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By PERRI ORMONT BLUMBERG

OU don't need to journey to Hawaii, Fiji or Paris for an unforgettable honeymoon. It's just as easy to find romance on inviting Main streets and in the downhome allure of fly-speck towns. Here are five all-American honeymoon hamlets worth booking a

Peak romance

Tilghman Island — a town of just 1,000 residents in Maryland, and one of the last small fishing villages left on Chesapeake Bay — is an oasis straight out of a Hallmark movie.
The summer splendors of

the bay are numerous, but you can knock almost all of em out at **Wylder**, a lovely 50-room boutique property (from \$245 per night; WylderHotels.com). Chief among them are eating blue crab

along the waterfront at **Tickler's Crab Shack**, savoring s'mores by evening bonfires, or reliving your childhood camp memories with your better half on canoes or kayaks. Be sure to take a sunset

cruise (\$65) or book a charter fishing trip (prices vary) via Wylder before your stay ends. Should you decide to venture farther off-site, the Assateague Island National Seashore and State Park are two hours away, and offer lovebirds the chance to gape at wild horses frolicking on the sand.

Oenophiles will also find several stops along the Chesapeake Wine Trail, less than an hour away.

Bliss-ville, USA

Everything is bigger in Texas — except for idyllic **Salado** (population: 3,002), which sits halfway between Austin and Waco.

When you get there, head for **Shady Villa Hotel** (rooms from \$155 per night; *ShadyVillaHotel.com*), and grab a lavender daiquiri by the pool before dining at Stagecoach Restaurant, a Bell County stronghold since 1861.



NI MOONS These pint-sized towns are big on romance SOUEEZE eymoon on the e's craggy and oh-so-charming southern coast at the Cliff House.





Find reel love by fly-fishing and hiking at Montage Big Sky (above left); it's more like Kiss-issippi at romantic Dunleith (above right); deep in the heart of Texas, Shady Villa will flutter yours (inset).

Don your cowboy hats and saunter along Main Street — brimming with shops, art galleries, cafes and restaurants — and nearby drags, where favorite activities include scoping out Salado Sculpture Garden and watching glassblowers at work at Salado Glassworks.

After all that walking, sate your appetite back at Stagecoach with some pimento cheese and a hot baked pretzel and quarrel over who should get the chicken fried steak. (You both should.) Fun fact: The post-Civil War era cattledriving Chisholm Trail came right down Main Street, bringing through the stagecoach lines that served Central Texas, and Sam Houston, George Custer and Jesse James were all rumored to have visited the hotel.

Dream big

You might think of Big Sky, Mont., as ski central, but this moun-tainous nabe of some 3,591 locals is ripe for a summer rendezvous, too. Opened in 2021, the **Montage Big Sky** (from \$1,395 per night; *MontageHotels.com*) will celebrate its first summer season with a whirlwind of activities: from golf on Spanish Peaks Mountain Club's

course and hiking to horse-back riding and fly-fishing. In town, if you've recov-ered from all that wedding

cake, swing by **Sweet Buns**, a new bakery that
will wow you with standouts like red wine buttercream-filled cracked-pep-

per macarons, Kev Lime pie and cupcakes. Or, em-brace your hankering for 'cue at **Riverhouse BBQ**, on the banks of the Gallatin

River. You're also close to Yellowstone National Park, should you decide a night in a tent is in order.

Bless your hearts

Natchez, Miss., a historic steamboat stop on the

state's eponymous river is known as the "Little Easy," making it the perfect spot to take it easy with your new spouse.

Dripping with Southern charm, Natchez is re-nowned for its magnificent historic homes, some 1,000 of which are on the National Register of Historic Places.

One of its grandest is **Dunleith**, a sprawling 1856 residence turned bed-and-breakfast with an outdoor pool and on-site restaurant and bar (from \$143 per night; DunleithHistoricInn.com). Take a horse-drawn car-

riage with Southern Car-riage Tours, ghost tour with **Downtown Karla** Brown or learn the art of biscuit-making in Chef Regina Charboneau's cook-

Edgy accommodations

Welcome to Cape Ned-dick, a town of 2,563 people, on Maine's craggy southern coast that brings the quaint in spades. Cliff House Maine (from \$509 per night; CliffHouse-Maine.com) is the town's most chichi resort, perched atop Bald Head Cliff with dramatic views of the At-lantic (that are particularly mesmerizing when it's stormy).

Choose from guest rooms, suites and a stand-alone cottage and an itiner ary that consists mainly of

ary that consists mainly of spa days, pool-front chill-ing and lobster galore. At the spa, book a signa-ture suite with two treat-ment tables, drench-ex-

perience shower for two and a built-in lounge nook with a

fireplace. Then, head to **The Tiller Res**taurant or Nubb's Lobster Shack to blow postnuptial calories on crab and chorizo mac and cheese, Maine mus-sels, duck fat-poached swordfish, clam chowder and more lobster rolls than

you can count. Neighboring **Ogunquit** offers access to top-notch beaches, restaurants, two museums and the **Ogun-quit Playhouse**, an acclaimed theater company founded in 1933.

While in Ogunquit, don't miss the **Marginal Way** walking trail, which hugs the foamy Maine coastline, is a must for letting that provincial magic soak into vour soul.

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