



### Howl with coyotes or head cross-country skiing

Ontario Parks has five unusual ways to mark the new year. Howl for coyotes. Four coyote howls are planned for New Year's Eve at Bronte Creek Provincial Park in Oakville. The howls leave from the fire pit by the skating rink every half hour between 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Ski the High Dunes Trail at Wasaga Beach Provincial Park. - BOB BOUGHNER, QMI AGENCY



### Take only pictures and leave only footprints

When midnight strikes on New Year's Eve, why not pledge to do something that's good for the planet – and fun for you? Adventure Travel specialist Intrepid Travel suggests greening your travel is easily achievable and more enjoyable than losing 10 stubborn pounds. The company has been offering small-scale, sustainable trips around the world for more than 20 years. - BOB BOUGHNER, QMI AGENCY

## travelgear

Travelling during the holidays can be a hugely stressful endeavour, so we've gathered up some great ideas for making your journey just a little less hectic and a whole lot more comfy. — TANYA ENBERG, 24 HOURS



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### GET THE GEAR

**1** Go brightly on your Journey, travel bugs! This fun organizer (\$20 at Winners) will add cheer to any trip (even when airport security tries to beat your giddiness down!)

**2** Get big time travel comfort with this super cozy Nevada sherpa-lined hoodie, \$59.99 from Sears.

**3** Calling all frequent flyers! The keychain-friendly Easy2Pick Wireless Luggage Finder System (\$24.95 US on Amazon.com) will make finding your luggage in the sea of bags at the airport luggage carousel a breeze. When your stuff is within 100 feet, it'll beep to let you know.

**4** For the high-styling traveler, the glossy J'tote (\$278) is precisely where fashion meets function — this gorgeous bag was created to hold laptops up to 15.6 inches. Order online at jtotebags.com.

**5** Forget those slip-sliding purses with the nifty Shoulder Houlder (between \$12.95 to \$16.95). It clips on to your clothing and ensures your bag stays put! Find them at shoulderholder.com.

## TOP 5 beach destinations

It may be chilly in the northern hemisphere as the Christmas holidays approach, so a lot of people are dreaming of hot and sunny beach holidays. For those with the time and money, online travel advice website Expedia.com.au (expedia.com.au) reveals its Top 5 best beach destinations. - REUTERS

### 1 Cable Beach Broome, Western Australia

Located 7 km (4 miles) from Broome, Cable Beach is one of Australia's premier beach destinations. Featuring 23 km of pure white sand and crystal clear turquoise water, the beach is almost perfectly flat and ideal for swimming and surfing. Cable Beach is also renowned for its sunsets, which can be enjoyed whilst riding a camel along the beach.

### 2 Ao Nang Beach Krabi, Thailand

Ao Nang is known as Thailand's best all-round beach destination, due to its central location in the Andaman Sea and magnificent scenery. Ao Nang beach is relatively unspoiled and days can be spent relaxing by the shore or taking part in one of the many activities on offer, such as, snorkelling, scuba diving and kayaking.

### 3 Nha Trang Beach Nha Trang, Vietnam

Nha Trang is the known as Vietnam's premier "traditional" seaside resort — a lively seaside town where travellers relax by day and party by night. Surrounded on three sides by mountains, Nha Trang Bay is considered among the world's most beautiful bays. The beach is long and flat, with golden sands and spectacular views of the surrounding mountains.

### 4 Paradise Beach, Yasawa Island, Fiji

Yasawa Island is famous for its fine sand and exquisite beaches, including Paradise Beach and Champagne Beach, and its limestone caves, which put the island on the map when *The Blue Lagoon* blockbuster movie with Brooke Shields was filmed there in the 1980s. Yasawa Island is the only island in this outlying archipelago with an airstrip.

### 5 Azeida Beach BDuzios, Brazil

ArmaEclao dos BDuzios (better known as BDuzios) is a peninsula surrounded by 8 km of islands and beaches, and made famous in the 1960s when film star Brigitte Bardot passed through, drawing the attention of adventurous tourists around the world. BDuzios' premier beach, Azeida Beach, is considered one of the prettiest in Brazil.