17 Best USA Places to Visit in May

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Tired of being cooped up indoors? Spring has sprung and the USA is blooming with adventures!

We're on a mission to guide you through the top spots to visit this May. Pack your bags, because we've got the insider scoop on the best places that promise fun in the sun and a dash of culture!

NEW YORK CITY CENTRAL PARK IN SPRING

1. New York City

If you want to visit a place that blooms as beautifully as tulips in May, New York City is your go-to! The city that never sleeps starts to shake off its winter chill and welcomes you with warmer weather and a sprinkle of outdoor festivities.

Walking through the streets, you can catch whiffs of hot pretzels from the carts and the fresh scents of Central Park.

Did you know Central Park has its very own secret garden? The Conservatory Garden becomes a wonderland of colors in May, with flowerbeds fit for royalty.

For art lovers, the colorful Frieze New York art fair in May is a feast for the eyes, displaying creative works on The Shed at Hudson Yards.

May in New York City also offers a special treat for shoppers — the Ninth Avenue International Food Festival.

For a cozy place to kick back after your adventures, consider staying at **The Plaza**.

2. Zion National Park

Zion National Park in May is the perfect time to lace up your hiking boots and explore the vibrant canyon oasis with comfortable temperatures and clear skies.

Zion’s springtime brings a burst of color as wildflowers emerge and new leaves paint the canyon in green. The Virgin River, a ribbon of blue, carves its way through the valley, beckoning you for a refreshing dip or an adventurous stroll along the Riverside Walk.

Be clever and beat the summer crowds by adventuring early in the day. You might just have the famous trails, like the exhilarating Angels Landing and the serene Emerald Pools, to yourself for a moment or two.

The local secret? Check out the less trodden paths like the Watchman Trail for a peaceful hike with breathtaking views.

We suggest staying at the **Zion National Park Lodge**, nestled right in the heart of the park for easy access to all the sights and trails.

3. Miami Beach

May in Miami Beach is one dazzling sunshine show, with just the right heat before the summer swells. You'll be welcomed by balmy breezes and crystal-clear waters, perfect for dipping your toes into the Atlantic Ocean.

You'll find temperatures hovering around a pleasant 82ºF, making it ideal for beachside lounging or a calm swim.

The Miami Beach Boardwalk is the perfect starting point for a leisurely stroll with views that rival any seascape painting.

Rest your head at a top spot like **The Miami Beach EDITION**. This hotel offers chic comfort with a side of glamour, perfect for those looking to unwind in luxury.

MIAMI BEACH FL USA

4. Aspen

Aspen is the place where spring begins to sparkle, and it feels like Mother Nature is putting on a show just for you.

May is when Aspen starts to shed its winter coat and flaunts its lush greenery. The weather's just right—not too hot, not too cold—perfect for you to explore without breaking a sweat.

The ski crowds have gone home, giving you the serene backdrop of the Rockies without the lines. Engage with the local culture as Aspen's calendar blooms with spring events.

Don't miss the gondola rides—views for days and a picnic at the top? Count you in! For a cozy nest, consider **The St. Regis Aspen Resort**.

5. Philadelphia

With the sun smiling down and the breeze just right, Philadelphia bursts into a spectacular display of outdoor festivities and floral delights.

You can't miss the overabundance of lush parks and gardens that seem to wake up from their winter slumber.

Have you heard about the Art of the Brick exhibition at the Franklin Institute? It's a marvel, a whole army of colorful LEGO creations invading the museum space, transforming it into a vivid playground of shapes.

With more than 100 pieces, including reproductions of famous artworks and an impressive 20-foot-long T. rex, it's a feast for the eyes in May.

And after all the walking, rest your feet in the comfiest hotel around, **The Windsor Suites**.

6. Moab

May in Moab is like a greeting card from Mother Nature with desert wildflowers sprinkling the landscape with splashes of color.

Mild weather is the name of the game in May. Waft in the balmy breezes with temperatures hovering around a pleasant 70ºF to 75ºF during the day. This is ideal for those who prefer their outdoor adventures without a side of sweltering heat.

What to Do:

- Arches National Park: A canvas of natural architecture, with over 2,000 stone arches. Delicate Arch is a must-see, but arrive early to beat the rush.
- Dead Horse Point State Park: Capture a sunrise over the deep canyons and let the views of the Colorado River take your breath away.

