

Yearn to stretch warm summer days and nights for another month and beyond? These are just a few examples of welcoming destinations in the U.S. that will do it for senior travelers.

Key West FL: Average September temperatures in this town on the southern tip of Florida are 88° daytime and 79° night. Natives of Key West call themselves conches and brag that it's the only spot in the U.S. that has never had a frost.

A favorite hotel is the Hyatt Beach House Resort, 5051 Overseas Highway, Key West FL 33040, hyattbeachhouse.hyatt.com. A private beach and rooms with ocean-view balconies make it perfect for extending summer vacation thru warm September days.

While in town, consider the Seven Fish Restaurant, 632 Olivia St., Key West FL 33040, 7fish.com. The menu changes daily, depending on fresh varieties they haul in for the day. The Seven Fish is small, intimate, reasonable and where the locals eat. Tucson AZ: The average September temperatures in this Southern Arizona city are a toasty 94º daytime and a comfortable 71º at night. Surrounded by the towering saguaro cacti of the Sonoran Desert, Tucson offers swimming, nature walks and other activities. Just 30 miles away is 9,000-foot-high Mount Lemmon, where cool September hiking in the Coronado National Forest offers breathtaking views.

Loew's Ventana Canyon Resort, 7000 N. Resort Dr., Tucson AZ 85750, loewshotels.com. The luxury hotel certainly deserves its five-star rating, located in a beautiful natural desert setting. The adjacent championship golf course makes it perfect for early autumn vacations.

A favorite Tucson restaurant is at the Arizona Inn, 2200 E. Elm St., Tucson AZ 86719, arizonainn.com, rated Four Diamonds by AAA. The dining room is part of an historic hotel and gardens in the vintage downtown near the University of Arizona.

Malibu CA: September temperatures in this hip Southern California beach town can spike to the

90s during the day, but because of Pacific Ocean breezes, usually drop to the mid-60s at night. That makes for sunning and surfing all day, followed by cool beach picnics after dark.

A popular hotel is the Malibu Beach Inn, 22878 Pacific Coast Hwy., Malibu CA 90265, malibubeachinn.com. A few steps from sand and surf, each room offers a balcony that faces the ocean.

Not far away is Geoffrey's Malibu, at 27400 Pacific Coast Highway, geoffreysmalibu.com. It has been a hangout for Hollywood stars since the 1940s. A specialty is Geoffrey's Surf 'n'Turf, featuring lobster and steak.

South Padre Island TX: This Southern Texas beach resort town on the warm Gulf of Mexico offers September temperature daytime highs of 88º and nightly lows of 74º. Visitors enjoy SPI's parasailing, snorkeling, deep sea fishing and other fun activities.

The beachside Palms Resort, 3616 Gulf Blvd., South Padre Island TX 78597, palmsresortcafe.com, is an all-suite hotel. Each guest unit has a kitchen area, fridge and microwave oven. For sumptious dinner, visit the Palms Resort Café on the Beach, famed for fresh seafood specialties.

Conclusion: Do your warm senior oceanside vacationing in September. Everyone else is back home, at work or in classrooms. In addition to less crowded beaches, you'll find bargain pricing.