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THE GOOD LIFE

Travel for a Good Life

MTM picks a few spots for getaways this fall.

The Resort at Paws Up, Montana

It's a working cattle ranch set in a luxurious backdrop. Adventures include a sky line aerial adventure park (including a quick drop from 55 feet in the air) to ATV rides across the vast property. The Resort at Paws Up is an unforgettable adventure that sits on 37,000 acres in the heart of Blackfoot Valley in western Montana that is steeped in history and holds many awards to date, including Best Family Resort.

Between the wilderness work-shops to horseback riding to water activities to hot air ballooning, it never feels like camping—only like a welcome break surrounded by luxury accommodations, delicious food and beautiful landscape, with green initiatives throughout the entire property. While wrangling cows on horseback may not seem like an enjoyable way to spend an afternoon, it is surprising just how wonderful the challenge can be.

Paws Up offers accommodations for a maximum of 225 guests in 36 glamorous safari-style tents (seasonally) and 28 luxurious vacation homes, ranging from the two-bedroom Meadow Homes and three-bedroom Wilderness Estates to the charming, private, four-bedroom Morris Ranch House.



Every year, the range of exclusive, seasonal events featuring experts from all over the country only enhance the lavish ranch resort's existing offerings.

SEPTEMBER 21-24: Montana Master Chefs

For the last 10 years, Paws Up has been featuring a steady stream of James Beard Award winners, "Top Chef" stars and other highly esteemed chefs. This year guest chefs include Michael Corvino, Kevin Gillespie, Annie Pettry, Garrison Price and Amanda Rockman. Other highlights include musical guests, wine and a local Montana distillery.

OCTOBER 7-8: Wine and Bitch Dinner + Canine Classic

Chances are, there's nothing your dog

likes to do more than eat. This year's annual event features a pet expo with dog massage therapists, a photo booth and agility demonstrations. A gourmet feast created by Paws Up Executive Chef Ben Jones is complete with fine wine pairings, desserts and treats to slide under the table. The ninth annual Canine Classic has the two of you ambling over rocks, following along streams and winding through the beautiful trails of the 37,000-acre wilderness, all for a good cause, a local animal organization.

OCTOBER 26-29: Cowboy Experience

ProRodeo Hall of Famers and a National Cowgirl Hall of Fame legend will show you the ropes as they lead workshops, trail rides and demonstrations and even share campfire stories each night.

NOVEMBER 3-6: Cookbook Live® Presents: Art of the Pie

Spend a weekend getting your hands doughy with pie expert Kate McDermott. This flaky and fun-filled baking weekend brings to life McDermott's "Art of the Pie." It's the perfect treat for those who are passionate about homemade, just-out-of-the-oven pie.

NOVEMBER 22-26: Thanksgiving Weekend

This Thanksgiving, new traditions can



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE RESORT AT PAWS UP



be created with activities, including family movie nights, football and parade viewing parties, or satisfy your appetite for outdoor adventure with hayrides, touch football, bird watching and more.

DECEMBER 23-26: Montana Christmas Vacation

For the holiday season, leave behind the hustle and bustle for something truly magical: Christmastime in Montana. Set against snow-covered mountains, you can decorate your own tree, enjoy delicious feasts and surprise your little ones with a personal visit from Santa, right in your cozy, chic luxury home.

DECEMBER 29-JANUARY 1: A New Year's Celebration

For the last weekend of the year, it's a weekend filled with wintery outdoor adventures like snowmobiling, snow tubing and cross-country skiing (to name a few). Or stay indoors with movie nights, shopping and bowl game watching. New Year's Eve begins with an elegant, five-course dinner and ends with fire dancers, fireworks and a live performance by "American Idol's" Crystal Bowersox. After you wake up to a lavish breakfast buffet, you're looking at an ideal welcome to 2018.

pawsup.com



PHOTOS COURTESY OF KOA KEA HOTEL AND RESORT

Ko'a Kea Hotel and Resort, Kaua'i, Hawaii

Sitting on the island of Kaua'i at Po'ipū Beach, Ko'a Kea Hotel and Resort is the island's closest hotel to the Pacific Ocean. Named as the Top Resort Hotel in Hawaii and No. 48 on the list of the Top 100 Hotels in the World, according to *Travel + Leisure* World's Best Awards 2017, it's in the perfect location on one of Kaua'i's most swimmable beaches, popular for snorkeling, kayaking, surfing and other water sports. The hotel's serene saltwater pool is available for those who want to stay close under a cabana for the day.

The 121-room resort is also nearby to ocean cliff-top trails, Old Koloa Town, golf courses, and natural sites such as Spouting Horn and the National Tropical Botanical Garden.

Horseback riding is available at CJM Country Stables to ride along Kaua'i's south shore and into hidden valleys and panoramic views in the Maha'ulepu area. Many local companies offer ATV rides through the terrain to see the island, as well as land where multiple movies have been filmed disguised as countries all over the world.

A trip to Hawaii wouldn't be complete without rum tasting. The Koloa Rum Tasting Room, which makes all their rum right on site, offers every 30 minutes a splash of dark rum, spice rum, coconut rum, rum cake and rum fudge sauce to your palate for the day.

koakeahotel.com; cjmstables.com; koalarum.com