Consider staying at the **Hyatt Place Moab**, a popular hotel nestled in the heart of Moab. It's comfy, close to everything, and offers that sought-after warm welcome after a day of exploration.

ARCHES NATIONAL PARK PARK IN MOAB UTAH UNITED STATES

7. San Francisco

May in San Francisco is a bloom of activities; your coat might finally get a break as the city waves goodbye to the famous fog. Flowers burst in color, and everything feels fresh and vibrant.

A sweater might still be your companion during the breezy evenings, but who wouldn't want to cuddle up after a day of exploration?

In May, the city's heart beats in sync with exciting events. Mark your calendar for the Carnaval San Francisco taking place on the last weekend. It's like the city spins a rainbow with its dancers, music, and art. The streets buzz with a vitality that's absolutely infectious.

The secret magic of San Fran in May? Its gardens. The Botanical Gardens are a silent symphony of nature's best, often missed by the typical tourist.

Treat yourself to a cozy stay at a place praised by many, the **Hyatt Regency San Francisco**.

8. Myrtle Beach

Step into the sun-kissed shores of Myrtle Beach this May, and you'll find the sweet spot between spring breezes and summer warmth.

May is the perfect time for leisurely beach strolls without the summer crowds and taking advantage of the outdoor activities like golfing on pristine greens or casting a line from the pier.

Insider tip: Take a drive down to Warbird Park, where retired military aircraft stand as proud monuments to history. This understated spot is a quiet place for reflection, perfect for a sunny May afternoon.

Your visit won't be complete without a stay at the **Marina Inn at Grande Dunes**, which boasts impressive views and top-notch amenities.

9. Maui

May in Maui is a breath of fresh ocean air; it's that magical time when the island's rainbow of blooms burst open and the buzz of winter crowds has quieted down.

Waves whisper along sun-kissed shores inviting you for a paddle or swim, and if you're early enough, the tail end of the humpback whale migration might just give you a splash of excitement.

Slip into Upcountry Maui where the intoxicating scent of blooming jacaranda trees paints the pastures purple. It's also home to Haleakala, the dormant volcano that stands guard over the island.

For a cozy night's sleep after your day's escapades, rest up at the **Hotel Wailea**, a luxury retreat that promises views as serene as the Pacific itself.

KAANAPALI BEACH FROM BLACK ROCK MAUI HAWAII

10. Washington D.C.

May is a special month to visit Washington D.C. It's when the city shrugs off its winter coat and bursts into a canvas of pink and white cherry blossoms.

Spring is in full swing and the weather is just peachy, with warm, but not too hot days perfect for strolling the National Mall or picnicking by the Potomac River.

Here are few things you should definitely do:

- Visit the iconic **Lincoln Memorial**. It's not just a grand old statue; the view from those steps is something else.
- Get your fill of culture at the **Smithsonian Museums**. Tip: they're free!
- Check out the **National Gallery of Art**. If you love a good masterpiece, this place is chock full of them.

And for a home away from home, try the renowned hotel known for its comfort after a day of adventures, the **Willard InterContinental**.

With its rich history and grandeur, you'll feel like a VIP. After a full day, recline in the elegance that presidents and stars have enjoyed.

11. Savannah

In May, Savannah is a breath of fresh air with its signature Spanish moss draping grand oak trees and the smell of the ocean wafting through the historic streets.

May is perfect for catching the tail end of spring with less humidity and warm but comfortable temperatures. This means you can enjoy outdoor activities while beating the typical summer heat and crowds!

The city’s history as one of the oldest in Georgia is on full display in its well-preserved architecture and historic sites.

Colorful gardens are in their prime, offering vibrant displays at the famous Bonaventure Cemetery and Forsyth Park.

Expect lively events that fill the streets with music, art, and food, perfect for indulging in local culture.

Andaz Savannah is recommended for its prime location, exquisite comfort, and proximity to major attractions.

12. New Orleans

May in New Orleans is a sweet spot on the calendar – sunny days without the sizzle of summer’s heat. Soak in the lively street music and munch on spicy crawfish without the fear of your shirt sticking to your back.

