



Romance

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What is it about historic quarters that are so romantic? Go see for yourself. Two of my favorites in the U.S. are the [French Quarter in New Orleans](#) and [Nantucket Town](#) on the island of Nantucket. And for those seeking out the historic charms of Europe, here's a way to [fly to Paris](#) in style.

Creole Comfort

If you're looking to get away for a couple of days and want to be able to count on consistently great food and wine, consider New Orleans. Its French Quarter charm couldn't be more romantic.

Book a room at the [Soniata House](#) on Chartres Street. It's the perfect Southern inn, with high-ceilinged rooms, filled with canopy and four-poster beds and antique furnishings that would look at home in a palace. You'll fall in love with breakfast: still-warm biscuits accompanied by homemade strawberry preserves, just-squeezed orange juice and rich Creole coffee served in your room, on your patio or in the courtyard.



The history of Soniat House dates to the 1830s, when it was built as a series of private homes by Joseph Soniat Dufossat, a prosperous plantation owner. It is made up of three Creole style townhouses, with lacy ironwork and spiral staircases and is within easy reach of all French Quarter attractions.

Nantucket On Its Own

Like many offshore islands, Nantucket, Massachusetts, has two dramatically different personalities. During summer months, the downtown area, as well as many of the island's beaches, is crammed with vacationers. The rest of the year, it's blissfully serene.



I like to visit just before or after the crowds of June, July and August but in the middle of the winter as well. That's when you can see the unadulterated island which is not only physically beautiful, but is a meticulously preserved piece of American history.

Base yourself in Nantucket Town, which is an official National Historic District that keeps alive the town's early whaling port heritage. Its cobblestoned, gas lamp-lit streets are lined with impeccably maintained mansions dating from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

In fact, you can stay in a mid-1800s brick mansion that was built for a prominent ship captain of the time. The [Jared](#)

[Coffin House](#) (pictured here) is a landmark property located right in the heart of the Old Historic District. It has 43 rooms, all recently refurbished with period antiques and reproductions. It's open throughout the winter.

Sleep Tight in Flight

Flying off to Paris for a second honeymoon sounds dreamy. Unless...you don't sleep on the flight over. Even the most well-designed trip can be spoiled by a restless night trying to cram yourself into a small airline seat. No one needs that.

Flying business class may be the solution. But bear in mind, not all business classes are created equal.

In a world of its own is [Open Skies](#), a subsidiary of British Airways, a business-class only airline which flies between New York and Paris for surprisingly affordable fares (as low as \$1,180, tax and fees extra). Not bad, considering you feel as though you're on a private jet in a 757 that normally seats 220 passengers, but on Open Skies, has been configured to accommodate just ninety six. There are two seating cabin options available: Biz Beds, which adjust to completely lie-flat and Biz Seats, declining to 140 degrees. Of course, there are all the new in-flight personal entertainment units, and the meals are actually something to look forward to: elegant, healthy and accompanied by great wines and champagnes.



Perhaps the most appealing aspect of it all is that Open Skies recently announced a new Best Fare Guarantee for travelers which promises that if you find a lower business class fare on the same itinerary elsewhere, they'll honor the difference. The fare adjustment will be distributed to the customer in the form of a voucher for future travel. Hmm...a third honeymoon?