

Spring break travel: Ideas to help you plan the ultimate getaway

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Spring break is right around the corner.

Whether you're planning a last-minute trip for this year or looking ahead to 2021, we have some ideas that can help you experience the ultimate getaway.

Mix it up in Mexico

Looking to be in the center of the action? Then you'll want to head to Cabo San Lucas. While there are many hotels to choose from, you'll be stunned by the beauty and luxury of the newly opened **Le Blanc Spa Resort Los Cabos**, an adults-only property on Mexico's Baja California Peninsula. The all-inclusive beachfront destination features 24-hour room service, a plethora of world-class dining options, in-room pedestal tubs, butler service and an award-winning 29,000-square-foot full-service spa with 25 treatment rooms.

Book a class at the hotel's massive fitness center. With daily offerings of Pilates, yoga, spinning and more, there is no shortage of options. Guests can also rent a poolside cabana and take in the sights while relaxing. More adventurous? Schedule a catamaran tour across the Sea of Cortez or partake in a whale watching expedition.

With so many dining options, it's easy to get overwhelmed, especially at an all-inclusive. You will want to make reservations at **Lumiere**. Try the seven-course tasting menu, complete with wine pairings. Plates include everything from grilled seared tuna to oven-roasted mutton. More casual restaurants include **Mezze**, an homage to Lebanese cuisine, **Blanc Italia** and **Blanc Pizza**.



Dining at Lumiere restaurant at Le Blanc Spa Resort Los Cabos is an exquisite experience. (Photo: Lumiere)

For a kid-friendly luxury resort, look no further than **Viceroy Los Cabos**. Opened in 2018, the hotel boasts an amazing modern design, and the accommodations are elegant and spacious with large terraces or balconies. With four pools and amazing views, the hotel also offers a kids club as well as babysitting so adults can relax and get some time away.

Make time to enjoy **The Spa at Viceroy Los Cabos** because it will delight your senses. Whether you opt for the signature facial or a body treatment, you are in for a treat. The facility offers a cold plunge pool, Jacuzzi, sauna and much more. With 11 treatment rooms, plus a beauty bar offering mani-pedis and a full-service hair salon, the spa's primary goal is to provide zen for the senses and rest for the mind.

Dine at **NIDO**, specializing in robatayaki (a table-side Japanese grill), the freshest harvest from the sea and spectacular views of the sunset. Must tries from the grill include red snapper and short ribs. Order the chicken ginger dumplings, and don't skip the dessert.



At VIDASOUL Hotel you can revel in sun, sand and surf. (Photo: VIDASOUL)

For an experience that is off the grid, look no further than **VIDASOUL Hotel**, a 16-room boutique hotel in the oasis village of Boca de la Vinorama, on the East Cape of Baja, Mexico. The eco-friendly resort is completely run on solar energy, encouraging guests to be mindful of power and water usage, while providing spectacular views and modern amenities. Because there are no restaurants nearby, the hotel provides excellent dining options for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

VIDASOUL owner Joan Hafenecker believes in working with local businesses such as **Cabo Coffee** and **Sierra Chicken** to support the local community and deliver a true local experience to visitors. The spot is heralded as a destination for surfing from March to October. The hotel also hosts many weekend concerts from November through May. Many of the rooms are decorated with art from local artists, highlighting the uniqueness of this remote location.



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For the love of adventure

The Island of Hawaii is more laid-back and offers lower rates than some of the other popular Hawaiian Islands. Fly into Hilo International Airport and begin with a stay at **Volcano Village Lodge**, a charming bed and breakfast just 2 miles from Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. You'll have the unique experience of staying in a cabin amid a rainforest, with breakfast delivered to your door the night before so you can have the flexibility of starting the day when you want.



You can stay in a cozy cabin in the rainforest at Volcano Village Lodge on the Big Island. (Photo: Volcano Village Lodge)

Visit **Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park**, where you'll have the opportunity to explore some of the most beautiful landscapes on the Island of Hawaii. A popular day hike is the **Kilauea Iki Trail**, a moderate stroll that will take you through a rainforest to a lava lake and leave you in awe of the nature surrounding you.



If you like adventure, consider hiking Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park during your spring break. (Photo: Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park)

Do a tour and tasting workshop at **Shaka Tea HQ & Retail Experience Center** in Hilo, where you'll learn about the company's teas made with mānaki, a native Hawaiian plant. All leaves are harvested on the island, supporting and promoting the culture behind Hawaiian farmers.

About two hours away is the **Kohala Coast**, green and lush — at one time this area was home to an abundance of sugar cane plantations. Nestled on 50 acres of orchards and ancient valley trails is the **Hawaiian Island Retreat**, a luxurious ecolodge focused on sustainable materials and solar power. On-site are 10 rooms and suites that feature soaking tubs and private balconies, a saltwater infinity pool, and a yoga studio offering private yoga sessions. Book the Hawaiian Bliss Face and Body Treatment at the outdoor spa where you'll overlook the valley leading to the ocean with spectacular views.

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Start early the next morning with a two-hour excursion with **ATV Outfitters Hawaii** that will take you on a 15-mile journey through the oldest rainforest on the Island of Hawaii, riding under canopies of trees and through patches of wild ginger. Later that night, embark on a romantic Pau Hana Sunset Cruise with **Hawaii Ocean Sports** where you can sip on beverages and munch on snacks while enjoying the possibility of sighting a whale or two. (Prime whale watching season is Dec. 1 through mid-April.)

Fun for families



For a different spring break destination, consider staying at Bay Point Landing in Oregon. (Photo: Bay Point Landing)

Bay Point Landing is a special place along Oregon's wildest section of coastline where you can choose your own camping or glamping style. Bring your RV and enjoy the full hookups or select from the on-site Airstreams and sleek cabins with modern amenities. No matter which adventure suits you, every site has its own fire pit where families can roast s'mores under the stars.

The newly opened destination makes camping a comfortable experience by providing clean on-site shower facilities for those traveling with a family. With an indoor swimming pool, a 24-hour fitness center overlooking the scenic bay, a kids den and activity room, Bay Point Landing is the ultimate family getaway. While there are no restaurants on-site, there is a general store that supplies snacks and drinks. All units feature a kitchenette with stove top, pots and pans, and cooking tools for prepping your own meals.

Stop by **Noster Kitchen** for a bite to eat. It provides fresh and wholesome food using local and mostly organic ingredients, and there is much to choose from. A daily egg scramble with a heaping scoop of avocado can get you and everyone else started before hiking the **Cape Arago Loop**, a 4-mile trek that will take you through creeks and forests with plenty of ocean views.

Drive about 30 minutes away and experience an ATV tour at **Spinreel Dune Buggy and ATV Rental** and witness the Oregon Dunes, a 32,000-acre stretch of wind-sculpted sand that is the largest expanse of coastal sand dunes in North America. In places, the Dunes extend 2.5 miles inland, and some are as high as 500 feet, offering breathtaking views to get the kiddos excited. If you prefer a more low-key activity, book a yoga class at **Mossy Lotus** in downtown Coos Bay.