

## Branch #35 Travel Tips for January 2020

### California REAL ID

If you are planning on travelling by air or out of the country in 2020, you need to make sure you have a California REAL ID. U.S. Government enforcement of REAL IDs will start October 1, 2020. Since it may take you several months to get an appointment from California DMV to get the Real ID, so start the process now as the waits will only get longer the closer you get to the deadline. To get more information about California REAL IDs go to [realid.dmv.ca.gov](https://realid.dmv.ca.gov). My wife was able to get her REAL ID appointment at the Driver's License Processing Center at 2222 Senter Road in San Jose (800) 777-0133 with less than a month wait because they specialize in the processing of REAL IDs.

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### The 25 travel destinations you need to visit in 2020, according to National Geographic

<https://www.businessinsider.com/national-geographic-top-25-must-see-destinations-for-2020>

National Geographic just released its list of the [top 25 must-see travel destinations](#) for 2020. This list features places from all over the world, and it's part of the publication's effort to advocate for more sustainable tourism. Their picks take into account a number of factors, including cultural engagement, diversity, value, affordability, and community benefit.

Divided into four categories, the list offers suggestions for travelers with a focus on culture, city life, nature, or adventure. The must-see sites were picked in collaboration with 17 of National Geographic Traveler's editorial teams across the world

Keep reading to see the top 8 locations that made the list. Some of the images provided below (where noted) are courtesy of National Geographic's Best Trips 2020.

View the whole list at:

<https://www.businessinsider.com/national-geographic-top-25-must-see-destinations-for-2020>

## Zakouma National Park, Chad



Brent Stirton/National Geographic

This park is located south of the Sahara desert, and is known for its bustling wildlife. After taking drastic measures to prevent elephant poaching, only 24 elephants have been poached in the last decade at the park. The area's elephant population is now on the rise for the first time in years.



There are also antelopes, hartebeests, giraffes, buffaloes, and rhinos.

*Source: African Parks*

## **Kamchatka Peninsula, Russia**



Igor Shpilenok/Nature Picture Library via National Geographic

Located in eastern Russia, the Kamchatka Peninsula consists of two mountain ranges, with 127 volcanoes — 22 of which are still active. There are also geysers, hot springs, and numerous rivers and swamps. The area is known for its severe winters, but cool, wet summers. It is inhabited by the indigenous Korak, Chukchi, and Kamchadal settlements.



*Source: Britannica*

## Tohoku, Japan



Asahi Shimbun/Getty Images

The Tohoku Region of Japan is known for its mountains, hot springs, and lakes, but also its severe winters. It's under three hours by train from Tokyo, which will be the site of the [2020 Summer Olympics](#).

*Source: Japan Guide*



## The Wales Way, United Kingdom



Alan Novelli/Alamy Stock Photo

The Wales Way consists of three national routes that lead travelers through the country, with each route providing a distinct experience. The North Wales Way follows the old trading route along northern Wales, while the Cambrian Way snakes through the mountain regions. Finally, the Coastal Way goes up the west coast of Wales, around Cardigan Bay and various picturesque sea resort towns.

**Source:** *Visit Wales*



## Grossglockner High Alpine Road, Austria



(Adam Balatoni/Alamy Stock Photo)

Located between mountain pastures and meadows, the High Alpine Road (named for the country's highest peak, the over 12,000-foot Grossglockner) offers a beautiful, scenic walk through the Austrian Alps.

**Source:** *Grossglockner*



## Tasmania, Australia



National Geographic/Ewen Bell

The island of Tasmania, currently one of Australia's trendiest travel destinations, is filled with rich history and culture. There are beautiful beaches along the coast and mountains a few hours inland. Hobart, its capital city, is known for its bustling art scene with the Museum of Old and New Art (MONA), which combines art and architecture. The gallery also has a winery and an award-winning restaurant.

**Source:** [Australia](#)



## Grand Canyon, Arizona, USA



Adam Schallau

One of the most famous parks in the United States, the Grand Canyon offers a stunning display of eroded rock, and all the beautiful colors that come with it.

**Source:** *National Park Service*



## Maldives



Ibrahim Asad/Getty Images

Located in the Indian Ocean, this beautiful island offers sandy white beaches and has a rich heritage that combines Indian, Sri Lankan, Arab, and North African culture. It's also been leading the charge on climate change since 1987.

**Source:** *Visit Maldives*