



ELITE *escapes* Part 2

by Jacqueline Miller

We are delighted to present Elite Escapes Part Two - our picks to destinations within our great shores that will assuage a variety of impulses and indulge you in extravagant ways. Quite different in appeal and offerings, both destinations offer experiences that are sure to please the most discriminating among us. Elite Escapes Part One appeared in Sarasota Scene's October 2017 issue (scenesarasota.com).

ROMANCE REGAINED

Travel + Leisure ranked it tops in the Northeast, number five in the United States and 15 in the world. It has won the Forbes Five-Star Hotel Award, and was a *Condé Nast Traveler* Reader's Choice in 2016.

The oh-so-exclusive Twin Farms in Barnard, Vermont is an intimate, all-inclusive country hideaway, located 15 miles north of Woodstock, NY. Steeped in romance and folklore, Twin Farms is sure to ignite the flames with those we love.

The 1795-era farmhouse was purchased in 1928 by Nobel prize-winning author Sinclair Lewis for his wife, journalist Dorothy Thompson. The property sits on 300 acres of meadows and woodlands in an unspoiled valley. Hand-painted murals, rich maple and pine woodwork, American folk art and museum-quality contemporary oils adorn the rustically elegant accommodations and lounges. Public areas include the Dining Room,



Barn Room, Pub, Cabana and Fitness Center. Arriving by helicopter? Just land on the property's helipad.

Twenty distinctive lodgings (including a self-contained four-suite "Farmhouse at Copper Hill" overlooking a pond) feature king-size feather beds and sitting areas with wood-burning fireplaces that open onto screened porches. Whimsical cottages are tucked away in the property's secluded woodlands. Rooms (not including taxes) start at \$1500 a night; cottages start at \$3,000 a night; and the chalet starts at \$3600 a night. Kids under 16 are not welcome (except during two set weeks a year), but dogs are welcome in certain accommodations.

The exceptional cuisine is backed by a 15,000-bottle wine cellar. On-site activities include hiking, biking, tennis, pond swimming, fly fishing and canoeing during the warmer months. Golf is available nearby. In winter, guests enjoy private downhill ski slopes, trails for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing as well as ice skating and sledding with all equipment provided. The property also offers a fitness center, Japanese-style soaking tub (Furo) and The Bridge House spa. Love a picnic? Twin Farms will fill a basket with goodies of your choice.

At Twin Falls, your stay can be adventurous, social, serene or private. It's your wish. Let them attend to every detail and you will feel like it was money well spent.



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