



Catalina Island offers a Riviera setting.

## FIVE FUN VACATIONS ON A BUDGET

(Continued)

the Carolinas to rocky, pine-studded islands in New England, Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Washington.

At many of these islands you can have all the privacy you like and yet not want for things to do. Sanibel (reached by ferry from Punta Rassa, Fla.) has a permanent population of only 100. A low, lonely, lovely strip of sand right out of an old Dorothy Lamour movie, it is covered with lush vegetation and tens of thousands of shells (the beach is one of the nation's best shell-gathering grounds). It is unexcelled for swimming and fishing.

Depending on the particular island you choose, you can also enjoy boating, hiking, golfing, tennis, or exploring.

The cost of vacationing on an island varies widely. Housekeeping cottages may rent from \$20 to \$50 a week, while room and board may range from \$5 to \$10 a day. Some islands, like the 172 that make up the San Juan group (reached by ferry from Anacortes, Wash.), have camping facilities for which there is only a nominal charge.

### 3. Fun on a Farm

At a farm you will experience a way of life completely different from the one you know in the city or suburbs. Thousands of farms all over the country welcome paying guests to share their pleasant hours, activities, peace, and contentment. However, since taking in guests is only a side line to their regular routine, few farms offer anything resembling plush hotel service. But accommodations are usually comfortable and modern, and you'll live at least as well as your host; in fact, you'll become practically a member of the family.

On the smaller farms (which rarely accommodate more than 10 guests), you eat family-style around one big table where second and third helpings are routine. You can, if you wish, also pitch in with the farm chores—milking

the cows, feeding the chickens, and churning butter. You'll probably find a good swimming hole or trout stream nearby. Depending on how energetic or lazy you feel, other activities for you usually include hay rides, country auc-

tions, square-dancing, antique-shopping, hunting, wiener roasts, or simply lounging under a shade tree.

Rates for adults are seldom more than \$35 to \$40 a week; for children, they usually range from \$15 to \$25.

### 4. Learn About Nature

If you have a place to leave the children for two weeks and want to learn more about nature and the great outdoors, you will find it rewarding to

enroll for a two-week session at one of the four nature camps operated by the National Audubon Society. Nearly 10,000 adults have attended these sessions at camps in Wisconsin, California, Maine, and Connecticut.

The "tuition" fee of \$105 covers all living expenses as well as instruction, which is extremely informal. You take bird-watching tours and field trips by foot, station wagon, and canoe. Only about 35 campers are accepted

for each session at the various camps, so it's a good idea to make reservations early. For application blanks and further information, write to the National Audubon Society, 1130 Fifth Ave., New York 28, N.Y.

### 5. Two-Wheel Vacations

Other outdoor lovers of a hardy nature will find an American Youth Hostel bicycle trip just about the cheapest vacation imaginable. Don't take the term "youth" too literally. Membership in the AYH is open to all who are young in spirit and who like getting places under their own steam and meeting new people. To qualify for an AYH trip, you must be an AYH member (cost: \$2 to \$6 a year; family membership, \$7), be able to bicycle 30 miles a day, be prepared to live ruggedly (hard beds, cold water, sleep in the open), and be willing to pitch in with the group to make the trip successful—trippers take turns doing the cooking, shopping, and other chores.

On these trips, you generally spend the night at one of the 90-odd hostels—a school, lodge, camp, church, community center, farm, or private home. Where no hostels are nearby, you stay at a "Y" hotel, or camp out. (Among the items of equipment you need are a sleeping bag and eating utensils.)

Typical of the all-expense summer trips sponsored by the AYH are four-week tours of New England (total cost: \$155), the Great Lakes region (\$235), Mexico (\$345), and a five-week tour of the Canadian Rockies (\$350). For those who have more time, there are all-expense trips to Europe, such as a seven-week jaunt through France and the Low Countries for \$660.

If you are willing to forego the customary camaraderie of traveling with a group, or if you have young children (15 is the minimum age required for the group trips), you and your family can plan your own itinerary and hostel on your own. With overnight fees averaging only 75 cents, total expenses per person need not be more than \$2.50 or \$3 a day. AYH has a helpful fact sheet for family hostellers, and further information may be obtained by writing to American Youth Hostels, 14 West Eighth St., New York 11, N.Y.

To make the most of your vacation time, tie in any of the foregoing ideas with any special interests you may have. For example, do you like music? Then pick your vacation spot or plan your trip so that it brings you near one of the dozens of music festivals (including jazz) that will be held all over the country this year. If you have the urge to learn to write, you can attend any one of 50 summer writers' conferences, lasting anywhere from two days to two months, many conducted by famous authors.

Or you can combine any of these ideas with others of your own. Are you and your family torn between the desire to relax on a farm and sight-see in New York City? Well, some farms are not more than 35 miles from New York, so you can do both!



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