

BEAUTIFUL HOTEL DESTINATIONS

Somewhere along the way, hotels have become rightful destinations on their own. Here are some that are currently on top of our wander list.

BY HIRANMAYI AWLI MOHANAN



Arctic Snow Hote & Glass Igloos

📍 Rovaniemi, Finland

Feel like modern-day Eskimos in this frosty destination in the city of Rovaniemi, Finland, where white winters are guaranteed. Inside, temperatures are set to a chilly -3°C to retain the original forms of decorative sculptures and furniture in the rooms. If that sends chills down your spine, their heated glass igloos will make a warmer option. When you lie down at night, starry skies – or if you're lucky, the Northern Lights – become your roof. When the Northern Lights do illuminate the skies of Rovaniemi, you will be waken up by an optional aurora alarm, so you will not miss a thing.



arcticsnowhotel.fi



Hoshinoya Karuizawa

📍 Nagano, Japan

Seclusion is bliss when it comes to this mountainside ryokan resort. Guest pavilions in elevated locations look out to rows of treetops and glassy lakes through their expansive windows, and the best of which include a private stream flowing in from the river. This idyllic retreat 90 minutes away from Tokyo is one where residents wander through nature, soak in mineral-rich hot spring waters, and breath in crisp air – perfect for meditation and finding serenity.

hoshinoya.com/karuizawa



Gstaad Palace

📍 Gstaad, Switzerland

"Gstaad is the last paradise in a crazy world," Julie Andrews once exclaimed. And towering over this paradise is the luxurious Gstaad Palace, which has long been a winter playground for glamorous jetsetters. One of the last family-operated hotels in Switzerland and managed by the third generation of the Scherz family, it has withstood a history of over a hundred years, offering old world elegance to its well-to-do guests. If circumstances allow, opt for the suites, where you will have a magical view of the Swiss mountains from inside the rooms outfitted with alpine elegance.

palace.ch



Cuixmala

📍 Jalisco, Mexico

Possibly one of the most luxurious stays in Central America – or in the world, Cuixmala sits amid a landscape of lush jungle, sweeping savannah and surrounded by pristine beaches, dissolving the boundaries that separate you from nature. Developed in the late 1980's by British magnate Sir James Godsmith for his private estate, this sanctuary sprawls across 25,000 acres of land on the Pacific coast of Mexico. Now converted into a 12-suite boutique hotel, its great size and sense of privacy have become quite a magnet for the rich and famous who want an epic hideaway. Among the accommodations it offers, the Casa Cuixmala, which overlooks the ocean and houses four suites, was once Sir James' private house, so it's only natural that it would be the most breathtaking part of the opulent estate. Remember to pack your sporty gear for yoga classes and hikes, and a pair of trousers and sturdy shoes, in case you decide to go horse riding.

cuixmala.com