

THE TRUST FOR GOVERNORS ISLAND

Contact: Sarah Krautheim/646.413.1547/skrautheim@govisland.org
Press images available [here](#)

Overnight Camping Retreat, Ziplining and More Coming to Governors Island in 2018

Collective Retreats to open first-ever seasonal overnight accommodations beginning in May

Adventures at GI to return with ziplining, rock climbing and more

Governors Island to reopen to the public May 1-October 31 in 2018

February 7, 2018. The Trust for Governors Island (The Trust) today announced two new temporary recreational uses that will activate eight acres of a future development site on Governors Island this season. Beginning in May 2018, [Collective Hotels & Retreats](#) will bring unique, temporary seasonal lodging for New Yorkers and visitors to sleep under the stars against the back drop of the Island's iconic views of the Lower Manhattan skyline, New York Harbor and Statue of Liberty. As part of their operation, Collective will open a new public lawn with free programming and new dining options for all visitors to the Island during the public season. Collective is committed to partnering with local non-profits to expand opportunities for New York City youth to spend the night in the Island's serene settings. The Trust also announced today that last season's popular Adventures at Governors Island, operated by [NY Carousel Entertainment](#), will return on an adjacent site with recreational fun for all ages.

Collective Retreats and NY Carousel Entertainment responded to a Request for Proposals for Interim Use for the Western Development Zone on Governors Island issued in October 2017 and will both open on the site for the 2018 public season, which runs from May 1 to October 31.

"Governors Island offers one of New York City's most accessible getaways, and now, for the first time ever, New Yorkers will have the opportunity to experience the natural beauty and inspiring views from this magical place under the stars" said **Michael Samuelian, President and CEO of the Trust for Governors Island**. "As we continue to expand our season and the diversity of our offerings, today's announcement is an important step towards realizing our vision for a year-round, 24/7 Governors Island for all New Yorkers."

As part of a three-year license agreement announced today, Collective Retreats will transform six acres of the Island's Western Development Zone into a unique, environmentally-friendly overnight lodging retreat with unobstructed views of the Statue of Liberty. Collective Governors Island, a New York City Retreat will accommodate up to 100 overnight guests who will be able to select from a range of lodging options. The company currently operates in the Hudson Valley and in Big Sky Mountain near Yellowstone National Park. Collective Governors Island is its first venture in New York City.

“Since the inception of Collective Retreats, it has been our dream to have a presence in New York City,” said **Peter Mack, Founder and CEO of Collective Retreats**. “We are thrilled to serve as the first hospitality brand to create an opportunity for New Yorkers and visitors to stay overnight and experience the beauty of Governors Island more deeply.”

Collective Retreats will also create a newly landscaped public lawn on the site with special events and programming such as live music, innovative dining, recreation, wellness activities and much more. During the Island’s public hours, the site’s lawn and dining options will be open to all Island visitors. In addition, Collective Governors Island will host special community nights for non-profit youth organizations, making the site accessible for New York City kids to experience a night on the Island under the stars. For more about Collective Governors Island, visit www.collectiveretreats.com.

Adding to the Island’s already growing recreational offerings, Adventures at Governors Island will return to the Western Development Zone this season with affordable, family friendly activities. In 2017, Adventures at Governors Island welcomed 25,000 New Yorkers to its zipline, rock climbing and maze challenge along the Island’s western shore. This year, Adventures will expand with an even longer zipline, refreshment station and shaded area for onlookers. Located adjacent to the Island’s bustling Liggett Terrace and Hammock Grove, Adventures at Governors Island will reopen on May 1. For more information, visit <https://rideattractions.com>.

“Governors Island is known for its rich history, beautiful views, and leisure activities,” said **Beau Berni, Managing Director of NY Carousel Entertainment**. “We know its community of returning and new visitors will find Adventures at Governors Island a preferred choice for recreational family-fun. The 300 feet Flywire Zipline, giant Amazen’ Maze, and Climbing Challenge walls will all return along with more comfortable amenities for our guests.”

Both Collective Retreats and New York Carousel Entertainment responded to a Request for Proposals (RFP) that The Trust issued in October 2017. The RFP sought interim, temporary entertainment and recreational uses for the Western Development Zone, a flat paved site located on the Southern portion of Governors Island. The Trust received a broad range of proposals that were evaluated based on impact to Island operations, fit with the overall character of the Island, demonstrated operational experience and proposed fee offer. These new interim uses for the Western Development Zone designated today will offer fresh, exciting opportunities for visitors to experience the Island in new ways. Site fees generated by these interim uses will go towards funding the Island’s operations and stewardship of over 90 acres of public open space.

Governors Island has become a lively and popular destination, with nearly 800,000 visitors enjoying its expansive public open spaces and over 80 free arts and cultural events in 2017. In 2018, the Island will open to the public on May 1 through October 31 for a six-month season. The Trust will announce a robust calendar of events, public programming and expanded food and beverage options for the 2018 season in the coming months.

For more information, visit www.govisland.org.

About The Trust for Governors Island

The Trust for Governors Island is the nonprofit corporation created by the City of New York that is responsible for the redevelopment and operation of 150 acres of Governors Island. The Trust’s mission is to transform Governors Island into a vibrant resource for New York City, making this island in New York Harbor a destination with extraordinary public open space, as well as educational, not-for-profit and commercial facilities.