

# Should You Start Planning Next Year's Ski Vacation In Türkiye? Here Are Some Great Reasons Why It's Your Next Winter Getaway

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**Kaya Palazzo Ski & Mountain Resort**  
COURTESY OF KAYA PALAZZO SKI & MOUNTAIN RESORT

Picture a full day of skiing, a quick jump in your outdoor jacuzzi, then a delicious gourmet meal followed by nightclub DJs and a roaring fireplace before bed. Now imagine that instead of the slopes of Aspen or the Swiss Alps you're actually in northern Türkiye (the newly-preferred name of Turkey). Hard to picture? Surprisingly enough the country can provide that same luxury ski trip, along with some Turkish touches, to make the perfect winter vacation.

*(Note: While the world's attention is rightfully focussed on earthquake relief efforts in other parts of the country, tourism is both safe and vital to Türkiye's economy. Please read about donation efforts and opportunities to help at end of article.)*

[Kaya Palazzo Ski & Mountain Resort](#), which opened in 2011, is located in Kartalkaya in the Köroğlu Mountains, roughly a four hour drive from Istanbul or two hour drive from Ankara. The main hotel, sloped like a ski jump, has 139 rooms and suites, including 9 Grand Suites with in-room jacuzzis, living room and electric fireplaces and a luxurious 2-bedroom King Suite. The Junior and Deluxe suites also have in-room jacuzzis. English is one of the official languages of the resort, so U.S. Visitors will easily be able to coordinate all activities and interact with hotel staff.



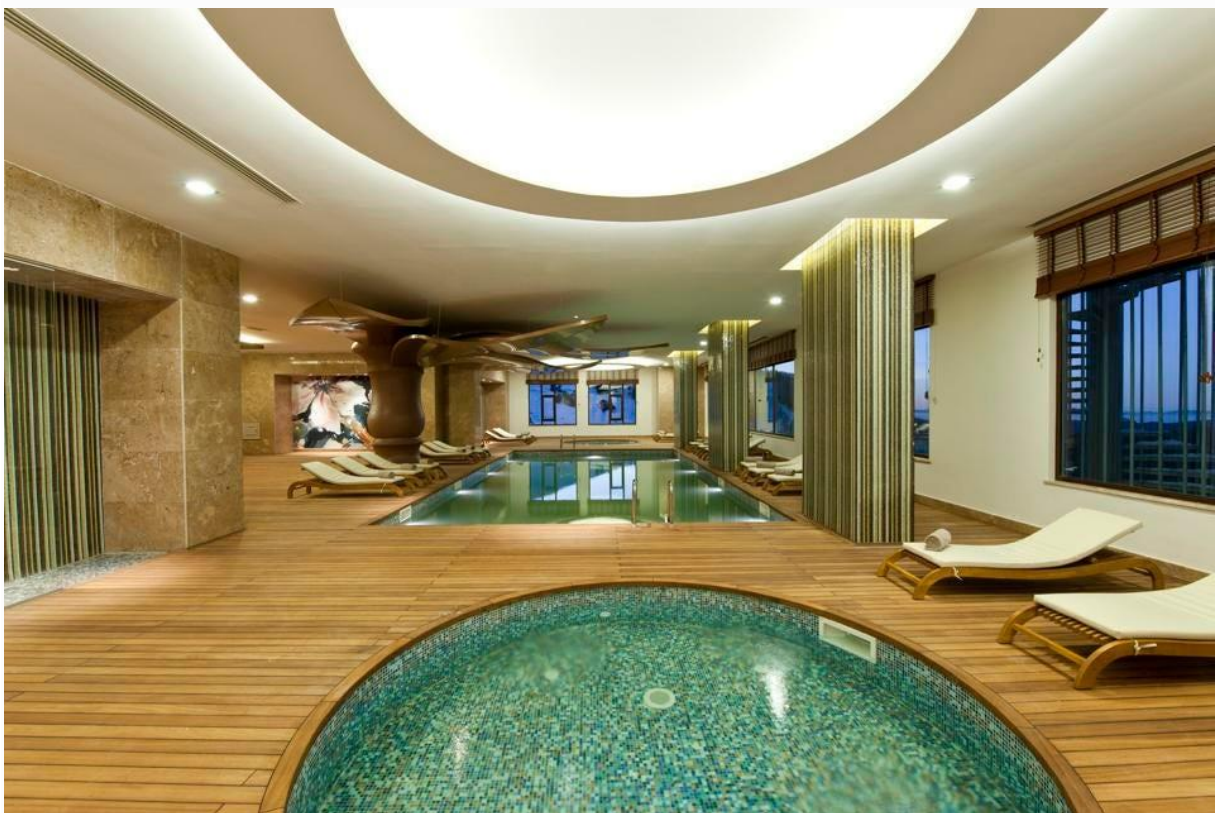
Outdoor jacuzzi at the Chalet overlooking the slopes  
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For the ultimate resort stay however, consider the 3 Palazzo Luxury Chalets. Set apart from the main building, these two-floor residences consist of four-bedrooms (one master and three with twin beds), a massage room with sauna and jacuzzi, a grand two-story high living room with fireplace and sweeping views of the slopes, full kitchen and outdoor deck with another jacuzzi and barbecue.

