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Sag Harbor in New York Has Bayside Beaches and a Postcard-perfect Downtown

Here's what you need to know about visiting Sag Harbor, New York.

By [Lauren Dana Ellman](#) | Published on July 15, 2023



Between its beautiful beaches, tony shops, and buzzy bars and restaurants, it's no surprise the Hamptons is considered among [America's most popular summer travel destinations](#). While the destination has earned a reputation for its sometimes-stuffy, seen-and-be-seen vibe, there are some more low-key spots worth exploring. Take Sag Harbor, for example: Part of both Southampton and East Hampton, this unincorporated village is most famous for its whaling history and laid-back atmosphere. According to Fora co-founder and travel advisor [Henley Vazquez](#), "Sag Harbor is a charming town packed with a ton of character." Plus, she says, "It has deep historic connections that offer a real sense of place and a down-to-earth vibe."

Sag Harbor also makes a great jumping-off point for exploring the rest of the Hamptons, along with nearby [Shelter Island](#). [The North Fork](#), known for its fantastic culinary scene and ample wineries, is about an hour away, while Montauk is approximately 35 minutes away by car. Another reason to visit Sag Harbor? The beaches. Unlike other Hamptons hotspots like East Hampton or Sagaponack, which are located on the ocean, the stretches of sand found in Sag Harbor are situated along the bay — meaning the waters are much calmer.

Ultimately, just about anyone, from families to couples to groups of friends, will appreciate Sag Harbor's small-town feel. Ahead, we're rounding up everything you need to know — from hotel recommendations to transportation tips — to help you plan a spectacular Sag Harbor getaway.

Best Restaurants in Sag Harbor

Lulu Kitchen & Bar

Wood-fired cooking is on full display at the Mediterranean-inspired [Lulu Kitchen & Bar](#). The restaurant boasts a cozy ambiance, making it the ideal date night spot. Diners can feast on mouthwatering menu items such as extravagant seafood towers, wood-fired pizzas, steak tartare, and, last but not least, the signature heirloom cauliflower served with spicy grapes, yogurt, Aleppo pepper, roasted sesame seeds, and balsamic glaze. Wash it all down with a specialty cocktail – you can't go wrong with the daiquiri – and save room for dessert (the strawberry sundae and profiteroles are two of our favorites).