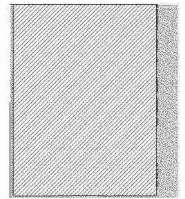


Perfect
match
Hawk's Cay Resort in
the Florida Keys
serves up plenty of
ways to bond!



your first family vacation

Is there a happier milestone? Spend it at one of 8 great spots for fun. By Laura Manske
Photograph by Thayer Allyson Gowdy



They're waiting to meet your fam!

WE GOT YOU A GOOD PRICE!

Hawks Cay Resort & Marina Duck Key, Florida

Peaceful, pretty Hawks Cay Resort in Duck Key (on the sparkling necklace of islands between Miami and Key West) delivers luxury with a laid-back vibe. It's a small island, so you view both stunning sunrises and sunsets from its grounds. Stay in one of 177 rooms or 225 villas (ideal for accommodating dotting grandparents). Go shell-collecting on a powder-soft beach, splash in five pools (including a Saltwater Lagoon with tiny tropical fish), and gaze at a tranquil marina where pelicans hang, like salty old pals, on lazily bobbing boats. Dockside Dolphins, an on-site research facility, offers a unique program

in which your little one sits on your lap as you interact with bottlenose dolphins, feeding them fish or gelatin cubes. A photog captures the interspecies smiles! (\$60 each, so \$120 for you and your child.)

BONUS FOR BABY While Camp Hawk cares for children ages 5 to 12, you're welcome to entertain your younger one with their activity mats, toys, and books. The Camp's playground has bucket swings, and its Pirate Ship Pool sports toddler-size slides, raining "palm trees," and an 8-inch-deep water area. Want to explore? Bikes with baby seats and helmets are available. Borrow a high chair, play yard, or monitor for free. Private sitting, by resort staff, starts at \$18 per hour.

BOOK IT! Rates start at \$160 per room, per night; HawksCay.com. And come stay awhile; **you get a fifth night free** when you book by April 30, 2013, for an arrival between April 7, 2013, and August 29, 2013. Use promo code 5free13.

HOT TIP

Call right before you leave and ask the resort to put baby gear in your room; you'll settle in fast!

Club Med Punta Cana Dominican Republic

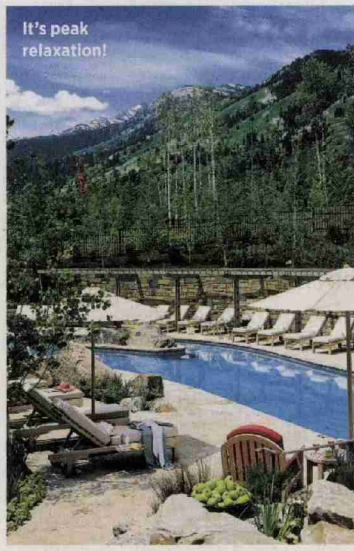
Club Med's largest resort has been buffed with a recent renovation of its 553 rooms and 32 family suites. Cuddled in a coconut grove, it boasts four pools and a half-mile-long beach. GOs (Genteel Organizers) rally guests to join activities. If lounging is more alluring than kayaking, that's encouraged too.

BONUS FOR BABY Use the free, stocked 24-hour Baby Feeding Room. Baby Club is caters to ages 4 months to 23 months. (\$85 per day or \$300 per week, closed Saturdays.)

BOOK IT! Rates start at \$999 per person, double occupancy, for seven nights; includes unlimited food and drinks (alcohol too); kids younger than 4 stay free; ClubMed.US/Punta-Cana.



How sweet is this view?



Four Seasons Jackson Hole

Jackson Hole, Wyoming

A ski resort in spring or summer? Sure! At this swanky yet so-inviting 156-room lodge, swoon over the Grand Tetons on a gondola ride; jump on a kid-friendly wildlife “safari” to spy eagles, bison, and moose; and picnic with your peewee in a pristine wildflower meadow.

BONUS FOR BABY The resort is happy to lend a regular stroller, jogging stroller, bathtub, bottle warmer, carrier, child-proofing kit, children’s toiletries, crib, high chair, mini-fridge, night-light, and play yard gratis. Rent a baby backpack (\$20 per day) for hikes. The concierge can arrange in-room sitting with an agency.

