## Top Hiking Destinations for 2025

In 2025, hiking continues to be one of the most popular ways for travelers to connect with nature, explore remote landscapes, and embrace slow, immersive travel. From alpine ridges to coastal cliffs, long-distance treks to scenic day hikes, the world offers a variety of trails for adventurers of all experience levels.

This curated list features ten trending hiking destinations for the year, each offering unique experiences—whether it’s cultural encounters, rugged terrains, or breathtaking natural beauty. Whether you’re planning a once-in-a-lifetime expedition or looking for your next favorite weekend trail, these spots are sure to inspire your journey.

## 1. **Dolomites, Italy**

**Location**: Northern Italy, Veneto and Trentino-Alto Adige  
**Population**: Small mountain towns (e.g. Cortina ~6,000)  
**Weather**: Summer highs ~20 °C, cooler at night, snow persists at elevations

The Dolomites are among the most stunning mountain ranges in Europe, known for their jagged limestone peaks, alpine meadows, and rich mountaineering culture. The “alpenglow” sunsets and traditional rifugi (mountain huts) make this a dream for hikers seeking both challenge and charm.

**Places to visit:** - **Alta Via 1** – A multi-day trek offering alpine scenery and hut-to-hut hiking. - **Tre Cime di Lavaredo** – An iconic loop trail with unforgettable views. - **Alpe di Siusi** – Ideal for gentler hikes through Europe’s largest alpine meadow. - **Lago di Braies** – A picturesque lake perfect for day hikes and photography.

## 2. **Julian Alps, Slovenia**

**Location**: Northwest Slovenia, Triglav National Park  
**Population**: Bled (~10,000), Kranjska Gora (~3,000)  
**Weather**: Summer highs ~25 °C, cool evenings

The Julian Alps combine rugged beauty with accessible trails and a deep connection to Slovenian culture. Triglav National Park provides an excellent range of hikes from lakes to peaks, with far fewer tourists than the Western Alps.

**Places to visit:** - **Lake Bled to Vintgar Gorge** – A scenic walk through wooden bridges and waterfalls. - **Triglav Summit** – Slovenia’s highest peak and a rite of passage for locals. - **Lake Bohinj** – Quieter than Bled, surrounded by trailheads and pristine views. - **Mount Vogel** – Reachable via cable car for alpine ridge hikes.

## 3. **Stockholm Archipelago Trail, Sweden**

**Location**: East of Stockholm, Baltic Sea islands  
**Population**: Varies across ~30,000 islands, Stockholm metro ~2.5M  
**Weather**: Summer highs 20–25 °C, breezy and mild

Launched in 2024, the Stockholm Archipelago Trail became a 2025 favorite for its unique combination of hiking and island-hopping. Marked trails span coastal forests and seaside cliffs, supported by local ferries and eco-lodging.

**Places to visit:** - **Arholma to Landsort** – A full 270 km or shorter segment hikes. - **Grinda and Utö** – Popular islands with rustic cabins and coastal walks. - **Sandhamn** – A historic harbor with trails through pine woods and beaches. - **Möja Island** – Quieter and ideal for solitude seekers.

## 4. **Jordan Trail, Jordan**

**Location**: Entire country, from Umm Qais to Aqaba  
**Population**: ~10 million nationally  
**Weather**: Spring/fall ideal, summer highs 35–40 °C

Spanning 650 km, the Jordan Trail offers a cultural and scenic journey through ancient cities, Bedouin villages, and desert valleys. It blends hiking with historical immersion and unforgettable landscapes.

**Places to visit:** - **Petra** – Enter the ancient Nabataean city by foot through the Siq. - **Wadi Rum** – Camp under stars in a surreal desert of red sandstone. - **Dana Reserve** – A biodiversity haven with rugged hikes. - **Dead Sea Descent** – Trek to the planet’s lowest point on land.

