holistic cooking classes. Labyrinth, swan-dotted reflection pools, secret gardens. Carriage rides through bamboo forest. 52 rooms; \$179-500; [www.theinnatmiddletonplace.com](http://www.theinnatmiddletonplace.com).

**THE PEABODY, Memphis, Tenn.** Downtown landmark of stately design near musical Beale Street. Daily "duck march" parades house marlards to/fro a lobby fountain. 2006 room redo installed plush mattresses, modernized bathrooms. Timeless: Elvis Presley's former tailor sells rockin' clothing on-site. 464 rooms; \$245-2,200; [www.peabodymemphis.com](http://www.peabodymemphis.com).

**HOTEL SAN JOSE, Austin, Tex.** Located deep in the heart of hip South Congress Street, a 1939 bungalow-style travelers' oasis incorporating native succulents and cactus into its outdoors design. Furnished mid-century modern/minimalist. Candlelit lounge. Pool. 40 rooms (a planned 2009 addition will mean 15 more); \$95-375; [www.sanjosehotel.com](http://www.sanjosehotel.com).

**THE HOUSTONIAN HOTEL, Houston, Tex.** Long-standing city standard for top-notch comfort and service. Sheltered from surrounding cityscape by pine trees and oaks on 18 wooded acres. Grand is the word: 30-foot-tall stone fire-

place in lobby, floor-to-ceiling windows in guest rooms, 125,000-square-foot health club with 35 personal trainers. 288 rooms; \$195-2,800; [www.houstonian.com](http://www.houstonian.com).

**GAGE HOTEL, Marathon, Tex.** Not far from Big Bend N.P., this Southwestern adobe-style hotel was once a gathering place for ranchers and miners. Guest room doors reclaimed from old Mexican haciendas. Museum-quality furnishings. A wealth of tequilas to sample in cozy White Buffalo Bar. 36 rooms, 3 cottages; \$78-363; [www.gagehotel.com](http://www.gagehotel.com).

**THUNDERBIRD MOTEL, Marfa, Tex.** A roadside work of modern art: 1959 low-end motel revamped with highbrow design, sophistication, and humor. Court local artists in the lounge, where vinyl 78s—no satellite radio here—provide the soundtrack. The swimming pool fence is made from indigenous ocotillo, a desert shrub. Borrow bikes to explore vernacular West Texas adobes. 24 rooms; \$125-200; [www.thunderbirdmarfa.com](http://www.thunderbirdmarfa.com).

**SUNDANCE RESORT, Sundance, Utah** Native American-accented cottages at base of Mount Timpanogos born out of Robert Redford's desire to create a retreat centered around homegrown art and culture. Author series. Film screenings. Eco-friendly building practices and products. Pottery and painting classes at resort's Art Shack. 98 cottages, 10 mountain homes; \$250-1,939; [www.sundanceresort.com](http://www.sundanceresort.com).

**CLIFTON INN, Charlottesville, Va.** Landmark 1799 inn built by Thomas Jefferson's son-in-law. Antiques-filled rooms freshened by bright color schemes in cottages, farmhouse, and main colonial. Contemporary: spa-jet showers, Italian linens, CD library. 100-acre spread spans private lake, infinity pool, manicured gardens. 18 rooms; \$205-635; [www.cliftoninn.net](http://www.cliftoninn.net).

**KESWICK HALL, Keswick, Va.** Inviting colonial grandeur on rolling 600-acre estate not far from Monticello. Each room unique; some with four-poster beds, terraces. Traditional elegance throughout: wood-burning fireplaces, snooker table, well-tended lush gardens. Library (with 400 books on Virginia). Arnold Palmer golf course. The 2:1 staff-to-guest ratio assures service befitting the manor-born. 48 rooms; \$295-950; [www.keswick.com](http://www.keswick.com).

**GENERAL FRANCIS MARION HOTEL, Marion, Va.** Roaring Twenties vintage small-town find. Careful 2006 restoration reduced room inventory, doubling guest space square footage. Period details: playing-card tile motif in the Card Room, walnut-paneled ballroom. Millennial updates: flat-screen TVs, free high-speed Internet. 36 rooms; \$75-199; [www.gfmhotel.com](http://www.gfmhotel.com).

