

5 Country Retreats Where You Can Celebrate Spring

From a high-design pavilion in upstate New York to a horse-farm-turned-hotel on a Swedish island, these new or renovated getaways revel in nature.

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Hiking and biking trails, lakes and alpine pastures surround the Das Edelweiss Salzburg Mountain Resort in Austria. Das Edelweiss

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Just in time for spring, five new and renovated rural retreats — including an 18th-century New England inn and a contemporary hideaway in upstate New York — are just right for country pursuits. Whether you're drawn to a desert lodge in Utah, a farm stay in Sweden or a mountain escape in the Austrian Alps, you can hike, bike, fish, horseback ride or simply take pleasure in bucolic views.

GOTLAND, SWEDEN

Sibbjäns



One of the 22 rooms at Sibbjäns, a horse-farm-turned-hotel on the Swedish island of Gotland. Sibbjäns

This horse-farm-turned-hotel is on the island of [Gotland](#) in the Baltic Sea, a place known for sandy beaches and limestone monoliths called sea stacks. Also on the island is the town of Visby, which dates to the Viking age and is on the [UNESCO World Heritage List](#) thanks to its 13th-century ramparts, warehouses and merchants' dwellings.

Opening to the public for its first full season in early April, the hotel has 22 rooms — some in a 19th-century farmhouse, and others in a bunkhouse — all with Scandinavian style (think clean lines and sheepskin throws). The farmhouse has nine elegant spare rooms with en suite bathrooms, a library, dining spots and a garden where you can sip an aperitif. There's also the more rustic Bunkhouse, which has 13 rooms. Each room has a patio, and the bathrooms are communal.

The hotel will feature a pool filled with rainwater that uses plants and filters instead of chemicals; a sauna, yoga barn and outdoor gym are scheduled to open in mid-May. The outdoor gym, on a timber deck beneath a pergola, will have an [Eleiko Presteria rig](#) for strength training. Go horseback riding through the fields, head to the coast to go kite-surfing, or take a ride on one of the hotel's e-bikes. At the property's farm you can meet the hens, pigs, sheep and horses. Join a free tour to learn the story of the farm, or simply stroll around. The property's [restaurant and bar](#) offers dishes that might include lamb from the farm with kale, beets and parsnips, or capeletti with chanterelles and ricotta.

Getting to the island requires some planning: Unless you arrange a helicopter trip, you'll need to take a flight from Stockholm to Visby or a ferry from the mainland, and then drive across the island. Prices from 4,500 Swedish krona (about \$482) a night, including breakfast.