

The equestrian center at Salamander Middleburg

Home Away from Home

Four female-owned hotels that make for a thoughtful stay

BY ALEX TEMBLADOR

When traveling, one of the most important things to consider is where you lay your head at night. This is especially true for women, who make up about 64% of travelers worldwide. Why not stay at a female-owned hotel where the owners know exactly what it means to be a female traveler? Read on for some of the best woman-owned hotels in the U.S. and why they're worth a visit.

SALAMANDER MIDDLEBURG

Middleburg, Virginia

Virginia's horse and wine region is home to 340-acre Salamander Middleburg, one of seven luxury properties under the Salamander Resort brand. Owner Sheila Johnson took care to design a sophisticated getaway, even down to the linens and throws in the country estate-styled rooms.

"We want women, whether they are traveling for business, leisure or a solo getaway, to feel confident, comfortable and supported throughout their stay," Johnson says. "My goal has always been to create experiences that are both elegant and meaningful, where guests can relax, reconnect and leave feeling renewed."

The pickleball courts, ziplining, clay shooting, falconry and equestrian center are great for active types, while a spa and heated pool balance out a stay. Grab a glass of local wine at Gold Cup Wine Bar followed by contemporary American cuisine at the on-site restaurant, Harrimans.

SALAMANDER MIDDLEBURG; DAVE SHAFER; THE CHANLER AT CLIFF WALK; JUDY PAK STUDIO/THE ROUNDTREE AMAGANSETT

HOTEL RITUAL

Jacksonville, Texas

A 1932 mansion in East Texas is home to a boutique Ayurvedic wellness retreat called Hotel RITUAL.

"Women are often the organizers, caregivers, creators and leaders; the ones holding everything together. Hotel RITUAL gives you permission to set that down for a while and turn your attention inward," explains Whitney Graham, owner of the Hotel RITUAL.

You can do so with a stay in one of the eight stylish rooms that includes breakfast and access to the on-site sauna, pool and hot tub. Don't skip the spa and wellness offerings such as massages, sound baths, facials, chakra tuning, reiki and Shirodhara, a 13,000-year-old treatment from India where warm oil flows continuously over the forehead and scalp.



Carriage house at Hotel RITUAL

THE ROUNDTREE AMAGANSETT

Amagansett, New York

After a career in law, technology and global business, Sylvia Wong opened The Roundtree Amagansett. The boutique luxury property in the Hamptons has individual cottages and upscale accommodations in a 100-year-old barn. Every stay includes daily breakfast, bikes and a free beach parking pass.

"Because we are an intimate property, we can personalize each stay ... preparing every detail for an effortless beach day, arranging a private experience with a local artist or winemaker, recommending a beloved neighborhood restaurant, or creating simple rituals such as afternoon cookies and evening s'mores around the firepit," Wong says.

The hotel's sister restaurant, Nourish by the Roundtree, is worth a visit as the chef draws on his Balinese heritage and French training to craft amazing dishes.



The Beach house at The Roundtree Amagansett



The Chanler at Cliff Walk hotel

THE CHANLER AT CLIFF WALK

Newport, Rhode Island

Imagine waking up in Newport, Rhode Island, in one of 20 individually designed rooms, most outfitted with a cozy fireplace and a private terrace with views of the Atlantic Ocean.

"The Chanler at Cliff Walk is one of the only historic Newport mansions transformed into a hotel and the only hotel located along the famed Cliff Walk, making it a truly distinctive destination," says Lani Shufelt, owner and proprietress of The Chanler at Cliff Walk.

During a stay, guests can book an in-room massage, use the Cadillac house car to explore Newport, or gather for dinner in the two on-site restaurants. Don't forget to have a glass of wine in the wine garden and order cocktails and oysters in The Living Room.