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Magical Mountain Getaways

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By Maryann Hammers

With hiking trails and alpine lakes, our nation's majestic mountain ranges make for great getaways, whether you take the whole family or are seeking a bit of quiet solitude or a romantic retreat. We found mountain resorts and inns from coast to coast offering military discounts.

In Colorado, [Aspen Meadows Resort](#) offers 30 percent off accommodations through Dec. 31, 2013. The hotel is on the Roaring Forks River, surrounded by the Rocky Mountains, with biking and walking paths that lead to downtown Aspen. [Book online](#), or call (800) 452-4240, and ask for the "Salute to the Heroes" military package.

With its colossal indoor waterpark, kids' programs, and themed restaurants with names like Camp Critter and Loose Moose, [Great Wolf Lodge](#) in Pennsylvania's Pocono Mountains might not qualify as a quiet mountain retreat. But it surely is the most family-friendly resort in the area. Military members get 20 percent off accommodations — including free waterpark admission for the entire family. Book online using promo code "HEROES," or call (570) 688-9899. Discount is valid for up to two rooms for larger families.

The [Natural Bridge Hotel](#), adjacent to the Virginia natural wonder once owned by Thomas Jefferson, offers a discounted rate of just \$72.25, Sunday through Thursday, for active duty and retired servicemembers. The rate is \$88.75 on Friday and Saturday. The historic hotel offers Blue Ridge Mountain views, a butterfly garden, nature trails, nearby white-water rafting, and, of course, proximity to the Natural Bridge. Servicemembers also get a 28-percent discount to view the Natural Bridge, one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World. Call (800) 533-1410 to learn more.

In the Iron Mountains of Tennessee, servicemembers are invited to stay in a spacious, secluded, pet-friendly, handicap-accessible log cabin called "[Creekside Chalet](#)." It's near hiking trails, including sections of the Appalachian Trail, and close to Watauga Lake for swimming and boating. "It's the perfect romantic getaway for a couple needing time to reconnect. Only the deer and turkey will know you are home," says owner Vikki Woods. The military price is \$600 a week for a couple (regularly priced at \$1,050) or \$1,000 a week for up to six people (regularly \$1,700), plus tax, including all the groceries you'll need to whip up a fabulous country breakfast. Or stay for a long weekend (three nights/four days) for \$300 (regularly priced at \$450). The cabin has three bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms, a wrap-around deck, a washer and dryer, a hot tub under the stars, and an outdoor grill. Call (423) 768-2446, and ask for the military discount.

The elegant and historic [Queensbury Hotel](#) in the Lake George area of upstate New York offers a 15-percent military discount with advance reservations. It's in Glen Falls, just minutes from the Southern Adirondacks, where you can hike or go horseback riding. (Nearby military deals include \$5 discount on horseback riding at [Saddle Up Stables](#) and \$5 discount at [Adirondack Rafting Co.](#))

For more mountain getaways with a military discount, [check out these Military Discounts at B&B Inns](#).



Photo credit: Denise Chambers/Miles and the Colorado Tourism Office.