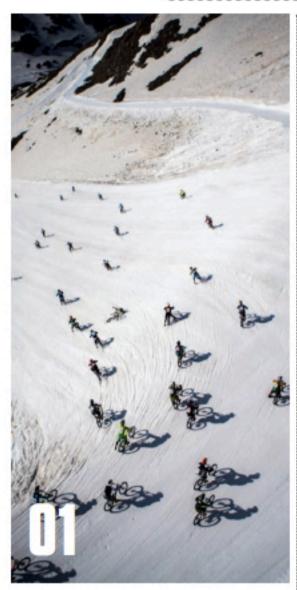
### ADVENTURES FOR MEN IN THE SNOW

You don't have to be an Olympian to conquer the mountains - it's time to have yourself an ice-cold experience



### RIDE AN ICE BIKE DOWNHILL IN THE MEGAVALANCHE

mountain bikers down a frozen piste in France.

Why's it awesome? This is downhill mountain biking's most mental race - but also its most entertaining. If you make it past the carnage of the mass start on the glacier, a wickedly twisting course awaits, over ice, snow and lots of mud. Where do I sign up? Register for £55 at megavalanche.com.



What is it? Warm yourself in a bath of bubbles with a stunning mountain backdrop.

Why's it awesome? With 650km of pistes spread across France and Switzerland, the Portes du Soleil is arguably the world's largest lift-linked ski area.

Where do I sign up? Get one week's catered accommodation from £275pp at treelinechalets.com.





What is it? Head into the wild with a team of huskies.

Why's it awesome? Driving your own dog team is an incredible way to explore the snow-covered forests of Finland. Indulge your inner Ranulph Fiennes with the midnight sun on your shoulders.

Where do I sign up? Short safaris cost from £30 and an overnight adventure from £500 at erasusi.com.



## SNOWBOMBING, AUSTRIA

What is it? Europe's oldest and largest on-snow music festival. Why's it awesome? Where else can you ski and snowboard on the hill and watch acts like The Prodigy and Rudimental off it? For one week only, the small mountain town of Mayrhofen is transformed into an alpine Ayia Napa. You'll be riding all day and raving all night. Where do I sign up? It costs £458 for accommodation, festival wristband and return coach travel at snowbombing.com.

What is it? Ride fresh snow

Why's it awesome? The Celestial

Mountains in Central Asia offer

truly virgin snow - you'll find

yourself scaling peaks no man

has ever set foot on before, let

alone skied. All you need to get

involved is a sense of adventure and warm clothes - the basecamp

Where do I sign up? Guided

way off the beaten track.

yurt is at 2,600 metres.

tours cost from £800 at

40tribesbackcountry.com.



# LEARN FREESTYLE SNOWBOARDING IN SWITZERLAND

What is it? Try crazy new tricks on your board without hurting yourself with a hard landing.

Why's it awesome? If you've ever wanted to do a backflip on a board, the Freestyle Academy in Laax, Switzerland, is the place to learn it. This is where the pros practise: 50-foot ramps catapult you into perfectly safe foam pits, and once you've mastered your moves you can try them on the real jumps in the world-class snow park outside. Where do I sign up? Introductory courses cost from £37 at freestyleacademy.laax.com.





### TRY YOUR HAND AT ICE FISHING IN CANADA

What is it? Catch Rocky Mountain whitefish through a hole in the ice.

Why's it awesome? The Canadian Rockies have a well-earned reputation as some of the world's most awe-inspiring mountains. Fishing Eskimo-style is a great way to explore them and catch a tasty lunch while you're at it. Where do I sign up? It costs from £155pp, or you can pay an extra £55 to drive your own snowmobile, at banffadventures.com.



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