**INN AT NARROW PASSAGE, Woodstock, Va.** Rustic colonial-era 1740 log inn on five acres fronting the Shenandoah River. Exposed beams and timber walls in original building; rooms in 1983 addition open onto porches. Old-fashioned appeal: lemonade on the front lawn, fly-fishing on the river. Newfangled: free Wi-Fi, AC. 12 rooms; \$135-165; [www.innatnarrowpassage.com](http://www.innatnarrowpassage.com).

**CAVE B INN AT SAGECLIFFE, Quincy, Wash.** Completed in 2005: A cliffside winery inn echoes surrounding hills in curved metal roofs, local basalt rock walls. Floor-to-ceiling guest room windows frame sunset over the Columbia

River Gorge, 900 feet below. Toast with a glass of Cabernet from adjoining Cave B Estate Winery. Organic garden provisions restaurant. 30 rooms; \$160-550; [www.sagecliffe.com](http://www.sagecliffe.com).

**BASIN HARBOR CLUB, Vergennes, Vt.** Home-style cottages scattered across grounds of Basin Harbor, on the shores of Lake Champlain. Custom millwork, artisanal screened doors, and native-stone fireplaces. Some 15,000 square feet of gardens bloom with scores of annuals and perennials. Almost endless list of outdoorsy things to do; on-site Kid's Camp makes for smiles all around. 49 rooms and 74 cottages; \$150-550; [www.basinharbor.com](http://www.basinharbor.com).

**HOTEL VINTAGE PARK, Seattle, Wash.** Downtown wine-themed hotel across the street from Rem Koolhaas-designed Seattle Public Library. Gold and red tones punch up rooms; yoga TV channel, yoga mats supplied. Dedicated "wine concierge" organizes winery visits; nightly reception with on-the-house wines. 125 rooms; \$139-695; [www.hotelvintagepark.com](http://www.hotelvintagepark.com).

**THE GREENBRIER, White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.** Undiluted countryside Americana on a large scale: classic 6,500-acre getaway in the Allegheny Mountains dates to 1778. \$50 million invested in 2007: new bathrooms, plasma TVs, serious restaurant. Vivid Dorothy Draper floral-themed interiors remain. Diversions abound: mineral baths, tours of the hotel's Cold War-era congressional bunker, falconry, and lots more. 721 rooms; \$275-900; [www.greenbrier.com](http://www.greenbrier.com).

**RITTENHOUSE INN, Bayfield, Wis.** Rehabbed 1890 summer "cottage" with wraparound veranda a few blocks from Lake Superior's shore. Native timber woodwork; original gas-lamps-gone-electric; Victorian decor with antiques throughout. Inn's oversize windows frame Madeleine Island views. Local trout on menu; homemade hot fudge to go. 25 rooms; \$110-305; [www.rittenhouseinn.com](http://www.rittenhouseinn.com).

**CANOE BAY, Chetek, Wis.** 280 tranquil acres in the state's rural northwest. Accommodations: cottages and a lodge. Cantilevered decks, stone fireplaces, vaulted ceilings pay homage to Frank Lloyd Wright's organic architecture. Hiking, fishing, kayaking, canoeing. Dining, gourmet; foodies forage with the chef for local mushrooms, ramps (wild leeks), and several sorts of berries. Adults only. 21 rooms; \$325-1,800; [www.canoebay.com](http://www.canoebay.com).

**MANSION HILL INN, Madison, Wis.** 1857 German Renaissance revival house just two blocks from the State Capitol. Meticulous restoration; original Venetian-glass windows, Italian marble parlor fireplace, Swedish wrought-iron balconies. Guest room antique decor tastefully restrained; tech updates in DVD players, free Wi-Fi. Organic breakfast granola; happy hour wine. 11 rooms; \$150-345; [www.mansionhillinn.com](http://www.mansionhillinn.com).

**THE WORT HOTEL, Jackson Hole, Wyo.** Downtown 1941 landmark sits one boardwalked block from town square. Frontier Western all the way: lodgepole-pine beds, cowhide pillows, regional art. Locals love it here: lobby fireplace is a popular meeting spot; the lively Silver Dollar Bar, true to its name, is embedded with 2,032 coins. 59 rooms; \$169-699; [www.worthotel.com](http://www.worthotel.com).

**"We installed a glassworks kiln to recycle bottles into art and housewares used around the property."**

Celeste Dennis  
Art Shack manager  
Sundance Resort