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Top 10 lakeside retreats

Cool off at these easy and exotic destinations!



Marcel Tromp / © Destination Lake Taupo

New Zealand's Lake Taupo is one of our top spots to cool off.

By Editorial Staff

 When summer highs get unbearable, it's time to go jump in a lake. Literally. Our **top lakeside retreats** will help you choose which one to dive into - in both hemispheres - during the dog days of summer. Pick between easy-to-get to lakes in the United States and Canada, top draws in Europe and Japan, and even New Zealand - where peak summer season runs from December to March. No matter whether you prefer to rough it at a lakeside campsite or sleep in 300+ thread-count Egyptian cotton sheets at a top-tier resort, you're bound to find somewhere to cool you off on our list.

Finger Lakes
 Nestled snugly between Lake Ontario and the northern border of Pennsylvania, the Finger Lakes district of New York State is a popular summertime playground for kids of all ages, who are lured by the abundance of idyllic lakeside retreats, and end up enthralled by the many historic sites, sloping vineyards, wine trails, and annual festivals that occupy their shores.

Fuji Five Lakes: Lake Kawaguchi
 As if the dramatic and sweeping vistas of Japan's iconic Mt. Fuji weren't enough, the region's beauty is further amplified by Lake

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