

Top 10 Winter Experiences

British Columbia Parks

Liard River Hotsprings – Northern Region

- In the depths of winter the second largest hot springs in Canada provides relief to travellers after a long day on the road. This park is of national ecological significance and is well known for the natural boreal spruce forest setting. Due to lush plant life, influenced by the warmth of the springs, the area was originally known as the “Tropical Valley.”
- http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/explore/parkpgs/liard_rv_hs/

Strathcona - Vancouver Island Region

- Winter is a time of re-birth for Strathcona park and a gift to your all the senses. Come and feel what peace and quiet really means; head out on skis or snowshoes to explore the park’s hiking areas when they are blanketed with snow and skies are at their most vibrant blue. Winter camping is available throughout the park. Build a snow cave to keep yourself warm and dry!
- <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/explore/parkpgs/strath/index.html>

E.C. Manning – Okanagan Region

- Manning Park in the winter is an amazing place for a quiet backcountry ski tour. Away from the city but close enough for a day trip, there are backcountry trails for snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. Most of the trails are unmarked so GPS or map skills are essential. For those who enjoy winter camping, there are two areas set aside for this. Self-contained units can camp in the Lightning Lake Day Use area parking lot and tents can camp at the Lone Duck 1 winter camping area.
- <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/explore/parkpgs/ecmanning/>

Kakwa – Northern Region

- Snowmobiling is a popular winter recreational use of the park, mostly in the Kakwa and Cecilia Lakes areas. Popular snowmobiling areas are the watersheds of Babette, Cecilia and Kakwa Lakes, McGregor Pass, Mt. Ruth, Sheep Pass, Mt. Sir Alexander as well as many open ridges and meadows. Snowmobiling is permitted during snowmobiling season from Dec 1st to April 15/30th each winter.
- <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/explore/parkpgs/kakwa/>

Big Bar Lake – Cariboo Region

- The softness of the snow and the surrounding silence are a few of the reasons that snowshoeing is a popular activity in this park. Whiskey Jacks will guide you, tree branch, by tree branch through the park’s glistening winter land. It’s a lovely way to spend an afternoon.
- http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/explore/parkpgs/big_bar_lk/

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Kokanee Glacier – Kootenay Region

- Kokanee Glacier Park is renowned as a winter backcountry destination. The heavy snowfall accumulations in the park can be counted upon to ensure excellent snowshoeing and ski conditions from late autumn to early spring. In addition to the quality of the snow, there are incredibly varied and skiable terrain in the park. The Kokanee Glacier, Woodbury and Silver Spray Cabins provide a place to stay.
- http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/explore/parkpgs/kokanee_gl/

Garibaldi - Lower Mainland Region

- Amazing winter wilderness adventures are possible in spectacular and rugged Garibaldi Provincial Park. Ski touring, snowshoeing, mountaineering and winter camping are all popular winter activities in the park. Set out for a few hours or on a multi day trek to enjoy the spectacular scenery of this volcanic landscape. Enjoy views like The Black Tusk, a jagged remnant of a volcanic cone. A variety of overnight shelters are available and make winter camping easier. Remote ski traverses like the Garibaldi Neve and Spearhead-Fitzsimmons Traverses travel through untracked glaciated terrain and mountains.
- <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/explore/parkpgs/garibaldi/>

Raft Cove- Vancouver Island Region

- The beaches along Cape Scott and Raft Cove Parks provide great opportunities to experience the “wild west coast.” Winter storm season draws surfers from all over the world to Raft Cove Provincial Park on the West Coast of Vancouver Island. The huge waves generated during a storm are considered some of the best surfing on B.C.’s coast.
- http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/explore/parkpgs/raft_cove/

Tyhee Lake - Northern Region

- Tyhee Lake is a winter wonderland of the season’s most popular activities. Whether you enjoy cross-country skiing, showshoeing, ice skating or ice fishing opportunities, this park offers a host of easily accessible recreation opportunities for the whole family.
- http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/explore/parkpgs/tyhee_lk/

Wells Gray - Thompson Region

- Wells Gray park in winter is a treat for the backcountry ski enthusiast. There are backcountry skiing and snowshoeing opportunities in many areas of this park, including groomed cross-country ski trails in the Majerus Farm area. Skiing the Trophy Mountains offers routes in the alpine and in the trees, with complex terrain including numerous chutes, couloirs, and aspects.

For more help or to request pictures
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