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ROAD TRIP

The Best Hamptons Hotels and Homes to Book This Summer

From beachside homes to an impeccably designed wellness retreat, these are the places to book when you need some serious relaxation

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Don't say we didn't warn you: Simply searching for Hamptons hotels will set you off on an hours-long summer getaway planning session. A mere 90 miles from New York City (though the traffic *can* make it feel farther), the Hamptons are a luxe destination for those wishing to break up the crowds of the city with some stretches of sand. Defined as a cluster of cities that span the Eastern region of Long Island's South Fork, this popular summer getaway is made up of Amagansett, Bridgehampton, East Hampton, Sagaponack, Sag Harbor, Southampton, Wainscott, Water Mill, and Montauk. And although the sheer number of villages and towns may make it seem like a large area, this is where the most beautiful part of the Hamptons comes into play: You can cover it all in a day. Measuring in at 54 miles long and between 0.5 and 1 mile wide, it's a classic East Coast road trip destination for a reason. Hop in the car, and you'll find yourself experiencing village after village, each with its own beach-y vibe and lobster rolls that only seem to get better as the miles roll on.

That said, the best way to experience the Hamptons—as well as its less scene-y North Shore—is to book a stay, treat it as home base, and head out to take in the beachside villages. Here, we gathered the best Hamptons hotels and home rentals, from rooms with ocean views to stays with private saltwater pools.

Shou Sugi Ban House, Water Mill



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\$936 AT SHOU SUGI
BAN HOUSE

Though most hotels and home rentals in the Hamptons offer an opportunity to explore the surrounding scenery, the Shou Sugi Ban House in Water Mill is more about looking inward. The luxe 13-room retreat calls itself a luxury wellness resort and offers up a menu of experiences from hydrotherapy and tea meditation to sound therapy and massage. The retreat's stunning design—and the core of its experiential offerings—is inspired by the ancient Japanese technique of charring wood for the sake of preservation, which is called *shou sugi ban*. Although you may not be spending a ton of time on the beach (and you won't want to leave, once you settle in), guests are invited to enjoy the on-site saltwater swimming pool, library, solarium deck, and cherry orchard. If you aren't looking to partake in the wellness retreats, it's also possible to book a stay in one of five guest rooms at the [Shou Sugi Ban Inn](#), a bed-and-breakfast connected to the main house via stone pathway.