

# News, Apps, Deals, and Gear from New England and Beyond

## HERE



### VALENTINE SLEIGH RIDE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

Celebrate love all winter long with the Valentine Special package at the Farm by the River B & B and Stables (through March 20). Stay in an 18th-century farmhouse on 40 acres with panoramic views of the White Mountains. The two-night package includes a 45-minute private Victorian horse-drawn sleigh ride, box of chocolates, bottle of champagne or sparkling cider, fireside breakfast, afternoon refreshments, and complimentary snowshoeing. Located in the heart of the Mount Washington Valley, two miles from downtown North Conway. From \$375. Weekends in February, holidays, and holiday weeks add \$20. 888-414-8353, [farmbytheriver.com](http://farmbytheriver.com)



### ACOUSTIC MUSIC RETREAT IN GROTON

Calling all musicians: WUMB, Boston's folk and acoustic music radio station, hosts its first Summer Acoustic Music Week (SAMW) Winter Weekend, Feb. 15-17, at Grotonwood in Groton. Hands-on sessions include guitar, banjo, mandolin, dulcimer, singer-songwriter, and more. Activities include classes and concerts plus guided and freestyle jams with players and teachers, including Lui Collins, Susie Burke, David Surette, Lorraine and Bennett Hammond, and John Doerschuk. Lodging and six meals are included, though guests must bring their own bedding. Full weekend \$375, members \$350. 617-287-6915, [www.wumb.org](http://www.wumb.org)

## THERE

### CYCLING CAMP IN CALIFORNIA

Serious about cycling? Sign up for Trek Travel's Solvang Ride Camp and start building base miles for your cycling or race season. Located in the Santa Ynez Valley, just north of Santa Barbara, the camp offers guided and self-guided rides developed for the independent cyclist. Each trip includes the use of a high-end Trek bicycle, accommodations, most meals, snacks and drinks for each day's ride, daily route support, and more. Price based on double occupancy. Offered February through May, and in November. Solo travelers paired with same-gender roommate. Four days \$899, seven days \$1,299. Worldwide vacations for recreational and family cyclists are also available. 866-464-8735, [www.trektravel.com](http://www.trektravel.com)



### HOT TUB BOATING IN THE NETHERLANDS

It's a boat! It's a hot tub! No, it's the HotTug, quite possibly the first wood-fired hot tub boat in the world. Book a night at one of four waterside lodges at Werf IJlst and travel the lakes and waterways of Friesland, in the northern Netherlands, in this wood and fiberglass boat. Accommodating six to eight people, the HotTug fills with hot water (100 degrees Fahrenheit) in less than five minutes. Don't like to soak and float?

Use one of the four-passenger aluminum inboard electric motor scows moored outside each accommodation. Two-story lodges sleep 2-4 guests. From \$237, without boat \$171. 011-31-0-517-414-410, [www.werfijlst.nl](http://www.werfijlst.nl)

### KAYAK ROLLING CLINICS IN MASS.

It might be snowing outside, but Zoar Outdoors gets you into the water with six indoor kayak clinics. Designed for novice to intermediate paddlers, C-1ers, and OC-1ers, classes cover the execution of basic skills such as strokes, leans, and braces. American Canoe Association certified instructors also teach the basics of rolling a kayak, from hip snaps to paddle motions to a full-blown Eskimo roll. Experienced rollers work on improving technique, flipping without setting up, learning an offside roll, hand roll, and other variations. Zoar supplies boats, paddles, life jackets, helmets, and wet suits, but you may bring your own. Boys and Girls Club of Greater Westfield, Feb. 2, 9, 16, Hockomock Area YMCA in Franklin, April 6, 13, 20, 6-8 p.m. \$80. 800-532-7483, [www.kayaklesson.com/winter\\_rolling.htm](http://www.kayaklesson.com/winter_rolling.htm)



## EVERYWHERE



### PERSONAL AIR PURIFIER



For travelers worried about germ-filled closed environments on airplanes, trains, and other public spaces, AirTamer is an electrostatic air-purifying device. Worn around the neck or clipped on clothing, it silently produces and emits negative ions that force airborne pollutants, bacteria, viruses, smoke, mold, dust mites, pollen, allergens, and other harmful particles away from your breathing space. \$79.95 includes metal traveling case and lithium coin cell battery. 866-625-3218, [www.filterstream.com/product\\_detail.php?prod=35&line=2](http://www.filterstream.com/product_detail.php?prod=35&line=2)

