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ROUNDUP

Family Lodging for Part-Time Nature Seekers

By Elaine Glusac

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The Inn at Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill in northern Kentucky. Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill

Family-friendly attractions like dude ranches or national parks offer full immersion into nature. Which is just fine until it storms. For those seeking a connection to nature, and an escape plan in case the weather — or tempers — don't cooperate, the following new and improved hotels and resorts offer ready access to wild places and alternatives on the mild side, too.

United States



Charleston Harbor Resort and Marina.

SOUTH CAROLINA

The Beach Club at Charleston Harbor Resort and Marina, Charleston

Seven miles from downtown Charleston, the Beach Club at Charleston Harbor Resort and Marina offers easy access to the historic attractions of the city along with the relief of two pools and a beach. The children's club emphasizes nature in the coastal Lowcountry with adventures in crabbing, hunting shark's teeth and investigating bugs. Bikes are available to take on area trails, and the marina offers opportunities to sail. Guests can get to Charleston's historic center via a water taxi or a free trolley. There are three restaurants; on-site entertainment includes movies screened each Saturday at a private 30-seat theater. Ninety-two rooms include some family suites that feature two bedrooms.

Rooms from \$229; charlestonharborresort.com/beachclub.