



Mix & match on Fios.
Home internet starting at \$39.99

w/ Auto Pay + taxes, equip. charges. 100/100 Mbps

Disney+ on us

For the first year. Then
\$6.99/mo. after.



Learn more >

Getty

The Perfect Weekend in the Hamptons

by **PAUL RUBIO**

June 20, 2016



*When it turns out your best friend isn't renting a mansion or
hosting you this summer, follow our guide to an envy-*



The Hamptons. The very name evokes imagery of mega-mansions, heirloom jewels, charity galas, and other high-society hoopla... basically every delicious thing we've been fed on shows like *Revenge*, *Royal Pains*, and *Real Housewives* (and the stories from our friends on the Upper East Side). Indeed, this side of the Hamptons exists; but this long cluster of villages along the South Fork of Long Island, New York, also has a softer, more informal side: bucolic country roads lined with actual windmills, historic inns, no-frills seafood joints, a burgeoning wine country, and wide beaches that are as beautiful as the people preening on them. Though the Hampton you choose means everything to the seasonal population—often your most frequented addresses define your character, your cliques, and your financial status—fortunately, for visitors, a short weekend doesn't have borders. From Southampton village in the west to Montauk at land's end out east, it's possible to enjoy the region as one larger destination.

CHECKING IN

We'll tell you, flat out: Finding a great place to stay for a short weekend in the Hamptons is challenging. The **region skews toward home rentals**, and hotel options are limited. Top-tier inventory is claimed by huge deposits a year in advance with the requisite rental for an entire Hamptons' season, Memorial Day to Labor Day. Many homeowners won't even rent for a weekend—a full month or at least a week is standard.



SPONSORED

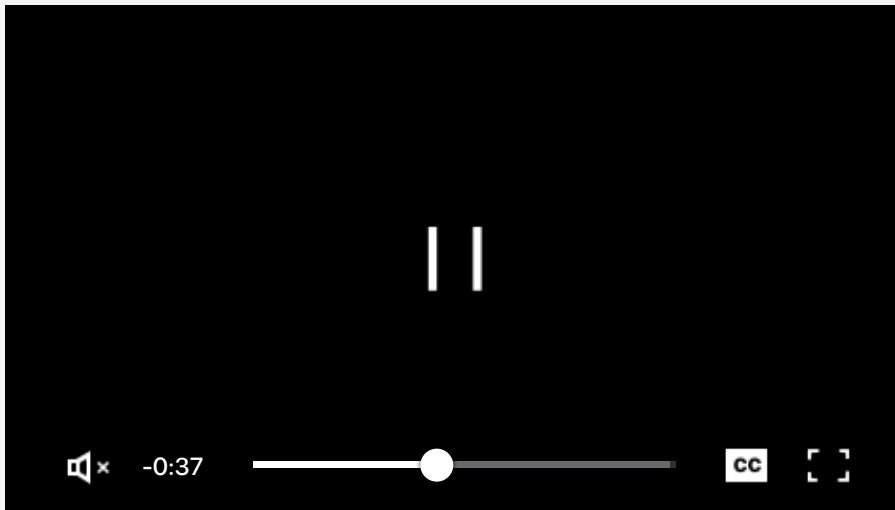
Start marketing on day one

By MAILCHIMP

However, there are exceptions. And Tripping.com, the **largest vacation rental website you've never heard of**, has just about all of them. **Tripping.com** pools short-term rental options from VRBO, HomeAway, Flipkey, and more. Just enter a specific Hampton (we recommend starting with selections including and east of Southampton village, such as Bridgehampton, Sagaponack, East Hampton village, and Amagansett), your desired dates, and voila: the choice is yours (and you'll see possibilities from an entire house to even a single room).

WATCH THIS

The Perfect Weekend on Martha's Vineyard



If going the turnkey route, check into the **Inn at Windmill Lane** located in the norm-core, hipster-frequented, blink-and-you'll-miss-it Hampton of Amagansett. The main inn has seven well-appointed suites with spacious marble bathrooms, wood-burning fireplaces, and private patios. For larger groups or more privacy, upgrade to one of three individual cottages or the four-bedroom “21 house.” Take full advantage of the many

inclusions like the daily gourmet breakfast spread—the scones are memorable—and the beach cruiser bikes for exploring back roads and hitting the beach (and avoiding the beach parking nightmare).



Explore Wölffer Estate Vineyard's estate—and its on-site gin distillery.

Courtesy Wölffer Estate Vineyard

DAY ONE: WINE & DINE

By the time you check in, it's likely you've dealt with mad traffic, and a glass of wine—or two, or three—is in order. Make your way to **Wölffer Estate Vineyard** in Sagaponack by early afternoon to experience the apex of the Hamptons' young wine country. Take a tour of the grand, European-inspired estate (formerly a potato farm) and walk among the barrels underground (and discover there's a subterranean gin distillery, too). Resurface for a tasting flight on the stone terrace, admiring the Merlot vineyard views. Stay for "Sunset Friday," a weekly summer event of live music, wine by the glass, and

charcuterie plates around the estate's Wine Stand from 5 p.m. until dark.

