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| **A Bucket List of Epic Hikes****Hiking is a great way to not only get some exercise and vitamin D, but to feed that hungry sense of adventure. Whether you’re a seasoned hiker or just starting out, here’s a list of some of the best places to hike in the U.S.**There’s nothing quite like the feeling of finishing a challenging hike. In addition to the exercise and the rush of accomplishing something impressive, hiking offers a unique opportunity to enjoy natural beauty. It can also be a chance to connect with yourself or bond with some friends. There are countless trails and hikes to explore, but here are a few of the tried-and-true hiking adventure spots in the United States.**Yosemite National Park.** With famous peaks like El Capitan, and surrounded by giant sequoia trees, this California classic will not disappoint. One of the great things about national parks like this is that you’re sure to find smaller, easier hikes if you’re just looking for a little recreation, as well as longer, more advanced hikes if you’re experienced and thrill-seeking.**Zion National Park.** There are several major parks in southern Utah, and Zion is the most popular, attracting tourists from all over the world each year. Covered in stunning red rock, the peaks and canyons there offer a wide variety of hikes. As with all hikes, remember that safety is paramount. If you’re going for a less-populated or longer adventure, make sure to pack the proper gear, including plenty of water, and—most importantly—bring a buddy.**Grand Canyon National Park.** You can take a smaller hike, or if you’re up for it, tackle the Rim to Rim. You’ll travel about 24 miles, including a 6,000-foot descent from the North Rim into the canyon and a 4,500-foot ascent back up to the South Rim. Complete with bragging rights, a hike like this will both challenge and inspire you.**The Appalachian Trail.** While most of the biggest peaks are in the West, there are some beautiful places to hike on the East Coast as well. The Appalachian Trail runs a staggering 2,190 miles from Georgia to Maine. You can find a section of the trail to hike—or you can take on the whole thing if you’ve got about five to seven months.**Don’t let life get in the way of living.** There’s no better time than today to make that list of adventures you want to have. You’ll likely never have more time, energy, and freedom than you do right now. If you’re already feeling tied down and yearning for the financial freedom to get out there and explore, call me. We can find ways to make your money work for you so you can spend less time on the clock and more time living.

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