BOOK IT! Rates start at \$219 per night, plus a resort fee of 7 percent; hotel closed in April; FourSeasons.com/JacksonHole.



Hyatt Regency Clearwater Beach Resort & Spa

Clearwater, Florida

Situated on a west-coast island, this 250-suite Hyatt (all units with kitchen, living room, and balcony) looks like a big, pink, tiered cake, serving up delicious togetherness! Stroll its beautiful broad beach on the Gulf of Mexico. Poolside, up on the eighth floor, private cabanas with their own bathroom, TV, and WiFi (\$75–\$200 per day) are ideal for families who want to frolic all day without getting fried. Your baby will love the fenced-in, 1-foot-deep kiddie pool. Clearwater itself offers the picturesque Pier 60 Beach Walk; Clearwater Marine Aquarium (where they filmed *Dolphin Tale*); and rides on the *Little Toot* tug boat, which stirs up a wake that dolphins love to jump and play in. Want a date night? The Concierge will happily help arrange in-room babysitting through a reliable outside agency.

BONUS FOR BABY Lug less with Hyatt’s baby-gear service (BabiesTravellite.com/Hyatt), which stocks more than 1,500 products (diapers, formula, sunscreen) that can be purchased pre-trip and delivered to your room. And you can borrow a crib or play yard for free.

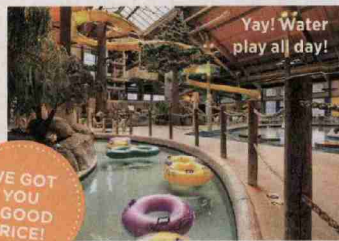
BOOK IT! Rates start at \$179 per night, plus a \$25-per-day resort fee; ClearwaterBeach.Hyatt.com. And the Hyatt loves our readers; you can **save 20 percent** on a visit through December 31, 2013, based on availability; promo code AMBABY; 800-233-1234.

Timber Ridge Lodge & Waterpark

Lake Geneva, Wisconsin

Got older kids too? Moose Mountain Falls Waterpark—an enormous year-round wet zone of indoor/outdoor slides and pools—woos families to this 225-suite lodge. No one minds if your tot screeches gleefully; the place abounds with kids! You’ll want in on the fun (take turns with your guy on the waterslides!). The Tiny Timbers area has bucket swings, low slides, spouts, and a “mushroom” waterfall. Next door is the elegant Grand Geneva Resort (GrandGeneva.com); guests at both share a spa and restaurants.

BONUS FOR BABY Ask to borrow a baby gate, high chair, outlet covers, and play yard for free. At the Kids Are Grand center, stocked with books and toys, infants (6 months and older) are clucked over by child-



care staff for a few hours every day (\$10 per hour). Or you can hire a private sitter for your room (\$20 per hour).

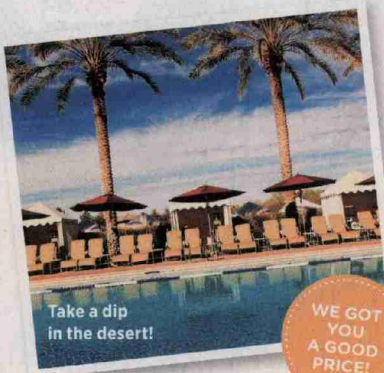
BOOK IT! Rates start at \$149 per room, per night, plus a \$15-per-day resort fee; TimberRidgeResort.com. Why not go this spring? **Get 20 percent off** at Timber Ridge or Grand Geneva when you stay April 1 through May 24, 2013; promo code BABY; 800-558-3417.

HOT TIP

Checking luggage can cost money! Ask what baby supplies are for sale on-site, or have them delivered via Diapers.com.

STYLING BY KAREN KOZLOWSKI; FUR: KRÄMER + KRÄMER; HAIR AND MAKEUP BY PAOLA ORLANDO FOR ARTISTS; ON WOMAN: DRESS BY SPLENDID; SHOES BY BCBGENERATION; EARRINGS AND CLIFF BY SATYA; ON MAN: JEANS BY UNIDULO; SHIRT AND SHOES BY OLD NAVY; ON BABY: ROMPER BY BONPOINT; PHOTOGRAPHED AT HAWKS CAY RESORT & MARINA.

going places



Take a dip
in the desert!

