

TRAVEL

Romantic weekend getaways near Long Island to book



A scene from the Fire and Ice weekend at The Lodge at Schroon Lake in Schroon Lake, NY. Credit: The Lodge at Schroon Lake

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This year, Valentine's Day (Feb. 14) and Presidents' Day (Feb. 16) fall back-to-back, offering the perfect time to swap a dinner reservation for a weekend escape.

Whether you're planning a romantic couples getaway, a Galentine's trip with friends or just a cozy weekend to unplug, you don't have to go far to find something special. From fire-dancing Adirondack lodges to Hamptons luxury with prix fixe menus, here's a guide to overnight stays and experiences within driving distance from Long Island.

EAST END

The Hampton Maid

259 E. Montauk Hwy., Hampton Bays

DRIVING DISTANCE FROM MELVILLE: About an hour away



The Hampton Maid in Hampton Bays is an ideal option for those looking for a Long Island escape. Credit: The Hampton Maid

For Long Islanders who prefer a closer-to-home escape, the hotel (hamptonmaid.com, 631-728-4166) offers casual Hamptons luxury in a serene setting. The **Valentine's Package** stay starts at \$520 per night and includes a complimentary bottle of Cava, dinner for two and breakfast in bed.

R.AIRE, the hotel's on-site restaurant, offers a special Valentine's prix fixe menu (\$95 per person) featuring Spanish-inspired tapas, paella, seafood and an extensive wine selection. A complimentary bottle of Cava and amuse-bouche kick off the evening. This is a simple, indulgent option for couples who want romance without the stress of a long drive.

The Sagaponack

3720 Montauk Hwy, Sagaponack

DRIVING DISTANCE FROM MELVILLE: About 1 hour and 30 minutes away

For a longer, luxury-focused Valentine's escape, the hotel (thesagaponackny.com, 631-537-0878) offers a cozy three-night getaway from Feb. 12-15, starting at \$750. The package includes a sweet chocolate amenity and bubbly from the Wolffer Estate Vineyard. This is perfect for couples who want a relaxing Hamptons retreat with indulgent touches and a serene winter landscape.

Adirondacks

The Lodge at Schroon Lake

210 Registration Wy., Schroon Lake

DRIVING DISTANCE FROM MELVILLE: About 4-5 hours away



Experience Valentine's Day getaways in the Adirondacks, featuring winter festivals, romantic packages and cozy accommodations. Credit: The Lodge at Schroon Lake

For couples, families and friends, the lodge (lodgeatschroonlake.com, 518-987-0708), offers a charming winter wonderland. The 36-acre lakefront property, renovated in 2023, offers a mix of Adirondack charm and modern comfort. Guests can ski nearby Gore Mountain, snowshoe trails at Natural Stone Bridge & Caves, snowmobile right up to the lodge or relax in the heated indoor pool.

The lodge's **Fire & Ice Weekend** (Feb. 13-14) is a free, open-to-all winter festival featuring fire dancers performing hourly aerial shows, ice bar cocktails including tropical and jalapeño-infused drinks, s'mores roasting and lawn games in the snow and flame-kissed food specials and hot drinks at the Brown Swan Tavern. The weekend package starts at \$384 and includes a \$50 per night food and beverage credit and can be booked online.

The **Valentine's Package** stay includes dinner for two at the Brown Swan, Champagne and Barkeater chocolates upon arrival. Rates start at \$700 per night.

"It adds something exciting for adults while still giving kids plenty of activities," said Kayla Staffeldt, marketing manager. "You can have kids watching a movie in the main lodge while parents are outside by the fire pits watching performances."

Pennsylvania

Inn at Swarthmore

10 S. Chester Rd., Swarthmore

DRIVING DISTANCE FROM MELVILLE: About 3 hours away

If you want a city-adjacent escape without downtown chaos, the inn (innatswarthmore.com, 610-543-7500) is about 30 minutes outside Philadelphia with stays starting at \$250 per night. Its **Romance Package** includes champagne, chocolate-covered strawberries and a \$50 credit toward dinner at Broad Table Tavern, with locally sourced, seasonal menus. Rates start at \$344 a night.

Couples and friends can explore Philly's museums, Old City and dining scene during the day, then return to quiet accommodations in a cozy, residential setting.

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Newsday travel reporter Carissa Kellman uncovers adventures, bites and hidden spots on Long Island and beyond, with the same drive that once kept her courtside at high school sports games.