This city is all about soulful rhythms and mouth-watering eats with a side of Southern charm.

The internationally acclaimed New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival is a treat for the ears and a feast for the soul with crafty tunes ranging from blues to R&B.

If you’re on the hunt for a place to hang your hat, consider the historic **Hotel Monteleone**. This elegant retreat isn’t just a bed for the night—it’s a piece of New Orleans’ rich narrative.

GRAND CANYON NORTH

13. Grand Canyon National Park

What better way to welcome the sunshine of May than by basking in the splendor of the Grand Canyon National Park?

With temperatures just perfect for exploring, you won't be facing the sizzling heat of summer nor the biting chill that can linger in winter.

In May, the Grand Canyon is like a living painting with changing light and shadows. The **South Rim**, open year-round, offers views that stretch to eternity.

The crowds haven't reached their summer peak, so you can enjoy a moment of serenity amidst the vast landscape.

As for a great place to stay, consider the historic **Grand Canyon Railway & Hotel**. Start your journey with a nostalgic train ride, then cozy up in a room that echoes the charm of a bygone era.

14. Yosemite National Park

If the idea of blooming wildflowers, cascading waterfalls, and the crisp smell of pine invigorates you, then Yosemite in May is your playground.

May gives you the sweet spot of pleasant weather before the summer crowds arrive—think warm sunshine with a gentle cool breeze, perfect for your outdoor adventures.

In May, the waterfalls are in their prime, fed by melting snow, cascading with a roar that thrums through the valley—a natural symphony for your ears.

Strive for the early bird advantage and start your hikes at dawn. You'll get a front-row seat to the sunrise painting El Capitan in a golden hue, without the midday foot traffic.

For accommodations, **The Ahwahnee Hotel** offers historic charm with its striking interior, providing a cozy haven after a day of exploring.

15. Portland

May in Portland is when the city truly blossoms! Picture trees full of pink petals and markets bursting with fresh blooms. It's a delightful time to discover Portland's outdoor magnificence and cultural vibrancy.

In May, the weather is just right for exploring—warm enough to saunter through the parks but cool enough not to overheat.

Insider Tip: Head to the lesser-known Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden, where spring brings an explosion of color. Ducks and geese glide across the serene pond, framed by the vibrant rhododendrons and azaleas in full bloom.

When it comes to resting your head after a day of adventure, the **Hotel Deluxe** offers a touch of old-school glamour.

CHARLESTON SOUTH CAROLINA USA AT THE HISTORIC HOMES ON THE BATTERY

16. Charleston

Charleston in May is a burst of Southern elegance and a sprinkle of old-world romance. Your camera won't rest with the city's canvas of pastel-colored buildings.

What's the belle of the ball in May? Why, it's the famous gardens and plantations, of course!

Feel the gentle embrace of the breeze as it carries the sweet scent of jasmine. Gardens are at their peak, flaunting a rainbow of azaleas and camellias.

Ever heard of Spoleto Festival USA? This annual arts festival turns the city into a cultural playground.

Seek a peaceful retreat? Book a stay at the **Kings Courtyard Inn**, where Southern charm meets modern comfort.

17. Chicago

May sweeps in with a palette of color across Chicago's parks, with tulips and daffodils as far as the eye can see. Now's the perfect time, with a pleasant average temp of about 70°F. It's neither blistering hot nor shiver-me-timbers cold.

Fancy a spin on the iconic Ferris wheel? Navy Pier awaits, boasting views that will make your heart sing louder than a Broadway chorus!

For art lovers, you've hit the jackpot. The Art Institute isn't just full of masterpieces; it's also a lot quieter in May.

Foodies, rejoice; Chicago's farmer's markets reopen in May. Taste the local treats like a piping hot Chicago-style pizza, or nibble on some heavenly pastries.

Comfort's calling your name, and it sounds a lot like the **Palmer House**. A hotel with a history, it's both grand and right in the heart of the city.

Final Thoughts

And that's a wrap on our May travel adventure! We've explored every corner, from the splash of ocean waves to the buzz of city streets.

It's time to dream of your next journey. Curious where your wallet will smile as much as you do? Don't miss our next article on the **cheapest places to travel in the USA**!

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