## 5. **West Coast Trail, Canada**

**Location**: Vancouver Island, British Columbia  
**Population**: Trail area sparsely populated  
**Weather**: May–Sep best season, ~15 °C, foggy and wet

This 75 km coastal trail challenges hikers with ladders, tide crossings, and dense forests. Originally created for shipwreck survivors, it now ranks among the world’s premier wilderness treks.

**Places to visit:** - **Carmanah Valley** – Home to giant Sitka spruce and waterfalls. - **Walbran Creek** – A picturesque spot for camping and river crossings. - **Tsusiat Falls** – Beachside waterfall and swimming spot. - **Nitinaht Narrows** – Cross by boat through a narrow fjord.

## 6. **GR20, Corsica, France**

**Location**: Island of Corsica, Mediterranean Sea  
**Population**: ~340,000 island-wide  
**Weather**: Hot summers, cooler mountain altitudes

The GR20 is often called Europe’s toughest trail, with steep ascents and rocky ridges. It also rewards with stunning sea views, alpine lakes, and Corsican shepherd culture.

**Places to visit:** - **Vizzavona Pass** – The midpoint of the GR20 with good facilities. - **Refuge de l’Onda** – A scenic high-mountain hut. - **Monte Cinto** – Corsica’s highest peak. - **Asco Valley** – Dramatic gorges and granite towers.

## 7. **Patagonia, Argentina & Chile**

**Location**: Southern Andes, spanning both countries  
**Population**: Sparse (e.g. El Chaltén ~2,000)  
**Weather**: Cool summers ~10–15 °C, windy

Patagonia remains a dream destination for hikers. Its towering granite spires, glaciers, and open pampas offer truly remote and epic trekking experiences.

**Places to visit:** - **Fitz Roy** – Iconic peak surrounded by pristine trails. - **Perito Moreno Glacier** – Guided walks on blue ice. - **Torres del Paine** – W and O circuits are bucket-list treks. - **Lago Nordenskjöld** – Lakeside trails with condor views.

## 8. **Queyras, French Alps**

**Location**: Southeastern France near Italy  
**Population**: Low (e.g. Saint-Véran ~150)  
**Weather**: Summer highs ~20 °C, alpine conditions

Less crowded than other alpine regions, Queyras offers old-world villages, wildflower meadows, and sunny trails with views of the Écrins and Italian Alps.

**Places to visit:** - **Col Agnel** – High mountain pass with expansive vistas. - **Lac Grand Laus** – A brilliant alpine lake beneath rugged cliffs. - **Saint-Véran** – One of Europe’s highest villages. - **Pic de Château Renard** – Popular peak with panoramic views.

## 9. **Causeway Coast & Donegal, Ireland & Northern Ireland**

**Location**: North coast of Ireland  
**Population**: Regional (Derry ~85,000)  
**Weather**: Mild summers, frequent rain, ~18 °C

This scenic coastline offers dramatic cliffs, green fields, and historic trails. It’s a great destination for moderate walkers seeking nature with a cultural touch.

**Places to visit:** - **Giant’s Causeway** – Famous basalt columns and coastal path. - **Slieve League** – Some of Europe’s highest sea cliffs. - **Glenveagh National Park** – Remote and quiet valley hikes. - **Malin Head** – Northernmost tip of Ireland.

## 10. **Banff National Park, Canada**

**Location**: Alberta Rockies  
**Population**: Town of Banff (~9,000)  
**Weather**: Summer highs ~20 °C, cool alpine nights

Banff’s mix of turquoise lakes, forested valleys, and glacier-fed peaks makes it one of Canada’s most beloved hiking hubs. Its well-marked trails suit all skill levels.

**Places to visit:** - **Lake Louise to Plain of Six Glaciers** – Classic alpine route. - **Moraine Lake & Larch Valley** – Fall larches glow gold here. - **Johnston Canyon** – Waterfalls via boardwalks. - **Tunnel Mountain** – Short but rewarding summit hike.