

WINTER VACAY GUIDE (FROM A LOCAL!)

see the whole guide at thecrazyoutdoormama.com!

WINTER ACTIVITY OPTIONS (SORTED FROM LEAST TO MOST SKILLS NEEDED))

- **\$ Hiking/Snowshoe** - You don't actually NEED snowshoes for each trail - the well traveled ones get so packed you can just use your shoes! Snowshoes are better for very snowy conditions. Great option for families too!
- **\$\$ Cross Country (NOT downhill)** - Unfortunately, no gear is shared between cross country skiing and any other winter activity. However, the rentals are much cheaper typically than downhill and this is potentially an easier skill to learn than downhill skiing. A great way to get to feel the town is to ski on some town nordic trails (most ski shops or visitor centers will have a map of where these trails are at)
- **\$\$ Fatbiking** - A very easy (but FUN) winter activity that has hardly any learning curve if you know how to ride a bike! It's usable on almost any kind of snow (just remember to lower the tire pressure if on rutted out off season snow!) BONUS: It's pretty fun to drag your kiddos behind the bike on sleds!
- **\$\$\$ Guided Tours via Dogsled/Snowmobile** - Definitely an EPIC option, however pricey. If you're looking for a once in a lifetime experience, check out the local tour companies. Some National Parks only have winter guided access, and if you are able to go on one, there are pretty epic sights!



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BUDGET SAVING BOOKING TIPS



- **Avoid holidays/school breaks** as that is when the price will be the highest
- **Try to get familiar with the location's "off season" so that you can compare prices.** Each one is different. This typically depends on when the destination starts to get snow (and when the snow starts, the "off season" is typically done).
- **Check your credit cards for travel points/bonuses** - some cards have bonuses for certain branches of hotels. Cash em in (or atleast use the card that gets double points for travel/hotels!)
- **If flying in, plan ahead and try avoid weekends** - Many people do weekend trips, so if it's possible, try to travel during less popular times to save some money!

WEEKEND PACKING LIST

- 1 Warm Beanie + Earband
- 1 Buff Style Neck Gaiter
- 2 Base Layer Top
- 1 Light fitted Sweater (layering)
- 1 Puffy
- 1 Glove Liners/Thin Gloves
- 1 Long Underwear
- 1 Shell Pants
- 1 Combo Pants
- 2 Wool Socks/Heated Socks



WINTER HACKS

- Trigger Action Insulated Food+Coffee (I prefer Stanley!)
- Spikes if not used to walking on ice
- Disposable Feet and Hand Warmers
- Bring your own meals - "getaway" towns ALWAYS raise their prices during the prime months