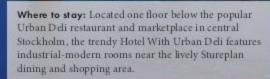


Cities that are Cool when it is COLD

BY: ANNIE HENNESSEY

STOCK HOLM, SWEDEN

In addition to being the world's design powerhouse, Stockholm is also a Nobel Prize contender for Scandinavia's friendliest citizens. No matter how cold the temperature outside, you'll be warmly welcomed with open arms to this urban city, where medieval alleys, majestic parks and an awe-inspiring Royal Palace will leave you eager to explore. From December to February travelers have very high chances to enjoy the snow around the city.



REYKJAVIK, ICELAND

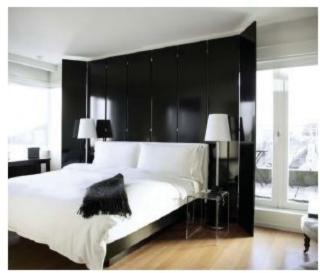
Iceland rumbles with volcanoes and geysers and in Reykjavik, the capital city, the urban and natural worlds meld together. See how Hallgrimskirkja Church, one of the tallest structures in Iceland, rises into the sky like an ice wave or plunge into the geothermal waters of Nauthólsvík Beach and warm up faster than you can say "Eyjafjallajökull"! January is the coldest month of the year in Reykjavik and although snow is not 100% guaranteed, chances of enjoying the fluffy white snow are high.

Where to stay: Occupying a historic 1930s building in downtown Reykjavik you'll find 101 Hotel. Chicly designed, this hotel is a stylish haven for travelers.















EDINBURGH, UK

There's something about Edinburgh and storytelling. After all, this is the city that inspired Barrie, Stevenson and Rowling. Bundle up and let your imagination take flight in Old Town's maze of streets and write your own story in the home of haggis (a savory local cuisine), single malt whisky and deep-fried Mars bars. During the winter months, Edinburgh becomes an atmospheric destination with cozy cafes and bars to warm up in and meet the locals.

Where to stay: Opposite historic Calton Hill Park, The Hedges Bed & Breakfast is a traditional guesthouse with spacious rooms and an inclusive breakfast.

CHICAGO, USA

Nicked named the Windy City, Chicago experiences its coldest months in January and February. Standing proud along the shores of Lake Michigan, Chicago is down-to-earth, friendly, and abounding in culture. Don't let the cold stop you! Ice skating in Millennium Park and shopping on world-famous Michigan Avenue are only some of the activities travelers can enjoy during the chill of the winter months.

Where to stay: Just blocks away from the luxury shopping, dining and entertainment of Michigan Avenue's Magnificent Mile, the boutique Kimpton Gray Hotel is in the heart of Chicago. Guests can warm up and relax on the hotel's rooftop bar and take advantage of the complimentary evening wine hour.







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Built on a sheer cliff called Cape Diamond, Québec City is a genuine gem. While the old town, where you can uncover the city's European roots, is enchanting year around, it takes on a whole new dimension of wonder in the winter. So take a bite-sized trip packed with culture along Rue du Petit Champlain – it bubbles over with bars and bistros that serve everything from hearty pub grub to fancy nouvelle cuisine.

Where to stay: Along the St. Lawrence River, steps from the shopping on Le Petit Champlain Auberge Saint-Antoine is a stylish hotel with luxurious guestrooms in Quebec City's Old-Port area.









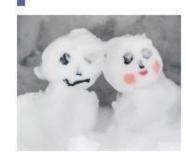




SAPPORO, JAPAN

Want to feel like a kid again in 2019, if so this year, bring the kid in you out at the annual Snow Festival in the capital of the Japanese prefecture of Hokkaido. This yearly event is hosted every February and is very popular amongst both domestic and international travelers. Snow is almost guaranteed every winter, so put on your boots and gloves and get ready for a snowball fight.

Where to stay: Grids Sapporo Hotel & Hostel is in the Sapporo City Centre district, 400 metres from Odori Park. The property features dormitory and private units, as well as a female dormitory room. Visitors can leave their baggage at the property's storage space and relax and stay warm in the shared lounge before exploring the cool city.







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