

You'll warm up to winter at comfy New England spots

Moira McCarthy Thursday, January 19, 2017



Credit: Courtesy

The Chesterfield Inn in West Chesterfield, NH/courtesy photo



At this time of year our personal directive is often "get cozy." A warm fire, a good book, cocoa or something a little stronger, a cat curled at our feet all fit the bill.

The lure of coziness might pull you away from travel plans, but it shouldn't. New England is dotted with inns that offer us all that and more. In the cold of the winter there are plenty of choices for comfort, where flannel is as fancy as you get, and for being pampered. Pack your favorite book, some slippers, comfortable attire and head out — these spots are putting logs on the fire and the teakettle on right now.

The Woodstock Inn, Woodstock, Vt.: Tucked in the middle of the quintessential Vermont town it is named for, the Woodstock Inn has cozy in every corner. The giant lobby is centered with a huge, crackling fireplace surrounded by comfortable couches and chairs. Grab a Vermont Flannel blanket out of the nearby basket and savor it all.

The solarium is soaked in warm light even on the coldest days (and next to the daily afternoon offering of complimentary fresh baked cookies, cocoa, coffee and tea). The library has games and books, and places to settle into to enjoy them. Rooms are lush in a woodsy Vermont way, and the two eateries on site, The Red Rooster and Richardson's Tavern, are comfortable and relaxed. Then there is the spa. Want to achieve maximum relaxation before tucking up next to that fire? Try a seasonal body wrap followed by a massage. You'll be warm until spring. [woodstockinn.com](http://www.woodstockinn.com)

The Colonnade Hotel, Boston: Winter in the city can be tough, but not at this oasis. The Colonnade is tucked in the Back Bay, a perfect spot for bundling up in your favorite scarf and mittens and exploring. But should you want to simply stay warm and feel coddled, check in for one of its Frosty Friday weekends this winter, a setup that makes you yearn for a completely frigid Boston night. Guests pay the temperature (Fahrenheit) on Friday nights and \$289 for Saturday night, meaning the colder it is, the hotter the deal.

Inside you'll find comfortable rooms and a lobby that beckons you to hang out. To make you feel even more pampered, The Colonnade offers a make-your-own hot chocolate bar, with marshmallows, cinnamon sticks, candy canes, caramel and other surprises. Should you want to venture out of your winter cocoon, the package includes admission and skate rentals for Frog Pond or on Old Trolley tours. And how about this: Parking is free. [colonnadehotel.com](http://www.colonnadehotel.com)

The Chesterfield Inn, West Chesterfield, N.H.: How can you go wrong with a country inn where guests are greeted by a cat named Yoda? Yoda is always on hand with a friendly hello and ready to curl up at your feet. The inn's rooms are comfortable and lovely, many with their own private fireplaces. But you'll find yourself meandering down to the lobby, where a wood stove tempts you to pull up a chair. There's no need to bundle up to find a great meal out there; the inn's dining room serves imaginative food in a lovely setting. Throughout the inn, oversized windows let in natural light and look out on amazing views. [chesterfieldinn.com](http://www.chesterfieldinn.com)

The Wentworth, Jackson, N.H.: Jackson is like a retreat from the real world. Quaint, small and void of sprawl, the town is just north of busy North Conway (a great night out should you feel the need). Refurbished from an old, elegant property, the inn is a delicious mix of modern amenities and old-time charm. Splurge on one of the rooms with a cedar soaking tub on a private deck and sit and watch the snow fall. Or head back into your room to relax next to your own fireplace. You can dine in style in the Wentworth's four-diamond restaurant. Wander across the road in the morning for a hearty breakfast at Yesterdays, or pop into the J-Town Deli to find baked goods, soups and sandwiches the locals love. [thewentworth.com](http://www.thewentworth.com).