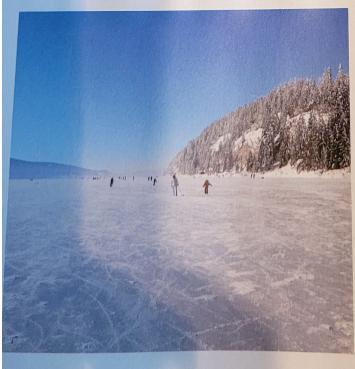
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Skating tours, Sweden

(Above) When the mercury is consistently below zero, many lakes in Sweden freeze over. This offers the opportunity to experience a four-day ice-skating adventure on some of the country's most stunning frozen lakes or even the archipelago waters of the Baltic Sea. Covering distances of 25km or more a day, including the chance to skate beneath the stars on a moonlight tour, crosscountry skating with experienced guides offers a unique way to travel through Sweden's dramatic icebound landscape. *naturetravels.co.uk*

Lake Joux, Switzerland

(Left) When the water freezes over, Lac de Joux becomes one of Europe's largest natural ice-skating rinks. Nestled in the snow-capped Jura mountains, close to Switzerland's border with France, its unspoilt beauty makes it the perfect place to skate. With safety a priority, there are well-stewarded and clearly marked skating areas. Enjoy warm food and drinks from the vendors' stalls on the ice and absorb the breathtaking scenery. *myswitzerland.com/en*