

# THE ZOE REPORT

## These Underrated Getaways Are The Perfect Way To Escape The Crowds This Winter

**W**e've said it before and we'll say it again: Every season makes a compelling case for planning a trip. While Aspen and Miami will always have a special place in the hearts of snow bunnies and snowbirds who flock to these hotspots each winter, not everyone wants to vacation somewhere so popular — whether that's because of the crowds, sky-high prices, or been-there-done-that-ness of it all.

Yes, you could easily haul up in a [luxury mountain lodge](#), escape to a sun-splashed resort on a buzzy Caribbean island, or soak in the spirit at a [high-end hotel that goes all out for the holidays](#) — and all of those would be stellar uses of PTO days — however, the novelty factor just might be missing. For travelers looking for a locale with a bit less notoriety, there are some surprising places that really wow in December, January, and February. Ever thought about escaping to a [coastal New England town](#) or wine country in the off-season? How about flipping the script on summer hotspots? It's certainly worth considering a trip to a major city like Seoul or [London](#) during a slower period.

Scroll on for the underrated winter travel destinations that should totally be on your radar.

### Newport, Rhode Island



For decades, Newport was best known as a summer resort for wealthy tycoons of industry. While the glamor of its opulent Gilded Age mansions endures, the city itself has transformed in certain respects. A lot of that hinges on its burgeoning four-season appeal. Travelers visiting the Seafaring Capital of Rhode Island in the winter will find plenty to do, from blustery cliff walks without another soul in sight to ice skating and seal watch boat tours. Keen to kick the cozy factor up a notch? Tuck into a harborside bar for a hot toddy.

**Where to stay:** A hidden gem right off Thames Street, [The Vanderbilt, Auberge Resorts Collection](#) gives off warm, cozy vibes. It's quite homey — well, if your house happens to be a grand estate — thanks to a palate of jewel tones, rich wood, sumptuous fabrics, and walls covered in portraits.