

7 Winter Vacations That Are Better Than the Beach



by SOPHIE MIURA

We often refer to winter as a season to be endured, but there's a certain magic to the cooler months. Leaves quiver in the icy breeze, powder-white snow carpets the landscape, and once-familiar towns are transformed into almost unrecognizable [winter wonderlands](#). The chilly conditions might make you want to [stay indoors and hibernate](#), but a few stunning destinations prove that winter is the best season to plan a vacation. From husky-led snow safaris and cross-country skiing to wandering the intricate interior of a fairy-tale castle covered in snow, these travel locales come alive with a host of activities and events. Believe us, you've never seen Sedona, Banff National Park, or [Lake Bled](#) like this before.

Pack your scarf and gloves—your next winter vacation beckons.

Mont-Tremblant

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PHOTO: Courtesy Fairmont Tremblant

Québec's Mont-Tremblant is more than just a ski resort. The quaint town has mastered the après-ski scene, with lively bars, boutiques, and cafés to keep non-skiers busy all day. Spend time perusing the picturesque, colorful town to sample crêpes and poutine before visiting bustling bar [Le P'tit Caribou](#) to toast to the holidays. If you're planning a trip for the tail-end of winter, be sure to time it to coincide with [Snow Polo Tremblant](#), a fabulous international polo tournament held in the snow March 2–4.