

DEPARTURES

— Travel —

The 9 Best US Resorts for Pod Travel



How to vacation safely when traveling with a group.

By Gabby Shacknai on March 24, 2021

As the [country continues its path to reopening](#) more than a year after the [COVID-19 pandemic](#) began, and more and more people are vaccinated by the day, [travel once again seems possible](#). With case numbers still high and the pandemic far from over, though, any travel we do embark on must be done safely and responsibly—and one such way to get away for a bit while still enjoying the company of friends and family is to travel in pods. While traditional hotel rooms and overcrowded pools may not be an option, there are a number of [luxury resorts across the United States](#) that are absolutely ideal for groups. From free-standing villas and homes to enormous multiple-bedroom suites, we've highlighted some of our favorite properties for pod travel.



Courtesy Timbers Kauai

Timbers Kauai, Lihue, Hawaii

While the sprawling resort and residences at Timbers Kauai were not actually built for a pandemic, they might as well have been. Spread across 450 oceanfront acres on the southeast coast of Kauai, the property is home to 17 miles of hiking trails, the only Jack Nicklaus course on the island, and an ever-expanding farm that supports the dining, bar, and spa programs with fresh ingredients. Timbers has only 40 accommodations in total, which would make for a private feel in any circumstances, but each of these is in fact its own residence with two to four bedrooms, fully stocked kitchens, large living rooms, oceanfront or ocean-view lanais, and in-unit washers and dryers. While any of the resort's three residence styles would be great for group travel, the three- and four-bedroom Laola townhomes are especially ideal, with their bi-level layout, private outdoor area and plunge pool, ample dining space, and breathtaking views.

Link: <https://www.departures.com/travel/best-us-resorts-pod-travel>