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DES 101 Interior Design Appreciation

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### Design Article 3: Quebec's Hotel de Glace

I was greatly amazed when I saw the interior of Quebec's Hotel de Glace. It is a seasonal "ice" hotel in North America that is made up of 500 tons of ice and 40,000 tons of snow.



*Hotel de Glace*  
*photo by Matthew Paulson*

Jacques Desbois was inspired in 1996 by Sweden's Icehotel and decided to build one in Quebec, since it has so much snow every year. Desbois has 30 employees and 15 sculptors who help him create a masterpiece of art within a short period-of-time that sports a different theme each year. It takes approximately six weeks to create this masterpiece that only lasts around three months. This year's seasonal schedule begins December 29, 2020 and ends March 21, 2021.



*Hotel de Glace Ice Sculptor*



*Hotel de Glace*



*Ice Chapel*



This year marks the 21st anniversary since the first edition of Hotel de Glace which made its debut in the winter months of 2001. The “Hotel de Glace is located 20 minutes northwest of Quebec City at Village Vacances Valcartier (St John)” in Canada. It is a resort that offers normal, four-star hotel accommodations, along with a choice of sleeping in the ice hotel. Hotel de Glace rooms are available to overnight guests exclusively from 8 p.m. to 9 a.m. Other hours allow for entry with a paid ticket. Tourist can step into the great hall under the cathedral-style ceiling and experience the unusual structure for themselves. It is filled with many hallways lined with artistic sculptures carved from snow and ice which leaves you feeling like you are in a frozen art gallery. Virtual tours are available online for those intolerable to the cold or who live outside of Canada. Borders going into Canada are expected to re-open at the end of February 2021.



### *Hotel de Glace overnight accommodations*

The “adjacent” resort has an indoor water park, a 6,000 square foot spa, a winter playground and a game room for anyone who cannot tolerate the cold or sleeping on beds sculpted out of ice.

Couples come from all over the world to get married in the ice wedding chapel with its grand arches and to use the resort's amenities.



*Hotel de Glace Dragon Sculpture*

The majestic ice sculptures of this winter wonderland caught my eye with their uniqueness. I tend to be drawn to unusually beautiful interior and exterior architecture. I love beautiful structures and sculptures whether they are located on the interior or exterior of a space. Touring Hotel de Glace in person would be the most intriguing and awesome experience a person could have. This is one place I plan to visit in the future when the pandemic is over and the borders have re-opened to Canada once again.

Works Cited

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