WE GOT
YOU
A GOOD
PRICE!

Westin Kierland Resort & Spa Scottsdale, Arizona

Practically nonstop sunny skies will make you and Baby beam at this 732-room desert oasis, surrounded by palm trees and mountain vistas. Bliss out at Agave Spa, and float with your little one in your lap along the 900-foot lazy river. Every evening, as the fire pit draws guests to its aromatic piñon wood, a bagpiper serenades the sun down.

BONUS FOR BABY The Adventure Pool features a sandy beach entry and a Splash Pad with pop-jet fountains. You can borrow a crib, high chair, mini-fridge, stroller (umbrella or jogging), and more for free. The Westin Kids Club is for ages 4 to 12, but in-room sitting can be arranged for your baby via the concierge, who works with local agencies; fees vary. Pregnant? Ask about the "Bundle of Joy" Babymoon package.

BOOK IT! Rates start at \$269 per night in spring, \$149 per night in summer, plus a \$25-per-day resort fee; KierlandResort.com. We'll **save you \$10 per night**, April 1 to September 8, 2013; with code AMERBABY; 480-624-1202.

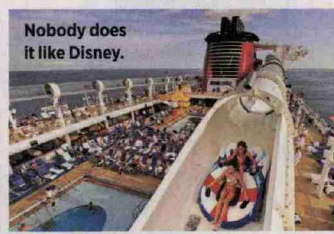
Fantasy Ship, Disney Cruise Line Port Canaveral, Florida

Disney's newest ship, the 1,250-cabin *Fantasy*, navigates the Caribbean on seven-night itineraries. The staff is smiling and helpful, pictures on walls magically come alive (to your baby's delight!), and features like 24-hour free room service let you operate on your own schedule. Take turns with your honey for time in the spa and fitness center, and book a date-night meal at Palo or Remy, splurge-worthy adult-only restaurants (extra charge).

BONUS FOR BABY Pre-trip, order diapers and wipes for your cabin. Disney will lend a play yard for free. Bathrooms have tubs. It's A Small World Nursery cuddles your little character with infant swings and toys (age 3 months to 3 years; \$6 per hour). On deck, shaded Nemo's Reef is a baby-safe water area where

favorite characters romp with their biggest fans (imagine the photo opps!).

BOOK IT! Rates vary widely, depending on the sail date and cabin, but an inside cabin starts at \$1,085 per adult, double occupancy, and \$375 for baby for a week. Unlimited food, most nonalcoholic beverages, and onboard entertainment included; DisneyCruise.Disney.Go.com.



Nobody does
it like Disney.

La Quinta Resort & Club La Quinta, California

At this enchanting Hacienda-inspired desert oasis near Palm Springs (picture white-washed buildings and red-tiled roofs), you can feel parenting stress melt away. Surrounded by the alluring Santa Rosa Mountains and fragrant fruit trees under perennially blue skies, La Quinta Resort & Club (run by Waldorf-Astoria Resorts) sparkles with 41 pools, 53 hot tubs, lush flowers, and peaceful paths. Stay in a cozy casita, airy suite, or a cushy spa villa. Each evening, sink into plush

outdoor chairs to cuddle with your California kid while you unwind to live music, then wander over to one of five restaurants. The PAWS La Quinta experience even welcomes your family dog! (\$100 per stay.)

BONUS FOR BABY Bikes, with baby carriers, are available for rent, and a crib, high chair, and play yard can be placed in your room for free. While older siblings can join the Kids Club (ages 4 to 12), your wee one will dig the tot-friendly pool and playground. Food in the restaurants can be puréed, and many rooms have kitchenettes. The concierge can help arrange babysitting with an outside agency (cost varies; it usually starts at \$15 per hour).

BOOK IT! Rates start at \$124 per room, per night, plus a \$27-per-day resort fee. Ask about special discount packages; LaQuintaResort.com.



Zen out in
California.

MORE TRIPS FOR TOTS!

This is our third annual guide! Make a virtual visit to other amazing take-the-baby getaways at americanbaby.com/baby-vacations.