

GROCERIES! YOUR NO-GUILT,
MONEY-SAVING LIST

BEHIND-THE-SCENES TOURS
IN ALL 50 STATES

DATE NIGHTS WITHOUT
PAYING A SITTER

Parents

Hello Summer!

Slow it
Down,
Live it
Up!
←

FIRST AID
FOR YOUR KID'S
BOO-BOOS

GIFTS
ALL DADS
WANT

ROAD
TRIP BY
RV!

Open Here
→

So Easy

BEST
ONE-LINERS
TO GET
KIDS TO
BEHAVE



A Weekend With Your Besties

You've been momming so hard that you deserve a girls' trip! Get the planning off the ground with these ideas.

by **KAREN CICERO**

Girly + Glam

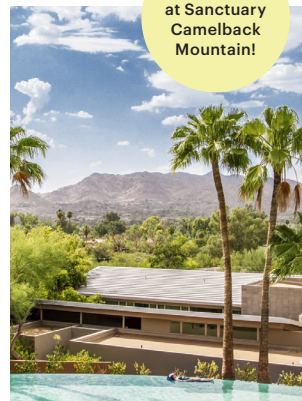
Choose from these grown-up getaways that'll appeal to the whole group.

PAMPERING

➔ **East Coast** A kid-free retreat in Pennsylvania's Pocono Mountains, **The Lodge at Woodloch** will revitalize you thanks to a masterful combo of spa treatments, enrichment classes, and nature activities. "Five of my college friends and I booked the 'Girlfriends' package for two nights last summer," says Shira Weiss, a mom of three from Long Island, New York. "Everyone in our group found a favorite thing to do, from kayaking to an amazing drumming class. And we all liked the spa and food." *Rates start at \$496 per person per night, including all meals, most activities, and a \$140 daily spa credit.*

➔ **Out West** The **Sanctuary Camelback Mountain Resort & Spa** near Phoenix melts away mom stress with Asian-inspired treatments like *luk pra kope*, a blissful foot scrub followed by herbal compresses and a Thai

What a view at Sanctuary Camelback Mountain!



FROM LEFT: BONNINSTUDIO/STOCKSY; COURTESY OF SANCTUARY CAMELBACK MOUNTAIN.

massage. The property, a member of Preferred Hotels & Resorts, also offers tennis, yoga classes, and guided hikes for small groups. *Rates start at \$750 per person based on a group of four for the Spa Harmony package, which includes three nights' lodging, breakfast daily, and two 60-minute spa treatments.*

WINE WEEKEND

Don't let the recent wildfires deter you from planning a trip to **Napa Valley, California**—all but ten of the region's 1,200 wineries are up and running. A great home base: Las Alcobas, in St. Helena, where you'll be near downtown shopping, several wineries, and The Culinary Institute of America at Greystone, which offers cooking classes, demos, and a restaurant. But save some time to enjoy the resort's heated pool, spa, and yoga studio. *Large rooms that sleep four adults start at \$599 per night.*



Not a chicken finger in sight at dinner!

DINNER & SHOW

The Big Apple is an exciting destination for a girls' weekend, especially when you stay outside of the über-crowded Times Square area. Check into the new boutique hotel 50 Bowery, which is in the heart of Chinatown and has amazing views of the New York City skyline. Eat dinner like the locals at Excellent Dumpling House or Wo Hop, and then catch a less pricey off-Broadway show at The Public (that's where *Hamilton* started!). *Rates for a room that sleeps four start at \$199 per night.*

Kid-Like Experiences

If you're hanging with longtime pals, plan a trip loosely based on some of your favorite teenage activities. And don't forget to pack the yearbooks.

RIDE YOUR BIKES EVERYWHERE

With more than 350 miles of bike paths in **Portland, Oregon**, your squad can easily get around on two wheels. Make your home base the boutique Ace Hotel downtown, which will loan guests a bike for free. Pedal to the Portland Japanese Garden, Queen Bee Creations (cool stuff from local artisans), and Voodoo Doughnut on your first day. Head farther out to the Forest Park Conservancy on Day 2, and cycle a couple of the trails



FROM TOP: VISIT NAPA VALLEY; COURTESY OF MENDOCINO GROVE.



to spot wildlife. Or opt for guided sightseeing from an outfitter like Pedal Bike Tour. *Rooms that sleep four start at \$199 per night.*

SLEEP IN A TENT

Unlike during your Girl Scout days, you won't be roughing it at **Mendocino Grove**, in Northern California. Its large luxury tents on wooden platforms have up to three beds with high-end sheets and down comforters. The bathrooms offer upscale bath products and hot showers, and the location is magical too: It's on a forest bluff above a bay and just a five-minute ride to Russian Gulch State Park, where you can hike among towering redwoods. *Tents start at \$135 per night for a queen bed and two twins.*

