Condé Nast
Traveler
DECEMBER 2020
where travel will take us in 2021
22

redpoint

HOTELS AND RESORTS

Beach Hotels for an Off-Season Winter Getaway

Turns out these new Northeast oceanside spots are great in the cold

BY ANDREW SESSA

November 11, 2020

December in Quidnet, Nantucket *The Gray Lady* by Nathan Coe

All listings featured on Condé Nast Traveler are independently selected by our editors. If you book something through our links, we may earn an affiliate commission.

redpoint

Nothing about last summer was typical, including the delayed opening of several much-anticipated beachfront properties until the season was just winding down. But there's a silver lining: All are worth hitting up during a midwinter break. Think of a cozy long weekend taking in stormy Atlantic views from a gigantic, warm bed; unwinding by the fireplace; and seaside restaurants frequented by locals who know the special magic of the area outside the tourist crush. If you need an extra nudge to visit the beach when the weather isn't beachy, remember how meaningful it is to bring business to these communities, which were so hard-hit by the loss of the summer season.

Hammetts Hotel, Newport The late-August opening meant summer sunset drinks on the patio were only briefly possible this year. But the space is enclosed during the winter months, with a menu of seasonal cocktails to choose from as the low New England sun goes down (at 4:30, mind you). The maritime-themed hotel is walking distance from historic Thames Street, where the Italian hot spot Vieste serves up warming bowls of local mussels. Or ask the cheery staff at Hammetts if you can take a plate of steamy littlenecks from on-site restaurant Giusto out to the heated waterfront deck. *Doubles from $124; hammettshotel.com or expedia.com*

The Rockaway Hotel, Queens, New York New York City's most unexpected new hotel opened on Labor Day weekend, which means guests will have to bundle up on the beach till next year. The good news is it's possible to surf here year-round; a partnership with Locals Surf School means guests get wetsuits, boards, and an instructor to help them out. The Scandi-chic atmosphere inside, all blond woods and clean lines, works for the cooler months—just the kind of vibe you want for kicking back with a hot toddy after a windswept day on the boardwalk. *Doubles from $250; therockawayhotel.com or expedia.com*

Life House Nantucket December is the end of whale-watching season off Cape Cod, so throw on an extra-woolly sweater to see the humpbacks before they start their journey to warmer waters. Then head back to the three-month-old hotel for a scotch, neat, by the fire. If you find being on the open water too frigid, check out the holiday lights in town or try your hand at seasonally appropriate on-site activities like wine tasting and sourdough baking—assuming you didn't perfect that last skill in quarantine. *Doubles from $349; lifehousehotels.com or expedia.com*

redpoint

Condé Nast Traveler

HOTELS AND RESORTS

Beach Hotels for an Off-Season Winter Getaway

Turns out these new Northeast oceanside spots are great in the cold

BY ANDREW SESSA
November 25, 2020

Nothing about last summer was typical, including the delayed opening of several much-anticipated beachfront properties until the season was just winding down. But there's a silver lining: All are worth hitting up during a midwinter break. Think of a cozy long weekend taking in stormy Atlantic views from a gigantic, warm bed; unwinding by the fireplace; and seaside restaurants frequented by locals who know the special magic of the area outside the tourist crush. If you need an extra nudge to visit the beach when the weather isn't beachy, remember how meaningful it is to bring business to these communities, which were so hard-hit by the loss of the summer season.

All listings featured on Condé Nast Traveler are independently selected by our editors. If you book something through our links, we may earn an affiliate commission.

Hammetts Hotel, Newport

The late-June opening meant summer sunset drinks on the patio were only briefly possible this year. But the space is enclosed during the winter months, with a menu of seasonal cocktails to choose from as the low New England sun goes down (at 4:30, mind you). The maritime-themed hotel is walking distance from historic Thames Street, where the Italian hot spot Vieste serves up warming bowls of local mussels. Or ask the cheery staff at Hammetts if you can take a plate of steamy littlenecks from on-site restaurant Giusto out to the heated waterfront deck. *Doubles from $124; hammettshotel.com or expedia.com*