









The Best Places to **Travel in February**



There are ample reasons to plan a trip in February—shucking off the doldrums of Dryanuary, perhaps, or taking a romantic Valentine's Day-inspired break. It's also the month in which Mardi Gras most often falls, so carnivals are popular across the world—and this year is a particularly momentous milestone for the spiritual home of Mardi Gras, New Orleans. Here are our pick for the six best places for a vacation in February, whether you're looking for a dose of winter sun or a stint on the slopes.



5/7 Quebec City, Canada

Half-close your eyes on an old cobbled street in Quebec City, and you could be in Paris or Lyon. This colonial-era town was the bulwark from which the French began advancing across Canada (or, as it was then called, New France), and the population here remains 95% Francophone. Locals also embrace the brisk winters that blow through every year, throwing their own Carnival (it runs through February 11 in 2018). The citywide celebration includes family-friendly activities like an ice palace, canoe races, snow slides and sculptures, and, of course, ice skating. After a chilly day outside, warm up in front of the fire at the suitably historic, 95-room Auberge Saint-Antoine, which is housed in a trio of 18th- and 19th-century buildings. Look for artifacts discovered onsite, from fine china to clay pipes, displayed in vitrines throughout the hotel.

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