For dinner, book ahead at **Nick & Toni's** in East Hampton for an all out, farm-and-ocean-to-table Italian feast. The offshoot of the eponymous café in New York City's Upper West Side is a Hamptons institution with lots of old-school flavor (and old guard regulars). Start with the just-picked Local Beet Salad, before moving on to the housemade ricotta gnocchi with local asparagus or the wood-grilled Painted Hills NY strip steak topped with crispy red onion rings and a side of roasted mushrooms, foraged from surrounding forests.

DAY TWO: BEACHES, RETAIL THERAPY, & SAG HARBOR

Unless you have friends in high places with companion access to private beach clubs, rise and shine early to secure a parking space at one of the Hamptons' sprawling public beaches. We recommend Cooper's Beach, Southampton Village, or East Hampton Main Beach, which have spent some time on the **the "10 Best Beaches in the U.S."** list. The long stretches of white sands and placid waters are equally excellent, but we do love the added bonus of historic mansions and famous celebrity homes in plain view from Cooper's Beach. It's mostly families hanging out on both beaches, building sandcastles and having picnics, but there are plenty of nooks for unapologetic sun worshippers that just want to tune out with their iPhones/iPods.

Around 1 p.m., take your tan into the heart of East Hampton for lunch on the terrace of **Bostwick's Chowder House**. Start with a half-dozen cherrystone or littleneck clams on the half-shell to

snare alongside the nouse specialty—baked stuffed clams with celery stuffing—followed by either the broiled local flounder, Montauk scallops, or the classic lobster roll and fries.

Next, inch over to Newton Lane, East Hampton’s primary retail thoroughfare and get ready to swipe your credit card. You’ll find bespoke incarnations of the usual upscale suspects such as Calypso St. Barth, Intermix, Elie Tahari, and Tory Burch (which, in May 2016, converted last summer’s active wear pop-up, **Tory Sport**, into a permanent store). Look out for the pop-up return of luxury eyewear brand **Oliver Peoples** and women’s designer swimwear shop **Everything but Water** as well as a new, second location of **Brunello Cucinelli**, focused on home décor and casual, at-leisure couture. (Not to panic: The Italian fashion designer’s larger store with the full mens and women collection remains just around the corner.)



Try Bell & Anchor's bouillabaisse, which includes lobster tail, mussels, clams, and shrimp in a tomato saffron broth.

Courtesy Bell & Anchor

If you've managed to make fast friends and scored a Saturday evening invite to an exclusive Hamptons' affair (likely to appear on Wire Image) by all means, go for it! (Fabulous reading to inspire such a lofty goal is *Hamptons Entertaining* by socialite Annie Falk. We're obsessed!).

But it's probably best not to leave things to chance, so reserve a table at the laid-back, waterside restaurant **Bell & Anchor** in Sag Harbor. Arrive before sunset—you won't want to miss the purple hues common in these northern bayside reaches of the Hamptons. It may seem a slog to get here, but you'll avoid the congested Montauk Highway and get to see a more subdued, residential side of the Hamptons. Plus, the food is pretty amazing. If we had to pick just two must-try dishes, we'd have to go with the just-caught local fluke with crispy polenta, braised baby artichokes, and arugula-parsley pesto; and the creamy and rich lobster garganelli with corn, basil, and saffron cream.

DAY THREE: WELLNESS

Seasonal and permanent residents of the Hamptons never leave their neighborhood except for one reason: physical fitness. So, on your final morning, do as the locals do and travel in search of world-class wellness. Bridgehampton holds **SoulCycle** sessions in a converted barn, or you can spin at **FlyWheel** in East Hampton. For a little less sweat but just as much intensity, return to Sag Harbor for a specialized class with yoga royalty Rodney Yee or Colleen Saidman at **Yoga Shanti** or go back to Wölffer Estate Vineyard for the 9:30 a.m., all-levels session of "Yoga in the Vines."

After check out, spend your final hours in Southampton as you

exit the Hamptons, back toward reality. Have one more glass of wine and a grilled octopus and quinoa salad in the vine-laced patio at **Sant Ambroeus Southampton**. After, play tourist and cruise the lanes of jaw-dropping mansions and estates that most multi-millionaires could never afford, the very real world of every lavish Hamptons' stereotype you ever imagined. It's the perfect time to start strategizing how you'll make the massive deposit for one of these manses for next summer. ♦



CONDÉ
Get th
Subscribe.

SU

DAILY TRAVELER

Newsletter

SIGN UP

Will be used in accordance with our [User Agreement](#) and [Privacy Policy](#)



[Subscribe](#) [Newsletter Sign-up](#) [Condé Nast Store](#)
[Contact the Editors](#) [Site Map](#) [Accessibility Help](#) [Careers](#)
[Reprints / Permissions](#) [Promotions](#)

CONDÉ NAST

© 2020 Condé Nast. All rights reserved. Use of and/or registration on any portion of this site constitutes acceptance of our [User Agreement](#) (updated 1/1/20) and [Privacy Policy and Cookie Statement](#) (updated 1/1/20). All products featured are independently selected by our editors. However, if you buy something through our links, we may earn a small commission. [Your California Privacy Rights Settings](#). The material on this site may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, cached or otherwise used, except with the prior written permission of Condé Nast. [Ad Choices](#)

OUR SITES ▼