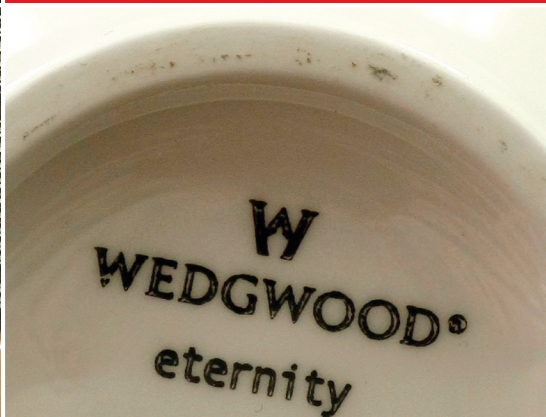


Plug in to Outlets



WHETHER YOU'RE A CASUAL
PURCHASER OR YOU
SHOP FOR SPORT, A TRIP
TO THE OUTLETS IS SURE
TO PRODUCE VACATION
THRILLS AND, OF COURSE,
A FEW SOUVENIRS.

BY JOSHUA PRAMIS



Shopping and traveling go hand in hand. And savvy shoppers know that *where* you buy is key to an exceptional experience. Outlet malls — strongholds of selection and savings — can offer great deals on moderately priced fashion and household brands, as well as deep discounts on coveted high-end labels.

Here, we showcase some of the best outlet malls across the United States, all within proximity to areas with resorts in Interval's network. Each has the factory-store staples (think: Ann Taylor, Coach, Gap, Nike, Nine West, etc.). But what really sets these havens of savings apart are the price-slashed premium brands.



LAS VEGAS NORTH PREMIUM OUTLETS

WOODBURY COMMON PREMIUM OUTLETS

Tucked away in quaint Central Valley, New York — about halfway between New York City and the Catskill Mountains, and right around 90 minutes from the Poconos — you'll find this sprawling collection of 200-plus posh and perfectly manicured shops, legendary among the thrifty fashionistas of NYC.

Don't Miss: These hallowed grounds are home to the only Céline outlet in the U.S. Other ritzy rarities include Balenciaga, Fendi, Longchamp, Saint Laurent, and Versace.

Pro Tip: Plan to make a stop at Samsonite — you'll most likely need a new suitcase to haul your goodies home.

SAWGRASS MILLS

Drive about 30 minutes west from Fort Lauderdale, Florida (or about 45 minutes north from Miami), and, just before you hit the Everglades, you'll find this mecca of markdowns. At 2.3 million square feet, with 370-plus value-filled depots, this is the largest outlet mall in the U.S.

Don't Miss: The Colonnade Outlets at Sawgrass Mills is an outlet mall within an outlet mall, the crème de la crème for budget-conscious fans of haute style. Beautiful boutique-style spaces set the scene for the exclusive collection of shops: David Yurman, Stuart Weitzman, Tory Burch, Brunello Cucinelli, Diane von Furstenberg, and Philipp Plein, to name-drop a few.

Pro Tip: Start your day at the recently opened Century 21 Department Store — the first to cameo outside of the Northeast — a veritable treasure trove of discounted clothing and accessories.

DESERT HILLS PREMIUM OUTLETS

Like an oasis of hope and inspiration for penny-wise fashion lovers, these outlets, juxtaposed against a landscape of stark desert mountain ranges, are a welcome respite of affordability just 20 minutes west of posh Palm Springs, California.

Don't Miss: Here you'll find some of the biggest names in fashion (e.g., Ted Baker, Jimmy Choo, Joie, Sandro, Valentino), as well as the one and only Alexander McQueen outlet.

Pro Tip: Palm Springs is a see-and-be-seen vacation hotspot. Show them who's boss — and score the best finds — by booking a personal shopper. The first two hours of this service are complimentary, so be sure to take advantage.

LAS VEGAS PREMIUM OUTLETS, NORTH AND SOUTH

In Las Vegas, Nevada, shopping has become nearly as big a pastime as gambling. Venture away from The Strip and you'll find not one, but two outlet malls, sporting more than 300 stores total. (Caveat: They are separated by about 8 miles.)

Don't Miss: Only three Dolce & Gabbana outlets exist in the U.S., and North is where you'll find one, making this the perfect spot to find a deal on a pair of the D&G shades you've been pining for.

Pro Tip: North is home to several other luxury outposts, including Burberry, Elie Tahari, and Salvatore Ferragamo. Head to South for more everyday brands, such as Adidas, Kenneth Cole, and Polo Ralph Lauren.

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ORLANDO PREMIUM OUTLETS, INTERNATIONAL AND VINELAND

There's no shortage of souvenirs for sale at and around the myriad theme parks of Central Florida. When you've had your fill of coffee mugs, magnets, and T-shirts, head to these sister malls for a different kind of memento. After all, a new watch, coat, or special outfit can serve as a reminder of your trip every time you wear it, even if it doesn't pay homage to a mouse or wizard.

Don't Miss: Shoes, shoes, and more shoes. At the International location, put your best foot forward in Cole Haan, Aldo, and Ugg. At Vineland, check out Bally, Geox, Tod's, and others.

Pro Tip: Still haven't satiated your thirst for bargains? Head a bit farther south to Lake Buena Vista Factory Stores. Don't expect swanky designer labels here; instead, you'll find price cuts on more economical brands. (This is home to the area's only Old Navy Outlet, as well as a discount emporium that features Disney and other theme-park merchandise.)

SAN MARCOS PREMIUM OUTLETS AND TANGER OUTLETS

Together, these adjacent complexes prove that old adage: "Everything's bigger in Texas." Located in San Marcos, just about an hour from San Antonio, the two malls boast nearly 300 stores, including high-end options such as Carolina Herrera, Gucci, and Prada, as well as the more mainstream Tommy Hilfiger and Calvin Klein.

Don't Miss: Don't take shop 'til you drop too literally. Stop to admire the architecture at the Premium Outlets, styled to resemble Venice's Piazza San Marco — get it?

Pro Tip: Spend a day here, and you could not only fill your closet with plush purchases, but deck out the rest of your home, too. Between the two centers, you'll find Pottery Barn, West Elm, Waterford Wedgwood Royal Doulton, Williams-Sonoma, and Restoration Hardware outlets. ■



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