SIGN UP FOR CAMP

Spend three nights chilling like kids. Think relay races, talent shows, friendship-bracelet-making—but with no curfews and a glass of wine. **Camp No Counselors** puts together these long-weekend experiences in 11 U.S. cities (including Denver, Nashville, and Chicago) through October, taking over the lodgings at actual summer camps. *All-inclusive, three-night trips range from \$550 to \$780 per person, depending on the date and location. Discounts are available for groups of four or more.*




Ice, Ice Baby

TRAVEL BACK TO YOUR TEENS

Trips around vintage entertainment are trending:

1. Eat at the **Saved by the Bell**-inspired pop-up diner in West Hollywood, California, opening in May. Reserve at savedbythemax.com.
2. Geek out at **LeakyCon**, a convention in Dallas for Harry Potter fans that features stars from the films. Tickets for 2019 are expected to go on sale this fall.
3. Snag tickets to the **I Love the '90s concert tour** with a revolving lineup of artists like Vanilla Ice and Coolio. Go to ilovethe90stour.com for locations and dates.
4. See a taping of the Season 2 revival of **Will & Grace**, to be filmed at L.A.'s Universal Studios Hollywood backlot this summer. Create an account on 1iota.com to search for free tickets.



So. Much.
Sand. The
Outer Banks
are pristine.

Ideas for Big Groups

If your group will take up more than two hotel rooms, look into renting a condo or a house. These three destinations offer among the most budget-friendly rentals for groups of eight or more, according to a recent analysis by HomeAway.

OUTER BANKS, NORTH CAROLINA

Average rental cost: \$40 per person, per night

→ **Summer Activities** “Schools” for kiteboarding, hang gliding, and drone flying, plus lower-key activities like beach horseback riding through outfitter Kitty Hawk Kites

BRECKENRIDGE, COLORADO

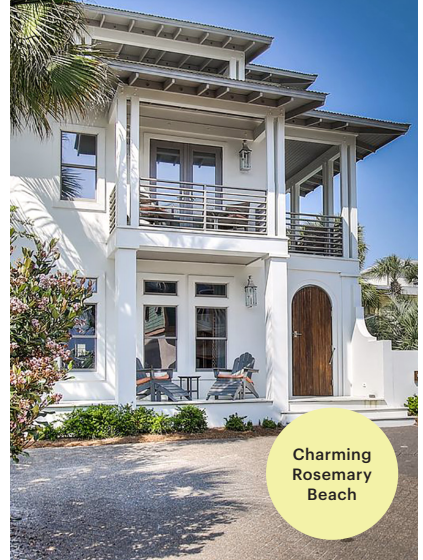
Average rental cost: \$25 per person, per night

→ **Summer Activities** Mountain biking, dogsledding, zip-lining, horseback riding, and hiking on wildflower-dotted trails

ROSEMARY BEACH, FLORIDA

Average rental cost: \$50 per person, per night

→ **Summer Activities** Kayaking, stand-up paddleboarding, tennis, and biking





One-of-a-Kind Shopping Trips

Remember how much fun you had at the mall in high school?

AUSTIN, TEXAS Visit the country's only brick-and-mortar location of Modcloth; it offers sizes XXS to 4X.

→ **See more** Zilker Metropolitan Park and the very first Whole Foods Market

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA Pore through boxes of clothes from Anthropologie and Free People at Final Cut, one of

two outlet locations for the brands.

→ **See more** Augusta Riverwalk and SouthStar Ghost Trolley

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE You may spy Reese Witherspoon at her first location of Draper James, which sells the cutest clothes and home décor.

→ **See more** Music Row and Parthenon

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Go for a #TargetRun at the flagship store.

→ **See more** Chain of Lakes and the Walker Art Center

MAKE A GIRLFRIEND GETAWAY ACTUALLY HAPPEN

If you've been talking about taking a trip with friends, these strategies will help you set things in motion.

● **Designate one friend to take the lead.** "We assign a captain to look into lodging and airfare, and manage a group text to help figure out the dates," says Krista Parry, who recently visited Lake Tahoe with five college friends. "When multiple friends are managing different aspects of the trip, it gets confusing."

● **Give at least four months' notice.** Get on everyone's calendar before the PTA does. "If your group is big—sometimes 12 friends join us—you need to realize that the dates won't work for all and the other friends will catch you next time," says Parry.

● **Be up-front about finances.** "We often do trips that require a flight, but when a friend bought a house and told us she couldn't fly anywhere that year, we picked San Francisco, which is within driving distance," says Kaneshia Baynard, a mom of two who takes an annual trip with her two besties.

● **Don't overdo the activities.** "We chose to miss an adventure we'd booked just to hang out on Lake Erie and talk for three hours," says Tara Geraghty, a single mom who took a road trip with her three besties to a glamping resort in Ontario, Canada.