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INSPIRATION

10 Hotels Helping Us Learn New Skills, From Jewelry-Making to Falconry

The “skillcation” trend is here to stay.

BY JESSICA SULIMA

As the buzzy portmanteau “skillcations” suggests, perhaps the best [souvenir](#) to take home from vacation is a new skill learned—and bonus points if it reflects a sense of place. Maybe you won’t be able to think about Montana without calling to mind that time you mined for sapphires near Gem Mountain. Sea Island, Georgia, might be where you mastered the art of falconry, while it was in the Hudson Valley where you had your first taste of via ferrata rock climbing.

According to [Hilton’s 2026 Trends Report](#), 72% of travelers expressed a desire to take time off to explore a personal passion, skill, or hobby. Hotels are tapping into this growing consumer desire by offering guests exclusive [classes](#), workshops, and [local experiences](#) that reflect their unique locations. From the green hills of Vermont to the islands of Hawaii, here are 10 thoughtful hotels across the US leaning into the “skillcation” trend, offering everything from jewelry-making classes to beginner’s archery.



Natalie Stultz / Woodstock Inn & Resort

Woodstock Inn and Resort

Woodstock, Vermont

Inspired by the idea that hobbies are inextricably linked to personal growth, Vermont's Woodstock Inn launched "[Passion Pursuits](#)" just last year, a curated list of experiences for guests to tap into the beauty of the Green Mountains, whether that looks like [skiing the state's famous slopes](#) or riding nearby trails on horseback. These activities are guided by "Passionistas," on- and off-site activity leaders who introduce guests to a range of activities—like snowshoeing, pickleball, and knitting—and share their local knowledge. Other standouts include maple sugaring, where you can visit local sugarhouses like Top Acres Farm and taste-test Vermont's liquid gold, or gardening within the hotel's very own Kelly Way Gardens, focusing on seasonal flavors and flower arranging.

<https://www.cntraveler.com/story/hotel-skillcations-are-helping-us-learn-new-hobbies>