

TRAVEL 🕒 4 minutes 📅 28 SEPTEMBER 2026

The Best Small-Town Hotels in the United States

From America's quiet main streets to its quaintest mountain gateways, the best small-town hotels in the United States shine a spotlight on some of the country's most underrated destinations.



In Litchfield, Connecticut, a mansion with Victorian turrets and bay windows. © Belden House & Mews (Read McKendree)

Belden House & Mews — Litchfield, CT

What it's all about: A blend of Victorian architecture and a modern mews, with an impressive spa, nestled between Litchfield's historic downtown and the countryside.

About a two-and-a-half-hour drive from New York City is the pretty New England town of Litchfield. Beyond its galleries and shops, taverns and the old village green are 40 miles of hiking trails, preserved forests and bucolic farmland — and the One-Key Belden House & Mews.

As the name suggests, the hotel is made up of two parts: a renovated 19th-century main house with Victorian staircases, original fireplaces, rounded bay windows and garden views; and a 1959 mews (historically, 18th-century horse stables — in today's terms, low-rise accommodations behind the main house). In both, expect light-filled midcentury modern guest rooms and verdant patios.

The Bathhouse spa is a draw on its own, with daily fitness classes, personal training upon request, a private thermal circuit and a seasonal pool. The dining room and its tiled fireplace is as charming as the small town in which it resides.