

## Thursday, January 19, 2017

### Winter Getaway and Staycation Ideas on Long Island

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When people think about a visit to Long Island, they typically think of warm weather, beaches and sunshine. But now is a perfect time to visit (or plan a staycation) to beat the winter doldrums.

Hotels are offering special hotel packages that combine a stay with several fun options. You could book a romantic and relaxing package that include spa services; or bring the whole family for a weekend that combines admission tickets to the local aquarium or children's museum.

The wineries are open year-round and a romantic trip to wine country is a great way to explore that region before the crowds of summer come pouring in. Several hotels offer overnight stays that include a wine tour and tastings. And for the especially hardy, you can book a golf weekend getaway and practice your shots before the summer starts.

Want to plan your own getaway that combines a hotel stay with a local attraction. Find things to do here. Or you can just keep it simple and make a plan to get together with family and/or friends for a 'Pool Party Weekend.' You find a hotel with an indoor pool and restaurant where you can shut out the cold and snow and relax in comfort. Order in, watch a movie, take a swim, enjoy the hot tub.

Want to get away with some friends? Book a [Spa-jama Getaway](#) at the Inn and Spa at East Wind. The package includes Balancing Facial or Essentials Massage (50 min); luxury overnight accommodations; spa lunch at Desmond's Restaurant; a round of cocktails at Desmond's Lounge; and breakfast at Myra's Coffee Shop.

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Or consider a [Wine Country Getaway](#) at the Hilton Garden Inn in Riverhead and you'll receive luxury transportation to visit three select wineries, complimentary tastings at each location, boxed lunch or a food voucher at a local vineyard, and a farm to table breakfast.

The Inn and Spa at East Wind offers an East End Wine Tour getaway that includes transportation and tasting at three Long Island Vineyards luxurious overnight accommodations in a Deluxe Double Queen Room; picnic lunch to go; dinner in Desmond's Restaurant and a bottle of wine; breakfast in Myra's Café; and a la carte services in the Spa & Salon – \$50 value per person.

If you're booking a stay with your family or children, you could also consider a hotel that includes a visit to local attractions like Spring Hill Suites Aquarium Experience, which includes admission to the Long Island Aquarium in Riverhead. Enjoy luxury accommodations and two tickets to Long Island's Aquarium and Exhibition Center. The aquarium is only five minutes away. If you're interested in purchasing extra tickets just ask the front desk. Extend the activities by visiting Tanger Outlets, which is located directly across from our hotel. You'll also receive a complimentary coupon book for Tanger that offers over \$1,600 in savings.

The Hampton Inn Garden City [Family Fun Package for Four](#), includes four tickets to the Long Island Children's Museum, located just one mile from the Hampton Inn Garden City, and overnight accommodations.

Make some time for a romantic getaway with the Inn at Fox Hollow Suite Surrender package, which includes overnight stay in a luxury suite, champagne, roses and chocolates; dinner for two at Volpe restaurant at the Fox Hollow; and breakfast for two at the Inn at Fox Hollow.

The Hyatt Place East End's Romance in Riverhead package includes overnight accommodations for two: \$60 Gift Card to a local restaurant; chocolate-covered strawberries and sparkling wine; complimentary breakfast for two; early check-in/late check-out when available. There are several other Romance Packages offered right now so it's a great idea to start thinking ahead for Valentine's Day too.

Or if you want to get some golf in before the season kicks into full swing, the Inn and Spa at East Wind offer a Golf and Stay package that includes luxurious Overnight Accommodations; dinner at Desmond's Restaurant \$50 Value; breakfast at Myra's Cafe \$10 value per person; 18 Holes with all day use of a golf cart at Great Rock, adjacent to East Wind; and indoor pool and fitness center.

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Want to bring your pet along on a getaway? The Andrew Hotel in Great Neck has a special 'Pampered Pet Package,' which includes luxury accommodations for you and your pet, a special welcome pet amenity, complimentary dog walks and turn-down service with treats for you and your pet.

There are a lot of events still going on at our local museums. There's a Norman Rockwell era exhibit at the Heckscher Museum, a Long Island in the 60s exhibit at the LI Museum and a photography exhibit at the Nassau Museum of Art. Or plan an evening out at one of our local theaters and music halls where you'll find everything from great musical performance comedy and live performances.

And some people might not realize it, but our wineries, breweries and distilleries are open year-round for tastings and tours. Many feature live music during the winter months. You can arrange for transportation or a tour. Or, why not make a weekend of it and spend a winter getaway at a charming B&B.

There are a lot of other things to see and do on Long Island, even in the heart of winter. Find more at: [www.discoverlongisland.com](http://www.discoverlongisland.com)

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