

Best places to go for fall: A dozen cool spots around the world

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(CNN) — The highly anticipated, jam-packed summer travel season proved to be challenging, to put it nicely.

Makes you yearn for a nice autumn vacation, huh? Perhaps a little less crowded, maybe less expensive, definitely less hot (in the Northern Hemisphere). And hopefully less chaotic.

Factoring in transit costs, [a strong US dollar](#) (great for American tourists overseas, not so great for everyone else), the weather, scenery and special events, here are some suggestions of the best places to go in the fall of 2022 around the world:

Greenville, South Carolina

New England is glorious but doesn't have a monopoly on vivid fall foliage. This small city set in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains is a great hub from which to see southern leaves take a bow.

Paris Mountain, Table Rock and Caesars Head state parks are an easy drive away (though hardly the only mountainous offerings). Colors typically start peaking around here in late October, but that can change year to year.

If you want to work in an entirely different ecosystem on the same trip, Congaree National Park offers an old-growth, bottomland cypress forest that's only two hours south by car.

But you don't even need to leave the city to have a good time. Downtown and nearby neighborhoods are filled with interesting shops (including Mast General Store) and restaurants (Kitchen Sync).

Falls Park -- a transformative redevelopment project that refocused the city around Reedy River Falls -- offers stunning natural beauty right off Main Street.