

Escape

from **New York City**

By Kelle K. Speed

Do you crave a little respite from the city that never sleeps?

While your super-sized work schedule may not allow for that dream villa rental on the Amalfi Coast this summer, there's no reason why you can't leave behind the jarring symphony of car horns and tourists clamoring for "I ♥ New York" memorabilia and experience a unique, elegant or exclusive weekend nearby. Here are four luxurious destinations, all offering high-end indulgence, only a short road trip from the City.

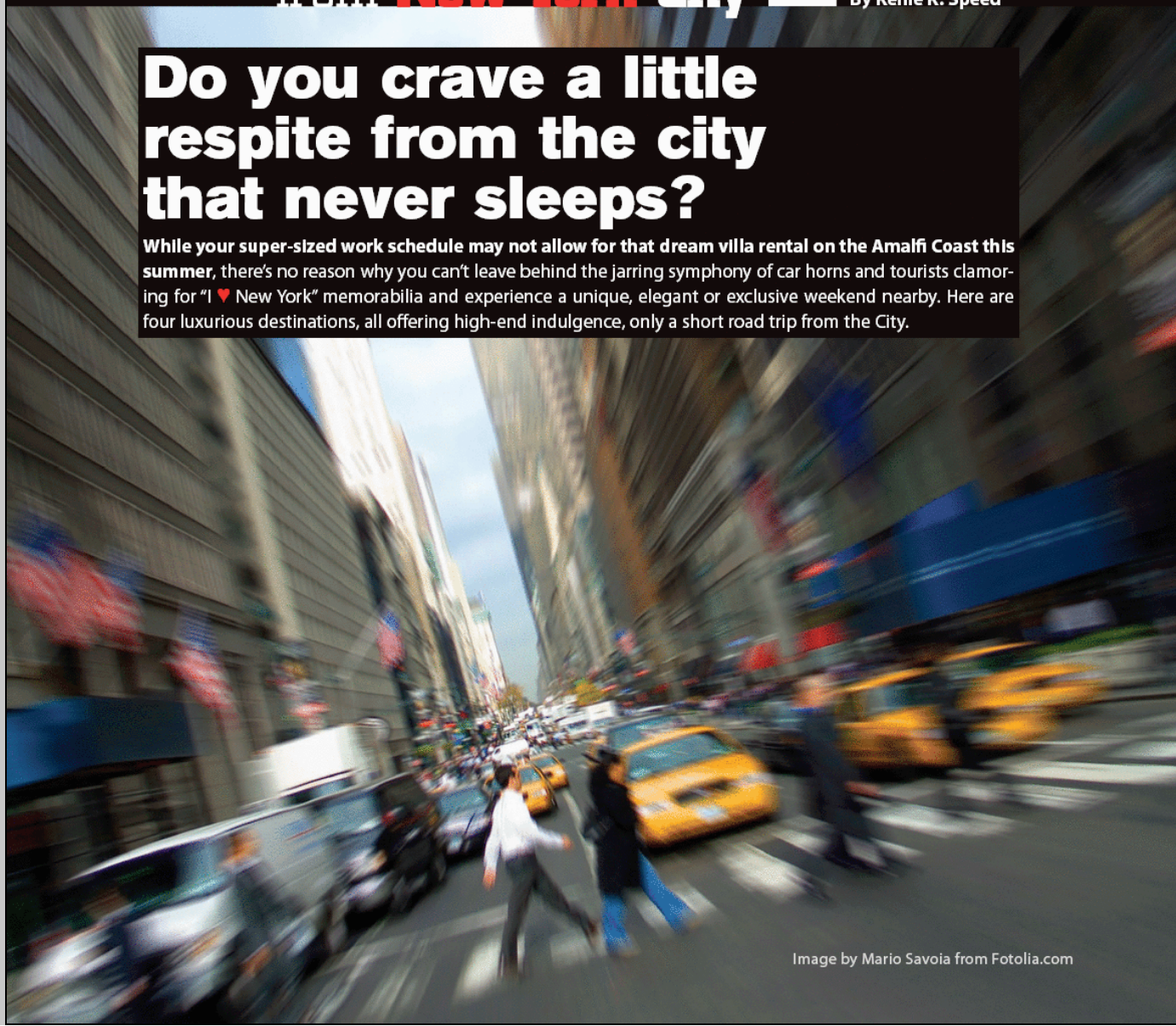


Image by Mario Savoia from Fotolia.com

x.Peditions



>>> 103 MILES



Winvian

Imagine spending the night in a restored 1968 Sikorsky HH37 Sea King Pelican helicopter complete with aerospace dashboard and a comfortably appointed fuselage. That’s exactly what you can do at the new Winvian resort in

Litchfield County, Connecticut. The Winvian opened quietly on November 15, 2006, and officially on January 1, 2007.

Winvian is named after owners Winthrop and Vivian Smith, who bought the 113-acre property in 1948. Daughter Heather and son Winthrop Jr. inherited the property and have turned it into a playground for those seeking a night of adventure.

Each of its 18 “cottages,” and the one suite in the main house, are uniquely themed architectural marvels designed by 15 architects focusing on a Connecticut theme. Guests can

155 Alain White Road
Morris, CT 06763
Tel: 860-567-9600
www.winvian.com
Approx. distance from
Manhattan: 103 miles

stay in the 35-foot high, suspended Treehouse, complete with whirlpool bathtub, steam shower, two fireplaces and heated floor. The interior of the CT Yankee Cottage is based on Mark Twain’s book *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court*, offering a medieval design. Other themes include a Camping Cottage, Charter Oak and a Beaver Lodge.

A stay in one of the cottages, which starts at \$1,450 per night, includes all meals, carte blanche at the property’s bars and a fully stocked in-room wet bar. The sumptuous Winvian spa offers a host of treatments and fitness activities. The restored colonial main building houses the main dining room, a well-stocked wine cellar and even an art gallery. The 4,000-acre White Memorial Foundation natural reserve surrounds the property, offering a perfect arena for a leisurely stroll or energetic hiking and biking.

The entire property is available for \$32,000 per night. Too bad they won’t let you live there.

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