

THE EXPLORER

An Affordable Way to See The Hamptons

SEPTEMBER 16, 2016 12:00 pm Caloigh Alleyne 0 SHARE













The South Fork of Long Island is known for being a haven for affluent New Yorkers and celebrities fleeing the city in search of fresh farmland and oceanside views. After a weekend road-tripping through this region, to my surprise, I realized that there were a ton of activities to do in the eastern hamlets and villages of Long Island that are accessible for the everyday explorer.

The perfect destination for leaf-chasers, house-hunters and foodies alike to enjoy, take a look at what to do in the Hamptons this autumn:

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Where To Stay



Only an hour and a half from New York City, **Westhampton** is the perfect spot for those looking for more affordable accommodations. If you hope to experience the Hamptons like a local, your best option is to find a vacation rental property online with a group of friends. If you have the chance to travel during the "off season," to your advantage many of the properties are available for short-term weekend rentals (instead of full week) with rates that are often lower than in the summer peak periods. Lucky for you, this area of Long Island is just as beautiful in the autumn.

However, if you're looking for more of a vibrant waterfront stretch, head over to **Montauk**. At the end of the road you'll reach the eastern most point of Long Island where you'll find this surfer's paradise. Home of six state parks and known for its local fisheries, **Montauk** exudes a youthful energy that's worth exploring. For an artistic and upbeat vibe, visit **Surf Lodge** nestled on Fort Pond Bay for delicious eats at their onsite restaurant, to hang out on their open-air deck or to stay in one of their 32 waterfront rooms. Or, for those looking for something more luxurious, swing by the **Montauk Yacht Club** to stay at a resort oasis with three pools, four tennis courts, a spa and a marina.

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What To Do



The best way to see the South Fork is by taking time for a leisurely drive along the coast and through the farmlands. Begin with a drive down the Montauk Highway to visit the [Westhampton Farmers Market Farmstand](#). Every day they sell an assortment of produce, freshly-baked Blue Duck Breads, baked goods, cheeses from nearby farms and other jams and spreads for locals and visitors to enjoy.

Many of the local shops and restaurants are along Main Street in [Westhampton Beach](#). Save some time to take the scenic drive along Dune Road to see the rows of beachfront mansions along the Atlantic shore.

Travel up Montauk Highway on Route 27 East to explore [The Hamptons Wine Trail](#). For those visiting in the fall, plan your harvest season routes to see changing leaves while sipping and savoring bountiful wines from nearby Long Island vineyards. While there are over 60 vineyards all over Long Island, South Fork favorites include [Duck Walk Vineyards](#), [Channing Daughters Winery](#), [Wolffer Estate Vineyard](#) and [The Grapes of Roth](#).

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Continue your scenic drive along the Montauk Highway, passing through the affluent area of East Hampton. Take your time to catch glimpses of the quintessential Americana houses along the way. Escape the fresh fall winds by exploring a local gallery or plan your visit around a local art fair. The [Hamptons Art Hub](#) is a great resource to learn about the upcoming arts and cultural activities.

Where To Eat



While there is plenty along the Main Street stretch, all of the locals we spoke to recommended heading over to [John Scott's Surf Shack](#) for a cool drink and the catch of the day. Known for their delicious steamers, lobster rolls and wing night, John Scott's is well loved for their hearty meals and laid back atmosphere.











Be sure to also drop by [Brewology295](#) for some of the best craft brews in the area. Pairing small batch craft beer with freshly-made food with local ingredients, this gastro-pub playfully displays what is currently on tap on a periodic table allowing guests to sample seasonal brews. Brewology295 is open nightly for dinner and for brunch on weekends.

For a quick bite with devoted line every morning, [Goldberg's Famous Deli](#) caters to the New Yorker looking for a tasty breakfast on the go. They are best known for their bagels and other breakfast foods that are made fresh onsite daily.

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