

# Best Destinations for Winter Holidays

The winter season is here. With Europe experiencing varying weather conditions, travelers are looking for destinations that works for them the best. This is a time when the polar north is in utter snow while the Mediterranean is hit with mild sunshine. What are the best places to visit in the winter?

## Rovaniemi, Finland

An old anecdote says that Rovaniemi is the official residence of Santa Claus. The bearded man can be freely visited at the Arctic Circle grotto, but you may have to spend some few pence for a photo. Snow, reindeer, and the Arktikum Museum characterize the festive spirit. Remember that the weather is likely to be below zero degrees so warm winter clothing is in order.



## Abisko, Sweden

For any serious winter lover, Abisko in Lapland is the ultimate choice. It is perhaps the farthest north point in Europe that can be reached by train. Visitors will not see the sun for almost two months from December to January, but this is one of the best places in the world to view the grandiose aurora borealis. Skiers can also indulge in cross-country skiing while stopping at the nearby Kiruna to see the famous icehotel.

## Athens, Greece

All those who do not want to deal with all the stresses of visiting Athens during summer, winter is the perfect time. Visitors have a chance of exploring the city's rich ancient heritage and local culture free from stresses that characterize summer visits such as overcrowding, high prices, air pollution, and intense heat. Even though most accommodations close during winter, this is the best time to do island hopping.



## **Copenhagen, Denmark**

Copenhagen is the fairy-tale home of Hans Christian Andersen with cozy bars and cafes that enable all travelers to catch glimpses of the trickling snow. At the heart of this amazing city is the 19th century Tivoli amusement park known for its romantic nature, with heartwarming illuminations as well as the body-warming mugs of glogg. Having a meal at Noma, which is arguably the world's best restaurant, is inevitable. However, visitors are advised to book several months in advance as reservations can fill up quickly.

## **Budapest, Hungary**

There is a romantic feel in the air in Budapest during winter as many couples are skating hand in hand on the local ice rink. The picturesque central park Varosligeti Mujegpalya with its gigantic outdoor rink makes the Hungarian capital a place to be. Visitors get rid of the chill in their body by indulging in the famous thermal baths afterwards. Going for a night out for a drink would mean visiting the Ruin Pub, a venue that was artfully created in a once-abandoned building.



## **Jasna, Slovakia**

Jasna offers high-quality skiing at affordable prices. Accommodation and good food are also available at this famous resort. Visitors got to enjoy long and descent alpine slopes flanked by snow-laden spruce trees.

## **Venice, Italy**

Venice's Carnival in February is always a European highlight with enormous yachts and art on show. The channel waters and the colorful way of life that presents itself to all the visitors may be so spectacular, but may cost a lot more. Consider a day trip by train to lower the costs.

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