The chalets also features 24-hour butler service whose team will make sure every detail of your stay is well taken care of. They will handle everything

from the basics of ski passes, rentals, lessons and dinner reservations to the more indulgent vacation delights, such as a bubbling jacuzzi awaiting you after a long day on the slopes along with champagne and trays of strawberries and chocolates, and a warm fireplace greeting you in the mornings and evenings. They can arrange a chef to prepare dinner or an evening barbecue on the terrace, or to make fresh omelettes and pancakes in the morning to accompany a full Turkish breakfast. Chalet guests can be chaffered to the main building, or anywhere on the property, by a fleet of electric BMWs and if desired your butler may also pick you up at either the Istanbul or Ankara airports.

There are 36 ski runs at Kaya Palazzo Ski & Mountain Resort, over a track area of 1.5 million square meters, ranging from beginner to expert trails and serviced by nine lifts. Equipment rentals and ski storage are available within the main building from which you can start skiing the moment you step outside. If you need a little practice before hitting the bigger slopes the beginning slope is right outside and a highly-skilled ski instructor team can provide lessons in English. There is also an area for snow tubing, a sled area for children and for the more adventurous the hotel can arrange snowmobiles or some thrilling ATV riding through forest trails up and down the mountain.

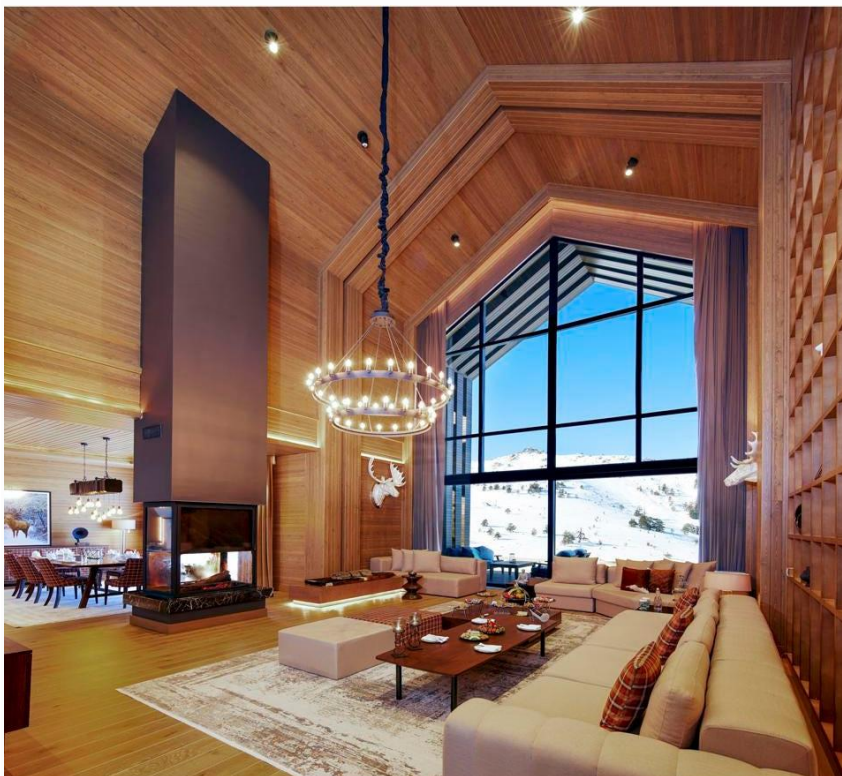


The pool at the Spa and Wellness Center

COURTESY OF KAYA PALAZZO SKI & MOUNTAIN RESORT

For dining in the main building there is the Palazzo Buffet Restaurant, serving casual breakfast lunch and dinner, a scrumptious Swiss Fondue Restaurant, two regular bars and a non-alcoholic Vitamin Bar with fresh juices and other beverages. But the main scene for dining is the Palazzo Lounge, a minute walk or drive from the main building, which houses four gourmet restaurants in one gigantic room set against the slopes. Guests are welcome to choose between menus from any table and can dine on Turkish cuisine from Develi, Yada Sushi, Italian classics from Serefina or a feast from Palazzo Steak House. The restaurants share an extensive wine and cocktail menu and after 11pm the lights go down and DJ performances begin. You can start dancing or have a hookah brought to your table while you enjoy the music.

