

# THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

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## Luxury Lodges Designed For Outdoor Adventures

From North Carolina's Blue Ridge Mountains to cowboy country in Wyoming, ambitious hoteliers are reimagining fusty lakeside camps and no-frills dude ranches to accommodate more discerning nature enthusiasts



THE BACKCOUNTRY CLUB Mountain Meadows Lodge on Vermont's Kent Pond

*By Jen Murphy*

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...ambitious hoteliers are reimagining fusty lakeside camps and no-frills dude ranches to accommodate more discerning nature enthusiasts...If you're pining for an outdoor adventure but not eager to rough it, you're in luck. These newly spruced up wilderness lodges are wooing luxury lovers

**LAST YEAR**, Americans rekindled their love of the great outdoors. While many came away with a new appreciation for hiking, mountain biking and backcountry skiing, not all have embraced the art of RVing and tent camping. Luckily, a new crop of wilderness retreats has emerged across the U.S., catering to outdoor enthusiasts who crave comfort and culture along with an ample dose of fresh air. From a Wyoming dude ranch run by a Julliard alum to a snowmobile lodge in Colorado with a farm-to-table restaurant, these revamped hotels are redefining the base camp of the all American adventure.

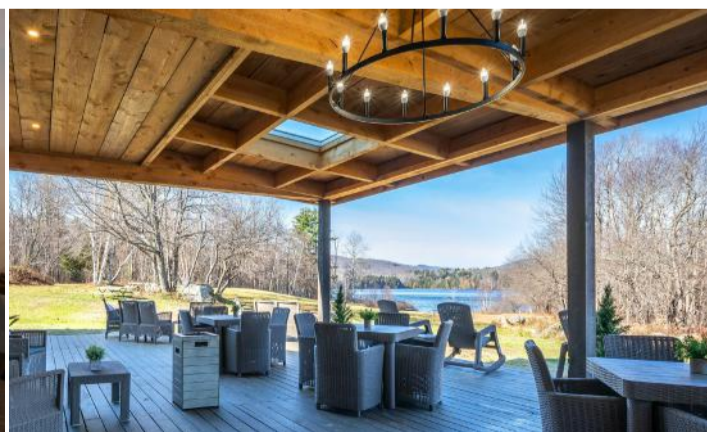
### PADDLERS AND STARGAZERS

*Mountain Meadows Lodge*

On the shores of 100-acre Kent Pond in Killington, Vt., Mountain Meadows Lodge allows guests to kayak, canoe or cast for bass. The Appalachian Trail traverses the property, and the ski runs and mountain bike routes of Killington Mountain Resort are a 10-minute drive away.

Opened last October after a head-to-toe makeover, each of the 26 rooms in the 19th-century farmhouse and barn offers something special, like fieldstone fireplaces or private decks. The star-view room has been the biggest hit, offering a window above the bed for constellation gazing. From \$250 a night.

[www.mountainmeadowslodge.com](http://www.mountainmeadowslodge.com)



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