### LUGGAGE THAT WEIGHS ITSELF


If you get anxious about airline weight limits when packing your suitcase, worry no more. Delsey's new Helium Superlite Spinners have a built-in indicator that determines if your bag is over 50 pounds. This lightweight, soft-side luggage line also features four multidirectional spinner wheels that roll with zero weight on arms while assuring maneuverability and stability. The recessed, extra-long trolley handle is made of aircraft grade aluminum, and can be locked in one of two positions for use with either two or four wheels. Available at most department stores and specialty luggage shops. \$85-\$189. [www.delsey.com/products/travel/helium-superlite-spinners/](http://www.delsey.com/products/travel/helium-superlite-spinners/) NECEE REGIS



BETTER PRICES

## WE DO GOLF BETTER



Is it snowing where you live? Do you have to dig out your driveway just to get to your car?  
 Just think, tomorrow you could be playing golf right here. Choose from 26 courses, all within minutes of each other. You can even play 18 holes overlooking the Atlantic and, that same afternoon, play 18 more with a view of the warm blue waters of the Caribbean.  
 For over 500 years, people have come to Puerto Rico to discover, explore, and create memories.

It's about time you discovered why...

PUERTO RICO DOES IT BETTER!

For booking details see your travel professional or visit [seepuertorico.com](http://seepuertorico.com)

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## The Tip

### CAR-FREE ON WHEELS IN MONTREAL



With its plentiful BIXI bike-sharing stations, like the one pictured at right, and 348-mile network of bike paths and lanes, Montreal is made for cycling. Still, the riding is urban and can be harrowing. The alternative is a spin on the scenic Lachine Canal bike trail. Start at Old Port or behind Atwater Market for, respectively, 7- or 5-mile routes one way. Bike rental stations are available at each spot. The western end of the Lachine leads to René-Lévesque Park, situated on a thin peninsula and housing two dozen sculptures. If you're feeling ambitious, return on the 13-mile Les Berges cycle path along the St. Lawrence River, though you will have to share some pavement with cars near the end.

DIANE DANIEL

# THE GREAT WINTER EVENT

Your ALL-INCLUSIVE Apple Vacation includes Saturday Morning Non-Stop jetBlue Flights from Boston, hotel accommodations, all meals, all drinks, all tips, departure taxes and transfers!

	7 Nts		7 Nts
<b>Cancun</b>		<b>Punta Cana</b>	
Sea Adventure Resort & Waterpark <span style="color: red;">★★★★</span>	Feb 2 \$899	Grand Paradise Bavaro <span style="color: red;">★★★★</span>	Feb 2 \$1199
Great Parnassus All Inclusive Resort & Spa <span style="color: red;">★★★★Plus</span>	Feb 2 \$1049	Catalonia Bavaro Beach, Golf & Casino Resort <span style="color: red;">★★★★Plus</span>	Feb 2 \$1299
<b>Riviera Maya</b>		Now Larimar Punta Cana <span style="color: gold;">★★★★★★★★</span> Unlimited-Luxury® <span style="color: green;">VALUE PLUS:</span> \$200 Resort Coupons per room, per stay, plus, FREE Non-Stop Transfers (a \$30 value per person).	Apr 20 \$1399
Grand Sunset Princess All Suites Resort & Spa <span style="color: red;">★★★★</span>	Feb 2 \$1199	Riu Palace Punta Cana <span style="color: gold;">★★★★★★★★Plus</span>	Apr 6 \$1399
Secrets Silversands Riviera Cancun <span style="color: gold;">★★★★★★★★</span> Unlimited-Luxury® (Adults Only 18+) <span style="color: green;">VALUE PLUS:</span> \$200 Resort Coupons per room, per stay, plus, FREE Non-Stop Transfers (a \$30 value per person).	Apr 6 \$1599		

Many more great winter vacations on sale now for January ~ April travel. Prices may vary.



APPLE VACATIONS HOTEL RATINGS: ★★★★★★★★ Exceptional standard of service and quality, ★★★★ next to the hotel name indicates that the hotel offers services, amenities or facilities that are superior to other hotels with the equivalent rating. ★★★★★★★★ Luxurious, ★★★★★★★★ Superior First Class, ★★★★ First Class, ★★★★ Moderate, ★★ Budget. \*Prices vary by departure date. \*\*Prices are per person, based on double occupancy, unless otherwise stated and include roundtrip airfare from Boston via jetBlue Airways, or other U.S. certified air carrier, hotel transfers, hotel tax and baggage handling, fuel surcharges, all pre-collected U.S. and foreign taxes and fees including September 11th Security Fee and \$10 late booking fee if applicable (for bookings within 14 days of departure) and are for new bookings only. First checked bag FREE, 2nd is \$40. All packages are capacity controlled and subject to availability and change. Fares are for general information only and not a reflection of current seat availability. Apple Vacations not responsible for errors or omissions. See Apple Vacations' Fair Trade Contract. nad\_050\_012013\_Boston\_cl

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