



[Parents.com](#) / [Fun](#) / [Family Vacation](#) / [Family Vacation Ideas](#) / 5 Under-the-Radar Island Escapes the Whole Family Can Enjoy

5 Under-the-Radar Island Escapes the Whole Family Can Enjoy

Consider a trip to one of these five unspoiled destinations that are redefining the family island getaway.

By Lauren Matison



If you've ever come away from an overcrowded island resort feeling like you need another vacation, these five under-the-radar destinations are calling for you. Our advice? Let them.

From a Canadian glamping retreat in a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve to the Caribbean's best-kept secret, this list defies the family resort clichés and will make your next island escape something truly worthy of your precious vacation time.

Daufuskie Island, South Carolina

Off the coast of Hilton Head is a bridge-less, car-free barrier island that will win you over before you even get there. On the 30-minute ferry ride, expect to sit next to one of the 200 year-round Daufuskians who'll strike up a conversation like you're already friends—and it won't be long before you're having sundowners on their veranda and play dates on the surprisingly empty driftwood-dappled beaches. The lush, untamed setting has a *Where the Wild Things Are* feel (just swap monsters for alligators and armadillos). Residents travel by golf cart, and everyone comes together to volunteer on an eight-acre organic community farm with baby goats and roaming guinea fowl. Eco-friendly resort-like Haig

Point offers a [Discovery Experience](#) package that includes charming rooms at the Strachan Mansion or 1873 Lighthouse, meals prepared by a Le Cordon Bleu-trained chef, a family pool area, and activities ranging from kayaking and horseback riding to an adventure with Tour Daufuskie, which showcases the five-mile-long island's rich history, culture, and vast array of wildlife and plant species. Kids will enjoy learning about maritime forest edibles such as sassafras, a natural pain reliever that's used in root beer and smells like Fruit Loops. While winding around the narrow tree-lined roads in your own electric golf cart, stops must be made for Lucy Bell's banana bread pudding, the world-renowned Iron Fish Gallery, and the Old Daufuskie Crab Company, where families like to play corn hole and catch the magic hour while dining on Daufuskie Devil Crab and a basket of fried fresh-off-the-boat shrimp.



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