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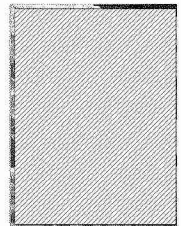
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Hamilton, Bermuda's capital.

BERMUDA packs a whole lot of fun into a relatively small island; three days might not be long enough to see it all, but here's how to hit the highlights of this perfect long-weekend getaway destination from the East Coast.

Day 1: Bermuda is a mix of British and Caribbean cultural influences, but your first breakfast in Bermuda features the distinctly French flavor of **Bouchee**, a Hamilton bistro known for its giant waffles and creative interpretations of Eggs Benedict. Finish up your coffee and mimosas and take a stroll around the Bermudian capital city, starting with the waterfront **Front Street** with its brightly painted buildings housing shops, restaurants, and bars. You can take a trolley tour to learn the history of **HAMILTON**, founded in 1793.

Just outside Hamilton are the **Bermuda Botanical Gardens**, with 35 acres of formal gardens open daily from sunrise to sunset. **Art Mel's Spicy Dicy** is a little off the beaten path, but locals and visitors alike find their way to North Shore Village to try the restaurant's unique fish sandwiches topped with cole slaw and served on raisin bread.

For all of its sun-drenched beauty, one of Bermuda's top tourist attractions is actually underground. The **Crystal Caves of Bermuda** (there are two: Crystal Cave and Fantasy Cave) are limestone caverns filled with daggerlike stalactites, mischievously named rock formations, and subterranean lakes crossed by pontoon bridges.

Hamilton is the nightlife hub of Bermuda, where you'll find everything from traditional

English pubs to ethnic eateries, fine-dining restaurants, sports bars, and dance clubs. Take tonight to explore the options, starting with a drink made with the house blended rum at **Harry's**.

Day 2: Time to get active! Slip on your walking shoes or rent a bike and head to the **Bermuda Railway Trail**, which runs across Bermuda for 18 miles from St. George to Somerset. It's not only a great morning workout but an excellent way to browse through Bermuda's history and see parts of the island a little off the usual tourist track. Close to the trail in Hamilton Parish is the **Swizzle Inn**, Bermuda's oldest pub and the birthplace of the rum swizzle, the island's most famous drink next to the dark & stormy. Stop for lunch and try the traditional Bermuda fish chowder and the catch of the day.

Spend the afternoon on the water: rent a kayak or hydrobike if you want to keep moving, or join a jet ski tour or climb aboard the WildCat for a speedboat ride around the island. Later, head to the **East End** for a sunset horseback ride on the beach—Bermuda Horse Trail Rides is just a short detour from the Railway Trail.

Reward yourself after an active day with a nice dinner. The Waterlot Inn at the **Fairmont Southampton** serves classics like rack of lamb and aged steaks; celebrity chef Marcus Samuelsson's self-named Marcus' restaurant at the **Hamilton Princess and Beach Club** hotel blends some Bermudian favorites with the chef's daring mix of upscaled soul food, street food, and Ethiopian cuisine.

Day 3: Beach day! Bermuda is as famous for its pink-sand beaches as its coral Bermuda shorts, starting with the popular **Horseshoe Bay beach**, which has the perfect balance of pink sand and sparkling turquoise water. The beach has amenities like a cafe and chairs and snorkeling gear for rent, plus there are hiking trails that you can follow to more secluded pink strands, like Jobson's Cove.

Spread out on the sand for a relaxing last day in Bermuda, but rouse yourself by mid-afternoon so you can enjoy English-style tea time, an island tradition that you can experience at the **Crown & Anchor** restaurant at the Hamilton Princess, the **Bermuda Perfumery**, or the **Dockyard Pastry Shop**. The latter is located at the **Royal Navy Dockyard**, a 19th-century fort that houses the **Bermuda National Museum**, a shopping mall, and a variety of bars and restaurants. Pick up some fresh Bermuda rum cakes for the trip home and pop into the **Frog & Onion**, where you can raise a farewell toast with a pint or two from Bermuda's only brewpub. ♦

FASTFACTS

GETTING THERE: Delta flies from Atlanta, Boston and New York (JFK) to Bermuda

ENTRY DOCUMENTS:

Valid passport

INFORMATION PLEASE: Bermuda Tourism Authority—gotobermuda.com