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HOTELS AND RESORTS

11 Relaxing Babymoon Ideas for Parents-to-Be

After all, future trips will inevitably be more complicated.

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February 9, 2021

The very notion of a babymoon may seem trendy and indulgent—frivolous even. But give it pause and you realize just how many first-time parents could benefit from one last getaway before marking the transition from twosome to trio, when every future trip will inevitably be more complicated. For couples further expanding their existing brood, a babymoon is a time to reconnect—with or without kids in tow—while celebrating the newest family addition. At their core, these vacations are for pampering, which is why no matter where the destination, it's a vacation few regret taking. Here, 11 delightful babymoon ideas to get the wheels turning.

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Courtesy Beaches Resorts

Flee to the Caribbean

If you wouldn't dream of leaving your other kids behind to celebrate your newest, embrace the family babymoon at a resort that works for every age group. At Beaches Turks & Caicos in Providenciales, 12 miles of beach fringe an aqua ocean, offering opportunities for snorkeling, kayaking, paddle boarding, windsurfing, and sailing. Winner of our Reader's Choice Awards for three years running, the all-inclusive resort's 45,000-square-foot pirate-themed water park and kids' clubs keep future big brothers and big sisters occupied, making it easier for the adults to enjoy a romantic dinner or pampering prenatal massage.

Book now: From \$390 per night, expedia.com

Randy Galligan

Get centered in California

The point of Canyon Ranch Woodside, a 38-room wellness retreat shrouded by redwoods, is not to zone out while you're being massaged and manicured. It's to reconnect to nature and self, ease the path to major life change (your impending arrival!), and cultivate gratitude or whatever other intention resonates. A program advisor helps design couples' individual and shared journeys, from guided hikes to spa treatments. The prenatal massage is a must, as is the chakra-balancing massage, for its zen use of semi-precious stones and Ayurvedic oils.

Book now: From \$1,000 per night, skylark.com

Get lost in the Utah mountains

Prospective parents have the run of the 3,500-acre ranch at The Lodge at Blue Sky, Auberge Resorts Collection, in Wanship, Utah—and all the hiking, biking, and fly-fishing therein. In the summer, adventurers can helicopter to a 10,000-foot-high peak in the Uinta Mountains for a private yoga and meditation session, or stay grounded with spa treatments soundtracked by a burbling creek.

Book now: From \$900 per night, expedia.com

Unwind in Arizona hot springs

One of our favorite babymoon ideas is an adults-only getaway. Castle Hot Springs, a one-time hideaway for Vanderbilts and Roosevelts in Arizona's Bradshaw mountains, offers

30 secluded bungalows and cabins within an hour's drive of Phoenix. While there are more than enough activities to keep busy (bocce, archery, mountain e-biking, and farm tours among them), couples more focused on romance can relax over degustation menus based on each day's farm yield or soak in the spa's thermal waters. Two of the three cascading pools are kept at a balmy 85 and 96 degrees, making them safe for mothers-to-be.

Book now: From \$900 per night, castlehotsprings.com

Courtesy Montage Kapalua Bay

Take the family to Hawaii

Ukulele lessons, lei making, coconut frond weaving, hula dancing—the abundance of family-friendly experiences available at Montage Kapalua Bay in Lahaina, Maui, make it an idyllic place to babymoon alongside your other littles. The Paintbox activities program for kids 5 to 12 allows expectant parents some alone time for golf, waterfall hikes, snorkeling with sea turtles, or lazing on black sand beaches. To make the memories last, sign up for a 45-minute photo shoot session with Pacific Dream Photography—gratis for all guests.

Book now: From \$1,095 per night, expedia.com

Camp near Acadia National Park

Squishing into a sleeping bag won't entice most pregnant couples. But glamping in one of the luxe safari-style tents sprinkled across 100 acres of virgin meadow and coastline in Maine? That's the Under Canvas way. The new Acadia property, opening May 13 in Surry, promises en-suite bathrooms and catalog-ready furnishings for a decidedly upscale chance to commune with Mother Nature. Bonus: Fifteen of the 63 tents have viewing windows floating above their plush king beds, making for the comfiest stargazing imaginable.

Book now: From \$314 per night, expedia.com

Courtesy Heckfield Place

Head to the English countryside

Here's what a babymoon at Heckfield Place, a luxurious Georgian manor and working farm an hour outside London, entails: long soaks in enameled cast-iron bathtubs, natural spa treatments tailored to expectant mothers, and garden-fresh meals. As for what it feels like? Bliss. This summer, look out for a new full-scale spa with natural treatments that can be tailored for pregnancy, plus a pool and daybeds tucked into luxurious gardens.

Book now: From \$470 per night, skylark.com

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Recharge in the Yucatán

Mexican wellness wonderland Chablé Yucatán melds contemporary luxury with ancestral Mayan traditions on a restored 19th-century estate outside Mérida. The area is brimming with charming towns, archaeological sites (Chichen Itza, most notably), and

beaches and natural biospheres ripe for exploring, while the 36-casita property offers tension-melting floatation therapy and an Ixchel New Life Massage, inspired by the Mayan goddess of fertility. Book time with a local medicine woman, known as "abuela," for a temescal sweat lodge ceremony. Exuberant gastronomic offerings, designed by acclaimed chef Jorge Vallejo, further enhance the experience.

Book now: From \$958 per night, expedia.com

Get artsy in southern Montana

Art appreciators already know why middle-of-nowhere Montana is one of the country's most inspiring venues: The 12,000-acre Tippet Rise Art Center in Fishtail hosts concerts by illustrious classical musicians and has monumental sculpture installations enhanced by pristine natural landscapes. It's also just a short drive from Blue Sky Cabins in Red Lodge. At this romantic little spot, babymooners can watch for whitetail deer from their rocking chairs (each of the five private cabins is stocked with a set of binoculars), relax in whirlpool tubs after a bucolic nature walk, or admire a Yellowstone-worthy array of wildlife—moose, wolves, and bears—with the help of the owner's Swarovski scope.

Book now: From \$210 per night, blueskycabins.com

Eat Your Heart Out in Oregon

With its energetic young chefs and abundant farms, Oregon is a perennial pick for foodies—especially Willamette Valley, a wine-producing region where it won't matter if one of you isn't drinking. At verdant boutique property The Allison Inn & Spa in Newberg, Jory Restaurant & Bar is where executive chef Chris Smith creates customized menus showcasing flavors from the valley's local farms as well as his own 1.5-acre garden and greenhouse. And hey, eating for two is a great excuse to check out other Valley favorites, such as The Painted Lady, where traditional American dishes are reimagined with global tweaks and hyperlocal ingredients.

Book now: From \$445 per night, tripadvisor.com

Have a city fling in Austin

For dancing to blues at Antone's, shopping on South Congress, boating on Lake Austin, or people-watching at Barton Springs, lock in a room at Commodore Perry Estate, Auberge Resorts Collection, about 10 minutes from downtown Austin. Guests can laze around a glamorous circular pool, get their palms read, join a candlelit meditation, or savor chefprepared picnics on a gingham blanket. For a unique memento, sit for a portrait in the Mansion Library and it'll be turned into a Victorian-inspired silhouette ring.

Book now: From \$459 per night, skylark.com

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