

Sweden's Igloo Inn

Sometimes on a very chilly night, the cold creeps in. It creeps beneath the thickest blankets, through the warmest pajamas, inside the coziest socks, until . . . Brrrr! It finds a set of toes to nip.

At the Ice Hotel in Jukkasjaervi (You-kus-yair-vee), Sweden, the cold doesn't have to sneak in. Guests who spend the night at the hotel expect the cold to nip at their toes. And their fingers. And their noses. That's because the entire hotel, from the floor to the ceiling to the walls and some of the furniture, is made of ice and snow!

Why would anyone spend money to stay in a snow fort? Kerstin Nilsson, a manager at the hotel, says its natural beauty attracts many guests. "It is pure winter: white and fresh snow, cold, beautiful northern lights in the sky and absolute quiet," she says. Guests who survive the 20 degree temperatures receive a printed Ice Hotel Certificate to prove they have conquered the cold. Says Nilsson: "After they spend the night, in the morning they feel like Tarzan or He-Man because they slept in there."

For eight years, a shiny new Ice Hotel has been built from fresh ice and snow each winter. Last year about 4,000 people checked in for a night at the Ice Hotel. Included in the \$80 room charge are an extra warm snowsuit and a mummy-style sleeping bag. Guests need all the extra padding they can get: the hotel's 100 "beds" are actually ice blocks covered with reindeer skins! One hotel visitor, Kim Kovel of New York City, said she had started to have second thoughts about spending the night there. "It's freezing!" she said. "Apparently everybody makes out O.K. But after I saw the beds, I got a little worried."

By May, warmer temperatures will melt the hotel into a giant puddle. But it's not gone for good: builders will start chipping away at another Ice Hotel in October.

Using Descriptive Verbs

Write two or more descriptive verbs to replace each verb below.

1. shout _____

2. move _____

3. sleep _____

4. play _____

5. talk _____

6. work _____

7. make _____

8. drink _____

9. write _____

10. jump _____

Strong Verbs

Write a verb on each line. Use the words in the Word Bank to help you.

1. The squirrel _____ on the nut.
2. I wanted to surprise my mom, so I _____ into the room.
3. I got mad and _____ off.
4. When I _____ my dinner, my mom said to eat more slowly.
5. She _____ over her shoulder and saw the boy chasing her.
6. He _____ at the math problem for a long time.
7. My dad _____ back and forth because he was worried.
8. The girl _____ at the handsome movie star.
9. The hungry lion _____ his kill.
10. The people _____ slowly down the path.
11. The coach _____ at the players when they lost the game.
12. He _____ so no one heard him except his friend.
13. The girl _____, "I hurt my arm."
14. The lady _____, "I am so tired."

Word Bank

strolled	gobbled	whispered	tiptoed
nibbled	roared	glanced	paced
devoured	sighed	stared	stomped
cried	gazed		

Using Strong Verbs

Write a descriptive verb on each line. When you are finished, share your paragraph with a classmate.

The big, hungry lion _____ through the jungle. The hunter _____ up as close as he could get to the lion, as he _____ his snack of trail mix. He hid behind some bushes and _____ at the lion. His guide _____, "That is the biggest lion I have ever seen!" The lion sniffed the air and turned and _____ at the hunter and his guide hiding in the bushes. Suddenly the lion flopped down on the jungle floor and _____ the deer he had just killed. "Let's get out of here," _____ the hunter. "I don't like the way that guy eats!"