

Spend Spring in Montauk, Before The Summer Crowds

[Gothamist Getaways](#) in on Mar 27, 2014 3:09 pm



The Dunes and the Lighthouse (Gothamist)

This week, we're launching Gothamist's travel content, [Gothamist Getaways](#). Four times a year, we'll have a week of posts featuring looks at travel, food, products and tips, near and far, for making your trips more pleasurable. So enjoy and let us know if you have any hints for us—email travel@gothamist.com.

Montauk, a place most popularly enjoyed during the warmer summer months, when its streets and establishments are filled with harried New Yorkers looking to escape the stresses of Gotham. We'll take the gorgeous spot on a quiet, empty winter weekend, thank you very much, [Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind](#)-style. But spring is an ideal time to get the real benefits with great weather and no crowds.

GETTING THERE: The Jitney, LIRR or a 3-hour (or less) drive are all options, though having a car to get around is ideal.

WHERE TO STAY: Rent a 2-bedroom beachfront cottage at [Panoramic View](#), a resort located directly on one of Montauk's prettiest stretches of coastline. Rates for beachfront cottages start at \$395 with a 2-night minimum stay. Should a cottage be out of your budget, studio and 1-bedroom efficiencies start at \$195 a night. To make reservations call 631-668-3000, and don't despair if you get an answering machine. Someone will definitely call you back!

If you want old world charm, book a studio, one, two or three bedroom suite at [The Montauk Manor](#), a historic English Tudor style hotel located on a hill, just a few minutes from town. The hotel has an indoor pool, so you can pack the bathing suit, even if it's still cold out. Rates start at \$127 for midweek/\$147 for weekend rates. The two-night minimum stay policy is waived in the off-season. Call 631-668-4400 to make reservations.

WHAT TO DO: Take a trip to our nation's oldest lighthouse and watch the sunrise. Caution: Watch out for deer—there are plenty on Montauk's roads! Or enjoy the outdoors with an easy hike through some beautiful dunes at Shadmoor State Park. But don't get totally sucked in by the sirens of the sea, there's also exploring to be done away from the shoreline, at nearby [Camp Hero](#). There you'll find old barracks and concrete bunkers.



Camp Hero (Gothamist)

THE MOST IMPORTANT MEAL: Everyone who visits Montauk regularly knows about John's Pancake House, but we love Anthony's too. Start your morning at 710 Main Street. Cash only.

LUNCHTIME LOBSTER: It may be the off-season, but lunch spot—Duryea's—is still open till 4pm every day. Score a broiled fish sandwich or New England Clam Chowder to go. We promise, you won't regret it.

SUPPER CLUB: Though there are a few lovely places to eat out in the area, including the always-reliable Harvest. Seafood doesn't get fresher than Montauk's offerings, so why not keep it simple and sear up some scallops, steam a lobster from Duryea's (which also has a retail market) and pop some bubbly in your own kitchen for the night. Bonus: no need to worry about a designated driver!



Photograph of a Montauk sunset by [squirrel83](#)

GET SINGING: If you time your visit to coincide with karaoke at the [Liar's Saloon](#), well, you'll pretty much had the best trip ever. This dive-y watering hole welcomes weekenders, despite its salty dog appearance. The saloon is located at 401 W Lake Dr. Leave your city slicker attitude at the door.

Contact the [author](#) of this article or email tips@gothamist.com with further questions, comments or tips. [Gothamist Getaways](#) in on Mar 27, 2014 3:09 pm