

TRAVEL

Epic Vacations to Take With Your Dad



by Hudson Lindenberger



8

Ten Days in Italy's "Motor Valley"

Some of the finest sports cars in the world are from Italy, and this trip allows Dad the chance to sample the best that the country has to offer. Over a period of ten days you and he will have the chance to tour the countryside in a brand new Maserati, tear up the track in a Ferrari 458, cut corners on a Ducati Testastretta 11, and experience a Lamborghini. When you are not running the roads, you can indulge in the gastronomic delights of the region, sample fine Italian wines, take private cooking classes, and stay in luxurious hotels. Best of all, the trip offers up backstage access to the factories that create these works of art. [From \$4,129; zicasso.com]



Golf, Big Sky Style

The **Legends of Golf package** offered by Montana's Moonlight Basin allows you, Dad, and two others to tee up on three of the most stunning golf courses on the planet. At 8,000 feet high and surrounded by skyscraping summits, it's unforgettable golfing. Each of the courses was designed by a legend of the game, including Arnold Palmer, Tom Weiskopf, and Jack Nicklaus. Also on tap: sporting clays, private whiskey tastings, and steak dinners. *[From \$308 per night; moonlightbasin.findyourbigsky.com]*



Baseball Boston Style

Sorry, but this one is for Boston Red Sox fans. The Hotel Commonwealth, located steps away from Fenway Park, has a "Reverse Your Curse" package that offers unparalleled access to the team, with a VIP pre-game tour of the stadium, along with access to the warning track during batting practice, a visit to the Green Monster, a signed baseball, and a personalized message to Dad during the game on the scoreboard. Best of all, it comes with two front-row tickets just feet from the field. The night before the game, Dad will get to spend the evening in the hotel's signature Luxury Baseball Suite, with views of the ballpark, priceless memorabilia, and the chance to shoot a selfie with a World Series Trophy. [From \$2,595; hotelcommonwealth.com]



Adventure in Nicaragua

The Nekupe Sporting Resort and Retreat offers adventuring through the untamed jungle surrounding this luxury escape hidden in the heart of a 1,800-acre nature reserve in Nicaragua's Pacific countryside. You and Dad can bike, hike, or horseback ride through the lush foliage to hidden rivers and retreats before relaxing by the pool with a cocktail. Best of all, each of the villas comes with its own ATV that he can take out for even more epic explorations. They even offer the opportunity to helicopter to the nearby Cerro Negro volcano to sandboard down the black-cinder-gravel-ash for an otherworldly experience. *[From \$750 per night; [nekupe.com](https://www.nekupe.com)]*



Fly-Fishing the Caribbean

Thirty-five miles off the coast of Belize, the Turneffe Island Resort is one special Caribbean getaway, especially if you love to fish. You and Dad can spend the day fishing the flats surrounding the island for bonefish, tarpon, or permit with world-class fly-fishing guides to help him land a trophy fish. If diving is more his passion, the resort is only a 90-minute boat ride away from the famous Great Blue Hole, routinely ranking as one of the top-ten dive sites in the world. In between his adventures on the waters, you and he will be wined and dined by local chefs before retiring to his luxury room. *[From \$299 per night; turnefferesort.com]*



Surf the Swell

Huntington Beach is one of the iconic beaches of the California coastline. The sand goes on forever, the weather seems to always be perfect, and best of all it has one of the most consistent surf breaks in the country. The U.S. Open of Surfing will be taking place there this summer, but you don't have to be a pro to paddle out — there are numerous breaks that any level of surfer can surf. The Paséa Hotel & Spa is located on the beach and offers a Surf Butler. You can rent a board if you need one, decide where in the water to head toward, and even schedule private surf lessons if so desired. It's the perfect place for Dad to work on becoming the surfer he has always dreamed of being. *[From \$350 per night; [meritagecollection.com](https://www.meritagecollection.com)]*



Roping and Riding

If movie night with Dad meant you were going to be watching John Wayne and Clint Eastwood movies, then this is the perfect trip for him. The 25,000-acre Red Reflet Guest Ranch is a working ranch located in Ten Sleep, Wyoming, that offers the opportunity to participate in an actual cattle drive, brand cows, and sleep under the stars. There's a gun range, guided fly-fishing, ATVs, and, of course, horses at the ready. *[From \$1,060 per night; red-reflet-ranch.net]*



Mountain Bike the Grand Canyon

For four days, you and Dad can ride single-track through some of the most remote country in the continental United States. Each day riders on this trip wind through intermediate trails as they trace the outside boundary of the Northern Rim of Grand Canyon National Park (biking is not allowed inside its borders). The 72 miles that are covered in the trip are all above 8,000 feet, so riders are spared the brutal heat of the desert landscape. At the end of each day, the guides set up camp with fresh cooked meals and cold drinks to unwind. *[From \$995 per day; rimtours.com]*