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## The 22 Best Places To Travel In The U.S. In 2022

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What's on your travel list for 2022? For the past two years, with borders closed around the globe, Americans have been rediscovering what's in our own backyard. As a result, domestic travel has never been stronger—or more exciting. According to recent data from [Destination Analysts](#), 87.2% of Americans are excited to plan a vacation in the next 12 months. “While the road to full recovery may be longer than we would like, we are already looking far beyond the pandemic to a brighter, more globally competitive, sustainable, diverse and innovative future for the whole of the U.S. travel industry,” [says \*\*Tori Emerson Barnes\*\*](#), executive vice president of public affairs and policy for the U.S. Travel Association.

Every year, I round up the best places to visit in the U.S. and around the world. This year, in honor of Women's History Month in March, I tapped into leading women travel experts and influencers to find out the best places to travel in America in 2022. I also opened my own little black book to give a sneak peek at what I'm most excited about. The picks are vast, from buzzing cities to mountain getaways to some up-and-coming locations that you might not know—but that you'll want to put on your own travel wish list.



Timbers Kauai at Hokuala on Kauai, one of the top places to go in 2022.

TIMBERS KAUAI AT HOKUALA

For those of you who want to explore beyond the U.S., check out [“The 22 Best Places To Travel Around The World In 2022,”](#) where travel experts select the year’s most compelling destinations, from Europe to Africa and beyond.

And a note: Travel in the U.S. is still in a state of flux. So if you’re planning a trip anywhere these days, you should check travel restrictions for the destination you are hoping to visit and consider warnings from the [CDC](#).



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SHAWN O'CONNOR

## Where to Go: Kauai, Hawaii

**Chosen By:** A Dallas-based travel blogger, Jasmine Alley is a nature-obsessed wanderer and photographer (she's a sucker for a great view). See her travel adventures and recommendations at [jasminealley.com](https://jasminealley.com) or [@jasminealley](https://www.instagram.com/jasminealley).

**Why:** With Hawaii recently dropping restrictions related to its Safe Travels program, travelers are officially welcomed back to the idyllic island chain, with Kauai rising as a standout destination for those looking for a strong dose of authentic Hawaiian culture while escaping the typical crowds of its sister islands. Affectionately known as “The Garden Island,” much of Kauai is a pristine emerald escape, and according to Alley, it’s “a lush paradise great for both adventure-seekers and those looking to simply relax.”

The breathtaking landscapes—from mountains and canyons to lapping azure beaches—offer something for everyone. “For those Jurassic Park-esque views that Kauai is known for, you’ll want to see the rugged Napali Coast. There are three main ways to see it: a boat

tour, helicopter tour (we loved the [Jurassic Falls Landing Adventure](#) with Island Helicopters) or hike,” says Alley. “You’ll need to reserve a day pass to hike the Kalalau Trail, located at Haena State Park at the end of the road up north.”

Craving a beach day? Check out Hanalei Bay. “Located on the North Shore, it offers the perfect mix of dramatic mountain views, lush palm trees and gorgeous sand lining the crescent-shaped bay,” says Alley. “Drive a bit further north and you’ll reach Tunnels Beach, a beautiful spot to watch the sunset.”

As for lodgings, Alley recommends staying in a central location like Kapa’a or Lihue. “If you’re looking for luxury, [Timbers Kauai at Hokuala](#) is an incredible oceanfront property,” says Alley. “Even if you don’t stay there, their restaurant, [Hualani’s](#), is a must, serving up a fresh menu with local ingredients from their on-site organic farm, Hōkūala. To this day, their Hanalei Bae cocktail is the best cocktail I’ve ever had. And I highly recommend the Banana Lumpia for dessert.”

In terms of culinary offerings, Alley advises both beloved and under-the-radar locales along the north shore: “While in Hanalei, don’t miss out on some great North Shore food spots. Satisfy your sweet tooth with [Holey Grail donuts](#) (made from Hawaiian-grown taro root), [Wishing Well Shave Ice](#) (their organic, housemade coconut flavor pairs perfectly with a scoop of vanilla ice cream on top) or [Nourish Hanalei](#) (a tiny orange hut that serves acai bowls and smoothies with arguably the best views over Hanalei).”