No ski vacation would be complete without some spa time, and no trip to Türkiye would be complete without a Turkish bath experience, and at Kaya Palazzo you can indulge in both. The SPA & Wellness center features 11 massage rooms, 2 Turkish baths, 2 saunas, 2 steam baths and a beauty and fitness center. There's no better way to recover from a long day of skiing than being taken from a sauna into one of the beautiful marble Turkish bath rooms, being bathed and massaged in hot water and thick soapy bubbles then followed by an actual massage. Chalet guests may also opt for treatments in their residence.



A Chalet Living Room  
ONURKURU PHOTOGRAPHY

Visitors headed to Türkiye should be sure to take advantage of the ‘Istanbul Stopover Service’ from Turkish Airlines. Rich in history, filled with fantastic cuisine and bridging two continents, any chance to visit Istanbul should be taken advantage of and instead of just switching flights at the airport, Turkish Airlines offers Business Class travelers with lengthy layovers a complimentary three night stay at a 5-star hotel. Economy class travelers aren’t left out either, they get a two night stay at a 4-star hotel. And if you don’t have the days available for a full stay you can opt for a long layover instead. The airline’s Touristanbul program, complimentary when layovers are six hours or longer, provides a day tour of historical sites, a chance to sample Istanbul cuisine and transportation to and from the airport.

*While both Kaya Palazzo Ski & Mountain Resort and Istanbul are located far and safely away from the recent earthquakes, the tragedy is on the nation’s mind and the [hotel](#) and [restaurant](#) industries are aiding in relief efforts. Kaya Palazzo has been sending water and needed supplies to affected areas, as well as providing housing for some victims at a sister property in Belek as well as donating money to relief efforts. Turkish Airlines has also been instrumental in delivering rescue workers into the earthquake-affected areas and evacuating victims out. They’ve also donated to relief efforts and committed to creating jobs for those in need. For those interested in donating here is a guide from [Forbes](#).*

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/adammorganstern/2023/03/29/should-you-start-planning-next-years-ski-vacation-in-trkiye-here-are-some-great-reasons-why/?sh=3bcf55e22622>