

WESTJETMAGAZINE

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— DREAM — WEDDINGS THE BEST SPOTS FOR SAYING I DO



PLUS BERMUDA GRAND CAYMAN MOLOKAI QUEBEC CITY

TOP PICKS

ROMANTIC WINTER GETAWAYS

The romance of a perfect winter's day is hard to beat—except maybe when you're shovelling snow or scraping ice off your windshield. To truly enjoy the best of the season, escape your daily routine with one of these classic winter experiences.

1

SEE THE NORTHERN LIGHTS

in Whitehorse, Yukon

Whether you're a photographer, a scientist or just fascinated by nature, the aurora borealis is a must-see phenomenon best viewed in winter. Go north to the Yukon for the long, dark nights (read: more hours to watch the sky) and take advantage of Whitehorse's urban amenities during the day. Half an hour from downtown, Sky High Wilderness Ranch offers high-elevation viewing packages far from urban light pollution, and you can combine this with a winter camping or dog sledding package. Or head to Inn on The Lake, where the winter adventure package includes snowmobiling, snowshoeing, tobogganing and ice fishing along with northern lights viewing. (skyhighwilderness.com; exceptionalplaces.com)

SEEK



2



WATCH STORMS

in Tofino, B.C.

On Canada's verdant left coast, winter brings in massive waves, wind and the plentiful downpours that give the rainforest its name. Here, indoor and outdoor storm-watching will renew your appreciation for Mother Nature. For the ultimate experience, stay at the Wickaninnish Inn, where winter amenities include full rain gear and a spa treatment room with ocean views. Or try the Pacific Sands Beach Resort, where the Pacific Storm package includes rain slickers and daily hot chocolate. (wickinn.com; pacificsands.com)

3



HIT THE SLOPES

in Stowe, Vt.

Ski or snowboard the runs of Vermont's Stowe Mountain Resort, sample the 250-plus kilometres of cross-country ski trails, snowshoe your choice of routes or take a tour by dogsled or snowmobile. Then cap it off with dinner at one of the region's top restaurants. For accommodation, the slopeside Stowe Mountain Lodge is the best choice for an easy walk to the chairlifts. Or try the Trapp Family Lodge (yes, those von Trapps), which happens to have a great onsite brewery. (stowemountainlodge.com; trappfamily.com)

4



TRY WINTER CAMPING

in Ontario

For the pleasure of sleeping outdoors (without the hassle of winter-tent camping), book a cozy yurt in one of nine participating Ontario provincial parks. The tent-like structures sit on wooden platforms and are furnished with beds, tables and chairs (bring your own bedding, cookware and dishes). Among our favourites are the six winter yurts at Silent Lake, north of Peterborough, which offer wood stoves or electric heat and winter activities like cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and ice fishing. (ontarioparks.com)

—Kat Tancock