

## Winterlude

Winterlude is a Canadian festival held in Ottawa, Ontario and Gatineau, Québec that is celebrated during the first 3 weekends in February. In French it's called 'Le Bal de Neige.' It celebrates winter with many different activities for adults and for children:

The most popular activity is to go skating on the Rideau Canal (which is the world's longest skating rink, at 7.8km!). Along the canal, vendors set up huts to rent skates and sell food and hot drinks. There are also skating spectacles and music concerts on the canal.



Every year there is also an international snow and ice sculpture competition at the Crystal Garden in Ottawa. The sculptures are lit up at night.



Another main attraction is the Snowflake Kingdom, in Gatineau. This is a huge snow park, where families can enjoy many activities, such as: the ice slide, taking a sleigh ride, or riding dog sleds.

