

Published based on [Weekend Getaways and Mini Vacations](#)

Weekend Getaways and Mini Vacations

You desire a mini vacation because you don't have the time and/or money to take weeks off for your favorite destinations. Many people count out taking a weekend and heading to a semi-local vacation spot that allows them to get away, relax, enjoy time alone or together, and find romance, rest, fun, or whatever it is you are looking for in a vacation.

Mini vacations provide a simple solution to reviving yourself and they are great for smaller budgets, if you have children, and so forth. For a few years while in school, my wife and I never had enough time or money to take a full fledged trip, so we would take little weekend trips a few times a year experiencing more types of travel than if we had taken one big trip.

We have put together the below list of great mini trips that will help you spark further ideas and getaway immediately. Please note that many of the ideas represented below are from experience and can be adapted to anywhere in the world. Use your imagination to brainstorm destinations that are within driving range and quite affordable.

1. Excellent Romantic Spots: These are perfect for mini vacations. With anniversaries, holidays, romantic events, and so on always around the corner, we need to be on our toes to come up with fresh ideas to sweep our significant others off their feet and keep the romance going. Rent out a bed and breakfast in a small town, grab a hotel in a romantic city like Paris, head to Las Vegas and enjoy all it has to offer. Romantic destinations and ideas are limited by you and if you're having trouble there are entire websites devoted to this topic.

2. Sporting Events: Take in a college football game and tailgating, travel to a nearby destination for a professional game, or other fun sport. An example is two of my best friends for Valentines Day are traveling a couple hours to our state capital to watch the state high school basketball championships. Spring training is coming up for baseball and is always in a warm location. You have racing, football, golf, the Olympics, baseball, the major horse racing events like the Kentucky Derby. The list goes on and on.

3. Camping: This is a cheap vacation that can be fun, romantic, and adventurous. Combine camping with white water rafting or go hiking or without being too adventurous, rent a cabin in the woods and get away from society all together.

4. Theme Parks: One year we traveled to Cedar Point in Sandusky, Ohio and enjoyed a day at the theme park and the night at Put-n-Bay on Lake Erie. We live near Kings Island, Cedar Point, and other theme parks that are great attractions. There are theme parks everywhere and are a great way to have some fun while enjoying an array of activities. If you aren't close to Disney World or Disneyland, then think of a closer location.

5. World-Known Vacation Spots: Vegas is one, Amsterdam is another, you get the idea. Some of our favorites include places like Gatlinburg, TN, nearby lakes for boating events, New York for shows and shopping... too many to list. New York, San Diego, Phoenix, anywhere in a 6 hour driving time to your home can be perfect. Two of our favorites due to distance and love of the beach are [discount Florida vacations](#) or [Hilton Head Island South Carolina](#). We prefer a week or two at these beach spots, but a weekend away can also provide just what was needed. Just write down a few places based on the above recommendations and pick one.

6. Beach Destinations: If you live close enough and are a beach bum, highly recommended. A great weekend getaway to enjoy the walks on the beach, dinner overlooking the ocean, beachfront hotel or villa, and all a beach vacation has to offer.

7. Festivals, Events, Concerts: Is there a musician playing in a town not too far away? What about a major event or festival? Pack the bags and head out for the weekend. Grab a hotel and head to this event. You'll have a great time. We have done this many times and always have a good time.

This list can be as long as your imagination. Pack your bags and just get away. You are sure to come back feeling fantastic and ready to plan your next mini vacation which doesn't have to be a year away.

You can also find this article published on [Weekend Getaways and Mini Vacations](#), and on the tag pages [college football game](#), [high school basketball](#), [high school basketball championships](#), [time](#), [vacation](#), [Weekend](#).