

## 10 U.S. Islands that Feel Exotic

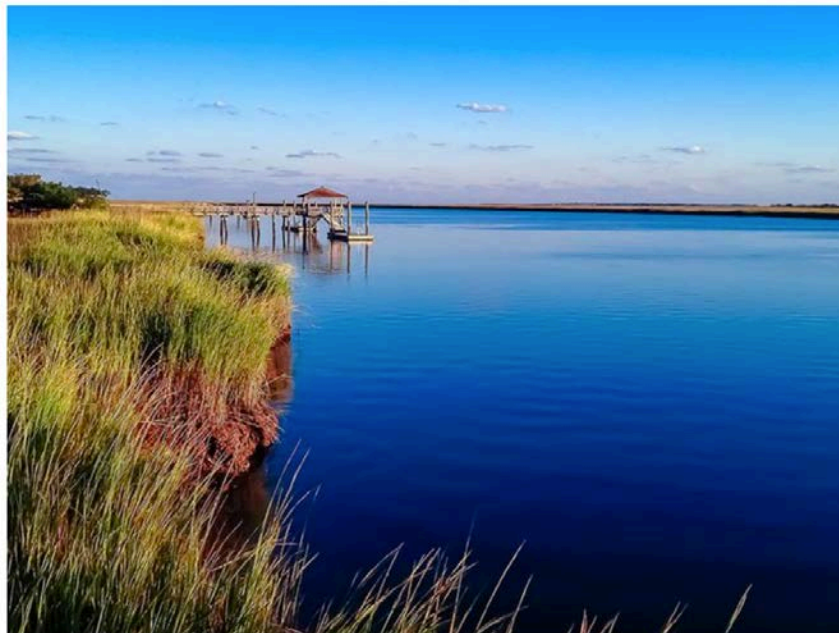
Want to escape to somewhere truly memorable? Here are the best island getaways without leaving the country.

As much as we all wish to see every corner of the globe, it can be a challenge to do it all with limited funds and few vacation days. Seeing exotic islands either in the Caribbean or in Southeast Asia, for example, seem like fantasies. Luckily, the United States is diverse enough to offer an array of exotic locales, from golden beaches to volcanic islands.

Check out Cedar Key, Florida, for a true harbor feel in an area centered around fishing and the delicacies that come with it. Any of [Hawaii's](#) islands are a sure bet, but check out [Kauai](#) specifically for mountains and seemingly endless green wildlife. Or try Washington state for kayaking on the sea and even get a chance to see whales.

Here are our picks for the 10 most exotic islands in the U.S. and for some of the best ideas for U.S. island vacations.

### Daufuskie Island, South Carolina



Daufuskie Island, South Carolina *Shutterstock*

Daufuskie Island, South Carolina, is perhaps best known as the home of the Gullah people, a community of African Americans in the lowcountry who speak their own Creole language called Geechee. To get a feel for the people and their culture, stop by the historical foundation to hear local stories and legends, as well as chat up the local guide who's been on the island for decades.