

# long island LIVING

WINTER 2018

COZY UP FOR  
WINTER

**STEEPING SUCCESS**  
*AT A LOCAL TEA SHOP*

**DISCOVER THE JOY IN GIFT-GIVING**  
*WITH UNIQUE TREASURES*

**OUR TOWN: FARMINGDALE**  
*TAKE A WALK DOWN  
MAIN STREET*

**CLOSET COUTURE**  
*WHITE HOT  
WINTER FASHIONS*

**10**  
**WAYS**  
**TO CURE  
CABIN FEVER**



Winter  
**EVENTS**  
**CALENDAR**

# winter of CONTENT

By David Fluhrer

**THE ONSET OF WINTER** for many Long Islanders stokes fear of icy roads and white-knuckle driving, with nightmares of a slushy LIE or a 180-degree skid. But a cure is just around the corner at local auto showrooms, where popular, best-selling SUVs, crossovers and wagons stand ready to salve your winter blues for as little as \$21,000. ►

These all-wheel-drive beauties are so sure-footed and comfortable that you might actually abandon your hot cup of tea and roaring fire, and venture into the great outdoors for some cold-weather fun. You could even be lured into a bit of off-roading.

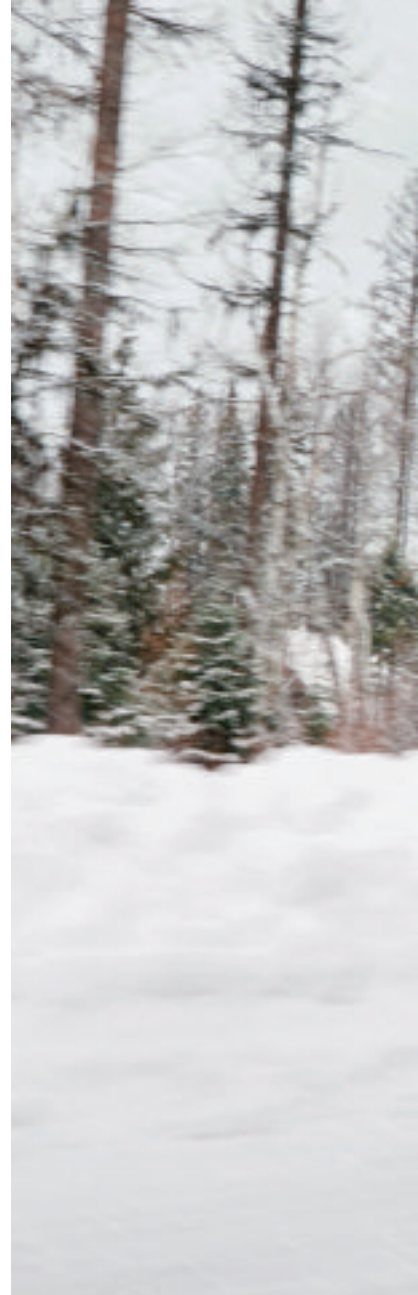
"All Hyundais are equipped with electronic stability control and traction control, and when paired with all-wheel drive, there's not much you can't navigate," says Bruce Nesenger, owner of three dealerships, including Hyundai 112 in Medford.

Two venerable names are Jeep and Subaru, with strong owner communities and sponsored events for families and off-roading. Jeep fields five model lines under \$34,000, from the compact Renegade to the full-sized Grand Cherokee, a Long Island favorite.

"Jeep is an SUV brand with a complete vehicle lineup that offers best-in-class capability in all weather conditions, period," says spokesperson Lisa Barrow. "That is who we are."

Outdoor warriors favor Jeep's Trailhawk versions to climb logs or ford streams, or the Wrangler, where there's no end to cold-weather customizing.

**confident**  
**SUVs** *for*  
**COLD weather**  
**COMFORT** }







The revamped Forester has standard safety technology. Photo by Subaru



Hyundai's longer Santa Fe XL AWD starts at under \$33,000.

Photo by Hyundai



Jeep's Wrangler is the most-accessorized SUV. Photo by Jeep





**The Buick Regal TourX wagon makes the cut for winter sports.**

Photo by TalismanPHOTO for Buick



**VW's Atlas adds European flair to winter driving.**

Photo by Volkswagen



**Chevy revives the iconic Blazer for 2019.**

Photo by Chevrolet

"That is by far, the most accessorized vehicle probably on the road, but especially within Jeep," says Oliver Brodlieb, owner of East Hills Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram in Greenvale, noting that factory or dealer-installed add-ons include lift kits, larger wheels and tires, custom tops, side steps and steel bumpers.

Subaru's mid-sized Forester and compact Crosstrek earn their chops for off-roading.

"Ground clearance is also very important in winter and our SUVs offer 8.7 inches, higher than the majority in their segments," says spokesperson Jessica Tullman.

Forester's 2019 redesign features a standard safety technology package, stiffer chassis and roomier interior. Crosstrek adds a new plug-in hybrid while Subaru's largest-ever SUV, the Ascent, hauls up to eight ski buddies at a basic \$32,000.

Chevrolet and sister marques Buick and GMC offer seven SUVs and crossovers under \$33,000 before options. Ford fields five sub-\$35,000 models, from the smallest EcoSport up to the veteran Explorer. Chevy and Ford will resume an historic SUV rivalry when the former brings back the iconic Blazer in 2019 and the latter relaunches the classic Bronco a year later. Chevy calls the Blazer "the perfect sporty SUV for all of your adventures," at under \$29,000. Ford promises the retro-look Bronco will be "badder than ever."

You also can't go wrong among 20 Asian-branded models under \$35,000, from Honda to Toyota. Standouts include Honda's CR-V and Pilot, Mazda's CX-5 and CX-9, Nissan's Rogue and Pathfinder and Toyota's RAV4 and Highlander. Hyundai powers forward with 2019 redesigns of its value-oriented Tucson and Santa Fe. The compact Kona, starting under \$21,000, also gets raves in Nesenger's showroom as he awaits an all-electric version with a robust 258-mile range.

If you align with European makes, Volkswagen offers Tiguan or the larger Atlas, and there are even all-wheel-drive options from Fiat and MINI. For wagons, return to Subaru for the perennial favorite, Outback, or savor Buick's stunning German-built Regal TourX.

"When you drive the TourX, you can appreciate how nice the car is and how well it handles," says Christopher Sadusky, sales manager for Arnold Chevrolet Buick in West Babylon. "They only make it in an all-wheel-drive version. And there are all kinds of accessories."

So get off your warm, comfy couch and get behind the wheel. These superb cold-weather rides will help you endure the worst and enjoy the best that winter has to offer. *LII*

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