

10 Hidden Gems of the United States



Where to go next? Patricia Schultz, author of *1,000 Places to See in the USA and Canada Before You Die*, shares her favorite lesser-known corners of the country, from sea to shining sea. (Book now, before word gets out.)

"SOMEDAY." THAT'S WHAT YOU SAY when you stumble upon an article on Bora-Bora in the travel section of your local newspaper, or when the couple down the street tell you about their recent African safari ("The elephant was *thisclose!*"). *Someday*. Fact is, it's easy to stash travel in the "later" bin when you have more pressing day-to-day matters—bills to pay, dishes to wash—that require

your attention. And then there's the fact that choosing a destination can be overwhelming—there are, after all, more than 190 countries to pick from. Fortunately, the United States has plenty to offer those with wanderlust (hello, *Mayflower*), so put down the dishrag, turn the page, and check out the nation's best-kept travel secrets. Your "someday" might be sooner than you think.

Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill, Harrodsburg, Kentucky



PLANK-AND-STONE FENCES lace together nearly 3,000 lush bluegrass acres, where a community of Shakers once lived, worked, and worshipped. Dozens of fully restored buildings remain as a testament to the simplicity of their lifestyle. Although Shaker communities in Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts see a fair share of visitors, Pleasant Hill is the only one that offers visitors the chance to enjoy an overnight stay.

What to know: Enjoy dinner by candlelight in the austere beautiful Trustees' Office Dining Room (www.shakervillageky.org): The menu combines southern cooking with timeless Shaker recipes, and many of the ingredients are grown on-site. Early-August visitors can shop for souvenirs at the annual crafts fair.

Where to stay: Seventy-five rooms are scattered across the grounds (rooms from \$85, www.shakervillageky.org).