

# CHICAGO

September 25, 2017  
UMV: 542,980

## The Jet-Setters' Guide to Weekends

With more—and more affordable—direct flights than ever before, it's easy to plan a long-weekend jaunt abroad. Here, a playbook for 10 stellar mini vacations.

BY NINA KOKOTAS HAHN

PUBLISHED YESTERDAY AT 9:44 A.M.



Like Share 95 people like this. Be the first of your friends.

**F**rom ultrabudget to superplush service, an unprecedented influx of new international flights from Chicago—often priced at a steal, thanks to the beefed-up competition—makes it easier than ever to plot a far-flung, last-minute long-weekend getaway. We've got the skinny on 10 dream destinations—all no more than eight hours away and most accessible by direct flight from O'Hare. Why settle for another Netflix Saturday night when you can party in Panama?

[Vancouver, Canada](#) | [Reykjavík, Iceland](#) | [Dublin](#) | [London](#) | [Paris](#) | [Madrid](#) | [Zihuatanejo, Mexico](#) | [Managua, Nicaragua](#) | [Panama City](#) | [Negril, Jamaica](#)



Yoga pavilion at the Cliff Hotel in Negril PHOTO: JUNE PASCOCELLO

## Negril, Jamaica

### *Fitness Bonanza*

**TRAVEL TIME:** 4 hours

**NONSTOP FLIGHTS:** American (daily seasonally), Southwest (daily from Midway), United (daily seasonally)

**WHEN TO GO:** November to April

**WHAT'S NEW:** Southwest upped its frequency this year, making it the only carrier offering year-round direct flights (from \$547) to Montego Bay (90 minutes by car from Negril). But you'll find cheaper fares from O'Hare on United (from \$438) and American (from \$506).

**WHAT TO DO:** If you are workout-obsessed, check in at the 166-room Hideaway at Royalton Negril (from \$402), an adults-only resort opened in March that offers dozens of fitness classes weekly, ranging from boot camps to yoga, plus massages on the beach to recharge you in between. Want a more tranquil option? Try the Cliff Hotel, opened in 2015, where you can lounge in a saltwater pool embedded in the rocky shore or take classes in an open-air yoga pavilion, which will forever ruin your sweaty, windowless Bikram studio back home.