Bizarre and unusual destinations around the world

Icehotel, Jukkasjarvi, Sweden

Every winter since about 1990, sculptors have built a hotel and bar made of ice blocks from the nearby Torne River. When the spring thaw arrives, the facilities melt. New ones are created the next winter, usually opening in early December.

Sleeping in an ice room is an unforgettable -- though not entirely comfortable -- experience. After all, it's apt to be minus 20 or 30 degrees.

For summertime visitors, there's a lodge with chalets and lots of authentic Lapland adventure. The sun never sets for 100 days, and the temperature rarely rises above 75.

Read more: Sweden an ice place to visit
-- Susan Spano

Top travel stories

Ski resorts upgrade to attract vacationers
Want extras? Can't hurt to ask
Christmas markets mix history, charm

TODAY'S HOT DEALS

$52 & up -- Holiday Flights from Chicago (each way)*
United

$59-$69 -- Casino Hotel in Southern Illinois (midweek only)
Harrah's Metropolis

$200 -- Geneva, Wisconsin B&B Package incl. $300 Spa Credit
ResortsandLodges.com

Listed by
*Some taxes, fees additional

Today's offerings

Holiday Countdown
Find recipes, tips & more to help get you ready for the holidays!

Buy gifts for students!
Support your high school team. Custom items for Chicago area schools.

Chicago Jobs
It's hiring. Tips and more.

Half Price Chicago
BuGY MulSpa: Helping you rediscover beautiful, youthful-looking skin.

Also on chicagotribune.com

Photos in the news  Mugs in the news  Celebrity sightings  Your travel photos  Get your Bears on